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Agenda item 42

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1953

Passenger cars of the United Nations
(Revised estimates for appropriation sections 1, 15, 18, 19)Seventh report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary
Questions to the seventh session of the General Assembly

1. At its 346th meeting on 22 October 1952, the Fifth Committee decided to refer to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for re-consideration paragraphs 223 to 226 of the latter Committee's first report to the seventh session of the General Assembly^{1/} concerning the passenger cars of the United Nations.
2. The Advisory Committee accordingly re-considered the paragraphs in question, and received additional evidence. In particular, the log-books maintained by the responsible division of the Secretariat were examined, together with the administrative rules at present in force for the use of official cars.
3. Rule 1 reads: "United Nations cars are to be used for official business only". The Committee finds from the records submitted that, on a strict interpretation of the term "official business", this rule has not been applied with sufficient care. Furthermore, the Secretary-General informed the Committee of his intention to discontinue the present practice of conveying certain officials to and from their work in United Nations cars, and otherwise to tighten the control on the use of cars.
4. The Advisory Committee believes that, in view of these considerations, it is not necessary to maintain the passenger car service at the level proposed in the budget document;^{2/} nor does it concur in an alternative proposal of the

^{1/} A/2157, Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 7.

^{2/} A/2125, Ibid., Supplement No. 5.

Secretary-General under which four cars (in addition to the Secretary-General's car) and three station wagons would be provided, together with a credit of up to \$10,000 for the contractual hire of additional cars.

5. Nevertheless, the Advisory Committee is prepared to recommend, as an experimental arrangement for the year 1953, the following complement of cars:

1 car for the use of the President of the General Assembly, to be hired under contract for the duration of the session

1 car for the use of the Secretary-General

3 passenger cars

2 station wagons

Provision for additional cars under contractual hire to a maximum of \$3,000

6. The following is the estimated cost of the above service during 1953:

	\$
8 chauffeurs and 2 dispatchers	40,800
Common staff costs	7,800
Operation and maintenance	6,000
Contractual hire	3,000
Purchase of 3 cars, 2 station wagons	12,950
Contractual hire 4 car for President of General Assembly	<u>3,000</u>
Gross cost	\$73,550
Less: Staff Assessment Plan	\$7,750
Sale of 8 cars	<u>16,000^{3/}</u>
Total, net	<u>\$49,800</u>

^{3/} This figure covers the sale of 8 cars. For subsequent years, this item is estimated at approximately \$10,000.

7. Subject to approval of the above recommendations, the following adjustments will be required in the budget provision:

		Decrease	Increase	Adjustment
		\$	\$	\$
<u>Section 15</u> Conference and General Services	Chapter I(i) - Established posts (table 15-13): Restoration of 4 posts of chauffeur		15,800	15,800
<u>Section 18</u> Common Services	Chapter IV(v) - Operation and maintenance of transportation equipment: Restoration of \$3,000, to make a total of \$6,000, for operating and main- taining the passenger fleet		3,000	
	Elimination of the pro- vision for the reim- bursement of taxi fares	8,000		
	Increase in the provision for contractual hire (from \$2,000 to \$3,000)		1,000	(-4,000)
<u>Section 19</u> Permanent equipment	Chapter IV(i) - Trans- portation equipment: Increase in the pro- vision to cover the purchase of 3 passenger cars in addition to the 2 station wagons (\$5,600) previously recommended		7,350	7,350
<u>Section 1:</u> The General Assembly, Com- missions and Committees	Chapter I - contractual hire one passenger car for the use of the President of the General Assembly		3,000	3,000
Total recommended for restoration, gross				\$22,150

Revised section totals, as recommended by the Advisory Committee (A/2157):-

Section 1	\$
" 15	643,000
" 18	9,480,800
" 19	3,824,600
	207,550

8. While recommending the foregoing arrangement, the Advisory Committee suggests that the institution of a regular schedule for the delivery of documents and supplies should be taken under consideration.