

Correspondence

**Addressed to
General Secretary Andropov
From President Reagan**

July 11, 1983



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THE WHITE HOUSE
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July 11, 1983

Dear Gen. Secretary Andropov

I appreciate very much your letter pledging an "unbending commitment of the Soviet leadership and the people of the Soviet Union to the course of peace, the elimination of the nuclear threat and the development of relations based on mutual benefit and equality with all nations."

Let me assure you the government & the people of the United States are dedicated to "the course of peace" and "the elimination of the nuclear threat." It goes without saying that we also seek relations with all nations based on "mutual benefit and equality." Our record since we were allied in W.W.II confirms that.

Mr. General Secretary could we not begin to approach these goals in the meetings now going on in Geneva? You and I share an enormous responsibility for the preservation of stability in the world. I believe we can fulfill that mandate but to do so will require a more active level of exchange than we have heretofore been able to establish. We have much to talk about with regard to the situation in Eastern Europe, South Asia, and particularly this hemisphere as well as in such areas as arms control, trade between our two countries and other ways in which we can expand east-west contacts.

Historically our predecessors have made better progress when communicating has been private and candid. If you wish to engage in such communication you will find me ready. I await your reply.

Sincerely
Ronald Reagan

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