



East-West OUTLOOK

Roland S. Homet, Jr., Editor

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The Clear Achievements of Geneva

The joint and separate statements of the leaders at the Summit reflected the usual ambiguities and uncertainties, many no doubt the product of negotiated stalemate—of agreements, for the time, to disagree. No one should really have expected more. As President Reagan put it, “the real report card on Geneva will not come in for months and even years.” He hoped to have injected “a certain momentum” into the work that lies ahead.

Yet there are a few Geneva achievements that look clear and unambiguous, on which that future work can be based. A list of these would include the following:

1. Mr. Gorbachev did not reject the Summit, despite having set SDI renunciation as something of a precondition for success.
2. Mr. Reagan likewise did not persist in his pre-Summit linkage of arms control with human rights and regional conflicts.
3. The Joint Statement clarified the boundaries for arms negotiation, by declaring: “The sides . . . have agreed that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. . . . They will not seek to achieve military superiority.”
4. The “sides” also agreed, in the Joint Statement, to expand two-way exchanges and to develop trade and economic ties.
5. Reciprocal summit meetings will take place in Washington and Moscow over the next two years.

The American Committee on East-West Accord sees these developments as pathways of opportunity, through which a reasoned agenda of common interest and common sense can be pursued. We offer in this issue a preliminary set of perceptions by scholars and bankers, Americans and Europeans, politicians and traders.

Much will gain focus in the coming months as preparations are made for a summertime (it now appears) summit in Washington. The American Committee will play its part.

New Direction

The Board of Directors of the American Committee on East-West Accord has accepted the resignation of Jeanne Vaughn Mattison as Executive Director, with gratitude for her service. Arthur Macy Cox has been appointed interim Director, and a search committee has been established to propose a permanent replacement at the February meeting of the Board.

The American Committee on East-West Accord is incorporated as a tax-exempt, independent educational organization aimed at improving East-West relations, with special focus on U.S.-Soviet relations. The editor is responsible for the contents of *East-West Outlook*.