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Third Session

FIRST COMMITTEE: SUB-COMMITTEE A III
SUMMARY RECORD OF THE EIGHTH MEETING

Held at the Palais de Chaillot, Paris,
on Friday 15 October 1948 at 3 p.m.

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Examination of the draft report of Sub-
Committee A III to the First Committee

Chairman: Mr. B.N. RAU India
Rapporteur: Mr. R. SANDLER Sweden

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The RAPPORTEUR, Mr. SANDLER (Sweden), explained that his draft report (A/C.1/A III/5) consisted of a chronological and strictly objective statement of the Sub-Committee's work, the proposals made and the decisions taken. As to the reasons for the positions adopted by the various delegations, he had not thought it necessary to indicate them since they were adequately reflected in the summary records of the meetings. Finally, he did not think himself qualified to explain, on behalf of the Committee, in the report why no final agreement had been reached. There could only be individual explanations for that, and each one could give those later on his own responsibility.

The first seven paragraphs of the draft report (A/C.1/A III/5) were unanimously approved.

EXAMINATION OF THE EIGHTH PARAGRAPH

Mr. MALIK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) remarked that the draft report did not indicate that the USSR proposal had been discussed by the Sub-Committee, and it would therefore be preferable to make it clear that the USSR proposal (A/C.1/310) had been examined during the seventh meeting held on 12 October, and proposed an amendment to that effect.

During a discussion in which the Chairman, the Rapporteur, and the representatives of the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, China and France took part the USSR amendment was adopted.

Paragraph (8) of the draft resolution would therefore read as follows:

"At the seventh meeting held on 12 October, the draft resolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.1/310) was discussed. At the conclusion of the consideration of the various draft resolutions which were before the Committee, the Chairman put to the vote the draft resolutions ..."

The meaning of the USSR amendment was made clear, in particular by Mr. Riddell (Canada) and Mr. de Rose (France), who drew the Sub-Committee's attention to Mr. Couve de Murville's intervention at its first meeting. It had been observed at that time that although the Sub-Committee was called upon to study successively the proposals of Canada, Syria, the USSR, Australia, New Zealand and India, the representatives would be enabled, during discussion of each of those proposals, to take up again all or part of the other proposals. Thus, although it was correct that the USSR proposal had been discussed at the seventh meeting, it was none the less true that frequent reference had been made to it during previous discussions.

/Paragraph (8)

Paragraph (8) of the draft report, thus amended, was unanimously adopted.

Paragraphs (9), (10) and (11) were unanimously adopted.

The Sub-Committee unanimously approved the whole report.

It was decided to add to the draft report a paragraph (12) indicating the decision taken during the present meeting. The Secretariat was requested to draw up the text in collaboration with the Chairman and the Rapporteur.

The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.