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LETTER DATED 13 NOVEMBER 1961 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I have the honour, on instructions from the Government of the United States of America, to transmit the attached document, "The United States Note Concerning the Geneva Test Ban Negotiations", which was delivered by the Government of the United States of America to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 13 November 1961.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1578 (XV), which, inter alia, "requests the States concerned in the Geneva negotiations: (a) To keep the Disarmament Commission periodically informed of the progress of their negotiations; (b) To report the results of their negotiations to the Disarmament Commission and to the General Assembly", I should be grateful if you would circulate this note to all Members of the United Nations as a document of the General Assembly and of the Disarmament Commission.

(Signed) Adlai E. STEVENSON

The United States Note Concerning the
Geneva Test Ban Negotiations

The Embassy of the United States of America 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 communique 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 recess was proposed 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.

The United States Government therefore formally proposes to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics that the meetings of the Conference on the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapon Tests be resumed on 28 November 1961.

In this connexion the United States 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. The United States Government will consider any other date which the Soviet Government may wish to suggest with respect to prompt resumption of nuclear test ban negotiations which would also permit fulfilment of the requirement laid down in the General Assembly resolution cited above.