



GENERAL

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Dual distributionSixth session
Agenda item 19

THREATS TO THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF GREECE

- (a) Report of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans
- (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: Mr. G. SEVILLA-SACASA (Nicaragua)

1. Action taken by the General Assembly at its fifth session in connexion with the item "Threats to the political independence and territorial integrity of Greece" was embodied in resolution 382 (V) of 1 December 1950, which dealt in separate parts with the repatriation of Greek prisoners of war, the activities of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans, and the repatriation of Greek children.
2. In accordance with the terms of part B of resolution 382 (V) and previous resolutions of the General Assembly,^{1/} the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans on 15 August 1951 submitted to the Assembly for consideration at its sixth session a report covering the period 1 August 1950 to 1 August 1951.^{2/}
3. In accordance with the terms of part C of resolution 382 (V), the Secretary-General circulated to the General Assembly on 7 November 1951 the third general report of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies on Repatriation of Greek children (A/1932); and, on 8 November 1951, his own report on the same subject (A/1933). Previously, on 9 August 1951, the Secretary-General had circulated to members of the Assembly a memorandum submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies (A/1848), dealing with the question of repatriating Greek children.

^{1/} General Assembly resolutions 109 (II), 193 (III), 288 (IV)

^{2/} A/1857 (see Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Supplement No. 11)

4. The General Assembly, at its 341st meeting on 13 November 1951, decided to include the report of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans and the question of the repatriation of Greek children in the agenda of its sixth session as sub-item (a) and sub-item (b) respectively under item 19, "Threats to the political independence and territorial integrity of Greece".

5. At its 342nd plenary meeting on the same date, the General Assembly referred the item to the Ad Hoc Political Committee for consideration and report.

6. Item 19 (a) was considered by the Ad Hoc Political Committee at six meetings held between 19 and 23 November 1951. Item 19 (b) "Repatriation of Greek children" was taken up at the seventh meeting on 26 November, but discussion was postponed pursuant to the following resolution, which was adopted by 49 votes to 9, with 5 abstentions:

"The Ad Hoc Political Committee,

"Considering that, in order to accelerate repatriation of Greek children as provided for in various resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, it would be desirable for consultations to be held in Paris at the earliest date between representatives of the countries harbouring Greek children and the Standing Committee on the Repatriation of Greek Children,

"Requests its Chairman to consult with the President of the General Assembly and the Chairman of the Standing Committee with a view to inviting the governments concerned to designate representatives to meet with the Standing Committee if possible not later than 15 December,

"Decides to adjourn discussion of item 19 (b) until the Standing Committee has been able to report with regard to the implementation of the present resolution."

7. A further report on item 19 (b) will therefore be submitted to the General Assembly when consideration of the question has been completed by the Ad Hoc Political Committee in accordance with the above resolution.

8. With respect to item 19 (a), "Report of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans", the following draft resolutions and amendments thereto were submitted to the Committee:

(a) A draft resolution submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/AC.53/L.1), calling upon the President of the General Assembly to negotiate with representatives of the Government of Greece for the remission of death sentences passed upon twelve Greek citizens by the Athens Special Military

/Tribunal

Tribunal on 16 November 1951.

(b) A draft resolution submitted by Greece (A/AC.53/L.2), approving the report of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans, expressing appreciation of the services rendered by the Special Committee and its observers, and discontinuing the Special Committee within sixty days after adoption of the resolution.

(c) A joint draft resolution submitted by France, Greece, Mexico, the United Kingdom and the United States of America (A/AC.53/L.3), establishing a Balkan sub-commission of the Peace Observation Commission, composed of three to five members, with authority to dispatch observers to any areas of international tension in the Balkans on the request of any State or States concerned but only to the territory of States consenting thereto; and, if necessary, to visit the areas in which observation is undertaken, and to submit reports as it deems necessary to the Peace Observation Commission and to the Secretary-General for the information of Member States.

(d) A draft resolution submitted by the USSR (A/AC.53/L.6) recommending the following:

- (i) cessation of interference by the United States of America in the affairs of Greece;
- (ii) declaration by Greece of a general amnesty, abolition of concentration camps for Greek democrats, and annulment of all death sentences passed by Greek courts on Greek patriots;
- (iii) re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Greece and Albania and Greece and Bulgaria; and
- (iv) the dissolution of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans.

(e) A draft resolution submitted by Uruguay (A/AC.53/L.8), calling upon the President of the General Assembly to use his good offices to induce the Government of Greece to commute the penalties imposed by the Greek courts and to refrain from executing the death sentences pronounced.

(f) An amendment submitted by the USSR (A/AC.53/L.5) to the Greek draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.2) to delete paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 and, in paragraph 4, the words "within sixty days of the adoption of this resolution".

(g) An amendment submitted by Chile (A/AC.53/L.7) to the Greek draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.2) incorporating certain recommendations advocated by

/the United

- the United Nations' Special Committee on the Balkans in its report to the Assembly.
9. At the first meeting of the Committee on 19 November 1951, the first draft resolution submitted by the USSR (A/AC.53/L.1), relating to death sentences passed by Greek courts, was ruled out of order by the Chairman on the ground of irrelevance to the subject of the agenda item. His ruling was sustained by the Committee by 35 votes to 5, with 16 abstentions.
10. At its fifth meeting on 23 November, the Chairman ruled that the draft resolution submitted by Uruguay (A/AC.53/L.8) was unacceptable in the light of the Committee's vote at its first meeting upholding his ruling that the substance of the USSR draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.1) was irrelevant to the agenda item under discussion. The Chairman's ruling on the Uruguayan draft resolution was upheld by the Committee by 26 votes to 11, with 19 abstentions.
11. At its sixth meeting on 23 November, the Committee voted on the draft resolutions and amendments before it as follows:

The USSR amendment (A/AC.53/L.5) to the Greek draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.2) was rejected by 47 votes to 5, with 6 abstentions.

The Chilean amendment (A/AC.53/L.7) to the Greek draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.2) was withdrawn by the representative of Chile.

The draft resolution submitted by Greece (A/AC.53/L.2) was adopted by 50 votes to 5, with one abstention.

The joint draft resolution submitted by France, Greece, Mexico, the United Kingdom and the United States (A/AC.53/L.3) was adopted by 50 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions.

The second draft resolution submitted by the USSR (A/AC.53/L.6) was put to a vote in parts, with the following results:

The preamble was rejected by 32 votes to 8, with 11 abstentions.

Paragraph (a) was rejected by 46 votes to 5, with 5 abstentions.

Paragraph (b), up to the words "on Greek democrats", was rejected by 37 votes to 5, with 12 abstentions; the remainder of paragraph (b) was rejected by 31 votes to 10, with 13 abstentions.

Paragraph (c) was rejected by 22 votes to 12, with 18 abstentions.

Paragraph (d) was rejected by 33 votes to 9, with 12 abstentions.

12. The Ad Hoc Political Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

TREATS TO THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF GREECE

A.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans,

- "1. Approves the said report;
- "2. Expresses its deep appreciation of the invaluable services rendered for the preservation of peace and security in the Balkans by the members of the Special Committee;
- "3. Expresses its warm gratitude for the gallantry with which the observers of the Special Committee have carried out their difficult and dangerous task;
- "4. Decides to discontinue the Special Committee within sixty days after the adoption of the present resolution.

B.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 377^(A)(V) (Uniting for peace), ~~part A,~~ section B, establishing a Peace Observation Commission which could observe and report on the situation in any area where there exists international tension, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the situation in the Balkans may require prompt establishment of observation as contemplated in resolution 377^(A)(V), ~~part A,~~ section B,

Resolves to request the Peace Observation Commission to establish a Balkan sub-commission, composed of not less than three nor more than five members, with its seat at the United Nations Headquarters, with authority:

- (a) To despatch such observers as it may deem necessary to any area of international tension in the Balkans on the request of any State or States concerned, but only to the territory of States consenting thereto;
 - (b) To visit, if it deems necessary, any area in which observation requested under paragraph (a) is being conducted;
 - (c) To consider such data as may be submitted to it by its members or observers and to make such reports as it deems necessary to the Peace Observation Commission and to the Secretary-General for the information of Member States.
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