

U.N. Asks Assurances Against Atom Threats

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UNITED NATIONS N.Y., Nov. 10—A large majority of U.N. members asked today that countries possessing nuclear weapons give an assurance not to threaten non-nuclear powers with them.

The United States, France, Spain and the Cameroons abstained on this paragraph of a 47-nation resolution which was passed by the General Assembly's Political Committee 98-0.

The American abstention, announced in advance was on the ground that such a sweeping assurance is unrealistic outside the context of general disarmament.

But 103 countries, including the United States, voted for the broad resolution urging early conclusion of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Albania Alone

France, which last week voted for a resolution urging cooperation to avoid nuclear proliferation, returned today to her previous independent position by abstaining along with Cuba. Only Albania voted against the general resolution.

Further progress on the treaty is thought to be most likely in the context of the 18-nation disarmament conference resuming in January in Geneva.

A new Polish initiative for better relations with the West surfaced today in the form of a resolution, also sponsored by two NATO countries, ask-

ing the Secretary General to prepare a report on the security and economic implications for countries acquiring or developing nuclear weapons.

Canada and Norway joined with Japan, Mexico and Nigeria in proposing the Polish resolution, which also asks the Secretary General report on the effect of the possible use of nuclear weapons.

Calm Approach

Polish diplomats privately make much of the point that this is a rare instance of cooperation between NATO countries and a Warsaw Pact country.

What makes the approach unusual, however, is the absence of forensics from the Poles. Stressing their sincere wish for agreement, they explain that they have been working hard to modify a Czech resolution against the use of force aimed at American policy in Vietnam.

Polish delegates make no secret of their feelings that the United States must halt the bombing of North Vietnam before there will be any chance for peace negotiations. But they are almost apologetic in their references to Vietnam.

One delegate said that for "public relations" at home he would be compelled to make a speech about Vietnam, but that he hoped that this would not affect the chances for frank talk with the United States.

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