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THE URGENT NEED FOR SUSPENSION OF NUCLEAR AND THERMO-NUCLEAR TESTS

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE EIGHTEEN-NATION COMMITTEE ON
DISARMAMENT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS
WITH REGARD TO THE CESSATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTSLetter dated 7 December 1962 from the Co-Chairmen of the Conference,
addressed to the President of the General Assembly 1/

Sir,

The Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament resumed its full work in Geneva on 26 November 1962, after a period of two and one-half months in which only the Sub-Committee for a Treaty on the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapon Tests had held meetings.

Delegates immediately turned attention to a consideration of the problems of the cessation of nuclear weapon tests in the light of General Assembly resolution 1762 (XVII).

They were particularly conscious of the provision in paragraph 7 of resolution 1762 A by which the General Assembly requested the Committee to submit a report to the Assembly by 10 December 1962 concerning the progress of deliberations in Geneva on a test ban.

The present letter to you, Mr. President, constitutes the Committee's response to the General Assembly's request.

It has not proved possible to reach agreement on the cessation of nuclear weapon tests in the brief period of two weeks since the resumption of

1/ The text of the letter was circulated in Geneva as document ENDC/68.

negotiations. In accordance with the normal procedures of the Committee, there have been seven plenary meetings since 26 November 1962, and, at all of them, most or all of the discussion was directed to a nuclear test ban. In addition, there have been three further meetings of the Sub-Committee, as well as a number of conversations between the Soviet and United States Co-Chairmen on this problem.

The provisional verbatim records of the above-mentioned seven plenary and three Sub-Committee meetings are enclosed as addendum 1 with this report for the information of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and of the delegations of members of the General Assembly as to the nature of recent developments at the Conference.^{1/} At the request of certain delegations, summaries of their petitions, as they themselves have prepared them without any comment thereon by the Committee, are attached as addendum 2 to this report.^{1/} The Committee will, of course, keep both the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations fully informed of future efforts at the Conference devoted to achieving agreement on the cessation of nuclear weapon tests.

Respectfully yours,

on behalf of the Conference
of the Eighteen-Nation
Committee on Disarmament

(Signed) S.K. TSARAPKIN
Co-Chairman

(Signed) Arthur H. DEAN
Co-Chairman

^{1/} These enclosures are reproduced respectively as annexes I and II and distributed separately as documents A/5338/Add.1 and A/5338/Add.2. For reasons of economy, and speed of reproduction, the annexes will be given a limited distribution.