

# RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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### **714 (VIII). Question of impartial investigation of charges of use by United Nations forces of bacterial warfare**

*The General Assembly*

1. *Refers* to the Disarmament Commission the draft resolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics contained in document A/C.1/L.67<sup>1</sup> for such consideration as deemed appropriate under its plan of work and pursuant to the terms of reference of that Commission as set forth in General Assembly resolutions 502 (VI) of 11 January 1952 and 704 (VII) of 8 April 1953;

2. *Decides* also to transmit to the Disarmament Commission for its information the records of the meetings of the First Committee at which this item was discussed.

*456th plenary meeting,  
3 November 1953.*

### **715 (VIII). Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments: report of the Disarmament Commission**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of the United Nations for considering the problem of disarmament and affirming the need of providing for:

(a) The regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments,

(b) The elimination and prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other types of weapons of mass destruction,

(c) The effective international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only,

<sup>1</sup> The USSR draft resolution reads as follows:

*"The General Assembly  
"Calls upon* all States which have not acceded to or ratified the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925 for the prohibition of the use of bacterial weapons to accede to the Protocol or ratify it."

the whole programme to be carried out under effective international control and in such a way that no State would have cause to fear that its security was endangered,

*Believing* that the continued development of weapons of mass destruction such as atomic and hydrogen bombs has given additional urgency to efforts to bring about effectively controlled disarmament throughout the world, as the existence of civilization itself may be at stake,

*Mindful* that progress in the settlement of existing international disputes and the resulting re-establishment of confidence are vital to the attainment of peace and disarmament and that efforts to reach agreement on a comprehensive and co-ordinated disarmament programme with adequate safeguards should be made concurrently with progress in the settlement of international disputes,

*Believing* that progress in either field would contribute to progress in the other,

*Realizing* that competition in the development of armaments and armed forces beyond what is necessary for the individual or collective security of Member States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations is not only economically unsound but is in itself a grave danger to peace,

*Conscious* of the continuing desire of all nations, by lightening the burden of armaments, to release more of the world's human and economic resources for peace,

*Having received* the third report<sup>2</sup> of the Disarmament Commission of 20 August 1953, submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 704 (VII) of 8 April 1953,

*Endorsing* the Commission's hope that recent international events will create a more propitious atmosphere for reconsideration of the disarmament question, the capital importance of which, in conjunction with other questions affecting the maintenance of peace, is recognized by all,

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, 1953, Supplement for July, August and September 1953*, document DC/32.