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**FIFTH COMMITTEE, 921st
MEETING**

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Chairman: Mr. Jan Paul BANNIER
(Netherlands).

AGENDA ITEM 61

**Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1962 (A/
5223, A/5239, A/C.5/L.728) (continued)**

1. The CHAIRMAN announced that the final text of the draft letter to the President of the General Assembly on the implementation of rule 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly had been completed following exchanges of views with the representatives who had suggested amendments. As those representatives had approved the new text, it did not seem necessary to go into details. The letter would be addressed to the President of the General Assembly and published as a Fifth Committee document.^{1/}

2. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) said he hoped that the letter would have the desired effect and pointed out that rule 154 of the rules of procedure could give rise to problems other than those envisaged in the letter. There was one United Nations organ, for example, which was required to adhere strictly to rule 154, even when the financial implications of a draft resolution did not emerge clearly during a debate: that organ was the Secretariat, or in other words the Secretary-General, who, at the appropriate time, had to indicate exactly to the organ concerned and to the Fifth Committee the probable financial implications of the draft resolution. The General Assembly, for its part, must not take any decision likely to involve expenditure until it received a report from the Fifth Committee. If those two precautions were taken, difficulties should not arise except in the case of subsidiary organs or of resumed sessions in which the Fifth Committee did not take part. In any event, it was very important to stress that certain provisions were absolutely obligatory and that the Fifth Committee must be able to state its views on the financial implications of any decision before it became final.

^{1/} Subsequently circulated as document A/C.5/927.

3. Mr. TURNER (Controller) said that the consideration of the financial implications of a draft resolution sometimes posed a practical problem. It often happened that the Secretariat made estimates of costs for a draft resolution under consideration, which was subsequently not adopted or was extensively altered; it would be difficult for the Fifth Committee to follow all the stages of such draft resolutions.

4. As far as the resumed sessions of the General Assembly were concerned, he agreed that that posed a special and separate problem. The Secretariat had always considered that the Assembly was master of its own procedure.

5. The letter to the President of the Assembly would have performed a very useful function if it encouraged delegations to show more care and precision in formulating proposals.

AGENDA ITEM 62

**Budget estimates for the financial year 1963 (A/5121 and
Corr.1, A/5179, A/5205, A/5207, A/5243, A/C.5/919,
A/C.5/925, A/C.5/926, A/C.5/L.726) (continued)**

First reading (A/C.5/726) (continued)

SECTION 12. SPECIAL EXPENSES (A/5205, A/5207)

6. The Chairman recalled that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended an appropriation of \$125,000 as requested by the Secretary-General, and pointed out that only chapter I—United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Korea, and chapter IV—Special educational and training programmes for South West Africans, contained requests for appropriations.

7. Mr. SOLTYSIAK (Poland) asked for a separate vote on the appropriation requested under chapter I.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation (A/5207, para. 258) for an appropriation of \$75,000 under chapter I of section 12 was approved on first reading by 55 votes to 8.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation (A/5207, para. 261) for an appropriation of \$125,000 under section 12 was approved on first reading by 55 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

SECTION 18. SPECIAL MISSIONS (A/5205, A/5207)
SECTION 19. UNITED NATIONS FIELD SERVICE
(A/5205, A/5207)

8. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the appropriation of \$2,612,400 requested by the Secretary-General for section 18 had been reduced by the Advisory Committee, which recommended an appropriation of \$2,450,000 (A/5207, para. 294).

9. Mr. ROMANOV (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) considered that since the Committee was

anxious to reduce the Organization's expenses, it should take steps to ensure that the United Nations ceased financing certain activities listed in sections 18 and 19 which were obviously not useful. He was, of course, in favour of measures aimed at maintaining peace and security when they were justified and had been approved by the Security Council. However, he was opposed to the continuation of certain missions which had been in existence for ten or twelve years and had produced no tangible results while costing the Organization millions of dollars, such as the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, which had neither unified nor rehabilitated Korea and which was an insult to the Korean people, or the United Nations Representative for India and Pakistan, who had not left New York for years and who did not even inform the Committee of what he was doing. Those organs, which served no purpose, had as it were become permanent.

10. The Fifth Committee should therefore, in its report, ask all bodies which had decided to establish special missions to reconsider each year whether each of those missions should be continued. It might then be possible to find out exactly what the terms of reference, the duration and the functions of each special mission were. Moreover, under rule 155 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General should provide the bodies which had established such missions with detailed information on their cost and he should also keep them informed of the views expressed on the subject in the Fifth Committee. His delegation would be unable to approve the appropriations requested under sections 18 and 19.

11. Mr. SHAHI (Pakistan) pointed out that it was the third year that such criticism had been expressed regarding the United Nations Representative for India and Pakistan, who had been appointed by the Security Council. However, it was not the Fifth Committee's task to take any action whatever in the matter. Moreover, the Ukrainian representative had not called for the abolition of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan, which had also been in existence for twelve years. The abolition of bodies established by the Security Council was a matter exclusively for the Council and its prerogatives should not be encroached upon. When it had met in the spring of 1962 to deal with the question of Kashmir, the Security Council could have adopted the measure which the Ukrainian representative was recommending to the General Assembly, but it had not done so.

12. Mr. MYSLIL (Czechoslovakia) said that his delegation's position on the expenditures covered by section 18 had been clearly stated at the sixteenth session (864th meeting) and had not since changed. Most of those missions were only a useless drain on the Organization. That was particularly true of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea whose activities bore no relation to the name it had been given and whose annual budget exceeded \$170,000. Moreover, the Fifth Committee had acknowledged at its sixteenth session that most of those missions were not performing the functions originally assigned to them. Nevertheless, they continued to exist and to absorb appropriations, while the Organization had to forgo useful undertakings for lack of money. The Fifth Committee should recommend, in more vigorous terms than in 1961, that the

desirability of continuing all those missions should be reviewed periodically, and that the budget, staff and results of each should be studied at that time. His delegation would vote against the appropriations requested for section 18.

13. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) said that he would vote for the appropriations requested for the reasons so well stated by the representative of Pakistan.

14. In mentioning, in the Committee's report, the need to review periodically the question of special missions, the Rapporteur might repeat the wording used in the Committee's report on the 1962 budget estimates. The passage in question, which was quoted in paragraph 283 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/5207), had been approved at the time by the majority of the Fifth Committee's members.

15. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) said he agreed with the views expressed by the representatives of Pakistan and the United States and did not think that, in its report, the Committee should make other observations than those which it had made in 1961. Moreover, the Advisory Committee had already said, in its report^{2/} on the budget estimates for 1962, that a periodic review should be made of the administrative and organizational requirements of the special missions, in the light of developing circumstances.

16. Mr. ILIC (Yugoslavia) said that he would approve the recommendation by the Advisory Committee concerning the appropriations to be made under section 18, but that he nevertheless did not approve the appropriation requested under chapter V, relating to the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea. If a separate vote was taken on chapter V, the Yugoslav delegation would vote against the appropriation requested.

17. Mr. QUIJANO (Argentina) fully endorsed the observations made by the Advisory Committee on section 18. While it was understandable that special missions were costly, because their activities were complex and were undertaken in different parts of the world, there was no doubt that their expenses must be subjected to extremely strict administrative and budgetary control. Moreover, those expenses had been stabilized, except for those relating to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine, to which the Security Council had assigned additional tasks in April 1962.

18. He would vote for the appropriations requested but felt he must associate himself with the representatives who had emphasized the need for strict control of the missions' expenditures and a periodic review of their budgets.

19. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his Government's position with regard to sections 18 and 19 of the budget was well known. He was opposed to the financing of missions which had been established in violation of the Charter and which, in any case, had lost all meaning as time had passed. He entirely agreed with the views expressed by the representatives of the Ukrainian SSR and Czechoslovakia. He also thought that in the Committee's report a reference should be made to paragraph 282 of the report of the Advisory Committee

^{2/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 7, para. 259.

(A/5207), in view of the real need for a periodic review of missions.

20. At the sixteenth session, the representative of Czechoslovakia had proposed^{3/} that the organs which established missions should periodically review their activities, functions and expenditure. That observation should be repeated.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation (A/5207, para. 294) for an appropriation of \$2,450,000 under section 18 was approved on first reading by 55 votes to 10.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation (A/5207, para. 301) for an appropriation of \$1,403,000 under section 19 was approved on first reading by 55 votes to 10.

21. The CHAIRMAN read out paragraphs 28 to 32 of the report of the Fifth Committee to the sixteenth session,^{4/} since it had been proposed that that text should be reproduced in the Committee's forthcoming report.

22. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that there had been little change in the situation since the sixteenth session. At that time the representative of Czechoslovakia's proposal had not been adopted but it still had merit. If the majority was still not in favour of the proposal, the wording of the previous year's report could be used, but if the Committee considered that there should be a new

exchange of views on the subject of the Czechoslovak proposal, the new report should mention the fact.

23. The CHAIRMAN proposed that a text similar to that in the preceding report should be included in the Committee's forthcoming report. If the representative of the Ukrainian SSR so wished, his proposal could also be mentioned in the report.

24. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) said that he had no objection to the Chairman's proposal and suggested that the wording of the passage quoted by the Advisory Committee (A/5207, para. 283) should be used.

25. Mr. ROMANOV (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that he would like his proposal to be mentioned in the report.

26. Mr. MYSLIL (Czechoslovakia) thought that the forthcoming report should give an accurate idea of the existing situation, namely that several delegations had thought that stronger language should be used than in the preceding year's report.

27. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Rapporteur should be left to prepare a text which would draw the Committee's opinion to the attention of the General Assembly, would express the approval given by the majority of members to paragraphs 282 and 283 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/5207) and would take into account the fact that certain delegations had recommended a stronger wording than that used in the preceding report.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.

^{3/} *Ibid.*, Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 54, document A/5705, para. 28.

^{4/} *Ibid.*