

vantageous trade is the best foundation for the development of relations between states and the establishment of confidence between them.

Let us do everything possible to broaden scientific, cultural, and athletic ties between our two countries. One can imagine what fruitful results might follow, for example, from the cooperation between Soviet and American scientists in the matter of further harnessing the elemental powers of nature in the interest of man.

There is no doubt whatsoever that the implementation of the above-mentioned measures, which would in no way harm either the security or the other interests of any state, would be of enormous significance to the promotion of a wholesome atmosphere in the entire international situation and to the creation of a climate of trust between states, without which one cannot even speak of insuring a lasting peace among peoples.

The creation of the necessary trust in relations between states would then make possible to proceed with the implementation of such radical measures as a substantial reduction in armed forces and armaments, the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons, the cessation of their production and the destruction of stockpiles, the withdrawal of foreign armed forces from the territories of all states, including the member states of NATO and of the Warsaw Pact, and replacement of the existing military groupings of states with a collective security system.

The critical period in the development of international relations in which we are now living makes it necessary, perhaps as never before, to adopt realistic decisions that would be in accord with the vital interests and the will of peoples. The experience of the past tells us how much can be done for the benefit of peoples by statesmen who correctly understand the demands of the historic moment and act in accordance with those demands.

Knowing you, Mr. President, as a man of great breadth of vision and peace-loving convictions, I hope that you will correctly understand this message and, conscious of the responsibility which rests with the leaders of the United States of America and the Soviet Union in the present situation, will manifest a readiness to combine the efforts of our two countries for the noble purpose of turning the course of events in the direction of a durable peace and friendly cooperation among nations.

Attaching great importance to personal contacts between statesmen, which facilitate finding a common point of view on important international problems, we, for our part, would be prepared to come to an agreement on a personal meeting of state leaders to discuss both the problems mentioned in this letter and other problems. The participants in the meeting could agree upon these other subjects that might need to be discussed.

Statement by President Eisenhower, on German Reunification and Berlin, December 16, 1957¹

[Extract]

While we can hope for progress and while our London first-step disarmament proposals were offered without political conditions, we

¹ *Ibid.*, January 6, 1958, pp. 6-7. The statement was made at the first plenary session of the NATO Heads of Government Meeting.

cannot ignore the fact that arms reduction has rarely occurred in the face of acute political tensions and of grave international injustices.

One such injustice afflicts deeply one of our NATO members, the Federal Republic of Germany. I should like to reiterate most solemnly our abiding determination that Germany shall be peacefully reunited in freedom. At the summit conference over 2 years ago this was formally and solemnly promised to us by Mr. Khrushchev and Mr. Bulganin. Unhappily, that promise has been repudiated at the cost of the international confidence which the Soviet rulers profess to desire. Likewise, I cannot let this occasion pass without recalling our common concern over the status of Berlin. The clear rights there of the Western Powers must be maintained. Any sign of Western weakness at this forward position could be misinterpreted with grievous consequences.

*Remarks at News Conference by Secretary of State Dulles, on German Reunification, January 10, 1958*¹

[Extracts]

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Q. Mr. Secretary, you and the President have emphasized on a number of occasions the need for an act of good faith on the part of the Russians as a prerequisite for some NATO negotiation, Summit meeting, or something of that kind. Could you give us your most realistic definition of what you would consider an act of good faith on the part of the Russians?

A. The most realistic and encouraging act would be the carrying out of some of the prior agreements that have been made and most particularly I would say the agreement which was arrived at at the last Summit meeting with the Soviets. There it was stated that the Four Powers recognize their common responsibility for the German problem and the reunification of Germany and agree that Germany shall be reunified by free elections. That agreement was the principal product of the Geneva Summit meeting. Since then the Soviet Union has taken the position that it had no further responsibility for the reunification of Germany and that in any event that reunification by free elections was not an acceptable method. Now that certainly throws doubt upon the worth-whileness of these meetings. You may recall that that Summit meeting was preceded by the consummation of the Austrian State Treaty, a matter where the Soviet Union had been seriously in default. Finally, as a result of many meetings that we had on the subject, it finally agreed to the State Treaty, and that was consummated on the 15th of May, 1955. That created a condition which made it seem worthwhile to have a Summit meeting. It was in that environment that the July meeting was held. But that July meeting in turn produced agreement which apparently has, so far, certainly been repudiated by the Soviets and I would think that at least one possible act of good faith would be to indicate a willingness to carry through on the prior agreement. I don't want to suggest that that is an absolute condition precedent. But you asked me for what might be an act which would make another Summit meeting seem worth while. Certainly that would be such an act.

¹ Department of State press release 7, January 10, 1958.