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SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY  
S/AE

FROM: GENEVA

TO: Secretary of State

NO: SUPNU 165, JANUARY 7, 10 P.M.

JAN 8 1959

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SENT DEPARTMENT SUPNU 165, REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 249  
MOSCOW 151 PARIS TOPOL 207.

31ST SESSION. SOV DEL IN CHAIR.

1. US DEL OPENED MEETING BY REFERRING TO GROMYKO DEC 25 STATEMENT AND DEPLORING SOV DEL CURRENT TACTICS IN REFUSING TO DISCUSS ANYTHING EXCEPT POINTS MADE BY GROMYKO. US COUNTERED FOUR PRINCIPAL POINTS MADE BY GROMYKO (DURATION, DISARMAMENT LINK, VETO, AND NATIONAL STAFFING) WITH RESTATEMENT OF ARGUMENTS MADE AT PREVIOUS SESSIONS. WHEREAS SOV DEL HAD CONTENDED THAT US RECENT PROPOSALS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS IN EFFECT CHANGED COURSE OF CONFERENCE, IN US VIEW IT IS PRESENT SOVIET TACTICS WHICH HAVE THIS RESULT. US CALLED UPON SOV DEL TO DISPLAY CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE, BEGIN WHERE CONFERENCE LEFT OFF BEFORE ADJOURNMENT FOR RECESS, AND PROCEED WITH DISCUSSION OF DOCUMENTS NOW BEFORE CONFERENCE.

2. WHILE RESERVING RIGHT TO MAKE DETAILED RESPONSE TO ALLEGED DISTORTIONS OF SOVIET POSITION CONTAINED IN US STATEMENT, SOV DEL MEANWHILE INTERPRETED US DEL'S REMARKS AS EVIDENCE US HAD GIVEN NO CONSIDERATION DURING RECESS TO SOV VIEWS WHICH COULD NOT BE CHANGED. SOV DEL, THEREFORE, COULD NOT AVOID FEELING THAT RIGIDITY OF US POSITION MEANT GLOOMY OUTLOOK FOR CONFERENCE. SOV DEL EMPHATICALLY INSISTED THAT THERE COULD BE NO FURTHER DISCUSSION OF ANY ISSUES BEFORE THE CONFERENCE UNTIL QUESTION OF DURATION OF TREATY IS RESOLVED. WITHOUT RENUNCIATION OF CONDITIONS SO FAR INSISTED UPON BY WEST DELS, DISCUSSION OF CONTROLS

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-2- SUPNU 165, JANUARY 7, 10 P.M., FROM GENEVA

WOULD BE USELESS SINCE SCOPE OF CONTROL SYSTEM DEPENDS ON NATURE OF TEST BAN. REPEATING STOCK ARGUMENT THAT A ONE YEAR SUSPENSION IS INTERVAL BETWEEN TEST SERIES, SOV DEL STATED IT WOULD CONTINUE TO ATTACK WEST DELS' POSITION SO LONG AS THEY REMAIN BOUND BY AUG 22 STATEMENT. SOV DEL CONCEDED WILLINGNESS TO WAIT FOR US - UK DRAFT ARTICLE ON DURATION TO BE TABLED, BUT WARNED THAT PROTRACTED DELAY IN SETTLEMENT THIS QUESTION COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED AND WOULD RISK DISRUPTION OF CONFERENCE. IN CONCLUSION, SOV DEL SAID IMPOSSIBLE WORK OUT COMPROMISE LANGUAGE ON SOV ARTICLE 6 IN ABSENCE OF WESTERN COUNTER PROPOSAL.

UK DEL STATED THAT PROPER WAY TO CONTINUE WORK OF CONFERENCE WOULD BE TO CONCENTRATE ON PARAS OF AGREEMENT AND THEN TRIED CHANNEL DISCUSSION TO SUBSTANCE BY CALLING FOR EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTS TABLED SO FAR, PARTICULARLY US DRAFT ARTICLE 6. STATED MOST PARAGRAPHS IN THAT ARTICLE SHOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO SOVS, ESPECIALLY SINCE SIMILAR PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN SOV BASIC PROVISIONS ON CONTROL, RECOGNIZING, HOWEVER, THAT SOME PARAS IN THAT ARTICLE, SUCH AS 6 (A), 7 AND 8, NEEDED FURTHER DISCUSSION BEFORE THEY COULD BE AGREED UPON. REQUESTED SOVS INDICATE WHICH PORTIONS OF ARTICLE 6 ACCEPTABLE.

SOV DEL IGNORED UK SUGGESTION AND MADE LENGTHY STATEMENT ON US NEW SEISMIC DATA. HE REJECTED ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS IN WORKING GROUPS, ARGUING, AS IN INFORMAL MTG MONDAY (SUPNU 154) THAT US INTENTION WAS DIVERT CONFERENCE FROM MAIN TASK. IN ADDITION, HE STATED US PAPER BASED ON FALSE PREMISE THAT SCIENCE WOULD STAGNATE OR EVEN REGRRESS, WHEREAS IN REALITY IT WOULD CERTAINLY PROGRESS AND DEVELOP IMPROVED METHODS OF AND EQUIPMENT

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FOR DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF SEISMIC EVENTS. NOTED US PAPER CONTAINED NO DATA WHICH WOULD INDICATE IMPROVED POSSIBILITIES OF DISTINGUISHING NATURAL EARTHQUAKES FROM UNDERGROUND EXPLOSIONS, AND SAID THAT SUCH DATA MUST HAVE BEEN RECORDED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF HIGH PROFESSIONAL LEVEL OF US SCIENTISTS. SAID ABSENCE OF SUCH DATA AND OF DATA RECORDED BY SOME STATIONS NOT FAR FROM GROUND ZERO WAS PERHAPS DUE TO HASTINESS WITH WHICH PAPER HAD BEEN PREPARED. REPEATED THAT ONLY TECHNICAL BASIS ON WHICH SOV DEL WOULD PROCEED IN NEGOTIATIONS WAS GENEVA EXPERTS' REPORT. WITH REFERENCE TO US SUGGESTION THAT A WORKING GROUP STUDY PROBLEM OF DETECTING HIGH ALTITUDE TESTS SOV DEL STATED HE RECOGNIZED EXPERTS HAD MADE NO RECOMMENDATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. HOWEVER, THEY CONSIDERED SEVERAL METHODS AND CONTROL ORGANIZATION WOULD CERTAINLY BE ABLE TO ADAPT THEM TO ITS NEEDS. PRESENT CONF SHOULD NOT DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM SINCE IT IS OUTSIDE ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE AND, IN ADDITION, WHATEVER METHODS MIGHT BE DEVELOPED AT THE PRESENT TIME, THEY WOULD BE OBSOLETE BY TIME WHEN CONTROL ORGANIZATION WOULD START ITS OPERATIONS. IT WAS INADMISSIBLE THAT THIS POLITICAL CONF WOULD TAKE UP TECHNICAL SUBJECTS WHICH WOULD ONLY PROTRACT ITS WORK AND CREATE INNUMERABLE OBSTACLES.

IN CONCLUSION SOV DEL RETURNED TO INSISTENCE ON PROMPT DECISION RE DURATION ARTICLE.

VILLARD

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