

2 PACTS ON WEAPONS SIGNED BY PRESIDENT

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (Reuters) — President Ford today signed two international agreements barring chemical and biological warfare, including one originally sponsored by the United States in 1925.

Mr. Ford signed the Geneva convention that bars chemical or biological warfare and the biological weapons convention, which rules out production or stockpiling of biological weapons.

The Geneva convention, supported by the United States in 1925, failed to win Senate approval then and later remained stalled until late last year over a Senate demand that tear gas and herbicides used in Vietnam should be included.

A compromise was reached when Dr. Fred Ikle, director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament agency, assured Senators that tear gas and herbicides would be used only under stringent limitations.

The United States was the last major power to sign the Geneva convention.

American ratification of the biological weapons convention, will be followed by formal ceremonies in Washington, Moscow and London.

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