

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - MONDAY, SEPT. 16, 1985

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. In two months, the leaders of the two most powerful nations in the world will be meeting to talk about how citizens of the United States and the Soviet Union can survive together in the years ahead. This week, we have turned to an eminent authority on United States foreign policy for a look ahead at what the Summit meetings of November will do --- and will not do. Here's what former U.S. Senator Jacob K. Javits has to say on that subject:

TAPE - Side 1 -- 000 -- "There's no use in deluding ourselves, we're going to change the Soviet system ..."

through to 014 --" ....That's the real issue of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit".

AFO LIVE: Jacob Javits has passed his 80th birthday and stays active despite the handicap of anterior lateral sclerosis, a respiratory/muscular condition known as Lou Gehrig's disease. New York-born and bred, Jacob Javits served in the U.S. Congress from 1947 to 1980, the last 24 years as one of the two U.S. Senators from New York. Since then, he has been spending some of his time at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He has given his substantial collection of papers to Stony Brook. Each summer, he spends six weeks or longer in residence, writing and lecturing. In September, he gave a lecture on the coming U.S.-USSR summit meeting. We'll hear some of that lecture today. Listen to this

--- MORE ---

man, one of the world's most respected and most powerful leaders during the post-World War II era. Listen now as Senator Javits summarizes what he expects will come of this summit:

TAPE-Side 1 -- 014 -- "Now, while I agree..." through to

136 -- "As Gorbachev said, "We have to live  
or we will not survive".

AFO LIVE: Senator Javits sits in a wheelchair, unable to move his hands or raise his arms. An aide places eyeglasses so he can read. Beneath his wheelchair is a machine pumping air through a tube that extends into his body. The body looks old, and ill. But the face. Ah. That marvelous Javits smile still lights up a room. Seated in the Fine Arts Center at the State University of New York at Stony Brook one warm afternoon in September, Senator Javits told his audience of 250 faculty and students about the past...and about the future. Listen now as this brilliant 80-year old sage, an adjunct professor of political science at Stony Brook, sums up what lies ahead at the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in November:

TAPE-Side 1--175 - "It's my judgment that the key to what the diplomats..."

through to 234 -- "...yielding something on atomic  
missiles."

14:00

We'll return in a moment for some more with Jacob K. Javits, the elder statesman in American foreign policy. Please stay with us.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi. I'm Al Oickle, and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where adjunct professor Jacob K. Javits has been lecturing the past few weeks. We had our Conversations Unlimited microphones at Stony Brook's Fine Arts Center recently for his discussion of the coming summit meetings between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev. Senator Javits' congressional service goes back to the Truman era, the Eisenhower years, the terms of Kennedy and Johnson, and those of Nixon, Ford and Carter. But if his foundation is in his past, his strength may be in his ability to look out to the future. Listen now as Senator Javits tells an audience at Stony Brook what he hopes can happen in the years beyond the Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

TAPE - Side 1 -- 338 -- "Now, finally, for in the very long haul, if peace..."

through to 366 -- "...and avoid fighting." (Applause)

(QUICK CUT, FLIP CASSETTE, RESET COUNTER TO 000)

AFO LIVE: Senator Javits noted during his talk that no one would accuse either President Reagan or Secretary General Gorbachev of being unpatriotic. Indeed, he noted, Mrs. Javits has said of the senator that his eyes are "red, white and blue." No one, of course, would accuse him of being "soft on Communism." It was from that position, then, that he answered a question from his Stony Brook audience to correct a possible misunderstanding of his attitude about free trade with the Soviet Union. Here's how he answered that question:

TAPE - Side 2 -- 074 - "I do not propose quote free trade..."

through to 120 - "...artificial and counterproductive."

AFO LIVE: Indeed, Senator Javits is not soft on the Soviet Union. In a colorful way, he explained his view of how the United States should react to the Soviet version of human rights:

TAPE - Side 2 - 144 - "And in respect to human rights..."

through to 181 - "...beginning, to defuse it."

AFO LIVE: Senator Javits looks to the future for a solution - - decades into the future. And he sees no quick, simple solution. We're going to have to sweat it out, as he puts it. Listen to him:

TAPE - Side 2 -- 214 - "It is my judgment that the Russians have no..." to

233 -- "...That's my judgment."

AFO LIVE: Students of American political activity may want to check out the Senator's predictions. In answer to a question at Stony Brook, he predicted that a successful summit conference in November could lead to a reduced Defense budget and --- pay attention, young people --- there is sentiment building up, he said, for a military supplied by the draft. Here's Jacob Javits with some predictions:

TAPE - Side 2 -- 319 "And I believe that if negotiations are successful..." to

351 - "...of the nuclear arms race." (Applause)

AFO LIVE: After his lecture, Jacob Javits took a few more minutes to talk with the press. I was curious about his proposal to institutionalize the summit meeting; to have the principals meet every two years.

TAPE - Side 2 -- 414 -- (right after JJ's "their own society.")

AFO's voice:)

- "Senator Javits, I understand your suggestion..."

431 -- "...no symmetry between theirs and ours."

AFO LIVE: And there you have it: Jacob Koppel Javits, for 24 years a U.S. Senator, principal author of major federal legislation that will last for decades, proud son of New York, victim of Lou Gehrig's disease, adjunct professor at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. There's one word to sum up Senator Javits. That word is "inspiration." This is Al Oickle. So long, everybody.

29:00

OUTRO