4. Why, then, does the United States not stop emphasizing general disarmament and concentrate instead on arms control and disarmament agreements that might be implemented in the near future?

Answer: The United States does concentrate on achieving more limited agreements while still retaining general and complete disarmament as the ultimate objective. Foremost among these are a safeguarded nuclear test ban and measures to reduce the risk of war, such as the recent agreement to establish a direct communications link between Washington and Moscow. The United States believes it useful, however, to continue to let the world know the ultimate goal of its disarmament proposals and how it proposes to achieve that goal. The goal has been described as a "free, secure, and peaceful world of independent states adhering to common standards of justice and international conduct and subjecting the use of force to the rule of law.

5. Are the negotiations on general and complete disarmament at the Geneva Disarmament Conference serving any useful purpose so long as no agreement of this kind is in sight?

Answer: Yes. Our Government has not had and does not have any illusions that progress on general and complete disarmament could be swift. Nevertheless, the negotiations in Geneva have provided the United States with an unusual opportunity to communicate its views to other nations of the world. The oversimplified Soviet propaganda slogan of "general and complete disarmament in 4 years," has sometimes sounded impressive to other nations in the United Nations debates because procedural limitations prevented a probing analysis. At the Geneva Conference, however, adequate opportunity is provided for full analysis and lengthy debate by our negotiators. As a result, non-Soviet bloc participants at the Conference have been able to perceive the wholly unrealistic and superficial context of the Soviet slogan. The U.S. "Treaty Outline for General and Complete Disarmament in a Peaceful World," represents a comprehensive, realistic, and specific series of proposals through which we have communicated to the other nations present our sincere desire for a meaningful disarmament agreement. Moreover, the Geneva Conference has served a useful purpose in providing a forum for the discussion of the more limited agreements referred to in the preceding answer.

6. Does the U.S. proposal for general and complete disarmament contemplate "unilateral" disarmament by just this country?

Answer: No. The U.S. proposal does not call for disarmament only by this country; it specifically requires that the arms and armed forces of all parties to an agreement be proportionately reduced "in a manner that will not affect adversely the security of any state," and is conditioned on the establishment of an effective system to verify compliance.

7. Would our proposed general and complete disarmament program serve to destroy our sovereign independence and place us under a United Nations military dictatorship?

Answer: No. The U.S. disarmament proposals are directed toward achieving greater security for the United States, its traditional institutions, and its citizens by providing for the progressive reduction of the warmaking capabilities of all nations. The overall U.S. goal is