GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST COMMITTEE, 639th

MEETING

Friday, 16 October 1953, at 3 p.m.

New York

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Chairman: Mr. F. VAN LANGENHOVE (Belgium).

The question of Morocco (A/2406 and Add.1, A/C.1/L.60, A/C.1/L.61) (continued) [Item 57]*

- 1. Mr. Chun-Ming CHANG (China) recalled that, in its statement to the Committee on 14 October (635th meeting), his delegation had made it clear that it believed it was within the competence of the United Nations to deal with the Moroccan question. It had also stated that it would favour any draft resolution which would help to create a psychological climate in which direct negotiations could be carried out successfully.
- 2. The main elements of the thirteen-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.60) were acceptable to his delegation. It was necessary to have the parties restore normal conditions in Morocco and to secure the release of political prisoners and the cessation of terror. His delegation fully agreed with the draft resolution in those respects.
- 3. On the other hand, it appeared that there were elements in the draft which it would not be possible to implement. The words "true representatives of the Moroccan people" were likely to give rise to controversy and his delegation felt that they should not be included in the draft resolution. The atmosphere might well become more tense as time passed and it would accordingly be in the interests of all to have as speedy a settlement as possible. His delegation therefore felt that there should be no time limit such as that contained in paragraph 1 (c) of the operative

part, no matter how desirable it might be to have one. If the draft resolution were changed accordingly, his delegation would vote in favour of it, but would otherwise abstain.

- 4. The Bolivian draft resolution (A/C.1/L.61) was essentially a restatement of General Assembly resolution 612 (VII). While his delegation felt that under existing conditions that draft did not go far enough, it would support it in the absence of a suitable substitute.
- 5. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to proceed to a vote on the two draft resolutions before it.
- 6. Mr. ZEINEDDINE (Syria) drew attention to the following new developments: (1) a new draft resolution was before the Committee; (2) an exchange of views was in progress among delegations to ensure greater conformity of views on the texts submitted to the Committee; and (3) the representative of China had just submitted certain suggestions. In the circumstances, it seemed advisable to postpone voting on either of the draft resolutions so as to give the members of the Committee time to consider those developments. He therefore proposed that the Committee adjourn until Monday.
- 7. The CHAIRMAN noted that under rule 117 the motion of the representative of Syria should be put immediately to the vote.
- 8. He requested the Committee to vote on the Syrian proposal for adjournment until Monday.

The proposal was adopted by 40 votes to 11, with 5 abstentions.

9. The CHAIRMAN appealed to the representatives desiring to speak to be ready to participate in the debate on Monday afternoon so that the Committee could finish consideration of the question of Morocco and be in a position to take up the Tunisian question immediately thereafter.

The meeting rose at 3.30 p.m.

^{*} Indicates the item number on the agenda of the General Assembly.