

# PRESIDENT'S AIM IS TO PROD SOVIET

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## Remark on Budget Increase for Arms Is Part of Plan to Adopt Tougher Stand NYTimes

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—High Administration officials said today that progress toward a new Soviet-American nuclear arms pact was too slow and uncertain and that President Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger wanted to apply additional pressure on the Russians.

The officials said that was why President Ford, speaking in Minneapolis today, warned that he would ask for a \$2.8-billion increase in spending on strategic nuclear arms unless a new nuclear arms pact was reached with Moscow.

This latest negotiating tactic is similar to the one used by former President Richard M. Nixon and Mr. Kissinger in 1972, months before the conclusion of the first five-year nuclear pact reached by the United States and the Soviet Union.

At that time, on orders from the White House, the Pentagon was directed to increase its spending request on nuclear arms by about \$2-billion.

Administration officials said that the idea for the tough line toward Moscow on nuclear arms originated with Mr. Kissinger in a discussion with the President about two months ago.

About the same time, other officials said, Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger suggested to President Ford that

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the Pentagon study the forces that might be needed if no new agreement was reached.

After the President returned from his recent European trip, Mr. Schlesinger presented him with a one-page memorandum outlining an accelerated program and its costs.

Mr. Ford asked for a more detailed presentation, and Mr. Schlesinger complied about two weeks ago with a program that called for the additional \$2-billion to be spent over the next five years, including some as a supplement to this year's request.

### Mention in Speech Agreed On

The officials said that Mr. Kissinger and the President then agreed that the President should use the \$2.8-billion figure in one of his speeches. This was discussed with Mr. Schlesinger and he gave his approval as well.

The current \$2.8-billion shopping list prepared by the Pentagon includes only one new program—mobile land and air-launched intercontinental missiles—not presently being funded, Administration officials said.

The other items would involve the acceleration of research and development and procurement of nuclear weapons already being funded.

The Pentagon has not requested these additional funds and has not been planning on them. The Pentagon's current budget request is \$9.6-billion for strategic weapons, with billions more in indirect costs.

But Defense Secretary Schlesinger's position from the start has been that new nuclear weapons would be needed if Moscow did not make satisfactory concessions toward new agreement.

Mr. Schlesinger's preference, however, was been clearly expressed for reducing expenditures on strategic weapons. In a secret memorandum on defense spending over the next five years, he directed that

about \$5-billion previously marked for strategic weapons be transferred to conventional nonnuclear forces.

Both the President and Mr. Kissinger have been coming under heavy criticism in recent months from conservatives for having placed too much faith in detente with Moscow and for being too soft in their dealings with Moscow on nuclear arms.

White House officials said that Mr. Ford had consulted with members of the Republican party, including former Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird, who urged him to be tougher with the Russians. Mr. Ford and Mr. Kissinger had been planning on reaching agreement on nuclear arms at or before the Soviet Communist party leader, Leonid I. Brezhnev, visited Washington in the fall.

### Soviets Reports Arms Gain

MOSCOW, Aug. 19 (Reuters)

—The Soviet press agency Tass, said today that a new United States-Soviet agreement on limiting their nuclear arsenals was well withing reach.

The Tass commentary came within hours of warning by President Ford that the United spending on nuclear arms if no agreement was reached at the strategic arms limitation talks in Geneva.

A Tass commentator Igor Yefimov said: "There is no reason to speak about an impasse. Those reiterating the 'lack of progress' contentions either fail to understand the seriousness of the talks or attempt to deliberately misrepresent."