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INTERVENTION OF THE CENTRAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN KOREA

Report of the First Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Thor THORS (Iceland)

1. At the 419th meeting of the First Committee on 3 January 1951, the representative of India presented the report (A/C.1/643) of the Group on Cease-Fire in Korea appointed by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950, regretting that the Group, in spite of its best efforts, had been unable to pursue discussion of a satisfactory cease-fire arrangement so that no recommendation could usefully be made by it at that time.
2. At the 422nd meeting on 11 January, the representative of Canada, on behalf of the Cease-Fire Group, presented a supplementary report (A/C.1/645) containing five principles concerning a cease-fire in Korea, the establishment of a free and united Korea, and a peaceful settlement of Far Eastern problems.
3. The First Committee considered the reports of the Cease-Fire Group from its 419th through its 425th meetings, at the last of which the question of the approval of the supplementary report was put to the vote.
4. The Committee upheld, by 42 votes to 4, with 9 abstentions, a ruling by the Chairman that the five principles contained in the supplementary report should be put to the vote as a whole.
5. The Committee then approved, by 50 votes to 7, with one abstention, the five principles in the supplementary report of the Cease-Fire Group.
6. At the 423rd meeting, Israel submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/647) which requested the Secretary-General to transmit the principles to the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and invite that Government to send its observations as soon as possible.

* An interim report (A/1717) was submitted on 13 December 1950.

7. Amendments to the draft resolution proposed by Israel were submitted at the 424th meeting by China (A/C.1/648) and El Salvador (A/C.1/649). However, at the 425th meeting, Israel withdrew its draft resolution in favour of a draft resolution (A/C.1/650) submitted by Norway at the same meeting. This draft resolution, with oral amendments suggested by Lebanon and accepted by Norway, invited the Chairman of the First Committee, through the Secretary-General, to transmit the approved principles to the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, and invite that Government to inform him as soon as possible whether it accepted these principles as a basis for the peaceful settlement of the Korean problem and other Far Eastern problems (A/C.1/651).

8. The Norwegian draft resolution, including the Lebanese amendments, (A/C.1/651) was put to the vote at the 425th meeting on 13 January, and was adopted by 45 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

9. At its 426th meeting on 18 January, the Committee began consideration of the reply dated 17 January 1951 (A/C.1/653) received from the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China. At the 429th meeting, the representative of India read the text of a communication which the Indian Ambassador in Peiping had received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in reply to a request for clarification of certain points contained in its reply of 17 January to the United Nations.

10. The following two draft resolutions were submitted during the consideration of the reply from the People's Republic of China:

(a) A draft resolution (A/C.1/654), submitted by the United States of America at the 428th meeting which, inter alia, provided that the General Assembly should

(1) Find that the People's Republic of China has engaged in aggression in Korea;

(2) Call upon the People's Republic of China to cause its forces and nationals in Korea to withdraw from Korea;

(3) Affirm the determination of the United Nations to continue its action in Korea;

(4) Call upon all States and authorities to continue to lend every assistance to this action;

(5) Call upon all States and authorities to refrain from giving any assistance to the aggressors;

(6) Request a committee composed of the members of the Collective Measures Committee to consider additional measures to meet the aggression and to report thereon to the General Assembly; and

(7) Affirm that it continues to be the policy of the United Nations to bring about a cessation of hostilities and the achievement of its objectives in Korea by peaceful means, and request the President of the General Assembly to designate two persons who would meet with him to use their good offices to this end.

(b) A joint revised draft resolution submitted at the 430th meeting by Afghanistan, Burma, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen (A/C.1/642/Rev.1) providing, inter alia, that representatives of France, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Egypt and India and of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China should meet as soon as possible for the purpose of securing all necessary elucidations and amplifications of the reply of the People's Republic of China and for the purpose of making any incidental or consequential arrangements towards a peaceful settlement of the Korean and other Far Eastern problems. The first meeting of the above representatives would be held on a date and at a place to be fixed by the President of the General Assembly.

11. The following amendments were submitted to the above two draft resolutions:

(a) An amendment submitted by Lebanon at the 434th meeting (A/C.1/656) to the United States draft resolution (A/C.1/654), proposing a modification to the effect that the Peking Government had "not accepted" instead of had "rejected all" United Nations proposals, and adding a paragraph to the effect that the ad hoc committee on collective measures contemplated in the draft resolution should be authorized to defer its report if the good offices committee reported satisfactory progress. The Lebanese amendments were accepted by the United States.

(b) Amendments submitted by the USSR at the 431st meeting (A/C.1/655) to the revised Twelve-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/642/Rev.1) proposing (1) deletion of the heading "Intervention of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China in Korea" and (2) that the President of the General Assembly

Assembly should call the proposed meeting "in agreement with the participants".

12. A second revision of the joint twelve-Power draft resolution was submitted at the 434th meeting (A/C.1/642/Rev.2) which added to the penultimate paragraph, a phrase to the effect that the seven Powers participating in the proposed conference should, at the first meeting, agree upon an appropriate cease-fire arrangement and that they would proceed with their further deliberations only after this had been put into effect.

13. An amendment to this second revision of the joint twelve-Power draft resolution was submitted by the USSR at the 437th meeting (A/C.1/657) according to which the representatives of the seven countries, after the cease-fire arrangement had been put into effect, would proceed to the consideration (1) of appropriate arrangements for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea, (2) of ways and means to be recommended to the Korean people for the free settlement of the Korean affairs by the Korean people themselves; (3) of the question of withdrawal of United States forces from Taiwan and the Taiwan Straits and (4) of questions relating to the Far East.

14. At the same meeting the Committee, by 36 votes to 17, with 5 abstentions, adopted a motion proposed by Turkey for the closure of the debate.

15. The USSR representative stated that he would not insist on a vote on the USSR resolution (A/C.1/640)* at the present stage.

16. The joint six-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/638)* was withdrawn.

17. The Committee then proceeded to vote on the second revision of the twelve-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/642/Rev.2) with the following results:

The USSR amendment (A/C.1/657) was rejected by 38 votes to 5, with 6 abstentions.

A USSR amendment, submitted orally, to insert the word "provisional" in paragraph 5, after the word "appropriate" and before the words "cease-fire arrangements", was rejected by 33 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

The USSR amendment (A/C.1/655), first part, was rejected by 42 votes to 5, with 12 abstentions.

The USSR amendment, second part, was rejected by 35 votes to 5, with 18 abstentions.

The first part of paragraph 5 of the draft resolution was rejected by 27 votes to 18, with 14 abstentions.

* See A/1717, paragraphs 5 (a) and (b).

The last sentence of the same paragraph was rejected by 32 votes to 14, with 14 abstentions.

The first four paragraphs of the draft resolution were rejected by 28 votes to 17, with 13 abstentions.

The twelve-Power draft resolution as a whole was not put to the vote since no part of it had been adopted.

18. The United States draft resolution (A/C.1/654), with the Lebanese amendments (A/C.1/656), was then put to a vote with the following results:

Paragraphs 1 - 7 inclusive, were adopted by 44 votes to 7, with 7 abstentions.

The Lebanese amendment to paragraph 8 was adopted by 42 votes to 7, with 9 abstentions.

Paragraph 8, as amended, was adopted by 42 votes to 7, with 10 abstentions.

Paragraph 9, first half, was adopted by 46 votes to 5, with 7 abstentions.

Paragraph 9, second half, was adopted by 43 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions.

The United States draft resolution (A/C.1/654) as a whole and as amended, was then, at the request of the representative of Bolivia, put to the vote by roll call and was adopted by 44 votes to 7, with 8 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against:

Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, India, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Abstentions:

Afghanistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sweden, Syria, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

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

/The General

The General Assembly,

Noting that the Security Council, because of lack of unanimity of the permanent members, has failed to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in regard to Chinese Communist intervention in Korea;

Noting that the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China has not accepted United Nations proposals to bring about a cessation of hostilities in Korea with a view to peaceful settlement, and that its armed forces continue their invasion of Korea and their large-scale attacks upon United Nations forces there,

Finds that the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, by giving direct aid and assistance to those who were already committing aggression in Korea and by engaging in hostilities against United Nations forces there, has itself engaged in aggression in Korea;

Calls upon the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China to cause its forces and nationals in Korea to cease hostilities against the United Nations forces and to withdraw from Korea;

Affirms the determination of the United Nations to continue its action in Korea to meet the aggression;

Calls upon all States and authorities to continue to lend every assistance to the United Nations action in Korea;

Calls upon all States and authorities to refrain from giving any assistance to the aggressors in Korea;

Requests a Committee composed of the members of the Collective Measures Committee as a matter of urgency to consider additional measures to be employed to meet this aggression and to report thereon to the General Assembly; it being understood that the Committee is authorized to defer its report if the Good Offices Committee, referred to in the following paragraph, reports satisfactory progress in its efforts;

Affirms that it continues to be the policy of the United Nations to bring about a cessation of hostilities in Korea and the achievement of United Nations objectives in Korea by peaceful means, and requests the President of the General Assembly to designate forthwith two persons who would meet with him at any suitable opportunity to use their good offices to this end.