Tenth special session
AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE
TENTH SPECIAL SESSION
Agenda item 11

ADPTION OF A PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON DISARMAMENT

Note verbale dated 13 June 1978 from the Permanent Representative of
the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United
Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations
and has the honour to inform him of the following statement made by the Secretary
of State, Cyrus Vance, in Washington, D.C. on 12 June 1978 with regard to negative
security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States:

"After reviewing the current status of the discussions in the United
Nations special session on disarmament, after consultations with our
principal allies, and on the basis of studies made in preparation for the
special session, the President has decided to elaborate the United States
position on the question of security assurances. His objective is to
encourage support for halting the spread of nuclear weapons, to increase
international security and stability, and to create a more positive
environment for success of the special session. To this end, the President
decares:

"The United States will not use nuclear weapons against any
non-nuclear-weapon State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation
of Nuclear Weapons or any comparable internationally binding commitment
not to acquire nuclear explosive devices, except in the case of an
attack on the United States, its territories or armed forces, or its
allies, by such a State allied to a nuclear-weapon State, or associated
with a nuclear-weapon State in carrying out or sustaining the attack."

"It is the President's view that this formulation preserves our security
commitments and advances our collective security as well as enhances the
prospect for more effective arms control and disarmament."

The Permanent Representative requests that the above statement be circulated
as a document of the tenth special session of the General Assembly under agenda
item 11.

78-14131