

A-Pact Peril Seen in Tougher Red Line

Washington Post Foreign Service
UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. seriously worried that a re-
version to cold war tactics by
American officials here are Communist-bloc countries

may prejudice approval of a nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Specifically at issue are two resolutions aimed at the United States in the General Assembly Political Committee.

One, sponsored by Poland and the Ukraine, calls for an end to all flights over foreign territory by aircraft carrying nuclear weapons. The other, sponsored by Hungary, condemns any use of chemical or bacteriological weapons.

Communist speakers have pulled out all stops in an attempt to stigmatize flights by American aircraft carrying nuclear weapons in performance of NATO duties.

They also have sought to compare American use of tear gas and chemical defoliation in Vietnam with the use of gas by the Nazis for genocide.

American authorities fear that this may signal another hardening of the Communist line, although they concede that it may be for purposes of the ideological quarrel with China. At least one Communist delegation has attempted to soften other resolutions of the United States.

Communist delegates still say they expect a nuclear non-proliferation treaty to be signed in Geneva early next year. They express confidence that major obstacles can be resolved.

But American officials reply that a deliberate verbal effort to poison the atmosphere could damage the good feeling that has prevailed for the last several months. Particularly it could affect the mood of Congress when a treaty is presented for ratification.

American Ambassador William C. Foster has branded the two resolutions as "purely propagandistic" and accused the sponsors of distortion.

Referring to reports of the use of tear gas against American forces by North Vietnam and the Vietcong, he disclosed that 1200 captured gas grenades had proved to be of Chinese Communist manufacture.

Britain's Lord Chalfont deplored the Polish-Ukrainian resolution as full of "outlandish excrescences." American aircraft with nuclear weapons cross national frontiers because the Western Alliance depends on support from thousands of miles away, he said, whereas the Warsaw Pact is concentrated in Europe.

He accused Hungary of tactics intended "to start a new skirmish in the cold war."

Other diplomatic sources saw in the Communist tactics and effort to bring more pressure on the United States about Vietnam. This is the first time since 1952, they said, that Communist countries have formally raised the question of chemical and bacteriological warfare.

A vote on the resolutions is expected Tuesday.