

or social system is so evil that its people must be considered as lacking in virtue." Moreover, the peoples of both countries shared a mutual abhorrence of war and had never been at war with each other. Finally, turning to arms control, the president made two announcements:

First: Chairman Khrushchev, Prime Minister Macmillan, and I have agreed that high-level discussions will shortly begin in Moscow looking toward early agreement on a comprehensive test ban treaty....

Second: To make clear our good faith and solemn convictions on this matter, I now declare that the United States does not propose to conduct nuclear tests in the atmosphere so long as other states do not do so.⁸

The discussions which began in Moscow in July led before the summer was over to a "Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water." This Limited Test Ban Treaty was approved by the U.S. Senate, 80 to 19, on September 24 and ratified by the Praesidium of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. on September 25.⁹

In a congressional reassessment of the nation's space program, the president's moves toward accommodation with the Soviet Union were seen not only as slowing the lunar race but also as undercutting overall support for the space program. In an address at the United Nations in September, the president proposed that the two Great Powers conduct a joint manned lunar landing program. Space technology advocates said this had "provided new arguments for further cuts in an already reduced space budget, and left the public puzzled as to whether Project Apollo still is an urgent national goal." *Aviation Week* expressed similar concerns:

President Kennedy has dealt his own national space program its hardest blow....

The immediate effects of the President's ill-conceived invitation to the Soviets to join the U.S. Apollo program are twofold:

First, it will provide congressional opponents of his space program with the well-sharpened ax they need to cut its Fiscal 1964 budget drastically and retard U.S. space progress even more than the restric-