

AP Wirephoto

Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, President Nixon and Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny drank a toast after signing minor agreements yesterday on housing, energy and heart research

## Missile Limit Sought

## Summit Talks on Defense

Moscow

President Nixon and Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev moved yesterday toward an agreement to reduce the ceiling on anti-missile defense systems permitted under the treaty they signed here two years ago.

Authoritative sources said their negotiations at the Kremlin yesterday focused upon limiting each nation to a single anti-missile complex instead of the two allowed now.

The 1972 summit agreement permitted each side to maintain two complexes — with up to 100 launchers at each — one to protect the national capital region and the other to guard a field of offensive strategic missiles.

At the time, the Soviets had a complex encompassing a broad region around Moscow and the Americans were constructing a complex to cover missile bases in

North Dakota and Montana.

Each country had the option of building a second anti-missile complex, b'u t neither has used the option. A new agreement would close it permanently.

Mr. Nixon also discussed with the Soviet leadership proposals for limiting underground nuclear tests, but the limitation of offensive strategic weapons themselves did not come up in any detail, the sources said.

Mr. Nixon, who arrived in Moscow Thursday, began a full day here by laying a ceremonial wreath at the memorial of the unknown soldier outside the Kremlin.

The President later mingled with the Russians on the street near the Red Square.

The President plunged into one crowd of delighted Russians for some campaign-style handshaking.

Then Mr. Nixon went back into the Kremlin, where he is staying, for the morning and afternoon rounds of talks that lasted a total of four hours and 15 minutes.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Nixon were guests of honor at a special dance performance in the ornate Bolshoi Theater. They were joined in the central box by Brezhnev, Premier Aleksei N. Kosygin and President Nikolai V. Podgorny.

In a gesture of Soviet-American accommodation,

three minor agreements to explore specialized cooperation were signed yesterday.

Brezhnev emphasized the collective nature of the Kremlin leadership by letting Mr. Nixon sign a housing agreement with Kosygin and an energy agreement

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with Podgorny. An agreement on joint artificial heart research was signed by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko.

The cancellation of a planned presidential visit today to the Soviet space center at Star City outside Moscow, where American astronauts and Soviet cosmonauts are training together, indicated how much serious negotiating remains before Mr. Nixon winds up his visit Wednesday.

There had been some advance speculation about a possible extension of the 1972 pact limiting antimissile defenses, since neither country had moved to make full use of the opportunities presented.

Instead, the Soviet Union and the U.S. have concentrated upon developing increasingly sophisticated offensive missiles, which have posed intricate problems in the continuing bilateral Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

An agreement on reducing the anti-missile systems was seen as a convenient way to give the arms control negotiations an appearance of new momentum in the current summit visit.

On the issue of underground nuclear testing, above a mutually decided threshold, Kissing stated

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at a news conference on Wednesday that several major questions have to be resolved here.

They are the level of the threshold itself, whether peaceful nuclear explosions would be allowed to exceed the threshold, and what would be permitted below the threshold.

In a speech two weeks ago, Brezhnev declared that the Soviet Union is ready to sign immediately an agreement curtailing underground testing and, in an agreed upon timetable, banning it altogether.

At a news conference yesterday, White House press secretary Ronald Ziegler said that the question of trade concessions which Congress has tied to a freer Soviet emigration policy has not come up so far in the current talks.

Ziegler made it clear that the Nixon administration is still anxious to meet its pledge to extend to the Soviet Union most favored nation status as had been promised at an earlier summit meeting.