

JEM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 10, 1988

Dear Mr. General Secretary:

My purpose in writing is quite simply to try to put a critical issue behind us. While we have made substantial progress in arms control and other areas, I am deeply concerned that the problem of the large phased-array radar near Krasnoyarsk has yet to be resolved.

That radar constitutes a significant violation of a central element of the ABM Treaty and must be dismantled to comply with the Treaty. Such measures as a slowdown in construction and invitations for visits do not solve the basic problem. The proposed tradeoffs your side has mentioned, involving the permitted modernization of U.S. radars at Thule and Fylingdales, are not acceptable to the United States.

As I stated in Moscow, and as Secretary Shultz told Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, our two countries will not be able to conclude further strategic arms agreements until the radar is dismantled. I state that simply as a fact of life. The United States Congress has affirmed overwhelmingly that the Krasnoyarsk radar violates the ABM Treaty. This reflects a strong consensus among all segments of the American people that the radar will be an enduring impediment to progress in arms control until it is dismantled.

As we approach the Review Conference for the ABM Treaty I believe it would serve both our countries' interests to resolve this issue. In our past

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discussions, you have indicated an appreciation of the importance of its resolution, and I hope that you will give it further personal attention with the aim of getting the issue behind us.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

His Excellency
Mikhail Gorbachev
General Secretary of the Central Committee
of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union
The Kremlin
Moscow