

USA Chargé d’Affaires before making this call. He expected we would be hearing from the USA as well.

7. There followed a general discussion of the tactical disadvantage to the Western Powers if the Soviet Union voted for or abstained on the 8-Power resolution and the United States and the United Kingdom voted against. One suggestion that was tentatively discussed was that since the 8-Power resolution, in addition to asking countries to cease testing by January 1, also asked them to resume their search for agreement and report back to the Assembly by December 10, there was no real reason why the United States and Western countries should not take the position that the resolution was acceptable on the understanding that its main purpose was to call for an intensified negotiation over the next four weeks. The United States would be at liberty to reserve its position as to the stand it would take if no agreement were forthcoming by December 10 and to make this plain in advance. For Western countries to take such a position would preserve something of their relations with the neutral members of the Eighteen Nation Committee, whose goodwill and support would be needed in future disarmament discussions. The Eight had obviously tried to incorporate in their resolution elements of both the Soviet and Western positions and doubtless hoped to avoid an outright rejection of it by either side. Like their earlier 8-Power Memorandum, their efforts were bound to result in an ambiguous text, and the Western Powers should recognize the limitations within which the Eight had to operate.

8. Lord Amory undertook to report the views of the Canadian Government as expressed by Mr. Green.²⁹

R. C[AMPBELL]

46.

J.G.D./MG01/XII/A/268

*Le chargé d'affaires de l'ambassade des États-Unis
au premier ministre*

*Chargé d’Affaires, Embassy of United States,
to Prime Minister*

CONFIDENTIAL

Ottawa, October 20, 1962

My dear Prime Minister:

I have been instructed to transmit to you the following text, which I have received by telegraph, of a message from President Kennedy:

“Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

To my distress, I have learned that your Government intends to support in the General Assembly this year a resolution co-sponsored by the eight new members of the 18 Nation Disarmament Conference and others and calling for an unverified moratorium on nuclear weapons tests. As I wrote you on last April 13, I am convinced that there is no safety in such a proposal and it leads away from the only honest and workable road to arms limitation.

I realize that last year your Delegation to the United Nations voted for a resolution calling for such a moratorium. And I can understand your concern about nuclear weapons testing. As you know, I share that concern and decided that the United States must go forward with its tests only after the most careful and considered weighing of all the factors involved.

²⁹ Notes marginales :/Marginal notes:
Revised at SSEA’s request. [Ross Campbell]
Seen. [N. A.] R[obertson]