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TREATS TO THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF GREECE

(b) REPATRIATION OF GREEK CHILDREN: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee

Rapporteur: Dr. Guillermo SEVILLA-SACASA (Nicaragua)

1. The report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee to the General Assembly dated 30 November 1951 (A/1984) dealt with the initial discussion in the Ad Hoc Political Committee of item 19(b): "Repatriation of Greek children: reports of the Secretary-General and of the international Red Cross organizations". Paragraph 7 of the report stated that a further report on item 19(b) would be submitted to the General Assembly when consideration of the question had been completed by the Committee in accordance with the resolution it had adopted at its seventh meeting on 26 November. That resolution (1) requested the Chairman to consult with the President of the General Assembly and the Chairman of the Standing Committee on the Repatriation of Greek Children with a view to inviting the governments concerned to designate representatives to meet with the Standing Committee if possible not later than 15 December; and (2) decided to adjourn discussion of item 19(b) until the Standing Committee had reported.

2. At the 33rd and 34th meetings of the Ad Hoc Political Committee on 7 and 8 January 1952, the representative of Sweden, Mr. Grafstrom, as Chairman of the Standing Committee on the Repatriation of Greek Children, made interim oral reports to the Committee.

3. The Ad Hoc Political Committee resumed its consideration of the item during the 55th to 57th meetings inclusive on 29 and 30 January.

4. At the 55th meeting on 29 January, the report of the Standing Committee (A/AC.53/L.44) was circulated. At the same meeting, the Dominican Republic introduced a draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.51) whereby the General Assembly would, inter alia, (1) note the repatriation of a further group of Greek children; (2) hope for rapid progress with the repatriation of the Greek children in Czechoslovakia; (3) regret that the other States harbouring Greek children had declined to consult with the Standing Committee; (4) consider that the grounds advanced by those countries for not co-operating fully were not insurmountable or such as to constitute a reason for further delay in repatriating the children in respect of whom requests had been submitted and verified by the International Red Cross; (5) urge all countries harbouring Greek children to take steps to facilitate their early repatriation; (6) decide to continue the Standing Committee with its previous terms of reference; (7) request the international Red Cross organizations to continue their work; and (8) request them and the Secretary-General to submit reports on the progress achieved before the seventh session of the General Assembly.
5. On the conclusion of the general debate at the 57th meeting on 30 January, the Committee proceeded to vote on the draft resolution of the Dominican Republic (A/AC.53/L.51) and adopted it by 44 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.
6. At the 57th meeting, a draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.52) was circulated by Greece relating to the repatriation of members of the Greek armed forces detained by partisans. A procedural discussion ensued at that meeting and at the 58th meeting on 31 January, as to whether the draft resolution was in order.
7. At the 58th meeting, the Legal Adviser of the Secretary-General stated that the Secretary-General regarded resolution 382 A (V) of 1 December 1950, which was adopted at the fifth session of the General Assembly in connexion with this same matter, as having continuing validity. In the absence of any objection to the statement of the Legal Adviser of the Secretary-General, the representative of Greece withdrew his draft resolution.
8. The Ad Hoc Political Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

REPATRIATION OF GREEK CHILDREN

The General Assembly,

Viewing with concern the reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies and the Secretary-General, and in particular the fact that, with the exception of Yugoslavia, none of the countries harbouring Greek children has yet taken the necessary steps to enable the Greek children to return to their homes, as provided for in resolution 193 C (III) of 27 November 1948 and the subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly on the matter,

Recognizing that the United Nations must continue its efforts, from a humanitarian point of view, to enable the Greek children to return to their homes,

Noting the report of the Standing Committee on the Repatriation of Greek children that of the governments invited to send representatives to enter into consultations with the Standing Committee on the problem during the present session of the General Assembly, only one has actually participated in the consultations,

1. Thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies, the Standing Committee on the Repatriation of Greek children and the Secretary-General for their efforts to give effect to General Assembly resolutions 193 C (III), 288 B (IV) and 382 C (V);
2. Notes with satisfaction that a further group of Greek children has been repatriated from Yugoslavia;
3. Expresses the hope that it will be possible to make rapid progress with the repatriation of the Greek children in Czechoslovakia;
4. Deeply regrets that all the other States harbouring Greek children have declined to enter into consultations with the Standing Committee with a view to giving effect to the resolutions of the General Assembly on the matter;
5. Considers that the technical and other grounds advanced by those countries harbouring Greek children which have declined to co-operate fully in the solution of the problem are not insurmountable or such as to constitute a reason for further delay in permitting the return of children in respect of whom requests for repatriation have been submitted and verified by the international Red Cross organizations;
6. Urges all countries harbouring Greek children to take steps to facilitate the early return of the children to their homes;

7. Decides

7. Decides to continue the Standing Committee with the terms of reference previously laid down;

8. Requests the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies to continue their work for this humanitarian purpose;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report from time to time to Member States on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, and requests the international Red Cross organizations and the Secretary-General to submit reports on the progress achieved before the seventh regular session of the General Assembly is convened.
