NATO must unite

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President Reagan is in a posi-
tion to "turn [nuclear arms re-
duction] negotiations into serious-
one," Schmidt declared during his afternoon press conference. Although he seemed somewhat disappoin-
ted by Reagan's lack of concrete ac-
tion on the international front - "he hasn't made a treaty yet" - Schmidt hopes Reagan will use his power more effectively in the future.

The Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) at Geneva later this year should be taken as seri-
ously as possible, Schmidt said. He expressed respect for and trust in both Russian negotiator Yuli Klimanov and his American counterpoint Paul Nitze, adding that he spoke from long personal acquaintance. The US should en-
do any anti-nuclear compro-
mise reached at Geneva and "leave it to Moscow to say this is not good enough."

The top priority of the May 28 economic summit was to prevent the internationalized world's finan-
cial slump from turning into a full-scale depression, said Schmidt. Such plans depend on regulation of currency exchange rates, he observed. "It is good for Germany if your currency is worth less," he said. "You are buying Mercedes cars because they are cheaper than they ought to be."

Two problems that plagued summit meetings in general today are inconsistencies in national positions and the ambiguity of the media, Schmidt observed. "In or-
er to have bilateral East-West summit meetings, it is necessary to have confidence that one's col-
temates will not stray from previ-
ously agreed-on lines of con-
duct," he said, adding "such con-
troversies should be held on is-
lands, or on ships in the middle of the Atlantic."