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U. S. INTENTION TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO

Q: The United States has indicated to the ILO its intention to withdraw from that organization. Does this mean a lessening of United States interests in the United Nations and its specialized agencies?

A: Our notice of intent to withdraw from the ILO, sent to the ILO Director General November 6 is not irrevocable; the ILO constitution provides that a member country must give a two-year advance notification to the organization. It is our hope that the problems which led to our notice of intent to withdraw can be resolved and that our membership in the ILO will continue. Our traditional and strong U. S. support for a viable UN structure remains unchanged.

Q: Are we sending the notice because President Meany objected to the seating of the PLO at an ILO conference in June?

A: The reasons for our concern about developments in the ILO are spelled out in detail in our letter, which, as you know, has been made public. Among them were the weakening of the tripartite principle, the denial of due process of some countries, double standards in the implementation of ILO human rights conventions and politicization of the organization.