The Test Ban Vs. National Attitude: It Can Be Significant Development

By JOHN FRANKS

Yesterday the United States Senate ratified the nuclear test ban treaty by a substantial margin. As a measure to ease tensions in the cold war, the treaty leaves a great deal to be desired.

Hopes that it might slacken the arms race have been considerably dampened by the arguments of both sides in the debate over its ratification. Those who opposed the treaty did so primarily on the ground that it would interfere with the development of bigger and better weapons. One might think that this is what a test ban treaty is intended to do, but supporters of the treaty have assured us that it will in no way hamper the arms race.

ALTHOUGH THE test ban will have little or no effect on the cold war, it is quite possibly one of the most significant developments in world affairs in this decade. The real importance of the treaty is that it was the first manifestation of what appears to be a marked change in Soviet foreign policy. It could very well be the first step toward an East-West accord result-