

**GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

THIRTEENTH SESSION

Official Records



Tuesday, 11 November 1958,  
at 10.50 a.m.

**NEW YORK**

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**Chairman: Mr. Miguel Rafael URQUIA (El Salvador).**

**AGENDA ITEM 24**

**The Korean question: report of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (A/3865, A/C.1/807, A/C.1/809, A/C.1/810 and Add.1, A/C.1/812, A/C.1/813, A/C.1/L.217) (concluded)**

**CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, COLOMBIA, ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, GREECE, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, TURKEY, UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES (A/C.1/L.217)**

1. The CHAIRMAN invited members of the Committee to explain their votes on the thirteen-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.217).
2. Mr. MacWHITE (Ireland) recalled that in 1957 the Irish delegation had pointed out that excessive rigidity on a tight formula of United Nations-supervised elections could impede the attainment of the United Nations goal, which was the establishment by peaceful means of a reunified and independent Korea under a freely-elected, democratic form of government. The Irish delegation believed that the elections could be adequately supervised by a group of States, States which knew and practised free elections, which would function perhaps as an independent international commission rather than as an organ of the United Nations.
3. The thirteen-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.217) did not specifically refer to or explicitly redefine the supervision machinery for the contemplated elections. The Irish delegation would therefore vote

for the draft resolution in the hope that, should the opportunity arise, the United Nations would know how to be flexible on the modalities while remaining faithful to its principles.

4. Mr. ABDOH (Iran) stated that the Iranian delegation would vote for the thirteen-Power draft resolution since, in the present circumstances, such a course of action would be the most appropriate for the General Assembly to pursue.

5. The Iranian delegation hoped that the adoption of that draft resolution would help to bring about by peaceful means the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic Korea under a representative form of government, as well as the full restoration of international peace and security in the area.

6. The general acceptance of the principle of free elections throughout Korea and the announcement of the withdrawal of the Chinese Volunteers by the end of the year would certainly contribute to the relaxation of tension in the area and to a solution of the Korean problem, particularly if the authorities of North Korea were to display a more flexible and conciliatory attitude and were to reply to the request for clarification regarding the supervision of free elections and accept United Nations supervision in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly and the recommendations of the Korean Political Conference, held in 1954 at Geneva.

7. The Iranian delegation also hoped that the authorities of North Korea would not insist on the withdrawal of the relatively small forces which remained in South Korea and merely constituted a symbol of the United Nations presence in that area.

8. If the new favourable trend were to continue, the United Nations could encourage arrangements between the parties mainly concerned regarding the measures through which the main goals of the United Nations might be achieved. In that respect the idea put forth by the Japanese representative at the 977th meeting was deserving of consideration.

9. Mr. PAZHAWAK (Afghanistan) hoped that the Committee would try at the present session to find ways and means of resolving the present political deadlock between the two parties on a basis of conciliation. The Committee itself could serve as an instrument of peaceful negotiation or make recommendations regarding such negotiations. Unfortunately, no action along those lines had been taken by the Committee, nor would the thirteen-Power draft resolution achieve that purpose.

10. As no other draft resolution had been submitted to the Committee, the Afghan delegation would again have to abstain from voting on that issue. If, however, a constructive proposal was made before the end of the session, his delegation would welcome it with great interest.

11. The Afghan delegation would vote for the final paragraph of the draft resolution (A/C.1/L.217), but would abstain on the draft as a whole.

12. Mr. BELAUNDE (Peru) would vote for the thirteen-Power draft resolution, first, because there was no other draft resolution before the Committee, the representatives who had criticized the stand of the United Nations with regard to the Korean question not having crystallized their views in a draft resolution that members of the Committee could have studied and used as the basis for choosing an alternative. Furthermore, while sharing to some extent the concern voiced by the representatives of Canada, Korea and Japan, he believed that the United Nations should reaffirm the basic principle of Korean unification and also the principle of free elections as the essential means by which unification could be achieved.

13. The Korean problem had three aspects: the human, which concerned the preservation of the character of Korea, artificially divided; the legal, which concerned the right of Koreans to self-determination irrespective of all external interests and of all considerations of political equilibrium; and the political, namely the holding of free elections, which at the same time represented a solution of the legal aspect. All that the United Nations could do to that end was to call upon the communist authorities to allow genuinely free elections in accordance with the principles upheld by the General Assembly.

14. Some representatives had advocated negotiation with the other side, but, apart from the fact that behind the other side stood the Powers that had brought on the conflict and created the Korean problem, the success of negotiations depended upon the existence of a common aim, a genuine intention to reconcile points of view and a willingness to compromise. Since at present those conditions were far from being met, negotiation offered no prospect of success. That difficulty should not, however, prevent the United Nations from reaffirming its ideals and convictions on the means that should be used to bring about the unification of Korea.

15. Mr. JOVANOVIĆ (Yugoslavia) believed that the manner in which the Committee had again dealt with the Korean question could not lead to any progress, however modest, towards a solution of the problem.

16. The tendency to exclude from any discussion of the Korean question one of the two States which had been in existence in the territory of Korea for a number of years had shown that the issue was still being considered from a narrow and one-sided standpoint and that, at the present session as in the past, no real progress was expected. There could be no progress without the direct participation of the two States concerned.

17. The thirteen-Power draft resolution followed the pattern of a number of previous resolutions of the General Assembly which had not led to any progress. Under the circumstances, the Organization should merely have stated that it was ready to direct its efforts towards the creation of conditions favourable to the unification of Korea in accordance with the fervent desire of the Korean people.

18. The Yugoslav delegation would therefore be unable to vote for the thirteen-Power draft resolution.

19. Mr. ZORIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) remarked that the enumeration, in the second paragraph of the preamble of the thirteen-Power draft resolution, of the many earlier resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject of Korea was an indication of the useless and even ill-fated character of the decisions taken by the General Assembly on that question, since none of them had been carried into effect.

20. The final part of the third paragraph of the preamble, where it was stated that the Governments concerned were prepared to withdraw their forces from Korea when the conditions for a lasting settlement had been fulfilled, showed that those Governments had no real intention of withdrawing their troops from South Korea, since the proposed conditions were unilateral and unacceptable. To seek to impose them on the other party was to show a lack of realism and an unwillingness to restore peace in Korea. That part of the draft resolution alone justified the opposition of the Soviet delegation, but the operative part likewise contained provisions which were unacceptable.

21. The fundamental principles for unification mentioned in operative paragraph 2 represented the political programme adopted by the States which, by sending in armed forces, had fought against North Korea and the Chinese People's Volunteers. Operative paragraph 3 gave specific indications as to the manner in which the elections should be held. Contrary to what some representatives had claimed, he did not consider that to be evidence of flexibility. It was still a matter of old decisions being reconfirmed once again.

22. At the previous meeting, the representative of the Philippines had referred to a note which the Government of the People's Republic of China had transmitted to the Chargé d'affaires of the United Kingdom at Peking (A/C.1/813). Since neither the representative of the Philippines nor the representative of the United Kingdom had brought the contents of that note, which was dated 10 November 1958, to the attention of the Committee, he took the liberty of reading out certain parts of it. The Government of the People's Republic of China stated that the Chinese Volunteers had been completely withdrawn from Korea and that that step had created favourable conditions for the solution of the Korean problem. Such a solution would be possible if the United Nations similarly withdrew its forces from South Korea instead of violating the Armistice Agreement by introducing new weapons and erecting rocket-launching bases in that part of Korean territory. The Government of the People's Republic of China added that, once all the foreign troops had left Korea, free elections could be held throughout the territory of Korea under the supervision of a neutral nations organ. The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Government of the People's Republic of China considered that the fundamental obstacle to the peaceful settlement of the Korean problem at the present time was the maintenance on the territory of South Korea of the troops of the United States and other countries who made up the "forces of the United Nations".

23. The Soviet delegation hoped that the latest note of the People's Republic of China, which had been

sent to all the States Members of the United Nations which had taken part in the Korean war, would be regarded as a peaceful gesture and could serve as a basis for a solution of the Korean problem.

24. If the representative of Peru was prepared to vote for the thirteen-Power draft resolution because it was the only one before the Committee and therefore had to be given a favourable vote, the Soviet delegation, on the other hand, could not vote for a draft resolution which resolved nothing but, on the contrary, stood in the way of a peaceful settlement of the Korean problem.

25. Mr. BELAUNDE (Peru) said that the quotation just made by the Soviet representative from his statement at the beginning of the meeting was incomplete and inexact.

26. The CHAIRMAN, in accordance with the request of the Afghan delegation, called for a separate vote on operative paragraph 5 of the thirteen-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.217).

The paragraph was adopted by 60 votes to 9, with 7 abstentions.

27. The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the draft resolution submitted by Australia, Belgium, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States (A/C.1/L.217), as a whole.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Libya, having been drawn by lot by the Chairman, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Laos, Liberia.

Against: Poland, Romania, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Albania, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary.

Abstaining: Libya, Morocco, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, United Arab Republic, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Finland, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Lebanon.

The draft resolution was adopted by 54 votes to 9, with 18 abstentions.

28. Mr. NONG KIMNY (Cambodia) had abstained for a number of reasons. The Cambodian delegation believed that the situation could progress towards a lasting peaceful settlement only if the two parties and the other countries concerned agreed to negotiate in sincerity and good faith and if they considered the two prerequisites that had to be met in order that free elections might take place. The first prerequisite was that the two Governments, that of North Korea and that of South Korea, should agree to the principle of supervision of the elections, either by the United Nations—which was what the Cambodian delegation considered to be preferable—or by a body of neutral observers chosen by joint agreement between the parties and acting as an international organ whose authority would be recognized and accepted by all concerned. The second prerequisite was the withdrawal of foreign troops. Those were the two questions which should be the subject of negotiation if the existing deadlock on the Korean question was to be broken.

Mr. Yang, representative of the Republic of Korea, withdrew.

#### AGENDA ITEM 60

Question to the peaceful use of outer space (A/3818 and Corr.1, A/3902, A/C.1/L.219):

(a) The banning of the use of cosmic space for military purposes, the elimination of foreign military bases on the territories of other countries and international co-operation in the study of cosmic space;

(b) Programme for international co-operation in the field of outer space

29. Mr. HICKENLOOPER (United States of America) proposed that the Committee should not start consideration of that item until the following morning.

30. Mr. ZORIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) and Mr. LEWANDOWSKI (Poland) objected to the motion for adjournment.

31. Sir Pierson DIXON (United Kingdom) seconded the United States motion.

32. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the motion for adjournment made by the representative of the United States.

The motion was adopted by 47 votes to 10, with 21 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 12.5 p.m.