

and disarmament and a ban on nuclear tests since the end of World War II. Since the act was passed, these meetings have continued at an increasing rate and they will certainly continue in the future.

Our Government cannot effectively participate in such discussions unless it is well prepared to answer Soviet arguments and to judge those proposals which could weaken our security and those which would strengthen it. A vast fund of technical information must be available to our negotiators if we are to participate intelligently at the conference table. The Arms Control and Disarmament Agency was created to consolidate and coordinate our research in this field so that this important objective could be realized. Moreover, in passing the Arms Control and Disarmament Act which created the Agency, **Congress provided for more clearly defined congressional supervision over our Government's activities in this area than was the case prior to the passage of the act, thus assuring fuller participation of the people's elected representatives.**

5. How is policy on arms control and disarmament proposals formulated?

Answer: Congress provided for cooperation in arms control and disarmament policy formulation among all interested agencies. Test ban or disarmament recommendations of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency are considered by the Departments of State and Defense (including the Joint Chiefs of Staff), the Atomic Energy Commission, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the special assistants to the President for national security affairs and for science and technology, and other agencies. Negotiations are never undertaken on an important measure until the President has consulted with his key national security advisers and given his approval. In addition, the appropriate congressional committees are kept informed and consulted about such proposals.

6. If agreement is reached on such arms control or disarmament measures as a test ban or disarmament treaty, could the agreement obligate the United States without prior congressional approval?

Answer: No. **Congress provided that no action could be taken that would obligate the United States to disarm without the prior approval of Congress.** The President, the Secretary of State, and the Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency have all said that a test ban agreement would be submitted in the form of a treaty to the Senate for the traditional two-thirds vote. A general disarmament plan such as that proposed by our Government at the Geneva Disarmament Conference would also be submitted to the Senate.

Under section 33 of the Arms Control and Disarmament Act, an agreement obligating the United States to disarm or to reduce its Armed Forces must be approved either in this fashion or by a majority in both Houses. The American people are thus assured that no disarmament agreement could be put into effect without the approval of their elected representatives.