

Nations Split On Drafting Of A-Pact

'Have-Nots' Demand Part in Industrial Uses of the Atom

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The diplomatic struggle to get a treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons now openly divides the nuclear nations, including the United States and the Soviet Union, from the non-nuclear countries—with West Germany seeking to lead the "have-not" nations.

This is a significant broadening of a debate usually cast in terms simply of an East-West conflict.

It will be a priority topic today in talks between Willy Brandt, the visiting Vice Chancellor and Foreign Minister of West Germany, and President Johnson, Vice President Humphrey, Secretary of State Dean Rusk and others.

Brandt himself, and his Social Democratic Party, have long favored a nonproliferation treaty. But Brandt has also emphasized that there must be no discrimination against industrialized nations in the industrial uses of atomic energy.

Want More Assurances

The United States essentially agrees with this idea, but others in West Germany and

elsewhere apparently want more assurances than Washington may feel able to give without destroying the prospects of Soviet agreement. The more influential non-nuclear nations are maneuvering intensively to protest what they see as their long-range technological, industrial, diplomatic and survival interests.

The days are gone when the debate seemed simple and centered only on Soviet fears of a German "finger on the nuclear trigger."

But the long-sought agreement between Moscow and Washington on nonproliferation is now regarded as attainable after more hard bargaining. The newer, three-sided tangle, in the opinion of many American officials, is likely to delay—not prevent—agreement on the treaty.

The prospect of profound technological competition, bisecting the traditional lines of ideological rivalry between Communists and non-Communists, is now more evident, however. To some analysts, especially Europeans, this technological competition has already overshadowed the ideological divisions of the post-World War II era.

Treaty Is Top Issue

The Brandt talks here will extend into a complex of problems, presumably including the unresolved question of offsetting the dollar costs of American forces stationed in West Germany. But the overriding issue right now is the nonproliferation treaty, with the 17-nation Disarmament Conference to reconvene in Geneva on Feb. 21.

In Paris, the Permanent Council of NATO is to meet again today for a second round

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A-Pact Looms High in Brandt Talks

of talks within a week on this urgent topic.

William C. Foster, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, is to leave Washington next week for Geneva.

Foster's early arrival in Geneva is intended to allow time for pre-conference talks with Chief Soviet negotiator Alexei A. Roshchin.

Last October, President Johnson reportedly was elated, after a meeting here with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko, the possibilities of agreement on the nonproliferation pact.

But as the private negotiations proceeded, the non-nuclear nations have looked on the consequences for themselves with mounting attention, and some times, suspicion. As proposed American draft language for the treaty was privately circulated, suspicious were aired that Moscow and Washington already had a private deal for all the treaty language.

On the contrary, United States sources maintain, there is agreement only on some language; "agreement in prin-

ciple" on other portions, and no agreement at all on several remaining elements, but only the hope for agreement. The optimists in the Johnson Administration think agreement might come this spring; others think agreement by later summer or fall is more likely; and still others see only a 50-50 chance for any accord.

An early and major breakthrough was achieved simply by circumventing the most familiar problem: the so-called "European option". It would leave the way open for the possibility that West Germany some day might participate in a combined European nuclear force if Britain or France ever agreed to put their present national forces into such a system.

The treaty simply is silent on that point but the United States has promised West Germany that it will make clear in the ratification process that such an option is open. The acquisition of nuclear "hardware," however, is ruled out for Germany or any other national non-nuclear participant.

The thorniest obstacle in

the debate right now is language that both the United States and the Soviet Union insist upon to prevent present non-nuclear nations from themselves conducting "peaceful" atomic explosions.

Last year, in a historic double-take, United States officials suddenly concluded that it was impossible to distinguish in any treaty language between the equipment and facilities required for weapons explosions and for peaceful explosions.

As one expert once put it caustically: "Project Plowshare" (for "peaceful" use of atoms) is a project that can be used to dig a canal in the middle of somebody else's city whether he wants it there or not."

If the non-nuclear nations require peaceful atomic explosions, the U.S. has said, arrangements can be made for the nuclear powers to do them under safeguards.

It was for that reason that the State Department, on Monday, suddenly announced its public objection to the Latin American proposal to ban nuclear weapons from the West-

Reagan Stationery Is Hand-Me-Down

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Feb. 7 (AP)—Gov. Ronald Reagan's Republican Administration in California is using former Gov. Edmund G. Brown's old Democratic stationery, with the old name lined out and the new one typed in.

The Governor, who last week submitted a budget \$200 million lower than Gov. Brown's record \$4.6-billion budget, asked his department to use the old letterheads for economy's sake.

The move is consistent with other recent measures. The Governor yesterday requested state employees to work, voluntarily without pay or extra time off, on Lincoln's and Washington's birthday holidays this month.

ern Hemisphere south of the United States. That nuclear free-zone draft treaty, said the State Department, would have permitted "peaceful" explosions that are bound to be "indistinguishable" from weapons tests.