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ASSEMBLY



GENERAL

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Fifth session
Agenda item 75

COMPLAINT BY THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS REGARDING
THE VIOLATION OF CHINESE AIR SPACE BY THE AIR FORCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE MACHINE GUNNING AND
BOMBING OF CHINESE TERRITORY BY THAT AIR FORCE,
AND AGAINST THE BOMBARDMENT AND ILLEGAL
INSPECTION OF A MERCHANT SHIP OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA BY A
MILITARY VESSEL OF THE
UNITED STATES

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Thor THORS (Iceland)

1. By a letter dated 29 September 1950, addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/1416), the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed its support for the request of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, contained in a telegram of 24 September (A/1415), that the General Assembly include in the agenda of its fifth regular session the protest of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China against the violation of Chinese air space by the air force of the United States of America and against the machine-gunning and bombing of Chinese territory by that air force. An explanatory note submitted by the USSR delegation (A/1419) followed this request.
2. A further communication from the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China dated 27 September (A/1410) requested that, together with this item, there should be included an additional item entitled "The bombardment and illegal inspection of a merchant ship of the People's Republic of China by a military vessel of the United States aggression forces against Korea".
3. At the 71st meeting of the General Committee on 5 October, the USSR delegation agreed itself to propose the inclusion of an item based on the requests contained in the telegrams referred to (A/1415 and A/1410). It was decided
/at that meeting
A/1774

at that meeting to recommend the inclusion of an item in the agenda under the heading "Complaint by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regarding the violation of Chinese air space by the air force of the United States of America and the machine-gunning and bombing of Chinese territory by that air force and against the bombardment and illegal inspection of a merchant ship of the People's Republic of China by a military vessel of the United States".

4. The General Assembly approved this recommendation at its 294th meeting on 7 October 1950 and included the question as item 75 on its agenda, referring it to the Ad Hoc Political Committee. At its 313th meeting on 1 December, the General Assembly decided to transfer the item from the Ad Hoc Political Committee to the First Committee.

5. At the 439th meeting of the First Committee held on 2 February 1951, the Committee accepted a suggestion made by the chairman that item 75 be placed immediately next to item 70 and that discussion proceed on both the items, with the understanding that votes would be taken separately on the two items. The item was considered at the 439th, 440th and 441st meetings of the Committee.

6. The following draft resolution (A/C.1/660) was submitted by the USSR at the 440th meeting held on 6 February 1951:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the complaint by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regarding the violation of Chinese air space by the air force of the United States of America and the machine gunning and bombing of Chinese territory by that air force, and against the bombardment and illegal inspection of a merchant ship of the People's Republic of China by a military vessel of the United States,

"Noting the communications of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations:

"(a) Concerning the infringement of the inviolability of Chinese air space in the region of the Korean-Manchurian frontier by the United States Air Force and the bombing and machine gunning of Chinese territory by United States military aircraft, causing loss of life and material damage to the People's Republic of China,

"(b) Concerning the bombardment, detention and inspection of a Chinese merchant ship by a military vessel of the United States,

/"Having heard

"Having heard the statement on these questions by the delegation of the People's Republic of China and the explanation given by the delegation of the United States of America,

"Condemns these illegal acts by the Government of the United States and places on the said Government full responsibility for them and for all damages caused to the People's Republic of China and for any consequences which may ensue from such acts;

"Recommends the Security Council to take immediately, in conformity with Article 11, paragraph 2 of the Charter, the necessary action to prevent illegal acts by the United States Government, violating the sovereignty of China and causing damage to the People's Republic of China and the peaceful population of China."

7. The USSR draft resolution, which was the only draft resolution submitted on the item, was put to the vote at the 441st meeting on 7 February 1951 and was rejected by 50 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions. Consequently, as regards this item, the First Committee has no recommendation to submit to the General Assembly.
