

**The original documents are located in Box 34, “5/28/76 - Remarks at the Signing Ceremony for the Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS AT THE SIGNING

OF THE TREATY ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1976

THE TREATY WE ARE SIGNING TODAY IS AN HISTORIC  
MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS:  
FOR THE FIRST TIME IT PROVIDES FOR EXTENSIVE COOPERATIVE  
ARRANGEMENTS FOR ON-SITE OBSERVATION IN MONITORING UNDERGROUND  
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS●

THIS MEANS THAT THE SOVIET UNION WILL ALLOW  
AMERICAN OBSERVERS TO WITNESS CERTAIN LARGER TESTS ON THEIR  
TERRITORY AND IF WE SHOULD HAVE SUCH A TEST WE WOULD  
RECIPROCATE AND ALLOW SOVIET OBSERVERS HERE IN ORDER TO  
VERIFY AT FIRSTHAND THAT OUR CONTROL AGREEMENTS ARE BEING  
ADHERED TO●

THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT IN AGREEING TO ON-SITE

OBSERVATION DEMONSTRATES THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES CAN SOBERLY  
NEGOTIATE RESPONSIBLE AND BENEFICIAL AGREEMENTS DESPITE THE  
DIFFICULTY OF THE CHALLENGE. THE NEGOTIATIONS CULMINATING  
IN THIS TREATY RAISED UNIQUE PROBLEMS. THE DISCUSSIONS  
WERE LONG AND COMPLEX. **BUT** THE RESULT: REAL PROGRESS  
HAS BEEN MADE IN THE FIELD OF ARMS CONTROL, A SIGNIFICANT  
STEP HAS BEEN TAKEN TOWARD A MORE STABLE, PEACEFUL WORLD  
AND A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED  
STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

THIS NEW TREATY, TOGETHER WITH THE THRESHOLD TEST BAN TREATY, WILL GOVERN THE CONDUCT OF EVERY UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSION FOR MILITARY OR PEACEFUL PURPOSES FOR BOTH PARTIES. THE TWO TREATIES IMPOSE THE SAME LIMIT OF 150 KILOTONS ON ALL INDIVIDUAL UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS.

THE ULTIMATE PURPOSE OF THE NETWORK OF ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS WE HAVE ALREADY NEGOTIATED, AND WHICH ARE CURRENTLY BEING NEGOTIATED, IS TO BRING ABOUT A MORE PEACEFUL WORLD. PUSHING BACK THE SHADOW OF NUCLEAR WAR MUST BE OUR CONSTANT CONCERN. THAT, INDEED, IS THE UNDERLYING PURPOSE OF ALL THE NUMEROUS AGREEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION WHICH OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE CONCLUDED IN RECENT YEARS.

I WELCOME THE ACCOMPLISHMENT WE MARK HERE TODAY.

I HOPE IT WILL LEAD TO FURTHER ACHIEVEMENTS IN BUILDING A STABLE AND JUST PEACE FOR OUR TWO PEOPLES AND FOR MANKIND.

I WILL SEND THE TWO TREATIES TO THE SENATE FOR THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION AND URGE THAT THE SENATE GRANT ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THEIR RATIFICATION.

I WILL NOW SIGN THE TREATY AND PROTOCOL ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

END OF TEXT

AFTER SIGNING THE TREATY:

I HAVE SIGNED THESE DOCUMENTS WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO LASTING PEACE AND A FUTURE OF BETTER RELATIONS AMONG ALL NATIONS.

THANK YOU.