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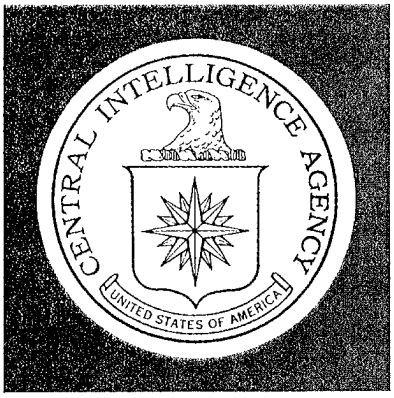

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WEEKLY SUMMARY

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20 September 1968
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C O N T E N T S

(Information as of noon EDT, 19 September 1968)

NUCLEAR HAVE-NOTS MEET IN GENEVA 17

The Non-Nuclear Conference is reflecting some non-nuclear - possessing countries' dissatisfactions with the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and could produce proposals disruptive to the treaty's orderly implementation.

NUCLEAR HAVE-NOTS MEET IN GENEVA

The Non-Nuclear Conference meeting in Geneva this month has reflected the dissatisfaction of the nuclear have-nots with the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the methods contemplated for its implementation. The many far-ranging proposals being considered are variously designed to give nonnuclear countries greater security from nuclear attack and to improve their access to nuclear materials, peaceful nuclear explosive (PNE) services, and technology.

Pakistan has put forth a resolution asking the nuclear powers to commit themselves not to use nuclear force against nonnuclear states. It further asks that the nuclear powers assist threatened nonnuclears through the UN Security Council without resort to veto. West Germany and Belgium may each table proposals asking the nuclear powers to renounce the use of all force except as an act of individual or collective self-defense. Others recommend an international conference to work out nonuse formulas with great power guarantees pending nuclear disarmament.

Considerable discussion has focused on ways to make various clauses of the NPT--such as safeguards, material and technology rights, and PNE services--less susceptible to the control of nuclear powers. Among the proposals is an Italian plan to establish a "fund" of nuclear materials to be replenished annually by the nuclear powers for the benefit of the nonnuclears, and a

demand by the Swiss for access guarantees to technology and fissionable material.

West Germany announced that, under its interpretation of the NPT, the nuclear powers have an obligation to disclose to the nonnuclear all peaceful-use technology, including that related to isotope separation. Several nations have suggested fundamental changes in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in order to facilitate nonnuclear rights. Mexico and Italy have even suggested a new international organization to review, authorize, and supervise PNE services, matters that most countries believe are the exclusive prerogative of the IAEA.

[redacted] There seems to be little support for a new international organization or for substantial revamping of IAEA. The conference may, however, produce some recommendations that, if accepted, would complicate implementation of the tediously hammered-out provisions of the NPT. Moreover, it will probably vote to perpetuate itself in some way, becoming perhaps a biennial occasion. [redacted]

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