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Held at Headquarters, New York,
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Chairman:

Mr. ABDOH

(Iran)

The Korean question [23] (continued)

Statements were made in the general debate on the item by:

Mr. Tsyba	(Ukrainian SSR)
Mr. Schurmann	(Netherlands)
Mr. Tarabanov	(Bulgaria)
Mr. Esin	(Turkey)
Mr. Aström	(Sweden)
Mr. Nase	(Albania)

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AGENDA ITEM 23

THE KOREAN QUESTION: REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA

Mr. TSYBA (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic)(interpretation from Russian): Though the Korean problem has been on the agenda of the Assembly for more than ten years, no progress has been made towards finding a solution. This is because the General Assembly has endeavoured to settle the Korean problem on the basis of a plan which is defective in its very foundations. It is quite evident that no resolutions will help solve the Korean problem if it is considered only in terms of imposing the regime of one part of Korea on the other, and the fact that both parts of Korea must agree between themselves on the conditions of unification is ignored.

It has been apparent, during consideration of the Korean question in the United Nations, that a certain group of States -- especially the United States of America and other parties to intervention in Korea -- has displayed no interest in a peaceful settlement of the Korean question with due account being taken of the interests of the Korean people. Such a solution could be found if, taking into account the actual situation in Korea -- where, as a result of the partition of the country, two States have arisen -- the United Nations were to exert its influence towards achieving unification of the country on a just and democratic basis. Instead of this, the United Nations continues year after year to discuss reports of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, though it is well known that that Commission was established for the specific purpose of extending the authority of the South Korean regime to all of Korea.

It has become apparent, however, that this one-sided approach to the solution of the Korean problem has yielded no positive results and merely leads to a proliferation of fruitless discussions. To achieve progress towards solution of the Korean problem we must adopt some other method than the mere continuation of the activities of the so-called United Nations Commission for the unification and Rehabilitation of Korea; we must promote a policy other than the mere imposition by force on one part of Korea of the political structure of the other. We must strive for the rapprochement of North and South Korea, realizing that the only proper course is the one which calls for the establishment of political, economic

and cultural bonds between the two parts of the country and the creation of conditions which would promote a peaceful settlement of the Korean question by the Korean people themselves.

The countries concerned could extend assistance in the creation of such conditions, if they were prepared to adopt a just and dispassionate approach to this complex problem. In this connexion one cannot fail to note the generous initiative of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which has repeatedly proposed the establishment of economic and cultural links between North and South Korea. These links would be in many forms and would affect various types of activities, ranging from parliamentary and governmental organs and political parties down to co-operation between industries and various other institutions. To remove any possible grounds for mistrust, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has proposed that both parties should agree to renounce the use of armed force, and has itself reduced its effective army by 80,000 men, with a corresponding reduction of armaments. It has proposed a conference between North and South Korea to consider joint reductions of armaments.

However, these overtures from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have evoked no favourable response from the South Korean authorities, even though it is quite apparent that the establishment of political, economic and cultural links between North and South Korea would be of great benefit to the Korean people as a whole.

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Moreover, the extremist militarist elements in South Korea, which enjoy the support of the United States, are still determining their attitude towards the settlement of the Korean problem on the assumption that the Korean question will be solved only by force of arms. Despite this fact, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea -- convinced as it is that its position is correct and knowing that it enjoys the full support of the people of all Korea -- has carried out and continues to carry out a peace-loving policy and the best evidence of this is provided by the intensive creative labour and toil engaged in by the population of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I shall venture to cite some figures and data which indicate the successes achieved by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the development of its economy and culture. As may be seen from the announcement of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 20 July of this year regarding the results of the fulfilment of the people's economic plan for the first half-year of 1957, in the field of industrial production the production plan of State and co-operative industry for the first half-year of 1957 was fulfilled by 112 per cent for that period; as compared with the same period last year, for the first half-year of this year the gross production output of State and co-operative industry increased by 41 per cent. The area under crops was increased by 125,000 chungbo. The area sown with rice, maize, potatoes and industrial crops has been expanded. Great successes have been achieved in the fields of railway, motor and water transport and communications. The announcement notes that the aggregate volume of capital investment in the people's economy in the first half-year of 1957 was 10.2 thousand million hwan. Resources assigned to residential construction in the first half-year of 1957 exceeded by 36 per cent appropriations for that purpose during the corresponding period of the previous year. For the period covered in the report, the material and cultural standard of living of the population of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was raised sharply; these are the facts which characterize the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and provide evidence of the great successes of the Korean people. There is no doubt that the Korean people will not agree to forgo these great advantages and successes.

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In order to expedite the peaceful unification of Korea, it is necessary to strengthen the armistice and meticulously to observe its provisions. The peoples of the world regarded the conclusion of the armistice in Korea as the practical result of a lengthy and stubborn struggle for peace; it is necessary to appraise properly the significance of this success of the forces of peace, if one wishes to consider ways and means for the settlement of the Korean problem. The strengthening of peace in Korea -- the transformation of the armistice into a lasting peace -- is a serious prerequisite for the settlement of the Korean question inasmuch as it would contribute to the gradual rapprochement of the two parts of Korea and their unification as a unified Korean State, taking into account the interests both of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and of the Republic of Korea.

Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the armistice in Korea by every means, to forestall and prevent actions designed to hamstring the observance of the armistice or to subvert its foundations. In this connexion, we cannot fail to note that the United States has made attempts to thwart the work of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission. As is well known, on 31 May of this year, the American Command unilaterally announced the cessation of its observance of a number of articles of the Armistice Agreement in Korea which determined and delineated the obligations of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and the neutral inspection teams in areas under the control of the armed forces of the United Nations. The United States Command demanded that the neutral inspection teams stationed at demarcation points in South Korea should, within a week, quit the regions under the control of the United Nations armed forces.

There is no question that this decision represents a serious violation of the Armistice Agreement since the functions and rights of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission are an integral part of the Armistice Agreement for Korea. The decision has seriously jeopardized the entire Armistice Agreement. Inspection teams prevented the United States Military Command and the Syngman Rhee people from carrying out their policy of undermining the armistice; that is why their activity was a mote in the eye of the South Korean authorities. However, in reality, long before their dissolution, the inspection teams found themselves the target of unfriendly activities on the part of the United Nations Command. It is well known that the South Korean

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authorities hampered the work of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, threatened its members bodily, and demanded the cessation of its activities. That is why the impression arises that, in this case, the expulsion of the inspection teams from South Korean territory was planned in advance. The legitimate question may be asked: Why did the American Command act in this way? Has the situation in Korea become so favourable that the activities of the inspection teams are no longer necessary? The reverse is the case. World public opinion has repeatedly noticed instances of violations by the South Korean authorities of the provisions of the Armistice Agreement. These instances were proved and detailed in reports and official documents of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Korea. These facts made it clear that the South Korean authorities are importing ~~armaments~~ and fostering a war psychosis throughout the country, even while they are training and preparing new military units.

The situation in Korea became even more complicated when the United States announced that it considered itself relieved of the obligations set forth in sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph 13 of part II of the Armistice Agreement which called for the prohibition of the introduction in Korea of new military equipment. At the same time, the Defense Department of the United States published an announcement to the effect that the decision to send to South Korea modern American equipment, including aviation equipment, would involve the introduction of such facilities as would make it possible to deliver atomic weapons.

Speaking of the presence of American armed forces in South Korea, the delegation of the Ukrainian SSR cannot pass over in silence the fact of the record of crimes and insufferable brutalities committed by American servicemen in South Korea -- a phenomenon which has assumed such a scale that even the South Korean press has had to recognize the indignation of the people of South Korea caused by the behaviour of American servicemen stationed in South Korea who are installed, by the way, in South Korea, thanks to the blessing of the United Nations.

Here are some instances cited in the well-known statement of the Foreign Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of 9 October of this year. On 14 January 1957, two American military police at 67 Pan Suk Dong Road in the town of Inchon shot the sixteen-year-old daughter of Lee Chun Ok. On 14 March of this year, a military police sergeant of the American occupation troops, fearing

disclosure of the crime that he had committed, opened automatic fire on three Koreans, two of whom he killed, the third one he wounded. After this, on 16 April, more than eighty American military police attacked 305 families in the Paju district and took away many of their personal effects. More than seventy innocent peaceful inhabitants were arrested. On 24 April, a guard of the 32nd regiment of the 7th American Division opened fire on passers-by -- that is, on five inhabitants of the village -- and killed Han Yung Kwan on the spot. On 16 May 1957, a non-commissioned officer of the 3rd battalion of the 17th regiment of the American army--located in Onchonri village in the district of Yungpu, Pochung region -- with another American serviceman tossed off a thirty-six meter cliff two Korean women -- Chung Kim Soon and Chung Yung Sook; Chung Kim Soon was killed and Chung Yung Sook was injured.

In the opinion of the Ukrainian SSR, the United Nations cannot remain indifferent to these instances of crimes committed by American troops against the South Korean population because this is being done under the aegis of the United Nations.

This year has given new proof that the key to the peaceful solution of the Korean question is not the imposition of unilateral decisions but the gradual forging by the Koreans themselves of political, economic and cultural links between the two parts of the country, the artificial partition of which prevents its normal development. The restoration of such links would surely lead to the gradual relaxation of tension between North and South Korea and would contribute to the preparation of real conditions for a future unification of Korea by the efforts of the Koreans themselves.

The States concerned should play an important role in the reunification of Korea. In this connexion, great significance attaches to the proposal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of 26 June and that of the People's Republic of China of 27 June 1957, in which they call for the convening of an international conference of the countries involved in order to consider the question of the peaceful settlement of the Korean problem. There can scarcely be any doubt that if we are indeed eager to register some progress towards the settlement of the Korean question, we should accept the constructive proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and that of the People's Republic of China because those proposals are based on the real situation in Korea, taking into account the interests of both parts of the country. This would open the door wide to a successful settlement of the Korean problem.

Mr. SCHURMANN (Netherlands): It is a sad fact indeed, as has been noted many times in this Committee, that the illegal situation created by the authorities of North Korea and their supporters still prevails. The aims for which, at the behest of the United Nations, fifteen countries took up arms alongside the Republic of Korea, have been partly achieved, but only partly so. The conclusion we should draw from this fact is not that because injustice has continued for such a long time we can dismiss it from our thoughts and resign ourselves to a mere passive acceptance of odious conditions. The principles and ideals for which so many lives were laid down in Korea have not become obsolete. They are still part of a philosophy of a free world, and, more than that, they are a practical guide for the conduct of the Members of a self-respecting United Nations. The action we can take at this moment may not produce any immediate results, but the Charter of our Organization is an expression of

the conviction that there is an inherent strength in the ideas of truth and justice which will ultimately create conditions under which they can be realized.

Therefore, when we hear it suggested that we should not insist on these ideas and that instead of upholding the principle of self-determination by demanding free elections under proper supervision, we should urge the Republic of Korea to come to some settlement with the invaders, then we should remember that these suggestions run contrary to the principles of our Charter.

I was happy to note, in the calm and very interesting statement of the representative of the Republic of Korea, that his Government is determined to pursue the course of honour and of justice; and also to hear from him about the great progress that is being made in his country, a fact which was apparent from the report submitted by UNCURK.

As to the Armistice Agreement, it is the view of the Netherlands Government that this Agreement cannot be unilaterally set aside. The non-compliance with its terms by the Communist side does indeed deprive that side of the right to demand that the United Nations Command should continue to observe the rules which the other side has broken, but this does not alter the fact that the treaty as such remains in force and that the Communist infringements of it are illegal.

It is with these considerations in mind that my delegation will be disposed to vote for a resolution which would reaffirm the fundamental principles for unification set forth by the nations which participated on behalf of the United Nations in the Geneva Conference of 1954 and which would call upon the Communist authorities to accept those United Nations objectives.

Mr. TARABANOV (Bulgaria) (interpretation from French): For many years the United Nations has considered the question of Korea without having been able to arrive at any solution to the problem. This is question which the majority of countries would like to see no longer appear on the agenda of the United Nations.

A solution might have been found had the Korean people been left to solve their own affairs and if the two parties had been permitted to meet and solve the differences which exist between them. But it appears that there are

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certain parties that are not too eager to let the Koreans themselves solve their own problems. These parties wish at all costs to take advantage of the situation which they created in Korea in order to be able to keep tension high in the relations between the countries of the Far East, a situation which would, in turn, permit them to continue to hold their position of great strength.

If one could consider for one single moment the true meaning behind the United States statement in the Committee, one could realize exactly what the situation is. The statement made last year by the representative of the United States, when compared to that made this year, leads us to believe that the new United States policy is designed to satisfy certain circles, and it has expressed its views in the already rigid stand taken by it in the question of disarmament. A very clear impression can be gained from these speeches and from the way in which the United States has started this discussion -- an impression that is confirmed by the procedure that has been followed. Not only does the United States not seek a peaceful solution to the question of Korea, but on the contrary the aim sought is to make the situation more and more dangerous in that part of the world.

We had hoped that this year at least the United States delegation, if it had the slightest intention of allowing us to arrive at even the beginning of a solution to the question of the reunification of Korea, would be ready to hear the representatives of both parties to this question of reunification. This is the obvious course when reunification is being discussed. But instead of this, we have been presented once again with a procedural draft resolution which proposes to invite only the representative of South Korea despite the warlike attitude taken by the puppet Government of Syngman Rhee and by Syngman Rhee himself.

Efforts have been made to defend the United States procedure by making all sorts of allegations regarding the legality of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and by asserting that only the Government of the Republic of Korea is the legal Government of Korea.

Now, going through the document which we have before us, the United Nations does not have the right or the power to decide that this Government is legal or that that Government is illegal. It is not the recognition of one Government by other Governments that can make of the former a legal Government. It is only the fundamental law of the country concerned which makes a Government legal, or not, but certain circles in the United States would like to take upon themselves the right to declare that this Government is legal and that that Government is illegal, and have their ruling on the matter followed blindly by the United Nations. This is a most dangerous practice and one which should definitely not be allowed here. It presages no good for the United Nations nor for the final evolution of international relations. Such an attitude leaves no possible alternative in the question of the reunification of Korea and certainly will not lead to a peaceful solution of this problem.

One must have a rather poor opinion of one's audience to make such a travesty of the recent history of Korea. Instead of letting time erase the memory of American intervention in Korea and instead of allowing a favourable climate to develop there, the representative of the United States has tried here to repeat all the false accusations that served as the basis for the stand taken by certain influential circles in the United States to justify the sending of more troops from the United States to occupy South Korea, as well as to occupy the island of Taiwan, which is Chinese territory by right. I do not think it is necessary to repeat here all of the proposals made by the Soviet Union to withdraw occupation troops from both North and South Korea. Neither do I consider it necessary to tax our patience listening to declarations and political statements, or to read through all these statements and declarations made by organizations in North Korea asking for direct contacts between the most responsible representatives of the two parts of the country, by appropriate democratic means before the United States occupation authorities decided to hold separate elections in South Korea for the obvious purpose of perpetuating the division of the country.

All of this is not necessary in order to find out who is to blame for all the manoeuvres which have been carried on in Korea. We must bear in mind

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that if we hear statements favouring reunification by means of war, they come only from the representatives of the Syngman Rhee clique and from the American imperialists. Even after the Armistice Agreement which, may we say here, was not signed by the South Korean Government because it insisted upon a continuation of the war, warlike and threatening declarations were made by various political persons who were in power in South Korea, and particularly by Syngman Rhee himself.

If proof is needed, we have more than is necessary in any of the statements of the President of South Korea, where similar ideas can be found, ideas like those which he presented on 26 July 1956 in the National Assembly of South Korea. Over the indignant protests of many deputies, he told them that "we have to prepare for a march to the North". In protest against such warlike statements, sixty deputies immediately withdrew from the chamber and it is in no way surprising to anyone, under these circumstances, that this same person, instigated and supported by certain American groups, on 9 June 1957, made the following suggestion:

"It would be very good if the President of the United States had proclaimed to the world that the Armistice Agreement is no longer in force ...".

These declarations are not isolated cases. They are merely indicative of the state of mind which imbues the entire puppet Government of Syngman Rhee. An obvious expression of this was contained in a statement by the General of the South Korean Army when he threatened, on 30 September 1956, that "there is no other way to unify Korea except by force".

At a time when all peoples of the world are trying to find a way of preserving and safeguarding peace, to strengthen international co-operation, and to assure peaceful coexistence between nations, the present Government leaders in South Korea, with foreign instigation to maintain the cold war and increase tension in the Far East, are carrying out unlimited propaganda for the unleashing of a new world war. This belligerent propaganda which is increasingly dangerous because, in the present state of affairs, no one can guarantee that such a war could be localized and limited to the peninsula of

Korea, should give many delegates pause to think. Many delegations seem to treat the Koreans like naughty children who can be permitted to continue their mischief because they are not really very dangerous but when it is a question of safeguarding peace -- and it is exactly this that we are concerned with -- nothing should be overlooked. Despite this somewhat puerile attitude, the situation in Korea can, under certain circumstances, have tremendous ramifications and highly dangerous repercussions.

Arbitrary statements have been made here by the representative of the United States regarding the so-called violations of the Armistice Agreement by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the alleged increase of troops, and the non-existent supplying of arms to North Korea. It is only too clear that all these allegations are aimed only at attempting to give an explanation and to find some sort of excuse for the very real increase in troops which has taken place in South Korea since the Armistice Agreement was concluded, under which the parties agreed not to permit an increase in armed forces or armaments. It is also perfectly clear that these efforts are intended to find some sort of justification for the flagrant violation of the Armistice Agreement by the United States, in equipping South Korea with very modern weapons such as atomic weapons and guided missiles. It is an excuse for the re-equipment of the South Korean forces.

In order to maintain some semblance of truth in these fantastic allegations, concerning the increase of arms in North Korea, we have been told that the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea can not be allowed to take part in the debate here. However, this is much too confused and the fact that the United States refuses to allow the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to come here and give the point of view of the other side makes it quite obvious what the true position of the United States is.

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Any impartial observer must realize that if the United Nations is determined to contribute to the unification of Korea, to take effective measures to safeguard peace in that part of the world, then it must spare no effort to restrict the warlike and inflammatory statements of the South Korean officials, to end the arms race which is being carried on in that part of the world by the United States. The United Nations must encourage contact between the two parties and multiply such contacts so that an understanding can be reached. To continue to ignore the efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to achieve these ends is certainly not the best way of working for peace and for the unification of Korea.

The delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is of the opinion that the more we encourage contacts between the two countries, the sooner we shall be able to face certain facts and the better we shall be working for peace in that part of the world.

Mr. ESIN (Turkey): The report of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea which is under consideration in our Committee notes once more that there has been no change in the basic prospects for realizing the fundamental objective of the United Nations in Korea, namely, to bring about the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic government for the whole Korean peninsula.

Thus, we are witnessing again that the efforts of the United Nations to achieve an equitable and satisfactory solution of the Korean problem remain unfulfilled.

As has been stated by many speakers who preceded me, the United Nations, in its search for an equitable solution, has spared no effort in urging that such a solution should be achieved in conformity with the fundamental principles laid down at the Geneva Conference of 1954. It is unfortunate that these efforts have not been successful up to now, because of the obstruction of the North Korean authorities and the Chinese Communist regime.

There is no doubt that the most appropriate way to establish a unified, independent and democratic Korea is through genuinely free elections, to be held under United Nations supervision, as was set forth at the Geneva Conference and

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overwhelmingly endorsed by the General Assembly. In spite of these frustrations and the failure to achieve an early and just settlement of the Korean problem, the basic and vital concern of our Organization for the fulfilment of United Nations objectives in Korea should continue and we should not be discouraged in our search for a peaceful and equitable solution.

The Armistice Agreement which remains in force in Korea, as is correctly emphasized in the report of the United Nations Commission, was not a peace settlement in itself but only a step towards the ultimate ends which should be sought in a peace settlement. A peace settlement has unfortunately not yet materialized. There is no doubt, however, that the Armistice Agreement which brought about a cease fire and put an end to the military operations in Korea also constitutes an element of peace and tranquillity which should naturally precede a peaceful settlement. That is why the meticulous implementation of this agreement is an important contributing factor in the efforts directed towards a settlement.

It is therefore a matter of regret and concern that those whose attitude up to now has frustrated the United Nations efforts to achieve a settlement would also disregard some of the most important provisions of the Armistice Agreement and thus create a tense and delicate situation. My delegation has drawn attention during past sessions of the General Assembly to this situation. In fact, we said at the eleventh session of the General Assembly:

"As regards the Armistice Agreement, the Turkish delegation, like many other delegations, pointed out last year that although the Agreement remained in effect so far as the cease fire was concerned, the application of some of its important provisions was far from being satisfactory and that those provisions were being violated by the North Korean authorities. The build-up of land forces in North Korea, in contradiction to the specific stipulations of the Armistice Agreement, and the prevention of the orderly and efficient functioning of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, are examples of the serious violations in question. The report of the Unified Command on the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Korea in document A/3167 gives relevant data on the subject and explains the reasons which prompted the temporary withdrawal of the Commission's inspection teams from South and North Korea into the demilitarized zone. We think

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that these violations are a matter of concern and should retain the General Assembly's attention."

A recent and detailed account of these violations and of certain protective action recently taken by the Unified Command as a result of these violations, is given in the report of the Unified Command on the United Nations Command, and the statement in the Military Armistice Commission on 21 June 1957 (document A/3631). I will not dwell further on these violations, because they are brought to the attention of Members in full detail in the document to which I have just referred, as well as by the speakers who have preceded me. I only wish to emphasize here that the measures taken by the Unified Command, in view of those violations, bear a truly defensive character. As is stated in document A/3631:

"... on 21 June 1957, the United Nations Command announced to the Communist side in the Military Armistice Commission that 'in view of these facts and your gross violations of the provisions of sub-paragraph 13 (d), the United Nations Command considers that it is entitled to be relieved of corresponding obligations under the provisions of this sub-paragraph until such time as the relative military balance has been restored and your side, by its actions, has demonstrated its willingness to comply'". (A/3631, page 4)

In the same document it is further stated:

"(1) The only purpose of the United Nations Command action is to restore the relative balance of military strength that the armistice was intended to preserve.

"(2) The United Nations Command does not intend to start an arms race and draws attention to the fact that the replacement weapons are being deployed for defensive purposes only.

"(3) The United Nations Command intends, as it has in the past, fully to observe the cease-fire and all the provisions of the Armistice Agreement save to the extent to which it is entitled to be relieved from compliance because of Communist violations of sub-paragraph 13 (d) and of those covered in its statement to the Military Armistice Commission of 31 May 1956." (*ibid.*)

Although we regret that the efforts of the United Nations to bring about the peaceful unification of Korea have not yet been successful under the

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prevailing circumstances, nevertheless we note from the report of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, with satisfaction, that in spite of many difficulties encountered in the less-developed countries and in spite of the problems resulting from the division of Korea, the Republic of Korea continues to achieve further progress in many fields of its domestic economy as well as in its social and political life.

We believe that a country with such a distinguished record is entitled to membership in our Organization. As my delegation has always supported the request of the Republic of Korea for admission to membership in the United Nations, we sincerely hope that the Republic of Korea will soon take its rightful place in the United Nations.

Before concluding, I wish also to refer to another matter connected with the Korean question. This relates to the illegal detention of United Nations military and civilian personnel by the Communist Chinese and North Korean authorities. My delegation has made known its views on this matter on several occasions during the deliberations on the Korean question in the General Assembly. Therefore, I will not repeat them again. However, I wish to restate our concern over the fate of 166 Turkish soldiers missing in action in Korea and so far unaccounted for. As was said by the representative of the United States yesterday, the North Korean authorities, who recently adhered to the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners of war, have an occasion to demonstrate their good will by satisfactorily accounting for the fate of the personnel of the United Nations Command.

Mr. ASTROM (Sweden): Some references have been made in the debate to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission which was set up as a part of the Korean armistice machinery. It has been pointed out that developments in the last year have had their effect on the work of the Commission. As Sweden is a member of the Commission, it might be useful if I outlined briefly on behalf of the Swedish delegation how we view the situation in the light of these new developments.

The Commission was designed to carry out certain functions of control, inspection and investigation until such time as the political conference, which was also envisaged in the Armistice Agreement, had been held and had arrived at a final settlement of the Korean question. It was on the understanding that the Commission would thus only have to function for a limited period of time that Sweden accepted to become a member. The Swedish Government also made it clear

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from the very beginning that in its view the powers given to the Commission were not sufficient to assure effective control and verification.

The Commission has had to discharge its responsibilities without having at its disposal the physical means necessary to do it in a proper and responsible manner. At the present time, the work of the Commission is at a virtual standstill, to use the expression of the representative of Poland. The one and only task of the Commission, as far as the mandate is concerned, as defined in the Armistice Agreement, is to receive, analyse and forward to the Military Armistice Commission the reports received from the two parties to the Armistice Agreement on the entry and exit of military personnel in North and South Korea respectively.

Under these circumstances, it is only natural that the Swedish Government has to reconsider anew the problem of its further participation in the Commission. Of course, we do not want, by an abrupt withdrawal, to create difficulties for the Military Armistice Commission or for any of the parties to the Armistice Agreement. We would take no action to cease our membership without giving ample notice to the parties. We are well aware that none of the parties to the Armistice Agreement has taken any initiative to dissolve the Commission, a fact which may be interpreted as a sign that they for their part consider that the continued existence of the Commission has a stabilizing influence on the situation in Korea. If that is the case, the Commission should evidently continue in being, and it is no wish on our part to see it dissolved or dismembered. I want to point out, however, that nothing would prevent the parties, should one member of the Commission signify its intention to terminate its term of duty, from agreeing on the appointment of a new member to take the place of the outgoing member.

I wished to inform the Committee, in this way, of the preoccupations of the Swedish Government only in order to give you a fuller picture of certain aspects of the working of the Armistice Agreement. We know well that the continuance of the Agreement is of vital importance to the situation in Korea and is also one of the prerequisites for a peaceful, equitable and democratic settlement of the Korean question which we are all seeking.

Mr. NASE (Albania) (interpretation from French): As in previous years, the Assembly has now before it the report of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea. It is the purpose of our discussion to find a solution to this problem, a solution which would be in accordance with the interests of the Korean people, that is, to accomplish the unification of Korea in an independent and democratic framework -- not by resort to force, but by the peaceful method of reaching agreement between the two parties.

Because of the attitude and practices of the United States to date, the United Nations has become embroiled in an unjustified procedure in the consideration of the question. The debate on the Korean question has taken place in the absence of one of the parties, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and with the participation of one of the parties only. This is an approach which not only does not contribute to a solution of the problem but actually serves to hamper even further any progress towards that objective. The delegation of the People's Republic of Albania deems it essential to emphasize that any decision taken in a one-sided manner will remain a dead letter and will be devoid of any practical meaning if it is not based on agreement between the two parts of Korea approved by the whole Korean people.

Experience has shown that the method of discussion followed here by the United Nations has not contributed to a solution of the problem. Quite the contrary. It has only served to play the United States game of using the United Nations to camouflage its policy of aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China, a policy, incidentally, which endangers peace in the Far East and in the entire world.

In his speech yesterday, the representative of the United States used completely unfounded arguments, or rather the same slanders which have been uttered in this Committee year in and year out, by which he sought to distort reality and to distort the record as to the responsibility for the aggression in Korea and the identity of those who prevent the peaceful unification of Korea. Instead of engaging in slander, the representative of the United States would be well advised to declare openly in this Committee the role assigned by the Pentagon to South Korea, a role similar to that of Taiwan and South Viet-Nam, that is, to serve as a springboard for a campaign against the People's Republic of China and democracy in Asia.

(Mr. Nase, Albania)

The Soviet and Czechoslovak representatives have refuted the slanderous statements of the United States representative in this Committee and I shall add only a few brief remarks.

The United States of America was directly responsible for aggression in Korea, aggression which caused so much devastation and loss of human life. Thanks to the heroic resistance of the Korean people, the aid of Chinese volunteers and the help of peace-loving peoples, the United States was constrained to call a halt to the war and to accept the Armistice of 1953. The end of hostilities in Korea was welcomed by all peace-loving peoples and contributed toward a relaxation of tension in the Far East and, for that matter, throughout the world.

The United States of America, however, acting in concert with the puppet regime of Syngman Rhee, having learned no lesson from the failure of that aggression, has tried to sabotage and annul the Armistice Agreement by all means at its disposal in order to have a free hand to aggravate the situation in the region and to make military preparations for another adventure according to predetermined plans. The United States of America has flouted the provisions of the Armistice Agreement by illegally introducing combat equipment for the South Korean Army which is growing apace. This army is being trained by American officers. When the inspection teams were stationed in southern ports, this behaviour was revealed and denounced. The Americans did everything to hamper the activities of the neutral teams until the American Command went so far as to describe their activities as undesirable and expelled them arbitrarily from South Korea. By this procedure the United States of America went even further in violating the 1953 Armistice Agreement. It went so far as to renounce commitments undertaken in that Agreement; on 21 June of this year the United States of America announced that it considered itself entitled to be relieved of the obligations under sub-paragraph 13(d) of the Armistice Agreement relating to the introduction of combat equipment and weapons and the reporting thereon. American fighter and bomber planes appearing in the skies over Seoul were evidence of the implementation of the Washington decision to send into South Korea modern armaments, including aircraft capable of delivering atomic devices.

(Mr. Nase, Albania)

To justify this illicit act, the Government of the United States claimed that the Armistice Agreement had been violated by the Korean-Chinese side. But the record refutes this allegation; the Korean-Chinese side has meticulously observed its obligations. The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has actually reduced its armed forces by 80,000 men and nineteen Chinese volunteer divisions have been withdrawn from Korea. Even while this was taking place the South Korean Army, in violation of the Armistice Agreement, was increased from sixteen to thirty-one combat divisions. The American side systematically engages in acts of armed provocation against North Korea and, from the date of the Armistice until July of this year, 538 violations of the air space over North Korea by American and South Korean aircraft have been recorded. It is not the behaviour of the Korean-Chinese side which induced the United States to violate the Armistice Agreement; it is the United States own aggressive designs.

A United Press correspondent wrote:

"The decision taken today" -- that is, 21 June 1957 -- "annuls an important clause of the Armistice and means that the United States will send squadrons of ultra-modern bomber aircraft equipped with atomic weapons and fighters closer by 700 miles to Red China and the Soviet Union." An Indian newspaper wrote of the situation in these terms on 23 June:

"This decision violates the Armistice Agreement of 1953" and it enters a caveat against the dangers which this decision created. It adds: "It is clear that Syngman Rhee will be supplied with weapons for a war similar to that which he provoked in 1950."

The Korean and Chinese Governments have vigorously protested the arbitrary actions of the American armed forces and have proposed the convening of an international conference of all States concerned in order to establish lasting peace in Korea and to bring about a peaceful settlement of the problem. In a statement published on 7 July, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics wholeheartedly supported this proposal and emphasized that the provocative actions of the American armed forces ran counter to the general and universal aspirations of peoples for the strengthening of confidence between States and the consolidation of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

(Mr. Nase, Albania)

The United States of America and the puppet Syngman Rhee regime, however, have committed themselves to a solution of the Korean problem by force, which of course is doomed to failure. It is not in Pyongyang but in Washington and Seoul where those responsible for preventing and frustrating the creation of the necessary conditions for the unification of Korea can be found. The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, committed as it is to a policy of peace, has repeatedly and officially declared its sincere eagerness to have the unification of Korea brought about by peaceful means. To that end it has proposed concrete measures in order gradually to eliminate the obstacles to such unification.

This peaceful policy is further confirmed by the accomplishments of the economic reconstruction programme of the first three-year plan after the war and the vaster five-year plan for economic and cultural development which is now in progress.

Faithfully reflecting the will of the people, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United National Front, political parties and public organizations have delineated a policy of peaceful reunification of the country, the fundamental principles of which are as follows:

Reunification must be carried out according to the will of the people, on a democratic basis. The Central Government of Korea must emerge from free elections.

For unification to obtain, it is necessary to transform the armistice into a lasting peace and to withdraw all foreign troops from the country.

The peaceful unification of Korea is, above all, a matter for the Koreans themselves. In order that large numbers should participate in the unification of the country and that free elections should take place, it is necessary to secure for the South Korean population democratic rights and liberties.

In paving the way for unification, it is necessary to eliminate barriers, establish broad contacts and exchanges between North and South. Representatives of Governments, parliaments, public and political organizations should work together in order to bring unification closer.

In order to foster a peaceful settlement, it is necessary also to convene an international conference of the States concerned.

(Mr. Nase, Albania)

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea indefatigably seeks means and ways of co-operation between North and South. It has proposed to the Seoul authorities that postal and telegraphic communications should be restored on a normal basis. It is prepared to supply electric power to the South and to authorize fishermen from the South to fish in northern waters. All these proposals have met with warm response from the South Korean population. None of them was entertained by the South Korean authorities.

These are principles which are equitable and realistic and capable of bringing about the unification of Korea. But the representative of the United States prefers to pass over these principles in silence, even though they represent the resolute will of the Korean people.

(Mr. Nase, Albania)

He pretended to be unaware of the existence of this will, this determination of the Korean people, even when on 7 August the people of the North again had an opportunity to express their determination to support the people's power as established in North Korea and to defend its independence and freedom. The resolute will of the people is unchanged since it enabled them to repel the aggression against them which was committed by the United States and its puppet, the Syngman Rhee regime. This should be borne in mind.

The People's Republic of Albania considers that the United Nations can and must contribute to the peaceful unification of Korea and the safeguarding of its independence. It was hoped that the United Nations would make some effort in this direction at previous sessions, but these hopes were dashed. The Korean people are pressing with redoubled efforts for the achievement of their most ardent wish -- their unification in a single, independent and democratic State. It is the duty of this Organization to furnish that country with all the support which its people so eminently deserves.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from French): I have no other speakers on my list for this afternoon, and I wish to ask whether any representative now wishes to speak. As I see that no representative is prepared to speak, I shall be obliged to adjourn the meeting one and a half hours before six o'clock, which is the usual time for adjournment.

However, before adjourning I wish to state that the next meeting of the Committee will probably be held on Friday, either in the morning or afternoon, depending on the time decided upon for a plenary meeting of the General Assembly.

I also wish to announce that we have just received a draft resolution submitted by eleven countries. This draft resolution will be distributed among members of the Committee as soon as possible.

The meeting rose at 4.35 p.m.