

fear technology transfers, but it cannot prevent the spread of nuclear technology. The best method of preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons is to tie technology transfers to promises of non-proliferation. That is what NPT has done. This method of providing conditional access to nuclear technology has a proven track record and could help to limit the proliferation of missiles. Third World countries could be persuaded not to acquire ballistic missiles by offering them instead the advantages of belonging to an international space agency.

**Discussion:** Mr. Simpson was asked what conduct would be appropriate toward latent proliferators if export controls were ineffective with them. In particular, should they be offered technologies and know-how that would enable them to gain better control over their nuclear weapons? Mr. Simpson did not think that such a policy would be appropriate because recognition of the nuclear status of proliferators amounted to an admission that the non-proliferation policy had failed. Mr. Spector was asked whether he thought that American permissiveness toward certain proliferators was likely to diminish. He replied that he thought so, at least in regard to Pakistan. The relative tolerance shown by the United States toward Pakistan was due to the war in Afghanistan. Mr. Simpson did not wish to advance an opinion regarding other proliferators. The question of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty (CTBT) also arose. According to Mr. Simpson, the importance of such a treaty depended on the way in which one interpreted the NPT. If the Treaty was interpreted as a disarmament agreement, then the CTBT was crucial; if however the NPT was interpreted as an arms control agreement, the CTBT was only of secondary importance. Mr Simpson thought that the CTBT would now be more important for its symbolism than for its real effects. In fact, section VI of the NPT did not even mention CTBT.<sup>2</sup> The latter could not prevent the spread of non-nuclear technologies, such as missile-related technologies, which were now at the heart of atomic arsenals. Messrs. Simpson and Spector said they did not think that adherence to article VI of NPT would cause division among those attending the conference to renew the Treaty in 1995. They both thought that the vast majority of countries were happy with

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<sup>2</sup> Article VI asks the parties to progress toward general and complete disarmament.