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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED IN 1919 BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER

**The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain**

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FRIDAY, 8th FEBRUARY, 1974



*Geneva: the town with the world's most elegant waterfront and a world diplomatic centre rightfully proud of owning the highest water-fountain in the world for so long. Although a higher one has recently been created in some amusement park in the United States, Geneva's international role has remained as important as ever. The past few months saw the foreign ministers and military negotiators of belligerent countries meet at the Palais des Nations to launch the process of peace in the*

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*Middle East. Arab sheikhs met within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries for another turn of the screw on their Western customers. The second phase of the European Security Conference has been pursuing its technical work on détente and cooperation in Europe for several months. Strategic Arms Limitation Talks are discreetly progressing between the Americans and the Russians. UN*

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*negotiators from the world over held a third (or fourth?) session this summer on extending the nuclear test ban treaty to the oceans. Dozens of other conferences chose the setting and facilities of Geneva during the past year and will continue to do so. Calvin's city (which now has more Catholics than Protestants) also looks forward to a new tourist season which, despite pollution in the Léman, the high cost of hotels and the growing thrift of tourists, will surely continue to buttress Swiss prosperity.*