

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE YUGOSLAV REPRESENTATIVE  
TO THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION

Athens, 31 January 1947..

Mr. Principal Secretary:

I have the honour to transmit to the Commission of Investigation of the United Nations the following declaration, requesting that this declaration be included in the agenda and taken up at to-day's meeting of the Commission.

I avail myself of this occasion, Mr. Principal Secretary etc....

(Signed) J. Djerdja

Minister Plenipotentiary and  
Representative of the Government  
of the Federative Peoples Republic  
of Yugoslavia at the Commission  
of Investigation of the Security  
Council.

Athens, 31 January 1947.

Mr Principal Secretary:

At the outset of the proceedings of the Investigation Commission of the Security Council, and wishing to make my contribution to the work of this body, I have the honour, acting in my capacity as representative of the Government of the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia, and on its behalf to make the following declaration:

1. When the question of the sending of an Investigation Commission was raised in the Security Council, the Yugoslav Representative, acting on behalf of his Government, proposed that the investigation be carried out solely in Greek territory. He considered that in such a way a result could be reached which would ascertain the facts and establish the reasons for which the Greek people had risen up against the present regime in Greece, responsible for systematic violations and acts of aggression on the border, disturbing thereby the relations of neighbouring Balkan countries and creating a situation which might threaten the peace.

The Yugoslav Government, wishing to serve general interests accepted the decision by which the Security Council set up a Commission of Investigation, though this decision did not give entire satisfaction to the Yugoslav point of view.

In connection with these facts and at the outset of the proceedings of the Commission of Investigation in Greece, I wish to stress that the Yugoslav Government wishes and requests that the Investigation should be carried out fully in a detailed and complete manner in order to accomplish the purpose which the Security Council had in mind when it took its decision on the question of an investigation.

To that same end, the Yugoslav Government considers that it is necessary to ascertain fully in Greek territory the numerous facts which are directly or indirectly related to the origin and the sources of the situation under investigation. This point of view of the Yugoslav Government is entirely in accordance with the decision of the Security Council which provides in the first place that the facts should be ascertained in Greek territory, these being of paramount importance. Such is the indispensable requisite for the success of the investigation.

2. In accordance with the above-mentioned and to the same end, the Yugoslav Government wishes that the proceedings of the Investigation should be carried out in the presence of the representatives of the press and through their medium before public opinion at large. The Yugoslav Government considers that in such a manner the work of the Commission would be greatly facilitated whereas it would be hindered if carried out in private.

3. The Yugoslav Government considers that in order to achieve success, it is indispensable that its representative should attend continuously the proceedings of the Commission, taking an active part in its work. No one would understand the exclusion from the work of the Commission of the representative of a country greatly interested in the ascertaining of truth, and which had already on the 18 July 1945, addressed a Memorandum to the Great Powers, and a note to the Greek Government, drawing their attention to the incredible terror, wrought upon the populations of the Aegean-Macedonia.

In bringing the aforesaid to the attention of the Principal Secretary of the Investigation Commission, I have the honour to add that the Government of the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia follows with great interest the work of the Investigation Commission and hopes that the Commission will be willing to devote attention to the propositions expressed above.

Yours etc.....

J. Djerdja

Representative of the Government  
of the Federative People's Republic  
of Yugoslavia, Minister Plenipo-  
tentiary.