



Tuesday, 12 October 1954,
at 3.15 p.m.

New York

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Chairman: Mr. Thor THORS (Iceland).

AGENDA ITEM 63

**Complaint by the Union of Burma regarding
aggression against it by the Government of the
Republic of China (A/2704, A/2739, A/2740)
(continued)**

1. Mr. MAHONEY (United States of America) remarked that according to the final report of the Joint Military Committee (A/2740), a total of 5,742 troops and 881 dependants, together with 177 prisoners of war and 186 refugees, had been repatriated from Burma to Formosa. That substantial result had been achieved in the face of delays and difficulties, and was an excellent example of what could be accomplished through peaceful international action.
2. The United States fully recognized the justice of Burma's desire to remove from its territory those foreign forces which refused to submit to its authority. Nevertheless, his delegation had consistently maintained that there were limits to what could be done through international action. The limited objective of persuading as many irregulars as possible to leave voluntarily, and of providing means for their evacuation, had been achieved. An undetermined number of irregulars still remained in Burmese territory, but they were scattered, and in disorganized groups. The Governments of Thailand and Burma were preparing plans for dealing with those remnants, and he was pleased to note that that useful international co-operation had emerged from relationships formed during the work of the Joint Military Committee.
3. While the Joint Military Committee had completed its task, the United States Government would not abate its interest in the problem, and would always be prepared to exchange views with the interested parties on any aspects of the problem which they might wish to raise.
4. Mr. NIETO (Mexico) said that from the moment the Burmese complaint had been brought before the General Assembly, his Government had condemned the presence of foreign troops in Burma's territory as a violation of the territorial integrity of a Member of the United Nations. It had urged that that integrity and the political independence of Burma should be respected in accordance with the principles of the Charter.
5. Mexico was gratified to learn that despite enormous difficulties nearly 7,000 persons had been successfully

evacuated, owing largely to the active co-operation of the Thai and United States Governments. However, the continued presence of a large number of foreign troops in Burma showed that the problem had not yet been satisfactorily resolved.

6. Consequently, the General Assembly could not cease to concern itself with the problem, and should still press for a complete solution. The Mexican delegation would continue to observe with approval the Burmese Government's efforts to evacuate and disarm those alien forces which remained in its territory.

7. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the item under consideration had already been before the United Nations on two previous occasions.

8. Burma had originally submitted its complaint because of the depredations caused by some 12,000 Kuomintang troops; and in response to its request the General Assembly had adopted resolution 707 (VII) calling for the disarming, internment or withdrawal of foreign forces. On 31 August 1953, however, the Burmese Government had been obliged to report (A/2468), that no effective steps had been taken to implement the resolution.

9. At the eighth session, by which time limited evacuation had begun, Burma had submitted additional information on the activities of the forces in question, which were receiving their orders from Formosa. Since during the first stage of the evacuation, only 1,810 irregulars had been evacuated and only a very small number of obsolete weapons had been surrendered, the situation continued to be a source of anxiety to the Burmese Government.

10. Despite the adoption of General Assembly resolution 717 (VIII), which reaffirmed the Assembly's previous position, the Kuomintang forces had not ceased their activities, and it was only after Burmese military units had attacked their bases that Formosa had agreed to the continuation of the evacuation. This agreement, as had been pointed out in the Press, had been given in order to secure a temporary cease-fire, thus gaining time and prolonging the evacuation into the monsoon season, when military operations became extremely difficult.

11. At the present time about 6,000 Kuomintang troops still remain in Burma, pillaging the countryside. They were led by generals, and recruitment drives were being carried out, allegedly for future operations against the "Red Chinese".

12. The continued presence of these forces in Burma was a violation of that country's sovereignty and a threat to peace and security in the area. Accordingly, it was essential that they should be disarmed and withdrawn from Burma.

The meeting rose at 3.30 p.m.