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LETTER DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 1953 FROM THE UNITED STATES  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ADDRESSED  
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

New York, 22-September 1953

On the instructions of the Secretary of State, I have the honor to enclose a copy of a message which my Government has today requested the Government of Sweden to transmit to the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and to the People's Republic of North Korea. The message is an excerpt from a statement made by the United States Representative in the General Committee of the General Assembly on 22 September 1953.

I should be grateful if you would circulate copies of this message to the Members of the United Nations for their information.

(Signed) Henry Cabot LODGE, Jr.

22 September 1953

"The United States, acting in conformity with the General Assembly resolution of 28 August 1953, is prepared, in consultation with the designated group to deal with the arrangements necessary to insure the convening of the conference, as recommended by the Armistice Agreement; the conference itself, when it convenes, can deal with any matters not otherwise disposed of to the satisfaction of both sides.

"We observe that the note of the Korean Communist régime states that 'the question of the composition of the political conference cannot be resolved unilaterally but only by agreement between both sides'. The United Nations side

has been selected and is functioning; the other side is defined in the Armistice Agreement, together with the USSR if the other side desires. The question whether any neutrals should be invited is, as the North Korean note declares, a matter for agreement between both sides. Therefore, if developments during the conference warrant it, and the other side desires to raise the question of additional participants, it will, of course, be open to them to do so, since at the conference both sides will be present and will be able to consider this matter.

"Through the good offices of the Swedish Government we again propose to have the substance of this statement communicated to the Chinese and North Korean Communists and to urge that they reply promptly.

"We are most anxious to facilitate the work of the conference. Indeed, in view of the urgency of the situation, if it would facilitate the negotiations for the arrangements of the proposed political conference, we are prepared at once to dispatch a representative to meet with the Chinese and North Korean Communists at any of the places which we have already suggested for the conference, namely, San Francisco, Honolulu or Geneva."