

FBIS 45

MOSCOW RADIO ON FUTURE OF SOVIET-U.S. RELATIONS

L272224 MOSCOW IN SERBO-CROATIAN TO YUGOSLAVIA 1633 GMT 27 OCT 74 L

(IGOR PENCHENKO COMMENTARY)

(TEXT) THE INTEREST DISPLAYED BY THE WORLD PUBLIC IN TALKS WHICH LEONID BREZHNEV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AND ANDREY GROMYKO, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOVIET UNION, HAD IN MOSCOW WITH HENRY KISSINGER, U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE, IS UNDERSTANDABLE. THESE TALKS REFERRED TO THE STATE AND PROSPECTS OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES, AMONG OTHER THINGS, IN LIGHT OF AGREEMENTS REACHED IN THE COURSE OF SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMIT MEETINGS. IN THE TALKS HELD IN MOSCOW, VIEWS WERE ALSO EXCHANGED ON SOME INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE TALKS TOUCHED ON THE PROBLEMS OF SETTLING THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION, THE COURSE OF THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE AND THE DISARMAMENT ISSUE.

AS STRESSED DURING THE TALKS, THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP RESOLUTELY ADVOCATES THAT THE COURSE WHICH HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY SET IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES BE CONTINUED. PRESIDENT GERALD FORD'S ASSURANCES THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION WILL AIM AT THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF CONSTRUCTIVE AND MUTUALLY USEFUL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES FILLS US WITH SATISFACTION. WE RETAIN THE CONVICTION, DICTATED BY THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES, THAT IN A NUCLEAR AGE THERE IS NO OTHER BASIS FOR MAINTAINING RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES EXCEPT PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE. AT THE RECENT MEETING WITH THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE SESSION OF THE U.S.-USSR TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL, LEONID BREZHNEV SAID: WE CONTINUE TO BE OPTIMISTIC AND, AS BEFORE, WE CONSIDER THAT THE PROSPECTS OF BUSINESS RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE REAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INTERESTS OF THE TWO STATES AND NOT BY SELFISH CALCULATIONS BY SOME INDIVIDUALS AND NARROW-MINDED POLITICAL GROUPS WHOSE PSYCHOLOGY HAS STILL NOT RID ITSELF OF THE ARCHAIC HERITAGE OF THE COLD WAR.

THE PROCESS OF THE NORMALIZATION OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS, IN ADDITION TO ITS OBVIOUS BENEFITS FOR THE PEOPLES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, IS OF GREAT INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE. NO GREAT IMAGINATION IS NEEDED TO ADEQUATELY ASSESS THE AGREEMENT ON PREVENTING NUCLEAR WAR. BY ITS MEANING AND ITS CONTENT, THIS AGREEMENT EXCEEDS THE FRAMEWORK OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. THE AGREEMENT REACHED BY THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE DIRECTION OF REDUCING AND ULTIMATELY ELIMINATING THE DANGER OF A TOTAL NUCLEAR WAR. THIS AGREEMENT OPENS UP OPPORTUNITIES FOR CREATING A SYSTEM OF REAL GUARANTEES OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY.