

# Thant Calls For K Word On Removal

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UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Oct. 22—Secretary General U Thant called today for a public statement from Nikita S. Khrushchev explaining his removal as Premier of the Soviet Union.

Thant also endorsed a proposal for a disarmament "dialogue" among all of the nuclear powers of the world, Communist China included, possibly in 1965, while at the same time deploring China's nuclear test explosion last Friday.

The Secretary General plunged into the controversial questions with startling candor at a press conference at U.N. headquarters.

"I don't think the Soviet Government will pursue a foreign policy different from the one adopted by Mr. Khrushchev. I think it would be helpful and even desirable if Mr. Khrushchev were able or inclined to make a public statement on the circumstances leading to his exit," Thant said.

## Surprise to Reds

Thant said he had not discussed his proposal regarding Khrushchev with Soviet delegates. It was understood that it came as a surprise to Soviets on the U.N. secretariat staff.

The Secretary General also:

- Reaffirmed his support for universality in the membership of the United Nations but declined to predict how the question of seating Communist China would come out this year.
- Confirmed that the deadlock between the United States and the Soviet Union over U.N. peacekeeping financing was unbroken.
- Said he would favor a postponement of the next General Assembly, now scheduled for Nov. 10, only if it

would help produce a compromise on U.N. finance.

Thant paid tribute Khrushchev but also gave personal tributes to the new leaders of the Soviet Union, Leonid I. Brezhnev and Alexei N. Kosygin.

## Trial for Coexistence

On Khrushchev, Thant said, "I have, as you know, made my personal assessment on more than one occasion. I still believe that he will be long remembered as a man who tried his best to implement the principle of peaceful coexistence. And, if I may say so, he did so with some degree of success in that he had been able to convince a considerable segment of public opinion in the West of his sincerity."

Speaking of Brezhnev, Thant said he had known him for nine years and, when he saw him last year, "I found him the same friendly, warm and

unaffected gentleman, with a deep knowledge of world affairs."

Thant said he met Kosygin several times and "in my opinion he is one of the most unostentatious men I have ever met; from all accounts he is one of the most respected leaders of the Soviet Union."

He added that "both Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Kosygin have a realistic appraisal of the world situation and it is unlikely that they will reverse the course of history by taking the Soviet Union back to the pre-1953 era." Stalin died in 1953.

## Critical of Red China

The Secretary General was sharply critical of the Chinese nuclear test, noting that it violated the 1962 General Assembly resolution condemning all nuclear tests and ran counter to the 1963 partial nuclear test ban treaty, which China has refused to sign.

Thant then picked up a newspaper clipping reporting that former Gov. Alfred Landon of Kansas, the Republican presidential candidate in 1936, had recommended a dialogue between the world nuclear powers—the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France and Communist China.

Thant said it would be "very worthwhile" to hold such a dialogue, and suggested that 1965 might be "more congenial" than this year for such an exploration of views. He did not specify the aim of the "dialogue," but said it would supplement disarmament talks in the General Assembly and in the 18-nation conference that meets in Geneva.

## Pessimistic on Finances

His use of the newspaper clipping and Landon's proposal as the basis for his own recommendation appeared to be designed to avoid any suggestion that he was endorsing Peking's proposals for a world summit conference to ban nuclear weapons. The United States has described the China proposal as a propaganda smokescreen. Thant himself would not initiate any such conversations and that he had no authority to sponsor any such meeting.

In the face of continuing rigidity on the part of the Soviet Union and the United States he has decided to offer no compromise plan of his own, he revealed.