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PRIME MINISTER

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President Bush has taken the single most decisive step for world peace since the nuclear age began nearly fifty years ago.

The decisions he has announced this morning on the structure of US nuclear forces constitute the most sweeping act of unilateral disarmament in modern history. And the proposals he has made for further arms reductions promise to reshape fundamentally the nature of global relationships.

In an act of great imagination, vision and courage, George Bush has moved the world a giant step back from the brink of nuclear annihilation. He has shown us how the nuclear anguish can end.

Those actions confirm his place among that handful of statesmen who change the world immeasurably for the better. And they confirm the greatness of the country he leads.

This morning I have sent a message to President Bush congratulating him on his achievement.

We now look to the Soviet Union. I have also sent messages to Presidents Gorbachev and Yeltsin urging them to respond in the same spirit; a spirit worthy of George Bush's proposals, and of their own achievements.

I hope other nuclear powers will also, in turn, respond in similar spirit.