

“The real problem arises, as I see it, from the attempts of SALT-2 opponents to revise the existing agreements in order to secure U.S. military superiority. Anyone who makes a technical and strategic analysis of the critical amendments to the agreed SALT provisions can see this....

“These examples (which are cited by Semeiko, including the cruise missile and the different U.S. and Soviet ballistic missiles — ed.), like many others, reveal a highly dangerous problem: a possibility that the talks will be dragged out because of the attempts of certain influential U.S. leaders to compel a revision not only of the Vladivostok accord, but of the agreements achieved in recent months.

“This foot-dragging may, unless stopped, entail most unpleasant consequences. A new round of the arms race may well be brought on even while the talks are still in progress and make them increasingly difficult....

“The real problem is how to clear the way for a politically favorable approach to the complicated SALT issues, instead of an overly technical one....It is the wisdom of statesmanship that must prevail in these circumstances. What is possible and necessary is to sort out the essentials from the fabricated issues, the real ones from the figments of imagination. A SALT breakdown would increase drastically the threat of a global nuclear disaster.”

In an earlier article, published May 9, to commemorate Victory in Europe Day, Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Dmitrii Ustinov reiterated the Soviet commitment to a speedy conclusion of the SALT negotiations. While citing Brezhnev's trip as proof that the Soviet Union wants peace, Ustinov stressed the danger of Chinese statements on the “inevitability” of war and of provocations which may be mounted in other regions. Ustinov's words make clear that Moscow is closely watching the hotspots in Africa, the Mideast, and Asia — in fact, all British operations to torpedo the Schmidt-Brezhnev arrangements — and hoping the U.S. will act responsibly to stop their exploding.

—Rachel Berthoff

Correction

In the special *INTERNATIONAL* section in our last issue, the *Executive Intelligence Review* inadvertently misquoted West German Chancellor Schmidt in our reprint of his speech on “Making Detente Irreversible.” Schmidt said that he was convinced that his hopes for peace were shared by “the Ukrainian farmer and the Ruhr miner,” not the “Russian miner” as we erroneously printed.