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THREATS TO THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF GREECE

Financial implications of the draft resolutions
proposed by the First Committee (A/1062)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Dr. Maria Z. N. WITTEVEEN (Netherlands)

1. In accordance with rule 142 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and with the request of the President in his letter dated 7 November 1949 (A/C.5/345), the Fifth Committee, at its 222nd meeting held on 11 November 1949, considered the effect on the budget estimates for 1950 of the draft resolution adopted on 4 November 1949 by the First Committee concerning threats to the political independence and territorial integrity of Greece which calls for the continuation of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans (A/1062, resolution A).
2. The Committee had before it a report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/343) giving estimates of the costs of the Special Committee in 1950, and the seventeenth report of 1949 of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/1067) which had considered these estimates following the reference to it of the Secretary-General's report by the Fifth Committee at its 221st meeting.
3. The Secretary-General estimated that the expenses of the Special Committee in 1950 would amount to a total of \$881,500, which expenditures would be partly compensated by the amount of assessments to be levied on the salaries of the secretariat of the Special Committee. The Advisory Committee believed that savings of the order of \$25,000 were likely to accrue on the item for travel and subsistence of members and alternate members of the Special Committee and additional savings, of the order of \$6,500 in total, on the items for contractual printing, local transportation and temporary assistance. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommended that the estimates be approved, under section 6 of the budget estimates for the financial year 1950, at a figure of \$350,000. Revenue in respect of
/contributions

contributions under the Staff Assessment Plan was estimated at \$39,000, the total net expenditure envisaged being \$811,000.

4. The Fifth Committee noted that no provision was made in the estimates submitted for possible expenditures under paragraph 13 of the draft resolution which "authorizes the Secretary-General to arrange, through the Special Committee or other appropriate United Nations or international agencies, the extension of any feasible assistance to the Governments concerned in making and carrying out arrangements for the repatriation to Greece or resettlement elsewhere of Greek guerrillas and other Greek nationals who have been involved in the guerrilla warfare". The Secretary-General stated in his report that such expenditures, if required, would be made from advances from the Working Capital Fund as relating to the maintenance of peace and security.

5. The estimates, as revised by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and accepted by the Secretary-General, were approved by the Fifth Committee by 35 votes to 6, with no abstentions. For reasons which had been fully stated in the course of the discussion in the First Committee, the representatives of Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Czechoslovakia requested that the opposition of their delegations to the appropriation of any funds for the purposes of the draft resolution be formally recorded.

6. The Fifth Committee, therefore, decided to recommend to the General Assembly that note should be taken of the effect on the budget estimates for 1950 of the adoption by the General Assembly of the draft resolution of the First Committee, namely, that this would involve net expenditure in 1950 in the amount of \$811,000 and that these costs would be further increased if any expenditure were to arise from paragraph 13 of the draft resolution.

7. Following the request from the President in his letter dated 8 November 1949 (A/C.5/346) the Committee also considered the effect on the budget estimates for 1950 of the draft resolution adopted by the First Committee on 3 November 1949 concerning the repatriation of Greek children (A/1062, resolution B). The Committee had before it a report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/342) and the seventeenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/1067) mentioned above. The Secretary-General estimated that the implementation of the draft resolution of the First Committee, through the continuing activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies, would involve expenditure in 1950 of the order of \$50,000, which would fall appropriately under section 6 of the budget estimates /for 1950.

for 1950. The sum would relate to reimbursement for administrative expenses to the agencies concerned. The Advisory Committee noted that it is not anticipated that this amount would be exceeded during the year 1950 and accepted the estimate of the Secretary-General, but stated that should additional requirements arise, advances from the Working Capital Fund to meet these requirements should, in view of the special circumstances of the case, be the subject of prior consultation with that Committee.

8. By a unanimous vote, the Fifth Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that note should be taken that the effect on the budget estimates for 1950 of the adoption by the General Assembly of the draft resolution of the First Committee concerning the repatriation of Greek children would involve a net expenditure in 1950 of approximately \$50,000.
