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*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
à la délégation au Comité sur le désarmement .*

*Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Delegation to Disarmament Committee*

TELEGRAM N-277

Ottawa, August 31, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL. OPIMMEDIATE.

Reference: Your Tel 1445 August 30.

Repeat for Information: London (OpImmediate), NATO Paris, Paris, Washington, Permis New York, Bonn, Rome, CCOS (JS/DSS) (Routine).

By Bag Moscow.

DISARMAMENT: 17TH UNGA

Following paragraphs comment on points raised in the Western Four Meeting of August 30 on above subject (your reference telegram).

Report on the UN Disarmament Commission and Submission of UNGA Item on Disarmament

2. The text of the USA draft of the second ENDC progress report is in line with our desire to see a non-controversial account of the Committee's activities and is generally acceptable to us. As to the procedure for submitting it to the UN Disarmament Commission I think it would be preferable to follow the precedent set by the first report, i.e., to have the Co-chairman of the ENDC transmit it to the Chairman of the Disarmament Commission on behalf of the ENDC. The covering letter to the Chairman of the Commission could then ask that both reports be circulated as General Assembly documents. (These suggestions would require alterations to the opening paragraph of the present USA draft.)

3. With respect to the UNGA item on disarmament, I would agree that if it could be arranged the best procedure would be for the 17 members of the Committee to request the Acting Secretary-General, through their permanent representatives in New York, to include a supplementary item on the agenda with a title such as that suggested in your reference telegram.

Tactics for Disarmament Discussions at the 17th UNGA

4. I agree that items on disarmament and nuclear tests should be considered as a matter of priority by the First Committee in order to permit early completion of the debate on these and related questions and the resumption of work in the ENDC. I am inclined to doubt, however, that it will prove possible for debates on these two subjects to be "interweaved" as the UK representative has suggested (paragraph 5 your reference telegram). In my opinion there will likely be pressure for a separate debate on the Indian item on nuclear tests, and probably also some desire on the part of UN members to discuss this question first as the matter of greatest urgency.

5. On the question of the timing of submission of a general resolution on disarmament, it is not clear to us whether your colleagues are thinking in terms of an essentially Western resolution for early submission. If so, it is my opinion that these tactics are unlikely to succeed. As I emphasized in my telegram N-276 August 29, I believe that the success of any general resolution on disarmament depends in large measure on obtaining active support from a broad