



C O N T E N T S

| | <i>Page</i> |
|--|-------------|
| Budget estimates for the financial year 1954 | 21 |

Chairman: Mr. Awni KHALIDY (Iraq).

**Budget estimates for the financial year 1954 (A/
2383 and Add.1, A/2403, A/C.5/540, A/
C.5/542)**

[Item 39]*

General debate (continued)

1. Mr. RICHARDS (United States of America) first expressed his satisfaction with the report of the Committee on Contributions (A/2461) which gave effect to the General Assembly's decision to reduce the United States contribution to 33.33 per cent beginning 1 January 1954, in accordance with the principle adopted in 1948 that no Member State should contribute more than one-third of the regular budget of the United Nations. That reduction had not diminished the desire of the United States to see the United Nations achieve as much economy as was compatible with the efficient discharge of its duties. That also seemed to be the Secretary-General's concern.

2. The gross expenditure under the 1954 budget estimates submitted by the Secretary-General (A/2383 and Add.1) was approximately \$200,000 less than the appropriations for 1953 and the 1954 net budget was nearly \$430,000 less than the net total for 1953. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions' proposal to reduce the 1954 estimates (A/2403) by approximately \$850,000 would reduce the budget nearly to the level of the 1953 appropriations, exclusive of certain non-recurring expenditures. The United States delegation would support the Advisory Committee figures for 1954 and would oppose any increases.

3. The Secretary-General's requests, however, were based on a combination of an administrative structure which had existed since 1946 and which was no longer suited to current needs. Before his retirement Mr. Trygve Lie had made various recommendations for improving the efficiency of the Secretariat and reducing administrative costs (A/2214). The Fifth Committee had considered those recommendations. The General Assembly and the Committee could resume consideration of the question when Mr. Hammarskjöld had informed the Committee of the measures whereby he proposed to convert the Secretariat into a more efficient and less costly instrument. Each delegation was pre-

pared to assist him in his task and would probably have suggestions to make.

4. In the opinion of the United States delegation, changes should be introduced primarily in the following items: first, it would be well to reduce the number of organizational units, for that would make it possible to reduce overhead and supervisory costs. Second, the relationship between United Nations activities at Headquarters and in the field should be more clearly defined in order to avoid duplication. Third, it would be desirable for the Advisory Committee and the Fifth Committee to review the total administrative costs of the technical assistance programmes, including the Technical Assistance Board (TAB). Fourth, the various Secretariat units could be criticized for being divided into administratively watertight compartments which made it necessary to call upon temporary assistance and consultants. It should be possible to remedy that situation by greater interchangeability of staff between the various departments.

5. In addition there was need to intensify efforts to eliminate certain wasteful practices to which the Advisory Committee and the Fifth Committee had previously drawn attention. For example, the documentation published by the United Nations had reached disturbing proportions. National governments were swamped under the mass of documents submitted to them by international organizations. The Secretary-General had already made a considerable effort to solve the problem, but he could not succeed unless Member States, which in the final analysis bore the responsibility for the reduction of documentation, were more reasonable in their demands. Secondly, despite the Committee's directives, travel expenditure continued to be excessively high. There were two ways in which savings could be achieved under that head. First, the place, timing and length of the sessions of various United Nations bodies should be chosen wisely. In that matter, the United States delegation urged compliance by all organs with the pattern of conferences established for Geneva and Headquarters. On the other hand, staff travel, particularly in connexion with conferences, could be reduced and toward this end it would be desirable to institute much more rigorous control over travel authorizations. Lastly, the United States delegation thought that the liberal policy in respect of home leave should be re-examined. The frequency of home leave should be adjusted to the conditions of the post at which the individual was serving. Home leave on a two-year basis should be the exception and not the rule.

6. He emphasized that these comments were criticisms of detail and he emphasized that the United States whole-heartedly supported the United Nations programme and had complete confidence that the Secretary-General would carry out the programme in the most effective way possible.

* Indicates the item number on the agenda of the General Assembly.

7. Mr. VIGNALE (Uruguay) said that a sound financial administration of the United Nations was one of the primary concerns of his delegation, which was always in favour of any measures designed to avoid excessive bureaucracy and to achieve economies. The United Kingdom representative had rightly pointed out that the General Assembly should attempt to eliminate duplication, but that it should also take care not to impair the functioning of the Organization. It was essential to avoid measures which would hamper the Organization's political, economic and social services. In particular, the General Assembly should not attempt to achieve unjustified economies affecting the Technical Assistance Administration because such action might wipe out the benefits which the under-developed countries had derived from measures already taken in that field. The same comment applied to UNICEF.

8. With regard to documentation, in most instances the Latin American countries did not receive in time the United Nations documents essential to their work. That was an unacceptable state of affairs and showed a lack of respect for the countries concerned.

9. His delegation had listened with great interest to the comments made by the United States and other representatives on the 1954 budget estimates.

10. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that it was the Fifth Committee's duty to ensure that the resources of the United Nations were used in the most effective way possible. A sound financial administration depended fundamentally on a wise distribution of tasks not only within the Organization but also between the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

11. At previous sessions the General Assembly had examined the structure of the Secretariat. There were certain serious defects which should be corrected so that the financial burden upon Member States would be lessened. It had been intended that the Secretary-General should submit recommendations to the General Assembly's seventh session (A/2157, paragraphs 11-14) on the structure of the Departments of Economic Affairs and of Social Affairs and of the Technical Assistance Administration. He had been unable to do so and, in a report submitted to the seventh session of the General Assembly, the Advisory Committee had stated that the 1953 budget estimates had been based on the premise that the existing structure of the Secretariat would be maintained. The Fifth Committee had therefore decided to postpone consideration of the reorganization of the Secretariat.

12. In reviewing the 1954 budget estimates, it was to be noted that the Secretariat had not given sufficient attention to the previous recommendations of the Advisory Committee and the Fifth Committee. In his estimate, the Secretary-General had not provided for a substantial reduction in the number of posts, a fact which the USSR delegation regretted. It also felt that the Secretariat showed an unjustified tendency to prepare its estimates of expenditure on too lavish a scale as a comparison between the appropriations approved for 1953 and the budget estimates for 1954 clearly indicated. If the Committee wished to obtain an accurate picture of the total United Nations budget, account should be taken not only of the budget estimates, but also of the supplementary expenditures. The budget estimates for 1954 totalled \$48,123,400, but the revised estimates for sections 3, 10, 11, 20 and 23

(A/C.5/542) showed that the Secretary-General had estimated a fairly large supplementary expenditure for 1954. For six of the headings of the budget, the 1954 estimates exceeded those approved for 1953 by \$1,219,000; it could not therefore be claimed that the 1954 budget was smaller than that for 1953. The United Nations budget had increased by \$7,000,000 since 1950; the increase for Headquarters alone was \$4,000,000. With the requests for funds submitted by the Secretary-General and those for supplementary expenses, the 1954 budget would exceed \$51,000,000. That was an abnormal situation. The Advisory Committee had made some recommendations to remedy it, which the USSR delegation approved, although it considered them still inadequate.

13. In his view, the reasons for the constant increase in the United Nations budget were as follows: first there was the illegal establishment of certain organs, a measure to which the USSR delegation had always objected on the ground that it was contrary to the Charter; the USSR delegation had consistently voted against granting funds to such organs. Secondly, there was double taxation of United Nations staff members who were United States citizens: on that account, Member States were paying \$1,500,000 a year into the United States Treasury. The USSR delegation hoped that the Secretary-General's negotiations with the United States Government on that subject would be successful. Thirdly, there had been an increase in the number of posts; posts for 1954 were estimated at 4,137, which was 300 more than in 1950. That figure did not even include contractual personnel, or temporary assistance or consultants. Personnel costs represented nearly three-quarters of the total expenditure of the United Nations; there was no justification for that, because the Organization was no longer in its early stages and there should henceforth be a certain stabilization in the administrative and financial fields. The USSR delegation hoped that in the future the Secretary-General would suggest a reduction in the number of posts.

14. The USSR delegation fully understood the difficulties with which the Secretary-General had been faced in producing the budget estimates which he was submitting to the General Assembly. But he had had six months in which to study the problem of the administrative organization of the Secretariat and the USSR delegation hoped that in future he would take steps to make large savings. The Advisory Committee's report, and the statement made by the Chairman of that committee (379th meeting), showed that there were many possibilities of such savings.

15. In the USSR delegation's view, the structure of the Secretariat should be reorganized in order to achieve administrative simplification and elimination of overlapping. The Department of Economic Affairs and the Department of Social Affairs must be merged, a step which was all the more desirable since the establishment of the Technical Assistance Administration. An effort should also be made to prevent overlapping of the work carried out at Headquarters and that undertaken by the regional economic commissions. The United States representative had spoken eloquently of documentation; the USSR delegation hoped that the Secretary-General would take steps to reduce the volume of that documentation. It also thought that programmes should be revised in order to eliminate those of doubtful value. Further, the number of posts could be cut down, especially the posts held by staff members

in the higher ranks or others whose work was purely administrative. Such a step would mean a smaller use of temporary assistance; the budget estimates for 1954 allowed for nearly \$1,000,000 under that heading. The officials of the Secretariat were highly qualified: therefore it should be possible to cut down expenditure on consultants considerably, save in exceptional cases.

16. The USSR representative also remarked that in view of the programme for the distribution of conferences between Headquarters and the European Office, it should be possible to reduce the cost of servicing conferences at Headquarters.

17. The USSR delegation would vote in favour of any proposal, whether from the Advisory Committee or from a delegation, which would lighten the financial burden on States Members of the Organization. The Advisory Committee's recommendations were inadequate and it should be possible to cut the estimated expenditure still further; the cut might be of about \$5,000,000 and the Organization's total budget would then not exceed \$35,000,000. The USSR delegation intended to submit detailed proposals later for large savings in several sections of the budget.

18. Mr. NATANEGARA (Indonesia) pointed out the urgent need for stabilizing the expenditures of the United Nations at a level sufficient to ensure the orderly execution of the essential projects of the United Nations without imposing an unduly heavy financial burden on the Member nations. The total budget estimates for 1954 should be about one million dollars less than these 1953 budget estimates, due to the elimination of the item of one million dollars for construction of the Headquarters buildings from the 1954 budget. The Indonesian delegation would in principle give its support to the Advisory Committee's proposals for reductions of \$843,800 in the Secretary-General's 1954 budget estimates. However, special attention must be given to the possible effect of implementation of the Advisory Committee's recommendations on the functioning of the departments of the Secretariat.

19. With regard to proposed reductions in the funds made available to the regional economic commissions, the Indonesian delegation agreed with the Advisory Committee that overlapping of the work of the regional commissions and that of Headquarters departments should be avoided. It wished, however, to point out that the work of the regional commissions was often highly specialized and referred particularly to the area in which they operated. The commissions had made a real contribution by bringing together specialists and governmental representatives in their areas to solve very practical and localized problems. There should perhaps be more decentralization of work which would allow the regional economic commissions to undertake some of the work done by the Department of Economic Affairs.

20. The Indonesian delegation hoped that the General Assembly would concur in granting the Technical Assistance Administration the funds which it had requested, and noted with approval that the Advisory Committee had not proposed any reduction in the estimates for those funds.

21. The Advisory Committee had proposed a reduction of \$74,000 in the 1954 budget estimates for the Department of Public Information. He hoped that any global reduction of the department's budget would not be at the expense of the United Nations information services in the under-developed countries.

22. The Indonesian delegation had been pleased and interested to read paragraph 239 of the Advisory Committee's report, in which it was stated that the additional income from guided tours and the gift shop was estimated at \$250,000, and had also heard with interest a suggestion put forward by the United Kingdom representative that advertising space in United Nations publications might be sold in such a manner as at least partly to offset the cost of those publications.

23. The Indonesian delegation awaited with great interest the proposals on the reorganization of the Secretariat which the Secretary-General was to submit in accordance with resolution 681 (VII) of the General Assembly. It was to be hoped that the Fifth Committee would be able to examine the financial implications of those proposals and take them into account in its recommendations on the budget estimates for the financial year 1954.

24. Mr. CARRIZOSA (Colombia) said that his delegation was in favour of a policy of economy and therefore supported the Committee's recommendations.

25. The Fifth Committee would shortly be dealing with important administrative questions, bearing particularly on the structure of the Secretariat, staff administration, the Staff Regulations and the Administrative Tribunal's decisions. The Colombian delegation was glad to note that experience had confirmed the views which it had expressed at previous sessions of the General Assembly. It was convinced that the Fifth Committee would take wise decisions and would be guided mainly by the ideas the Secretary-General had set forth in several statements stating his views on the principles which should govern the operation of international organizations. It had no doubt that in the performance of his duties the Secretary-General would be guided by the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the spirit of the founders of the Organization. The Fifth Committee was the organ best fitted to give the Secretary-General effective assistance; the part played by the Advisory Committee should also be emphasized. The Colombian delegation was well aware of the difficulties with which the Secretary-General was faced at the present time and awaited with interest his recommendations to the Committee on the Administrative Tribunal's decisions, the administrative structure of the Secretariat and staff administration.

26. The CHAIRMAN noted that the list of speakers in the general debate was exhausted and asked the Committee to undertake the consideration of the separate sections of the 1954 budget in first reading.

First reading

SECTION 6. EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

27. Mr. BOTHA (Union of South Africa) approved the Advisory Committee's recommendation to reduce the credits asked for the temporary staff by \$2,000 (A/2703, paragraph 83). He was convinced that the system of provisional transfers between services and departments, which the Advisory Committee had mentioned in paragraph 37 of its report, should make it possible to effect still more appreciable savings.

28. Mr. ASHA (Syria) was also in favour of the Advisory Committee's recommendation. He thought it abnormal to recruit temporary staff to replace permanent officials on leave.

29. Mr. ANDERSON (Secretariat) explained that that was not the usual practice.

30. Mr. CAFIERO (Argentina) thought that there were enough qualified officials for the Secretariat to be able to dispense with temporary staff and consultants. The Secretary-General's Executive Office was in a particularly good position to recruit officials from other departments on a temporary basis during the peak periods.

31. He proposed that the credits for temporary staff should be reduced by \$5,000.

32. Mr. CORDIER (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General agreed to the reduction of \$2,000 proposed by the Advisory Committee, but that a reduction of the order of that proposed by Argentina would put the Secretariat in a very difficult position.

33. Mr. IBÁÑEZ (Philippines) proposed that the supplementary reduction of \$3,000 asked by the Argentine delegation should refer to both consultants (\$1,000) and temporary staff (\$2,000).

34. Mr. CORDIER (Secretariat) pointed out that the Secretary-General had only asked for a credit of \$1,000 for consultants. If that credit were purely and simply suppressed, his freedom of action would be restricted considerably.

35. Mr. IBÁÑEZ (Philippines) said that, if that were the case, he was prepared to support the Argentine proposal.

The Argentine proposal was rejected by 35 votes to 7, with 5 abstentions.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was adopted in first reading by 47 votes to none, with one abstention.

SECTION 6a. LIBRARY

36. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) said that he was surprised by the novel principle embodied in the comment which the Advisory Committee had made for the first time in paragraph 88 of its report to the effect that the standards of some services were unnecessarily high and that reductions could be made. Up to the current session, the measures recommended by the Committee had always been aimed at rationalizing the services and increasing their efficiency, but never at lowering their quality. The Israel delegation could not approve a reduction made solely for reasons of economy if it were to lower the quality of the services.

37. As regards the Library, it seemed according to the last sentence of paragraph 87 that it was not possible to compare the Library at Headquarters and that at Geneva (paragraph 89). The Committee was therefore being asked to take a decision without examining the relevant reports. In that case, it could either await those documents, or attempt to form an opinion now; it could not take note of the Advisory Committee's comment and on that basis alone recommend a reduction of the credits earmarked for the Library at Headquarters.

38. No less disquieting was the opinion expressed by the Advisory Committee in paragraph 202 of its report regarding the purchase of books. Under section 19, chapter 2, of the budget estimates, the Secretary-General had provided for the purchase of 5,000 books in 1954; if that figure were compared with the number of people using the library, it would be noted

that the Organization was in greater danger of intellectual torpor than of seeing the Library become too large.

39. In dealing with section 6a, as later with section 19, chapter 2, the point was to ascertain the real function of the Library in the Organization. In his opinion, the Library was an essential organ of the United Nations and should be the best library in the world for all the Organization's spheres of activity, particularly international law. The important role of the Library in the drawing up of technical assistance programmes, in the training of internes and in keeping experts up to date should also be emphasized.

40. It was not certain that suppression of the departmental libraries would result in economy. In fact, the Secretary-General had already achieved the maximum economies and those libraries were administered by the central Library which would have to take over the services which the departmental libraries supplied if they did not exist.

41. If the General Assembly reduced the staff of the Library, the Organization would run a twofold risk: first, the essential work of classification and arranging could not be carried out and the documentary material received would no longer have any value as a working tool; secondly, if there were no such working tool, the Organization would publish studies containing errors and inaccuracies, which would shake the confidence of all those who noted them. Lastly, before coming to a decision, the Committee should not lose sight of the fact that the budget of the Department of Public Information, which produced the publications of the Organization, amounted to 10 to 15 per cent of the general budget and that the budget of the Library, which supplied much of the raw materials to that department, amounted to only a fraction of that percentage. He therefore proposed that the Committee should restore the Secretary-General's original estimate.

42. Mr. KIA (Iran), referring to paragraph 88 of the Advisory Committee's report, stated that much remained to be done to improve the Library facilities, particularly as regards official publications from various countries, codes, etc. Delegations from the smaller countries relied principally on the Headquarters Library for reference. Consequently, the Iranian delegation was not disposed to vote in favour of the Advisory Committee's recommendation unless more satisfactory explanations were forthcoming.

43. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) felt that the Israel representative's fears were exaggerated, and that the Organization was not in danger of falling into obscurantism. Section 6a should not be confused with section 19; section 6a did not deal with the purchase of books. On that point he reserved his right to comment on the distribution of the cuts regarding working languages. In any event, the Advisory Committee's recommendations did not present any serious danger, and the Belgian delegation would vote for them. In order to satisfy everybody, the Library could perhaps make more use of inter-library loan services.

44. Mr. CAFIERO (Argentina) said that, on the whole, the Argentine delegation agreed with the Advisory Committee's comments. Referring to the statement that the Index Unit would publish one volume of the General Index to the United Nations Treaty Series in English and French (A/2383, p. 43), he asked whether it would be difficult to publish it also

in Spanish. As document A/C.5/L.234¹ said that there were seven vacancies, he wondered whether it would not be possible to fill them with certain members of the temporary staff. The Secretariat could make substantial economies under chapter 2 if it obtained the services in question in the form of gifts.

45. To conclude, his delegation hoped that the reduction recommended by the Advisory Committee would affect consultants, temporary staff, contractual services and supplies.

46. Mr. BOTHA (Union of South Africa) hoped that the Chairman of the Advisory Committee would give some additional explanations to allay the fears of the Israel representative, who must surely have misinterpreted the Advisory Committee's report. For its part, the South African delegation was prepared to vote in favour of the Advisory Committee's recommendations.

47. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that he would have agreed with all the Israel representative's comments if there had been any question of organizing a library in the void. It should, however, be borne in mind that in New York there were some of the best libraries in the world and that the Headquarters Library could not possess all the works dealing with the fields of activity of the Organization and related subjects.

48. To show that the departmental libraries were expensive, it was only necessary to observe that nine members of the staff were employed in them.

49. Referring to paragraph 202 of the Committee's report, he pointed out that there was no doubt that the present tempo of acquisitions would soon necessitate a new building. Since the Organization, in all probability, would not have the necessary money, appropriate steps should be taken now.

50. Mr. BARTOS (Yugoslavia) stated that if the numbers of qualified staff in various libraries were compared, it would be seen that the number of such staff in the Headquarters Library was too high. The Committee could accept the Advisory Committee's recommendations without any fear, since their application would result in a better distribution of staff; furthermore, it was wise to leave the task of spreading the reduction between the various sections to the Secretary-General.

51. Mr. FRIIS (Denmark) said that he agreed with several of the comments made by the Israel representative. He was not convinced that in this particular case the Advisory Committee's conclusions had been sufficiently supported by facts. As the Secretary-General had decided not to ask the Committee to restore the estimates to the original amount, it would be interesting to know how he proposed to implement the Advisory Committee's recommendations.

52. Mr. CORDIER (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General's decision was based on the Advisory Committee's report and on the comments made by members of the Fifth Committee.

53. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that the appropriations requested in section 6a greatly exceeded the expenditure in preceding years. The total budget of the Headquarters Library, if expenses under other sections were taken

into account, amounted to \$550,000. That figure and the number of requested professional posts (thirty-four) were both abnormally high. Furthermore, it did not seem necessary to upgrade the post of administrative officer from second to first grade, as there was already an assistant to the Director.

54. He agreed with the Argentine representative's proposal as to contractual services and supplies. In so far as consultants were concerned, if the cost of running the Library was still increasing in spite of their advice, then it seemed that their services could be dispensed with.

55. For all those reasons, he proposed a further reduction of \$30,000 in the estimates recommended by the Advisory Committee.

56. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) stated that he was not unaware of the resources of the various libraries in New York, but pointed out that there was not a single one which, like the Library of Congress in Washington, the British Museum in London or the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, kept all the official publications from many countries and those of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

57. Replying to the representative of Belgium, he said that he had principally wished to establish the real position of the Library in the Organization, and his reference to the purchase of books had only been made to illustrate his point.

58. Neither the twenty-one reports on the Library nor the Advisory Committee's report made any reference to waste or excessive staff, and he insisted that the comments in paragraph 87 of the Advisory Committee's report did not raise any question of good administration, and could not form the basis for a reduction under section 6a or of any other section of the estimates concerning the Library and its services.

59. Mr. IBÁÑEZ (Philippines) pointed out that the estimates recommended by the Advisory Committee were less than either the expenses actually incurred in 1952 or the appropriations for 1953. The Library should be in a position to provide ever greater facilities with the years, and the reduction recommended by the Advisory Committee could not be reconciled with that principle. He would like to know whether the Advisory Committee had taken the experience of the first few months of 1953 into account.

60. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) answered that the Committee had studied the results of the first quarter, but they did not give sufficient information to enable the financial year to be seen as a whole.

61. Mr. TRANOS (Greece) did not consider that the Advisory Committee's recommendations could affect the Library's operation adversely. His delegation considered that the Advisory Committee had studied the matter fully and approved its recommendations. Another redistribution of staff, as proposed by the Yugoslav representative, a merger of departmental libraries, and similar measures, would allow the requested economies to be made without affecting the operation of the Library in any way.

62. Mr. HUSAIN (India) observed that the Advisory Committee's recommendation was not revolutionary. The suggested reduction only affected 4 per cent of the estimates relating to section 6a. His delegation

¹ Distribution limited.

would support the Advisory Committee's recommendation.

63. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the USSR proposal for a reduction of \$30,000 on the estimates recommended by the Advisory Committee for section 6a.

The USSR proposal was rejected by 38 votes to 4, with 4 abstentions.

64. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Israel proposal that the Secretary-General's original estimates for section 6a should be restored.

The Israel proposal was rejected by 38 votes to 4, with 4 abstentions.

65. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Advisory Committee's recommendation for a reduction of \$19,000 in the Secretary-General's estimates under section 6a.

By 45 votes to none, with 4 abstentions, the Advisory Committee's recommendation on section 6a was adopted in first reading.

SECTION 7. DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND SECURITY COUNCIL AFFAIRS

66. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee to vote on the Advisory Committee's recommendation for a reduction of \$1,500 in the appropriations requested under chapter I (consultants, temporary assistance, overtime and night differential).

The recommendation was adopted by 49 votes to none in first reading.

SECTION 8. MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

67. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 101 of the Advisory Committee's report, recommending a reduction of \$3,000 in the estimates submitted in section 8, to be applied at the Secretary-General's discretion but without prejudice to the existing vacancies in the language posts of this Secretariat.

68. In reply to a question from Mr. CAFIERO (Argentina), Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General did not intend to fill the five vacant posts unless the pressure of work in the Military Staff Committee increased.

69. Mr. KIANG (China) asked for the figures of appropriations for the Military Staff Committee in previous financial years.

70. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) replied that, to the best of his recollection, the appropriation requested during the financial year 1951 had been about \$130,000, and that it had been reduced to approximately \$123,000. He could not remember the figures relating to the previous financial years.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation in first reading was adopted by 48 votes to none.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.