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QUESTION OF IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES OF USE BY
UNITED NATIONS FORCES OF BACTERIAL WARFARE

Report of the President

In accordance with its terms, resolution 706 (VII) of 23 April 1953 on the "Question of impartial investigation of charges of use by United Nations forces of bacterial warfare" was duly communicated to the Governments of the United States of America, of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, of the People's Republic of China, of the Republic of Korea and of Japan, with the request that they indicate their acceptance of the investigation proposed in the resolution. The Commission of investigation which was to be set up upon acceptance of the investigation by all the governments and authorities concerned has not been established as, to date, only the following three replies have been received:

1. The Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, in a note dated 1 May 1953, replied as follows:

"The Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to note SCA/459/6/01 dated 24 April 1953, has the honor to inform the Secretary-General that the United States of America accepts the investigation proposed in the resolution adopted by the General Assembly under item 73 of its agenda, entitled 'Question of impartial investigation of charges of use by United Nations forces of bacterial warfare'.

"In accordance with paragraph 2 of the resolution, the United States of America, in its capacity as the Unified Command, after the Commission is set up will issue instructions to the United Nations Command to accord to the Commission for the performance of its task the various appropriate facilities within the competence of the United Nations Command. The United States of America will issue similar instructions to the Commander in Chief, United States Forces in the Far East".

2. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, in a cablegram dated 13 May 1953, replied as follows:

"I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your radiogram dated 27 April regarding a resolution entitled 'Question of impartial investigation of charges of use by United Nations forces of bacterial warfare', adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its 428th plenary meeting on 23 April 1953.

"I also have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Korea willingly accepts the investigation proposed in the resolution and will co-operate in regard to the provisions of paragraph 2 of the resolution".

3. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, in a cablegram dated 18 May 1953, replied as follows:

"Have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's telegram transmitting the text of the resolution entitled 'Question of impartial investigation of charges of use by United Nations forces of bacterial warfare', with the request that the Japanese Government indicate its acceptance of the investigation proposed in the resolution. To co-operate with the United Nations, the Japanese Government is prepared to render every practicable assistance to the Commission contemplated in the said resolution in its free travel throughout such areas of Japan as it may deem necessary in the performance of its task, its free access to such persons, places and relevant documents as it considers necessary for the fulfilment of its task and its examination of any witness".
