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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE REGARDING QUESTIONS
RAISED BY THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS IN THE COURSE OF ITS
STUDY OF DOCUMENT S/115

20 September 1946

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith a copy of the letter from the Chairman of the Committee of Experts of the Security Council transmitting the list of questions which were raised in the course of a preliminary discussion of Document S/115 (Report from the Military Staff Committee to the President of the Security Council).

I should like to ask you, in your capacity as Chairman of the Military Staff Committee, to submit this letter and the attached questions to that Committee. It would be greatly appreciated if you would be kind enough to transmit the replies to me at the earliest possible date.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ANDREI A. GROMYKO,
President of the Security Council
of the United Nations

Enclosures

General of the Army Ho Ying Chin
Chairman, Military Staff Committee
Henry Hudson Hotel
New York, New York

From the Chairman of the
Committee of Experts

19 September 1946

To the President of the
Security Council.

Mr. President,

The Committee of Experts of the Security Council, acting under a directive of the Security Council of February 15th and March 26th, 1946, devoted its meetings of September 9th, 10th, 12th, 16th and 18th, 1946, to a preliminary discussion of the Draft Statute and the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Military Staff Committee. During this discussion several members of the Committee of Experts felt that they needed some information concerning the questions attached to this letter.

I should like to ask you, Mr. President, kindly to submit the attached questions to the Military Staff Committee and it would be highly appreciated if the latter transmit replies at the earliest possible date directly to the Committee of Experts of the Security Council.

The questions referred to above are to be considered as being of a purely informative nature, and the fact of their having been formulated and transmitted does not imply any opinion whatsoever on the substance of the questions, either on the part of the Committee of Experts as such or of any Delegation therein represented.

Thanking you in advance.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,

Respectfully yours,

Alexey N. Krasilnikov
Chairman of the Committee of Experts

His Excellency, Mr. Andrei A. Gromyko
President of the Security Council
of the United Nations.

LIST OF CERTAIN QUESTIONS WHICH WERE RAISED IN THE COURSE OF A PRELIMINARY
DISCUSSION OF THE DOCUMENT S/115 SUBMITTED BY THE MILITARY
STAFF COMMITTEE.

1. The Committee of Experts would appreciate some information on the reasons of the Chinese, French, United Kingdom and United States Delegations for their proposals concerning Section VII of the Statute and Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure and also on the reasons of the Soviet Delegation for their proposals concerning the same provisions.
2. Some members of the Committee of Experts would be interested to receive information on the procedure that should be followed in the opinion of the Military Staff Committee in case both the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General for the Department of Security Council Affairs should be absent or ill, or otherwise prevented from attending meetings of the Military Staff Committee. (Rule 3 of the Rules of Procedure and Section III of the Statute).
3. Rule 3 (a) of the Rules of Procedure admits to the meetings of the Military Staff Committee Members of the United Nations that are invited by the Committee under Article 47 of the Charter, but makes no provision for advisers and technical assistants. Some members of the Committee of Experts would like to be informed whether this omission was accidental and if not so why such an omission was considered necessary.
4. The question was raised by some members of the Committee of Experts of whether there were special reasons for the Military Staff Committee's not introducing in its Rules of Procedure a rule analogous to Rule 20 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Security Council. (Document S/96).
5. The Committee would appreciate information on what matters are regarded as matters of "internal procedure" (Rule 7 (c), in particular whether the

relations between the Military Staff Committee and its regional sub-committees (Article 47, Paragraph 4 of the Charter) and relations between the Security Council and the Military Staff Committee are included or not.

6. The Committee was not quite clear on the following point. If unanimity cannot be achieved in matters of principle or substance, is it proposed that a full statement of all divergent views shall be prepared and forwarded to the Security Council or that the matter be dropped? What, in the view of the Military Staff Committee, is the position in this regard of decisions under Rule 7 (d)?

7. The Committee would be interested to receive information on the reasons for the Military Staff Committee's omissions of Spanish in Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure as an official language

8. With regard to Rule 13 the question was raised whether in the opinion of the Military Staff Committee its "special permission" was necessary in case the Security Council wished to publish a document of the Military Staff Committee.

9. Some members of the Committee of Experts would appreciate being informed of the reasons the members of the Military Staff Committee had in mind when they proposed that a unanimous vote should be necessary to invite the association of a non-member of the Committee under Article 47 (2) of the Charter.

10. Seeing that the function of the Military Staff Committee is to advise and assist the Security Council some members of the Committee of Experts would appreciate information on the reasons the members of the Military Staff Committee had in mind when they decided that a unanimous vote was necessary for recommendations and substantive decisions of the Committee.

11. A few members of the Committee of Experts raised the question why the members of the Military Staff Committee considered it necessary:

(a) in principle to confine the staff of the Committee to nationals of its members;

(b) to give to the five secretaries of delegations control over the appointment, salaries, promotions, etc., of the members of the

Secretariat of the Committee (i.e., the civilian staff referred to in Rule 8) instead of leaving such matters in the hands of the Secretary-General as with all other members of the United Nations Secretariat.

