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ASSESSMENT OF AUSTRIA

The following communication has been addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations and is submitted to the Committee on Contributions for consideration:

"The Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to his note FI 313/1(1) of May 19, 1958, has the honor to communicate to him in the following the latest available figures concerning the Austrian national income:

1955	81.1 billion Austrian Schillings
1956	89.6 " " "
1957	98.9 " " "

These figures have already been brought to the knowledge of Mr. William R. Leonard, Director of the Statistical Office of the United Nations. Attention is drawn to the fact that, while the figures for 1955 and 1956 are definitive, the one for 1957 is a provisional estimate subject to rectification.

In this connection the Permanent Representative of Austria wishes to draw the particular attention of the Committee on Contributions upon a number of circumstances which impair the capacity to pay of the Austrian Government and which, it is requested, be taken into account in the formulation of the recommendation by the Committee on Contributions to the General Assembly on the scale of assessments with respect to Austria.

Thus it appears that, in spite of the termination of the occupation of her territory, Austria finds herself in a difficult position insofar as the burdens imposed on her by the Austrian State Treaty are still in effect. This treaty, inter alia, provides for gratuitous supply of goods of a very considerable value over a period of ten years. Furthermore, large sums have been and are still required to raise the economic standard of the Eastern parts of Austria to a normal level. Austria did not have any army when the occupation came to an end in the fall of 1955, therefore the establishment of armed forces for the defense of the Austrian neutrality as well as the expenses caused by the refugee problem impose a continuous heavy strain on the budget.

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The Permanent Representative of Austria takes this opportunity to request the Committee on Contributions to give particular consideration to the aforementioned special circumstances when formulating its recommendation regarding the membership assessment of Austria."

New York, June 25, 1958

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