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QUESTION OF ALGERIA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Dr. Alberto HERRARTE (Guatemala)

1. By a letter dated 20 July 1960 (A/4418), Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, Ethiopia, the Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Yemen requested the inclusion of the item entitled "Question of Algeria" in the agenda of the fifteenth session of the General Assembly. Attached to the letter was an explanatory memorandum in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. An addendum to the explanatory memorandum was submitted on 14 September 1960 (A/4418/Add.1).
2. At its 898th plenary meeting, held on 10 October 1960, the General Assembly decided to include the item in the agenda and at its 904th plenary meeting on 13 October referred it to the First Committee.
3. The First Committee considered the item at its 1121st to 1133rd meetings, inclusive, held between 5 and 15 December 1960. The delegation of France, in accordance with its declaration at the 127th meeting of the General Committee held on 22 September 1960, did not participate in the consideration of the item by the Committee.
4. On 9 December 1960, a draft resolution was submitted by Afghanistan, Burma, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Republic and Yemen (A/C.1/L.265). On 10, 12 and 15 December 1960 Ceylon, Nepal and India, respectively, added their names to the list of sponsors of the draft

resolution (A/C.1/L.265/Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3). By this draft resolution, the General Assembly, recalling its resolutions 1012 (XI) and 1184 (XII) on the question of Algeria, noting with regret that the pourparlers contemplated in resolution 1184 (XII) did not materialize, deeply concerned with the continuance of hostilities in Algeria, considering that the present situation in Algeria also constituted a threat to international peace and security, recalling its resolution 1495 (XV) by which the General Assembly urged that immediate and constructive steps should be adopted in regard to the urgent problems concerning the peace of the world, taking note of the fact that the two parties concerned had accepted the right of self-determination as the basis for the solution of the Algerian problem, recognizing the yearning for freedom of all dependent peoples and the decisive role of such peoples in the attainment of their independence, convinced that all peoples have an inalienable right to complete freedom, the exercise of their sovereignty and the integrity of their national territory, would, in the operative part of the draft resolution: (1) recognize the right of the Algerian people to self-determination and independence; (2) recognize the imperative need for adequate and effective guarantees to ensure the successful and just implementation of the right of self-determination on the basis of respect for unity and territorial integrity of Algeria; (3) recognize further that the United Nations has a responsibility to contribute towards its successful and just implementation; (4) decide that a referendum should be conducted in Algeria, organized, controlled and supervised by the United Nations whereby the Algerian people would freely determine the destiny of their entire country.

5. At the 1133rd meeting, held on 15 December 1960, the First Committee proceeded to vote on the twenty-four-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.265 and Add.1-3) in parts:

(a) The preamble was adopted by a roll-call vote of 80 to none, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroun, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Israel, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

(b) The first operative paragraph was adopted by a roll-call vote of 83 to none, with 10 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroun, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

(c) The second operative paragraph was adopted by a roll-call vote of 73 to none, with 20 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroun, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Israel, Italy, Laos, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

(d) The third operative paragraph was adopted by a roll-call vote of 70 to 10, with 14 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

Abstaining: Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroun, Chad, Costa Rica, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Iran, Japan, Laos, Madagascar, Mexico, Panama, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Upper Volta, Uruguay and Venezuela.

(f) The twenty-four-Power draft resolution as a whole was adopted by a roll-call vote of 47 to 20, with 28 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Austria, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Ceylon, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Finland, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Venezuela, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Against: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, El Salvador, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Abstaining: Cambodia, Cameroun, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Dahomey, Gabon, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Iran, Ivory Coast, Japan, Laos, Madagascar, Niger, Norway, Philippines, Senegal, Thailand, Turkey, Upper Volta and Uruguay.

Recommendation of the First Committee

6. The First Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

QUESTION OF ALGERIA

The General Assembly

Having discussed the question of Algeria,

Recalling its resolution 1012 (XI) of 15 February 1957 by which the General Assembly expressed the hope that a peaceful, democratic and just solution would be found through appropriate means, in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further its resolution 1184 (XII) of 10 December 1957 by which the General Assembly expressed the wish that pourparlers would be entered into, and other appropriate means utilized, with a view to a solution, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting with regret that the pourparlers contemplated in resolution 1184 (XII) did not materialize,

Recalling Article 1, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Deeply concerned with the continuance of hostilities in Algeria,

Considering that the present situation in Algeria also constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Recalling its resolution 1495 (XV) of 18 October 1960 by which the General Assembly urges that immediate and constructive steps should be adopted in regard to the urgent problems concerning the peace of the world,

Taking note of the fact that the two parties concerned have accepted the right of self-determination as the basis for the solution of the Algerian problem,

Recognizing the passionate yearning for freedom of all dependent peoples and the decisive role of such peoples in the attainment of their independence,

Convinced that all peoples have an inalienable right to complete freedom, the exercise of their sovereignty and the integrity of their national territory,

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

/...

2. Recognizes the imperative need for adequate and effective guarantees to ensure the successful and just implementation of the right of self-determination on the basis of respect for unity and territorial integrity of Algeria;

3. Recognizes further that the United Nations has a responsibility to contribute towards its successful and just implementation;

4. Decides that a referendum shall be conducted in Algeria, organized, controlled and supervised by the United Nations, whereby the Algerian people shall freely determine the destiny of their entire country.

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