

129. In view of the vast problems facing that great population, what the United States had been able to do had been little enough, but in view of current food shortages in China, it contrasted favourably with the barter agreement recently concluded by the Soviet Union with local authorities in Manchuria, under which food was to be taken from the rice bowls of the Chinese people for shipment to the Soviet Union.

130. The United States would not cease its efforts on behalf of the people of China, nor would it cease, in the sphere of international relations and through the United Nations, to work for the real interests of China itself, for its independence and its integrity.

131. The draft resolution on the promotion of the stability of international relations in the Far East would unite the peoples of the free world in the promotion of that common objective.

132. Mr. CHAUDHURY (Pakistan) recalled that, when draft resolution II was being discussed in the First Committee, his delegation had abstained from voting for the very simple reasons that the words "that item" in the operative part of the draft resolution had considerably limited the scope of the problem. It had been limited to the extent that the entire draft resolution appeared to be an outcome of prejudice.

133. He warmly welcomed the amendment submitted, which focused attention on the four fundamental principles contained in draft resolution I.

134. The amendment had greatly improved the draft resolution, and, therefore, in spite of the fact that his delegation had abstained from voting in the First Committee, it would vote for the amendment and the draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THIRD PLENARY MEETING

Held at Flushing Meadow, New York, on Thursday, 8 December 1949, at 10.45 a.m.

President: General Carlos P. RÓMULO (Philippines).

Threats to the political independence and territorial integrity of China and to the peace of the Far East, resulting from Soviet violations of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Alliance of 14 August 1945 and from Soviet violations of the Charter of the United Nations: report of the First Committee (A/1215) (concluded)

1. The PRESIDENT stated that, no member having asked to speak on the item, he would put to the vote draft resolution I, entitled "Promotion of the stability of international relations in the Far East" (A/1215).

2. Mr. TARN (Poland) asked for a vote to be taken on the title.

3. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the title of draft resolution I.

The title was adopted by 18 votes to 4, with 4 abstentions.

4. The PRESIDENT put draft resolution I to the vote.

Resolution I was adopted by 22 votes to 4, with 3 abstentions.

5. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the amendment submitted by the delegations of Cuba, Ecuador and Peru (A/1221) to draft resolution II, entitled "Threats to the political independence and territorial integrity of China and to the peace of the Far East, resulting from Soviet violations of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Alliance of 14 August 1945 and from Soviet violations of the Charter of the United Nations".

The amendment was adopted by 17 votes to 4, with 8 abstentions.

6. The PRESIDENT proceeded to explain that, in his opinion, draft resolution II was of a procedural nature from the beginning of the first paragraph as far as the word "recommendations"

in the last paragraph, the amendment being included. A simple majority would therefore be required. The last sentence, however, he considered substantive and a two-thirds majority would therefore be required for its adoption. He therefore proposed to put draft resolution II to the vote in two parts: the first part reading as far as the word "recommendations", and including the amendment; and the second comprising the remainder of the draft resolution.

7. He put to the vote draft resolution II, as far as the word "recommendations".

8. Mr. TARN (Poland) asked that the vote be taken by roll-call.

A vote was taken, by roll-call.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: United States of America, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Lebanon, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey.

Against: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Abstaining: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen, Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Egypt, India, Iraq, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Sweden, Thailand.

Yugoslavia did not participate in the voting.

The first part of resolution II was adopted by 25 votes to 4, with 16 abstentions.

9. Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Chile) pointed out that in two of the votes the number of votes cast had amounted to 29 only; that did not constitute the necessary quorum. He would therefore ask the President to take that point into consideration and proceed if necessary to a further vote.

10. The PRESIDENT agreed with the representative of Chile and announced that another vote would be taken, the necessary quorum then being present.

11. Mr. TARN (Poland), speaking on a point of order, asked on what rule the decision to take another vote had been based. As he understood the rules of procedure, decisions were to be taken by a majority of the Members present and voting.

12. The PRESIDENT regretted that he could not reply to Mr. Tarn; he reminded the Assembly that he had drawn attention at an earlier meeting to rule 92 of the rules of procedure, under the terms of which only representatives and alternate representatives could speak before the Assembly.

13. Moreover, he would point out that the delegation of Poland had announced at the previous meeting that it would not participate in the discussion of the question under consideration.

14. Mr. KOSANOVIC (Yugoslavia), referring to the observation by the representative of Chile, submitted that there had been a quorum for the votes in question, inasmuch as the Yugoslav delegation had been present, although it had not participated in the voting.

15. The PRESIDENT agreed that the rules of procedure did indeed provide that decisions should be taken by a majority of the members present and voting. It was, however, the standard procedure that there should be a quorum when a vote was taken. The representative of Chile had declared that, as only 29 votes had been cast, there had not been a quorum. The representative of Yugoslavia, however, claimed that there had been a quorum, since the delegation of Yugoslavia had been present during the voting, although it had not participated, making the total number of members present thirty.

16. Believing as he did that the General Assembly should always be master of its own procedure, he would put to the Assembly the proposal to take another vote.

The proposal was adopted by 40 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

17. The PRESIDENT proceeded to put the title of draft resolution I to a second vote.

The title was adopted by 44 votes to 6, with no abstentions.

18. The PRESIDENT put draft resolution I to the vote.

Resolution I was adopted by 45 votes to 5, with no abstentions.

19. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the amendment presented by Cuba, Ecuador and Peru (A/1221) to draft resolution II.

The amendment was adopted by 33 votes to 5, with 14 abstentions.

20. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the first part of draft resolution II, as far as the word "recom-

mendations" in the final paragraph, as amended by the Cuban proposal.

The first part of the resolution, as amended, was adopted by 31 votes to 5, with 16 abstentions.

21. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the last part of the final paragraph of draft resolution II, for the adoption of which a two-thirds majority would be required.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Thailand, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay, Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Lebanon, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saudi Arabia.

Against: Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland.

Abstaining: Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Yemen, Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, Israel, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Sweden, Syria.

The result of the vote was 29 in favour, 7 against and 20 abstentions.

The remainder of resolution II was adopted, having obtained the required two-thirds majority.

22. The PRESIDENT put to the vote draft resolution II as a whole, as amended.

Resolution II was adopted by 32 votes to 5, with 17 abstentions.

Palestine

ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINE REFUGEES: REPORT OF THE AD HOC POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/1222) AND REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/1223).

23. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee on the question of assistance to Palestine refugees was to be found in part II of its general report on Palestine (A/1222).

24. Mr. NISOT (Belgium), Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Political Committee, presented the part of the Committee's report dealing with assistance to Palestine refugees and the accompanying draft resolution.

25. The PRESIDENT announced that, there being no speakers on the list, he would put draft resolution II (A/1222) to the vote.

Resolution II was adopted by 47 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.