

**Robert R. Ulin, Chapter 13, Belgium: A Time for Changing Priorities** edited by Jeffrey Simon, The National Defense University Press, Washington D.C., 1991.

Vice Admiral J.A. Baldwin, President of the National Defense University in his forward to this book notes that, “Just as the French Revolution in 1789 changed the face of Europe, the revolutions of 1989 ended the Cold War and collapsed the old security relationships. Nothing less than a new security order is in the offing.”

Shortly after the publication of NATO-Warsaw Pact Force Mobilization in 1988, the Cold War was unraveling largely because of the ascendancy of Soviet General Secretary Mikail Gorbachev. At the time I was the Pol-Mil Advisor to the Deputy Chairman of the NATO Military Committee. After thirteen years of negotiations with the Mutual Balanced Force Reduction talks in Vienna, General Security Gorbachev expressed interest in arms control reductions. NATO’s sixteen nations at the time developed new negotiations to eliminate conventional armed forces (Tanks, Armored Combat Vehicles, Artillery, Attack Helicopters and Combat Aircraft). These new negotiations were called the Conventional Arms Forces in Europe (CFE) talks. In less than two years the CFE Treaty was signed by the sixteen NATO nations and nine member nations of the Warsaw Treaty Organization (WTO).

As our editor Jeffrey Simon pointed out, “The Post Cold War Order—created by the Marshall Plan in 1945, the Truman Doctrine in 1947, and NATO in 1949 and maintained for the past 40 years the policy of containment –has now come to an end.”

