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Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, to be placed in the Congressional Record 6/25/73

Mr. Speaker, President Nixon and Soviet Communist Party Chief Leonid Brezhnev last weekend concluded a series of meetings at the summit which produced a number of steps toward world peece. Observers of these summit meetings must conclude that the fruits of the Nixon-Brezhnev conferences constitute historic advances in the quest for what Mr. Nixon calls "a generation of peace."

The United States and the Soviet Union last Friday agreed formally to consult each other whenever there is a risk of nuclear war and to refrain from any "threat or use of force" that would jeopardize world peace. Furthermore, in this "Agreement on the Prevention of Nuclear War," the two nations joined in an alliance against nuclear confrontation, pledging that they would work together to maintain world peace . and to avoid serious international confrontations.

Earlier last week--on Thur sday--President Nixon and Soviet leader Brezhnev signed a Declaration of the Seven Principles, which promises to pave the way for a second Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) Agreement. The guidelines are similar to the joint U.S.-Soviet pronouncement in May 1971 that broke the impasse in the stalled SALT I negotiations.

The Seven Principles Agreement commits the **Seven** U.S. and the U.S.S.R. to conclude a treaty limiting offensive nuclear weapons by 1974; pledges both nations to a permanent limitation on strategic nuclear weapons; and broadens the SALT II talks to include "qualitative improvements" in offensive nuclear weapons. It also commits both sides not only to the limiting of such weapons but also to an actual reduction of strategic weapons.

Mr. Nixon and Mr. Brezhnev also signed an agreement calling for increased cooperation in developing peaceful uses of atomic energy--the first such practical agreement between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. on a working level. Both sides are seeking a breakthrough that might result in the development of a nuclear reactor producing pollution-free electrical energy.

Mr. Speaker, as the summit meetings concluded Mr. Brezhnev invited Mr. Nixon to visit Moscow next year and Mr. Nixon accepted. That 1974 summit might well be the occasion for signing of a broad treaty limiting offensive nuclear weapons, just as the 1972 summit in Moscow saw the signing of the treaty limiting defensive nuclear weapons.

Mr. Speaker, there is no question but that the summit meetings we have is just witnessed have strengthened peaceful relations between Washington and Moscow and have been most fruitful and productive. As we continue to build on this foundation, we can look forward to peace not only for this generation but beyond.

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