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REDUCTION OF THE MILITARY BUDGETS OF STATES PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL BY 10 PER CENT AND UTILIZATION OF PART OF THE FUNDS
THUS SAVED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1974-1975
AND MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1974-1977

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/L.701/Rev.1

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernesto C. GARRIDO (Philippines)

1. At its 1614th meeting, on 29 November 1973, the Fifth Committee, in compliance with rule 155 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1559) on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/L.701/Rev.1.
2. Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would establish a special committee, consisting of the representatives of 18 countries, to distribute funds released as a result of the reduction of military spending for the provision of assistance to developing countries. The Secretary-General would be requested to give the special committee all possible assistance in its work.
3. In his statement (A/C.5/1559), the Secretary-General indicated that, on the understanding that the meetings of the special committee would be scheduled, in consultation with the appropriate services of the Secretariat, at times when the necessary facilities could be made available to the maximum extent from existing resources, every effort would be made to keep expenses within the levels already recommended for the biennium 1974-1975 and that, should it be necessary to exceed these levels, the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions would be sought. On that basis, no additional appropriations would be required.

4. In an oral report, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General to keep any expenditures within the levels already recommended for the biennium and recommended that the General Assembly be informed that adoption of the draft resolution would not give rise to additional appropriations.

5. One delegation recalled that it had opposed the draft resolution during the debate in plenary meetings, and for the same reasons stated its opposition to any expenditures that might arise as a result of the adoption of the draft resolution.

6. The Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/L.701/Rev.1, no additional appropriation would be required for the biennium 1974-1975.
