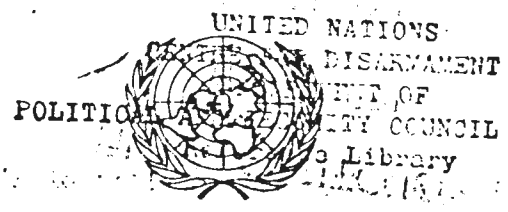




UNITED NATIONS  
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COMMITTEE OF TWELVE (ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
RESOLUTION 496 (V))

General views of the United States with respect to the  
co-ordination of the work of the Atomic Energy  
Commission and the Commission for  
Conventional Armaments

Introduction

The United States believes that comprehensive plans to include the international control of all armaments and armed forces should be developed by the United Nations, and, accordingly, that present United Nations efforts should be directed towards the preparation of co-ordinated plans of control which would make possible with appropriate safeguards the regulations, limitation and balanced reduction of all armaments and armed forces, including internal security and police forces. United Nations efforts in the field of armaments and armed forces have to date been assigned to two separate bodies, namely the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments. Much useful work has been accomplished by the two Commissions and, in the view of the United States, the appropriate time has now arrived for bringing the respective efforts of the two Commissions into closer co-ordination through the establishment of a single commission. In taking over the functions of the two present Commissions, the new commission would build upon the work already done by them. In particular, the United States believes that the United Nations plan for international control of atomic energy must continue to serve as the basis for the work of the new commission in the atomic energy phases of its work. Nevertheless, the commission should be empowered to consider any other proposals that would be no less effective than the existing United Nations plan.

A. Organization

The United States believes that a new commission whose primary task would be the development of plans for the international control of all armaments and armed forces - to be called the Commission for the Control of Armaments and

Armed Forces - should be established in place of the existing two Commissions in accordance with the following terms and provisions:

1. Status. The new commission should be established under and report to the Security Council, which in turn should submit periodic progress reports to the General Assembly.
2. Composition. Membership on the new commission should correspond to the membership of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments, and hence would consist of the members of the Security Council, plus Canada when Canada is not a member of the Security Council.
3. Sub-committees. The new commission should be expressly authorized to establish such sub-committees as may be needed in order to carry out the tasks assigned to it, recognizing that the differences in the nature of atomic and non-atomic weapons, as well as in the nature of biological and other instrumentalities of warfare, require the development of varying, but co-ordinated, systems of regulation and control, specially adapted to meet the problems peculiar to the different types of weapons, or instrumentalities.
4. Technical advice. Technical advice should be provided as necessary by experts appointed by the member States to assist their representatives.
5. The Secretariat. The Secretariat of the new commission should be provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
6. Relationship to other organs of the United Nations. As a sub-ordinate organ of the Security Council, the new commission should have the normal relationship of such a body to other organs of the United Nations.
7. Rules of procedure. With appropriate modifications, the rules of procedure of the Atomic Energy Commission would appear to be adequate to serve as the rules of procedure of the new commission.

B. Functions

1. The primary task of the new commission should be to prepare comprehensive and co-ordinated plans for the international control of all armaments and armed forces, and accordingly, would provide for the regulation, limitation, and balanced reduction of all armaments and armed forces, including internal security and police forces.

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2. The new commission should build upon the work already developed by the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments. The United Nations plan for the international control of atomic energy and the prohibition of atomic weapons should continue to serve as the basis for any plan for the control of atomic energy unless and until a better and no less effective system can be devised.

3. The new commission should take into account the inter-relationship of control systems and safeguards necessary to assure the regulation, limitation, and balanced reduction of all armaments and armed forces, including internal security and police forces, in order to assure that the respective systems of control complement each other.

4. The new commission should develop a comprehensive plan for phasing the implementation of the component systems of control and regulation of all armaments and armed forces.

5. The new commission should formulate a plan for the regulation of the international traffic in arms as part of the comprehensive plan for international control of all armaments and armed forces.

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