

Quoting at Random

STATEMENTS ON THE TREATY ON THE NON PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

President Lyndon B. Johnson, UN-GA(XXII), 12 June 1968:

"I believe that this Treaty can lead to further measures that will inhibit the senseless continuation of the arms race. I believe that it can give the world time – very precious time – to protect itself against Armageddon, and if my faith is well-founded, as I believe it is, then this Treaty will truly deserve to be recorded as the most important step towards peace since the founding of the United Nations."

Mr. Alexei Kosygin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, at the signing of NPT, 1 July 1968:

"The participation by a large number of States today in signing the Treaty is convincing proof that mutually acceptable ways and means can be found by States for solving difficult international problems of vital importance for mankind as a whole. The drawing up of the Treaty has demanded great efforts and prolonged discussions in which States with differing social systems, nuclear and non-nuclear Powers, countries large and small, advanced and developing, have all taken part. The Treaty reflects the numerous suggestions and proposals put forward by different States and takes into account the differing points of view on solving the problem of non-proliferation, yet all the States which voted for it have agreed on the main point, namely the necessity of preventing proliferation of nuclear weapons."

Prime Minister Harold Wilson, United Kingdom, at the signing of NPT, 1 July 1968:

"This is not a Treaty for which just two or three countries are responsible. It exists because it reflects and enshrines mankind's universal and fundamental desire for peace and security. Every Government whose representatives supported the Treaty in the United Nations General Assembly and who voted for the resolution can feel that it has contributed to the Treaty we are signing today; and the many representatives present at this ceremony have the special distinction of demonstrating their and their countries' support for the Treaty by signing it on the day that it is opened for signature."

Kurt Waldheim, Austrian representative to the UN, at UN-GA(XXIII), 11 October 1968:

"We have already expressed on previous occasions the opinion that the non-proliferation Treaty has not as yet established a true balance of obligations between the nuclear and the non-nuclear countries and that the Treaty should not be

considered an end, but rather a starting point for further disarmament measures and a step towards general and complete disarmament. The nuclear Powers, in article VI of the Treaty, have accepted a clear commitment in this respect. It is our sincere hope that this process will be set in motion as soon as possible, and that it will lead to concrete results."

UN Secretary General U Thant, Preface to UN Publication "The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons", 1969:

"The successful conclusion of the Treaty was the culmination of ten years of effort in the United Nations and in the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament. The negotiations were complicated by the fact that the Treaty affected the most sensitive interests of countries, including those of security. Nevertheless, the overwhelming majority of countries, both nuclear and non-nuclear, clearly stated that the Treaty reflects their common efforts to prevent the scourge of nuclear war.

Being undoubtedly the most important international agreement in the field of disarmament since the nuclear age began, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons can be justly acclaimed as a major success for the cause of peace."

Lord Lothian, United Kingdom, UN-1st Committee, 17 November 1971:

"The Treaty is now a proven measure of arms control. Let those who call for other more far-reaching measures of disarmament make sure first that those agreements we have are comprehensive and thus fully effective."

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, USA, UN-GA(XXIX), 23 September 1974:

"The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which this Assembly has endorsed, warrants continuing support. The Treaty contains not only a broad commitment to limit the spread of nuclear explosives but specific obligations to accept and implement IAEA safeguards and to control the transfer of nuclear materials."

Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, USSR, at UN-GA(XXIX), 24 September 1974:

"... a limit on the territorial spread of armaments. Such is the purport of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which has proved its effectiveness. We are in favour of making full use of the possibilities inherent in that Treaty and of increasing the number of States parties to it. The objective is to make this Treaty universal."

Mr. J. Scali, USA, UN-GA(XXIX), 5 November 1974:

"In his message to the recent International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference President Ford stated that the non-proliferation Treaty was "one of the pillars of United States foreign policy".

Dr. Sigvard Eklund, Director-General of IAEA, at UN-GA(XXIX), 15 November 1974:

"The importance of maintaining the momentum of the non-proliferation Treaty is not only a question of preventing the further spread of nuclear weapons, crucial though that is for the long-term prospects for peace. The Treaty is a major, but only a single, step along the road to arms control and disarmament. It has been described as a bridge that must be crossed before any other more far-reaching measures of disarmament become possible. The non-nuclear-weapon States Party to the Treaty, in accepting international verification have set an example which must be more widely followed if we are to move closer to the goals that all countries profess to seek: "... cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date ... nuclear disarmament ... general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control." (General Assembly resolution 2373 (XXII), annex, article VI)"

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