Approved For Release 2006/12/04 : CIA-RDP88-01315R000400350054-4

ARTICLE APPEARED ON PAGE I/21

LOS ANGELES TIMES
11 October 1979

ORG | SALT

# More Confidence in SALT Monitoring Ability Cited

BY RUDY ABRAMSON
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—The chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee said Wednesday that most members of the panel are more confident of the United States' ability to monitor Soviet compliance with the strategic arms limitation treaty than was indicated in a recent report.

Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) made the comment after he and Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R-Ariz.) gave the Senate Foreign Relations Committee a closed-door briefing on the intelligence panel's findings.

In a summary report made public last week, the committee concluded that the SALT II treaty would make it easier for the United States to monitor Soviet weapons developments, but left it up to individual senators to judge from the complete report whether this country could adequately determine Soviet compliance with all terms of the treaty.

Bayh said Wednesday that most committee members are more confident of U.S. monitoring capability than the report indicated, but that a unanimous report has sought "to keep the Intelligence Committee out of the politics of SALT and to focus attention on the science of monitoring."

Senate sources said Wednesday, however, that the voluminous full report, which is under lock and key, raises specific verification problems not addressed in last week's public summary report, nor in Bayh's briefing to the Foreign Relations Committee.

The sources said the full report concludes that Soviet compliance with terms of the protocol accompanying the treaty could not be fully verified. The protocol, which would run through 1981, would limit testing or deployment of mobile intercontinental ballistic missiles, and would ban deployment of ground-launched or sea-launched cruise missiles with ranges in excess of 600 kilometers (about 375 miles).

According to the sources, the report finds that the United States cannot adequately monitor missile production or mobile missile deployment, and that the loss of Iranian intelligence stations early this year will sharply limit the information available to the United States on new Soviet ICBMs.

Most of the arguments have been publicly made by critics during the public debate over the SALT II treaty in recent months.

Goldwater, a treaty critic, remarked casually several weeks ago that most of his concerns about the issue of verification had been removed.

Sources said he left the briefing of the Foreign Relations Committee to Bayh on Wednesday

MORI/CDF

Approved For Release 2006/12/04 : CIA-RDP88-01315R000400350054-4