

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/4967
13 November 1961

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Sixteenth session

LETTER DATED 13 NOVEMBER 1961 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT
BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I have the honour, on instructions from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, to transmit the text of a note concerning the resumption of the Conference on the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapon Tests which was addressed by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to the Government of the USSR on 13 November 1961.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1578 (XV), I should be grateful if you would have the enclosed note circulated to all Members of the United Nations as a document of the General Assembly and of the Disarmament Commission.

(Signed) P. DEAN
Permanent Representative of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland
to the United Nations

NOTE DELIVERED BY HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR ON 13 NOVEMBER 1961

Her Majesty's Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and has the honour to state the following.

The Geneva Conference on the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapon Tests recessed on 9 September 1961. The relevant portion of the joint communiqué agreed to by the Soviet, British and American delegations is as follows:

"The representatives of the United States and of the United Kingdom proposed a recess until after the completion of the General Assembly debate on the nuclear tests question. The Conference went into recess."

The United Nations General Assembly has now completed its debate on the nuclear test issue. Thus, the condition under which the Geneva conference was recessed last September has now been fulfilled. Further, the General Assembly has overwhelmingly adopted a resolution calling for resumption of negotiations on a nuclear weapon test ban.

Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom therefore formally proposes to the Government of the USSR that the meetings of the Conference on the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapon Tests be resumed on or about 28 November 1961.

In this connexion Her Majesty's Government notes that the General Assembly resolution 1649 (XVI) of 8 November 1961 calls for a progress report on nuclear test ban negotiations to be submitted to the United Nations Disarmament Commission no later than 14 December 1961.
