

II. THE TREATY OUTLINE ON GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT IN A PEACEFUL WORLD

1. What is the "Outline of Basic Provisions of a Treaty on General and Complete Disarmament in a Peaceful World"?

Answer: It is a document which provides a blueprint of the executive branch position on general and complete disarmament, elaborating on the nature, sequence, and timing of specific disarmament measures. It represents the most comprehensive and specific series of proposals the United States or any other country has ever made on disarmament. It was submitted at the Geneva Disarmament Conference on April 18, 1962, as a negotiating instrument after having been developed by the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in consultation with other agencies such as the Departments of State and Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Atomic Energy Commission, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Central Intelligence Agency. This "Treaty Outline" is available to the public through the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in a booklet entitled "Blueprint for the Peace Race," and supersedes the original State Department pamphlet entitled "Freedom From War."

2. What does the treaty outline on general and complete disarmament provide?

Answer: In general, the U.S. proposals contemplate reductions in our armaments by about one-third in each of three stages, both of the first two stages lasting 3 years each. The duration of the last stage has not been specified because the ultimate goal of complete disarmament in a peaceful world cannot be achieved without major changes in today's world. The outline provides that each nation would retain those forces necessary to maintain internal order and protect the personal security of citizens when and if this goal is achieved. Transition from one stage to the next would be subject to our determination that all parties to the treaty were living up to all their obligations under the treaty. In addition, our Government proposes effective means for inspection and for verifying that disarmament measures are being observed. Finally, the proposals of the executive branch would require that, throughout the disarmament process, nations use all available means for the peaceful settlement of disputes, including the means afforded by the United Nations.

3. Could such proposals be carried out in today's world?

Answer: No. Provisions of the treaty outline, such as those requiring that nations settle all their disputes peacefully, would, if successfully negotiated and approved by Congress, necessitate major changes in their outlook toward world affairs by many nations, including the Soviet bloc countries. The United States would not be prepared to enter into later stages of the plan unless such changes had occurred.