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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 16, 1983

Honorable Charles Percy
Chairman
Committee on Foreign Relations
S-116 Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We applaud your constant efforts to obtain the Administration's support for Senate ratification of the Threshold Test Ban Treaty and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty. We are at the same time deeply distressed by the Administration's persistently negative responses to your inquiries and to those of other members of the Committee seeking clarification of the Administration's position and progress toward the ratification of these two vitally important treaties.

After more than two years of such efforts, we now believe that the Foreign Relations Committee should take up these two Treaties as soon as possible, including new hearings, mark-up, and a Committee vote to report the Treaties to the full Senate. We fully realize that lack of Administration support for these two signed Treaties will serve as an obstacle to expeditious consideration by the full Senate, but we are convinced that the Committee's responsibility is now abundantly clear.

As we see it, there can be no justification for further delay.

Sincerely,

PAUL E. TSONGAS
