

Sylvia

LONG ISLAND
OPINION

Settling In At the U.N.

By FRANK LYNN

ALLARD K. LOWENSTEIN has always been one of the most effective politicians on the stump. He has also been one of the most peripatetic politicians in the business, moving his political career from Manhattan to Nassau to Brooklyn and back to Nassau with a brief stopoff in Sacramento, Calif.

So it's perhaps fitting that he is finally settling down—or as settled as Mr. Lowenstein ever gets—at the United Nations.

He has been a United States representative on the United Nations Human Rights Commission and the Trusteeship Council since last February, and two weeks ago President Carter nominated the Long Beach Democrat to be one of five full United States delegates to the United Nations.

Mr. Lowenstein, who supported the last-minute Presidential campaign of Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. of California last year when most Democrats had conceded the nomination to Jimmy Carter, salvaged the job from the Carter Administration because of his long-time friendship, dating to the civil rights struggles in the South, with Andrew Young, the chief United States representative at the United Nations. Upon Senate confirmation, Mr. Lowenstein would

become, in effect, one of his deputies.

He is also as unorthodox as Mr. Young, who has frequently touched off controversies with his outspoken views on various issues, including human rights in the Soviet Union.

Mr. Lowenstein believes that the candor and bluntness of Mr. Young and a predecessor, Senator Daniel P. Moynihan, have changed attitudes in the United Nations toward the United States and diverted some of the knee-jerk opposition to the United States by Third World nations.

He noted that Adlai Stevenson once said that diplomacy was so orchestrated and predictable that it consisted of equal parts of "alcohol, protocol and Geritol."

No one could accuse Mr. Young or Mr. Lowenstein of being orchestrated or predictable.

Recently, for example, Mr. Lowenstein trotted across First Avenue in

Manhattan to meet with a Vietnamese monk who was keeping a protest vigil outside the United Nations. In hardly diplomatic or ambassadorial fashion, Mr. Lowenstein sat down on a rug on the sidewalk and engaged in an animated conversation with the monk.

Another time, he told a visitor that he had not had breakfast and was hungry. He ordered pound cake and Pepsi-Cola, not the usual diplomatic fare.

Yet there are few politicians or diplomats who can match Mr. Lowenstein's impassioned speeches without notes. That skill was particularly evident when he first came to public notice as a West Side antiwar activist who traveled coast to coast mobilizing the forces that brought down Lyndon B. Johnson and eventually ended the Vietnam War.

He has continued that style in the councils of the United Nations at Gene-

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va, Strasbourg or New York, and is expected to be one of the major United States representatives when the General Assembly meets in September in New York.

A big difference now is that the 48-year-old Mr. Lowenstein is representing his country, not criticizing its policies, and defying the Establishment, not attacking it.

He also serves as a liaison between the American delegation and the influential American Jewish organizations. He and Mr. Young have emphasized in discussions with American Jewish leaders that their outspoken brand of diplomacy can break down Third World suspicions of Israel as well as the United States.

Mr. Lowenstein said that these positions gave him no problems at the moment because he agrees with the Carter Administration views on human rights, apartheid and other United Nations issues. If he didn't, he'd quit, he said.

So, for the moment, Mr. Lowenstein, who has been frustrated in his attempts to return to Congress, is settled in a new forum, the United Nations. Where does he go from here? The usually voluble Mr. Lowenstein doesn't know or won't say. "I just got here," he said. ■