

UN-Secretariat matters - Science Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Ener...

HS L 179:96b



Dag Hammarskjöld's sand.

UN/Secretariat matters 1955

Scientific Conf. on Atomic Energy

24-28 Feb.

- a.) 1 letter from D.H. - to James J. Wadsworth (U.S. Mission to the U.N.)
- b.) 1 letter from J. J. Wadsworth - to D.H.

THE DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

~~Dr. Whitman~~

Seen by the
Secretary-
General

Two Park Avenue,
New York 16, New York.
February 28, 1955.

awcordier/dg.
Noted - WJW

Dear Dag:

My reply to your note of February 24, 1955 has been delayed by my bout with the flu but, as you have been enjoying a well-earned vacation, I assume the absence of a prompt reply was not conspicuous.

As you requested in your letter, I have inquired concerning the proposed atomic energy agency. I find that these discussions are still in such a preliminary stage that there would be no useful purpose served by the staff level discussion you suggest.

Accordingly I suggest that Dr. Whitman and his staff should proceed with the planning for the Conference, reserving for later consideration any aspects of "international cooperation" which require definitive knowledge about the planning for the agency. Then, at an appropriate time, we can have the informal exchange of information you envisage in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

James J. Wadsworth

His Excellency
Dag Hammarskjold,
Secretary-General
of the United Nations.

UN-3454/1

24 February 1955

Dear Jerry,

As you remember, the General Assembly resolution on atoms for peace had two main parts, one blessing the effort to establish an international agency, the other one requesting the convening of an international conference. In the resolution no link was established between the conference and the agency. However, it is clear from various interventions in the debate, as well as from private conversations, that the existence of such a link was clearly recognized in the sense that the conference was supposed to "provide the agency with valuable material" concerning possible lines of international cooperation (see speeches by Lodge, Martin, Moch or Dixon).

As Secretary-General, I am on the one side responsible for the organization of the conference and, on the other hand, a kind of liaison-man with the agency to the extent that the governments negotiating the establishment of an agency want to be in touch with the United Nations in preparation of the agreement later to be concluded between the agency and the United Nations.

In the topical agenda established for the conference there is no reference to "international co-operation". Such a reference was avoided as it was felt that the conference should not be encouraged to drift into a debate of the proper form of an agency. However, it is obviously desirable, and in line with previous thinking, that the work of the conference be so directed as to provide the best possible basis for the future activities of the agency. Without any knowledge about the agency plans, and how they are developing, we here cannot do anything to give the conference such a direction.

His Excellency
Mr. James J. Wadsworth
United States Mission to the
United Nations
2 Park Avenue
New York City, N.Y.

The situation gives me some reason for concern, as a result may emerge where the conference is dissociated from the concrete steps for international co-operation also in respects where this was not intended to be the case. This would seriously reduce the value of the conference. As matters stand at present, there is also a risk that patterns of international co-operation will be established which it is difficult to reconcile with the aim of universality which inspired the President's proposal as reflected in the initiative for the conference. (This risk may be very real indeed, as simultaneously with the Washington negotiations other negotiations with similar purposes seem to be going on on the initiative of the USSR.)

In the light of all this, it would seem advisable, before matters get too far, to arrange an informal discussion between your delegation and a few of us in the Secretariat concerning where we stand and concerning what can be done in order to keep the two main lines of action -- the conference and the negotiations about the agency -- together within a pattern which gives a reasonable guarantee for unity and balance in the atom policy. Obviously, such a discussion would in no way compete with such consultations on the agency set-up as may be found appropriate before anything definite is decided concerning its structure and constitution.

I would appreciate if you would let me know when we could have such a discussion.