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*Le chef de la délégation à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Chairman, Delegation to United Nations General Assembly,
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 1444

New York, September 23, 1958

CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

Reference: Our Tel 1429 Sep 22.†

Repeat London, Paris, NATO Paris, Washington (Information).

CHINESE REPRESENTATION

The USA resolution contained in the General Committee's report was passed this afternoon by a vote of 44 (including Canada)-28-9, as opposed to last year's vote of 48-27-6. Austria, Greece, Iceland, Iraq and Libya changed from affirmative votes to abstentions and Iraq changed from yes to no repeat no. South Africa which was absent last year added one affirmative vote. Cambodia, which abstained last year, voted consistently against the USA position, while one negative vote of UAR replaced two negative votes of Syria and Egypt.¹⁸

2. Earlier, an Indian amendment to overthrow the USA resolution received 29 votes. The vote on the first paragraph of the USA resolution which rejects inclusion in the agenda of the Indian item on Chinese representation was only 40-28-13. New Zealand and Mexico both announced in the debate their intentions of abstaining on the first paragraph of this resolution, while supporting the second paragraph postponing any consideration of Chinese representation for this session,¹⁹ in order to demonstrate their respect for the principle that this issue should be discussed, while considering that it would be untimely to discuss it now. Ethiopia, Mexico and New Zealand abstained on the first part of the USA resolution; while Malaya and Peru abstained on the second part.

3. The most disturbing feature from a USA viewpoint was not repeat not the vote, so much as the debate. Of the 29 countries speaking, 24 spoke against the USA position. The UK and Canada supported the USA, while Mexico and New Zealand, as reported above, spoke only to announce modifications in their previous policy. Unlike the debate last year, the USA was unable to draw any statement of support for its position from continental Europe, Latin America, or Asia.

4. Menon, in his closing speech, drew attention to what he claimed was the failure of the USA itself to make a persuasive defence of its position in the UN. He recalled that Chou En-Lai had said in 1955 at Bandung that he wanted a peaceful solution to all problems, and from its information India still believed that these negotiations could begin with Chiang and the USA today. He issued an appeal for the Warsaw talks to be made fruitful, and hoped they would not repeat not be left at the ambassadorial level. He offered India's good offices if these could help to bring about serious negotiations. He referred to the build-up of nationalist troops in the off-shore islands, and argued that the current artillery bombard-

¹⁸ En février 1958, la Syrie et l'Égypte ont fusionné pour former la République arabe unie.

In February 1958, Syria and Egypt merged to form the United Arab Republic.

¹⁹ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

That's what we should have done. [auteur inconnu/author unknown]