

II. HISTORY OF THE SULTAN'S ARMED FORCES

(1) Around 1921 the Muscat Infantry was formed with about 230 men recruited among local people, including Gwadar (Gwadar was sold to Pakistan by the Sultan a few years ago). This was a garrison force. It never went outside Muscat. It provides for guards and escorts, etc. One British ex-army officer (on contract) was in charge. There were some Indian army officers.

(2) Around 1952 an all-Arab force (mainly from the Batinah) of some 100 men was organized along British army lines. They were stationed at Sohar, were known as the Batinah Force, and later renamed Northern Frontier Regiment. During 1954-1955 this force increased to 200.

(3) During 1953 another force was organized, the Oman Field Force. The main purpose was to support the oil company in its exploration work. It was approximately 300 men strong and was led by British officers under contract. This force was defeated by Talib's men; they ran out of ammunition, landmines demoralized them, they withdrew, were broken up and the Force was disbanded. The oil company paid towards the costs of this Force, because it was mainly responsible for ensuring the security of the company operations.

(4) Around 1958 everything was merged in agreement with the British Government, which provided military aid; RAF pilots and army officers were seconded. Second lieutenants and sergeants (not more than six for periods of four months) were made available for training purposes.

(5) The Sultan's armed forces now consist of: the Muscat Regiment; the Northern Frontier Regiment; and the Oman *gendarmerie*. The local officers amount to sixteen (maximum strength will be twenty). Lieutenant is the highest rank. A beginning has been made to train young boys of thirteen to fifteen years of age, who ultimately will replace the Pakistanis.

ANNEX IX

Unofficial version of the Treaty (Agreement) of Sib of 25 September 1920, as quoted in *The New York Times* of 13 August 1957

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

This is the peace agreed upon between the Government of the Sultan, Taimur ibn Faisal, and Sheikh Iso ibn Salih ibn Ali on behalf of the people of Oman whose names are signed hereto, through the mediation of Mr. Wingate, I.C.S., political agent and consul for Great Britain in Muscat, who is empowered by his Government in this respect and to be an intermediary between them. Of the conditions set forth below, four pertain to the Government of the Sultan and four pertain to the people of Oman.

Those pertaining to the people of Oman are:

1. Not more than 5 per cent shall be taken from anyone, no matter what his race, coming from Oman to Muscat or Matrah or Sur or the rest of the towns of the coast.

2. All the people of Oman shall enjoy security and freedom in all the towns of the coast.

3. All restrictions upon everyone entering and leaving Muscat and Mutrah and all the towns shall be removed.

4. The Government of the Sultan shall not grant asylum to any criminal fleeing from the justice of the people of Oman. It shall return him to them if they request it to do so. It shall not interfere in their internal affairs.

The four conditions pertaining to the Government of the Sultan are:

1. All the tribes and sheikhs shall be of peace with the Sultan. They shall not attack the towns of the coast and shall not interfere in his Government.

2. All those going to Oman on lawful business and for commercial affairs shall be free. There shall be no restrictions on commerce, and they shall enjoy security.

3. They shall expel and grant no asylum to any wrongdoer or criminal fleeing to them.

4. The claims of merchants and others against the people of Oman shall be heard and decided on the basis of justice according to the law of Islam.

WRITTEN on 11 Muharram 1339, corresponding to 25 September 1920.

DOCUMENT A/5657

Report of the Fourth Committee

[Original text: English]
[10 December 1963]

1. In a letter dated 9 September 1963 addressed to the Secretary-General (A/5492), Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Republic and Yemen requested the inclusion in the agenda of the eighteenth session of the General Assembly of an item entitled "The question of Oman". On 16 September the sponsors submitted an explanatory memorandum (A/5492/Add.1).

2. The General Committee, in its first report dated 19 September 1963 (A/5530), recommended the inclusion of the item in the agenda and its allocation to the Fourth Committee. At its 1210th plenary meeting, on 20 September, the General Assembly approved the recommendations of the General Committee and thereby allocated the item "Question of Oman" to the Fourth Committee for its consideration.

3. In connexion with the consideration of this item, the Committee granted the following requests for hearings:

Petitioner	Meeting at which the request was granted
Representative of the Committee for the Rights of Oman (A/C.4/604).....	1436th
Sheikh Talib bin Ali al-Hani, "Representative of Omani delegation" (A/C.4/604/Add.2)....	1494th

4. At the 1495th meeting, on 29 November, the Committee began the hearing of petitioners with a statement by Sheikh Talib bin Ali al-Hani. Mr. Faris Glubb, representing the Committee for the Rights of Oman, made a statement at the 1496th meeting, on 2 December. At the 1496th, 1497th and 1498th meetings, on 2 and 3 December, the two petitioners answered questions put to them by members of the Committee. Mr. Faris Glubb made a further statement to the Committee at the 1505th meeting, on 6 December.

5. At the 1436th meeting, on 3 October, the Committee decided to circulate as a document a memorandum on "The legal and historical aspects of the Oman question" submitted by Mr. Robert Edwards,

M.P., Chairman of the Committee for the Rights of Oman (A/C.4/604/Add.1). At the 1462nd meeting, on 30 October, the Committee decided to circulate as a document a communication dated 26 October 1963 concerning this item from "Said bin Taimur, Sultan of Muscat and Oman" (A/C.4/619). At the 1504th meeting, on 6 December, the Chairman informed the Committee of the contents of a further communication dated 5 December from Sultan Said bin Taimur.

6. The Committee also had before it a report by Mr. Herbert de Ribbing, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, on his visit to Oman (A/5562).

7. The general debate on the item took place at the 1498th to 1504th meetings, from 3 to 6 December. The Committee decided that the statements made by the representative of Syria (A/C.4/627) and by the representative of the United Kingdom (A/C.4/628) at the 1499th meeting, by the representative of Ceylon at the 1500th meeting (A/C.4/629) and by the representative of Chile at the 1502nd meeting (A/C.4/631) should be circulated as documents.

8. The Committee continued its consideration of the item at its 1505th to 1508th meetings, on 6, 9 and 10 December.

9. At the 1503rd meeting, on 5 December, the representative of Tunisia introduced a draft resolution sponsored jointly by Afghanistan, Algeria, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, Yemen and Yugoslavia (A/C.4/L.783 and Corr.1). This draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having discussed the question of Oman,

"Deeply concerned with the situation persisting there,

"Recalling resolution 1514 (XV),

"1. Recognizes the right of the people of Oman to self-determination and independence;

"2. Invites the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to examine the situation in Oman and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session."

10. At the 1504th meeting, on 6 December, the representative of Tunisia introduced on behalf of the co-sponsors a revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.783/Rev.1), which deleted operative paragraph 1 of the original draft resolution.

11. At the 1506th meeting, on 9 December, the representative of Brazil informed the Committee that a draft resolution on this item, jointly sponsored by a number of delegations, had been handed to the Secretariat and that it would be formally introduced as soon as it had been circulated to members.

12. At the 1507th meeting, on the same day, the representative of Brazil introduced this draft resolution (A/C.4/L.784) which was sponsored by Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. He also proposed that priority in voting be given to this draft resolution.

13. In accordance with rule 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the representative of the Secretary-General informed the Committee that should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.4/L.784, additional expenditures would arise in 1964. The exact level of those expenditures was difficult to determine at that time and would not be known until the proposed *Ad Hoc* Committee had determined its programme of work. However, it was reasonable to assume that the Committee would make at least one visit to the area, accompanied by the necessary supporting staff. Such a visit would cost \$30,000 for travel, subsistence and other miscellaneous expenditures. That estimate was based on the assumption that the visit would be of three weeks' duration. In the event that the expenses might exceed that amount, the Secretary-General would propose to meet any further requirements under the terms of paragraph 1 of the resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1964.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without objection, to give priority in voting to draft resolution A/C.4/L.784. The Committee then adopted this draft resolution by a roll-call vote of 95 to 1, with 7 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Tanganyika, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Australia, France, Iceland, Liberia, Tunisia, United States of America.

15. Following the adoption of draft resolution A/C.4/L.784, the Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman, decided not to vote on draft resolution A/C.4/L.783/Rev.1.

Recommendation of the Fourth Committee

16. The Fourth Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

QUESTION OF OMAN

[Text adopted by the General Assembly without change. See "Action taken by the General Assembly" below.]