

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT

FEBRUARY 25, 1976

Salt's 4th  
Oct 1977

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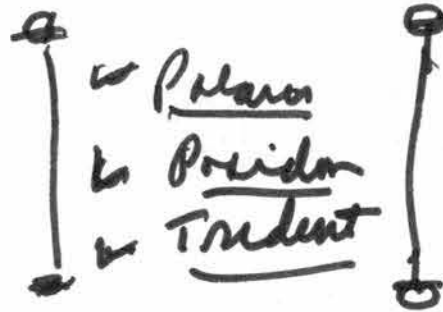
OUR PURPOSE IN SPONSORING THIS RESOLUTION IS TO EXPRESS  
THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT A SECOND SALT AGREEMENT IS CLEARLY  
IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST.

WE JOIN TOGETHER ON A BIPARTISAN BASIS BECAUSE WE BELIEVE  
THAT THE ISSUE OF ACHIEVING FURTHER PROGRESS IN LIMITING THE  
NUCLEAR ARMS RACE IS AN OBJECTIVE WHICH SHOULD BE ABOVE  
PARTISAN DEBATE,

THE MOMENTUM TOWARDS ANOTHER SALT AGREEMENT MUST NOT BE  
BLOCKED BY ELECTION YEAR POLITICS AND BUREAUCRATIC POLITICS IN  
WASHINGTON. IF THIS WERE TO OCCUR, IRREPARABLE HARM WOULD  
BE DONE TO THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING MUTUALLY NEGOTIATED ARMS  
LIMITATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

WE ARE NOT OPPOSED TO SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE ON THE MANY  
COMPLEX ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE SALT PROCESS. IT IS MY HOPE  
THAT THIS RESOLUTION WILL HELP BRING ABOUT PUBLIC AND  
CONGRESSIONAL DISCUSSION OF THE CRUCIAL CHOICES WHICH MUST  
BE MADE BY OUR GOVERNMENT BEFORE A SECOND SALT AGREEMENT  
IS CONCLUDED.

IF ANOTHER SALT AGREEMENT IS TO RECEIVE THE SUPPORT OF  
THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IT MUST BE A DOCUMENT  
WHICH MOVES US IN THE DIRECTION OF MEANINGFUL AND GENUINE  
ARMS LIMITATION.



Early Process -  
Deployment of Crew

L I WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO SUPPORT A TREATY WHICH  
MERELY ENDORSES THE STATUS QUO AND ACTUALLY PERMITS THE  
DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF A NEW GENERATION OF WEAPONS  
SYSTEMS WHICH FURTHER DESTABILIZE THE ARMS RACE AND MAKE  
FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS MORE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE.

SENATOR KENNEDY HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED THE CRUISE MISSILE.

L LET ME ADD THAT I CONSIDER THE STRATEGIC RANGE CRUISE MISSILE  
TO BE AN ARMS CONTROL NIGHTMARE BECAUSE OF THE SERIOUS  
VERIFICATION PROBLEMS. SECRETARY KISSINGER SHARES THIS VIEW.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT UNLESS THE CRUISE  
MISSILE IS CAREFULLY LIMITED AT SALT AS WE SUGGEST IN THIS  
RESOLUTION, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO BRING IT UNDER CONTROL AT  
A LATER DATE AFTER IT HAS BEEN TESTED AND DEPLOYED IN A VARIETY  
OF MODES.

WE HAVE REACHED AN IMPORTANT TURNING POINT IN THE PROCESS OF  
MUTUALLY NEGOTIATED ARMS LIMITATIONS. THE DECISIONS TO  
BE MADE AT SALT II <sup>will A</sup> HAVE CRITICAL IMPACT ON THE FUTURE OF  
SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND THE GOAL OF CONTROLLING THE  
ARMS RACE.

I WILL REQUEST THAT THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HOLD  
HEARINGS IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE ON THE RESOLUTION AND REPORT  
IT TO THE SENATE FOR A RECORD VOTE.

THE MESSAGE FROM THIS RESOLUTION IS CLEAR. WE WANT  
TO WORK WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE TOWARDS  
THE GOAL OF CONCLUDING A SALT AGREEMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE  
THAT WILL MAKE MEANINGFUL PROGRESS TOWARDS REASONABLE ARMS  
LIMITATIONS IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST.

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