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**FOURTH COMMITTEE 689th
MEETING**

*Friday, 1 November 1957,
at 3.20 p.m.*

NEW YORK

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- (c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information;
 - (d) Offers of study and training facilities under resolutions 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954 and 931 (X) of 8 November 1955;
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Chairman: Mr. Thanat KHOMAN (Thailand).

AGENDA ITEM 35

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories: (A/3601 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/3602, A/3603, A/3604, A/3605, A/3606/Rev.1, A/3607, A/3608, A/3609, A/3647 and Corr.1, A/C.4/360) (*continued*):

- (c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information (A/C.4/357/Rev.1, A/C.4/359 and Add.1, A/C.4/L.504);
- (d) Offers of study and training facilities under resolutions 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954 and 931 (X) of 8 November 1955 (A/3618 and Add.1);
- (e) Methods of reproducing summaries of information concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General (A/3619)

GENERAL DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.4/L.504) (*continued*)

1. Mr. GEBRE-EGZY (Ethiopia) stated the views of his delegation on sub-items (c), (d) and (e) of the agenda item under discussion. With regard to sub-item (d), he did not share the views of some of the Administering Members who saw in the draft resolution on scholarships adopted at the 687th meeting (A/C.4/L.503) a challenge to their authority in administering the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The granting of scholarships was simply an effort, over and above those made by the Administering Members, to achieve the objectives of Chapter XI of the Charter and that was why his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution. With regard to sub-item (e), his delegation endorsed the suggestions put forward by the Secretary-General in his report (A/3619). With regard to sub-item (c), his delegation considered the Spanish repre-

sentative's statement at the 670th meeting very encouraging and hoped that it would be followed by a decision in consonance with Chapter XI of the Charter.

2. His delegation would vote in favour of any measures designed to settle certain problems of interpretation which might represent obstacles to the application of Chapter XI.

3. Miss ROESAD (Indonesia) presented some comments on sub-item (c), concerning the question of the transmission of information on Non-Self-Governing Territories.

4. Article 73 e was of great importance in Chapter XI of the Charter and it was the duty of the United Nations to ensure that the Territories were guided towards the self-government which had been promised to them. Her delegation agreed with the representative of Burma on the importance of the transmission of information and the need for the United Nations to examine that information. The General Assembly had always held that view, as was obvious from the many resolutions which it had adopted on the subject and from its establishment of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, whose task it was to see whether the principle, accepted by the Administering Members, that the interests of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories were paramount, was being respected and to ensure that the Territories advanced towards self-government or independence, as was required under the Charter.

5. It was to be regretted that after so many years there were so many divergent views in the Committee with regard to the application and interpretation of the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter, and in particular of Article 73 e. Her delegation would accordingly stress once more the need for a detailed study of the whole problem.

6. The CHAIRMAN invited the delegations to comment on the draft resolution in document A/C.4/L.504.

7. Mr. BOZOVIC (Yugoslavia) explained that, in offering some comments on the draft resolution, he was not speaking on behalf of the sponsors, of which his delegation was one. The draft resolution was explicit; in view of the differences in the interpretation of Chapter XI, and more particularly Article 73 e, and in the light of General Assembly resolution 334 (IV), the sponsors had wanted the General Assembly to be given a comprehensive view of the opinions on the question of transmission of information. They had accordingly invited the Secretary-General to prepare a summary of those opinions and had provided for the establishment of a committee to study that document and to report to the next session of the General Assembly.

8. Mr. HIMIOB (Venezuela) said that he had no immediate objections to the draft resolution; in order to facilitate the work of the proposed committee, however,

he would like the sponsors to explain what connexion there was between the draft resolution and that on the same subject submitted at the eleventh session (A/C.4/L.467). He would like some indication of the points of resemblance and of difference between the two drafts.

9. Mr. BOZOVIC (Yugoslavia) replied that the two draft resolutions concerned the same problem, that their only common feature was the establishment of a special committee and that the terms of reference of the committee now proposed differed from those suggested the previous year.

10. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) pointed out that while the second paragraph of the preamble of the draft resolution recalled that the General Assembly had considered that it was within its responsibility to express its opinion on the principles which had guided, or which might in future guide, the Administering Members in enumerating the Territories for which the obligation existed to transmit information, paragraph 1 of the operative part referred not to principles but to opinions expressed by Member States. The two provisions did not seem to tally.

11. In three of the paragraphs of the preamble, the draft resolution referred to information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter. He would like to know whether the sponsors of the draft resolution intended to limit the proposed study to the transmission of the information mentioned in that paragraph. If that were so, it would be a retrograde step, since the Assembly had also requested information of another kind.

12. In the third paragraph of the preamble a reference was made to the application of the provisions of Chapter XI, but there was nothing to indicate to what that application referred. He would accordingly suggest the insertion, after the words "of Chapter XI", of the words "to Territories whose people have not yet attained a full measure of self-government". That additional detail was important, because a number of delegations considered that the list in resolution 66 (I) was not exhaustive. Moreover, the English text of the third paragraph of the preamble was so worded that it sounded as if the required information was contained in Article 73 e of the Charter. The words "contained in" should therefore be replaced by the words "called for in".

13. Under paragraph 1 of the operative part, the General Assembly would invite the Secretary-General to prepare a summary of opinions, statements and treaties, but there would be no reference to the list of factors which should be taken into account in deciding whether the Territory was or was not a Territory whose people had attained a full measure of self-

government (General Assembly resolution 742 (VIII)). He would like to know whether that meant that the list of factors would not be taken into consideration.

14. Miss ROESAD (Indonesia) said that she would reply to the Philippine representative's comments at a later meeting.

15. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) wanted to know the purpose of paragraph 1 of the draft resolution. The preparation of the summary would entail considerable work for the Secretariat and it might not be completed in time for the proposed committee to make its report to the Assembly at the next session. Not only was the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories overburdened with work but the financial implications of the draft resolution would have to be taken into account.

16. Mr. JAIPAL (India) said that the object of paragraph 1 of the draft resolution was to provide a summary of three types of opinion on the obligations arising from Article 73: firstly, the opinions of the Administering Members, which would not necessarily coincide; secondly, those of the other Member States; finally, what might be called the individual opinions of jurists who had studied United Nations law.

17. With regard to the questions and suggestions of the Philippine representative, he thought that the sponsors of the joint draft resolution would like to meet and study them. He for his part would be prepared to accept the Philippine amendment to the third paragraph of the preamble. In the second paragraph of the preamble, the sponsors had simply repeated the terms of resolution 334 (IV), which they had thought it essential to recall. He did not think that they had had any intention of limiting the scope of the proposed study to the transmission of the information to which Article 73 e referred, but they had thought it advisable to connect the terms of reference of the proposed committee to the agenda item, which referred to information "transmitted under Article 73 e". With regard to the list of factors, he could not answer that question offhand.

18. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) inquired whether, in the opinion of the sponsors, the draft resolution would make it possible to finish the "unfinished task" to which the representatives of India and Iraq had referred at the 687th meeting.

19. Mr. KADRY (Iraq) thought that that unfinished task had a direct connexion with the draft resolution and that the General Assembly would be able to complete it when it had studied the report of the proposed committee.

The meeting rose at 4.20 p.m.