TO

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

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EmbDespatch 42, August 17, 1961 C/H 45:77 / FC NS4 4 N-H

ACTION DEPT. SEP-1 1118-7 ELK-9 MC7 5/DE-4 D-10 E I-0-4 For Dept. Use Only 215/A-10 AFE-10 NSA-4 EXMY-4 NAVY

SUBJECT:

Sixteenth Session: Irish Item on Preventing Wider Disseminat

of Nuclear Weapons

On Friday, August 18, the Department of External Affairs asked the reporting officer to come to receive an Aide-Membire and preliminary draft of the GOI resolution on preventing wider dissemination of nuclear weapons which had been the subject of a conversation of the Minister of External Affairs with Ambassador Stockdale two days earlier. The Aide-Memoire and the preliminary draft resolution are herewith transmitted to the Department as reproducible enclosures to this despatch.

In the course of conversation between Mr. Sean ROVAN, Counsellor of the Department's Political and United Nations Affairs Section and the reporting officer, Mr. Ronan was asked about the nature of GOI probings of the USSR which the Minister had referred to earlier and which were reported at the end of the third paragraph in the referenced despatch. Mr. Ronan replied that he was unaware of any specific and recent probings undertaken by the Minister or by the Irish delegation to the United Nations on this point. He said that he believed the Minister may have been somewhat carried away by his own concern with respect to this problem and may have projected conversations that he had with Russian delegates to the United Nations in the past into his discussion of what he believed to be the USSR's attitudes at present.

> Grant Stockdale Ambassador

Enclosures:

Aide-Memoire. Preliminary Draft Resolutions.

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- 1. The Irish Government which is greatly concerned by the danger to world peace inherent in the possibility of the further dissemination of nuclear weapons has introduced resolutions on this problem in the United Nations General Assembly in 1958, 1959 and 1960.
- 2. The Assembly has recognized the gravity of the problem and at its Fourteenth and Fifteenth Sessions passed without a dissenting vote resolutions introduced by the Irish Delegation and co-sponsored at the Fifteenth Session by the Delegation of Ghana, Japan, Mexico and Morocco. The Irish Government feels that nonetheless this danger still threatens and consequently, as has already been notified, has requested that the question be inscribed again on the Agenda of the Sixteenth Session of the General Assembly.
- 3. If the matter is inscribed it intends to introduce a further resolution and is considering the best form which this might take. It will be happy to take into account any observations which interested States might wish to make with regard to the preliminary draft resolution attached hereto.

Department of External Affairs, 17 August, 1961.

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PRELEMBARY DRAFT RESULTED

The General Assembly

Recalling its resolutions 1390 (XIV) of 20th November, 1959, and 1576 (XV) of 20th December, 1960,

Convinced that an increase in the number of States possessing nuclear weapons is growing more imminent and threatens to extend and intensify the arms race, to increase the difficulties of avoiding war and to hamper the promotion of the rule of law,

Stressing its conviction that it is urgently necessary to secure international agreement that the Powers producing nuclear weapons would refrain from relinquishing control of such weapons to any nation not possessing them and that the Powers not possessing such weapons would refrain from manufacturing or acquiring them,

- 1) Reaffirms its resolution 1576 (XV) of 20th December, 1960,
- 2) Calls in particular on the four Powers at present possessing nuclear weapons to use their best endeavours to secure the conclusion of an international agreement containing provisions under which the said Powers would undertake between themselves not to give nuclear weapons to non-nuclear states would undertake not to accept or to make nuclear weapons and would also undertake to facilitate the measures of inspection and control required to ensure that each of them was fulfilling its undertakings.
 - 3) Calls upon all other states to cooperate to this end.

17 August, 1961

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