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INSIDE THE BELTWAY

No kissing, please

Georgi Arbatov, head of Moscow's USA-Canada Institute, which was created by Yuri Andropov when he took over the KGB in 1967 to massage public opinion in the West, went live on CNN last night with Larry King to talk about prospects for the Geneva summit. "Hopeful but not sure," Mr. Arbatov said.

Like a good talk-show host, Mr. King persisted with the kind of question asked on TV shows: "But will they *like* each other?"

Mr. Arbatov turned, for just this once, away from his thick KGB evasiveness. "It doesn't matter. They're not lovers. Chemistry is not important."

— John Elvin