

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



GENERAL

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~~Fifth Session~~

Agenda item 74

PROVISION OF A UNITED NATIONS DISTINGUISHING RIBBON OR OTHER INSIGNIA FOR PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN KOREA IN THE DEFENCE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. A. KURAL (Turkey)

1. In a letter dated 2 October 1950 (A/1421) the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, on behalf of his Government, requested the Secretary-General to take steps to have the following item included in the agenda of the fifth session of the General Assembly:
"Provision of a United Nations distinguishing ribbon or other insignia for personnel participating in Korea in the defence of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations."
2. At its 71st meeting (A/BUR/SR.71) on 5 October 1950, the General Committee decided by 12 votes to 2, to recommend the General Assembly to include the above item in its agenda and unanimously decided to refer it to the Sixth Committee.
3. The General Assembly, at its 294th meeting (A/PV. 294) on 7 October 1950, adopted the General Committee's recommendation by 45 votes to 5, with 6 abstentions.
4. The Sixth Committee considered the question at its 247th meeting on 30 November (A/C.6/SR.247).
5. The representative of the Philippines presented his Government's proposal, the purpose of which was to express by the symbol of a distinguishing ribbon or other insignia the gratitude of the United Nations to those who were serving and making sacrifices in Korea for the collective defence of the principles of the Charter. He pointed out that the institution of such a
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decoration was within the competence of the United Nations in the same way as the decision it had already taken to have an official seal and a flag. The details could be left to the Secretary-General.

6. Several representatives supported the Philippine proposal and some expressed the view that, in addition to the military action in Korea, any persons who, in any circumstances, manifested exceptional heroism in the cause of the United Nations or rendered outstanding service to it, deserved such a decoration.

7. Other representatives opposed the Philippine proposal, on the grounds that it was illegal and beyond the competence of the General Assembly. A discussion took place on that point and the majority of the Committee agreed that the Philippine proposal could not be considered illegal and that the General Assembly was competent to adopt the Philippine draft resolution.

8. The Polish representative having invoked rule 120 of the rules of procedure, the Sixth Committee first decided the question of its competence and, by 32 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions, pronounced itself competent to adopt the Philippine proposal.

9. At the request of the representative of the Philippines the Committee took a vote by roll-call on the draft resolution before it. The resolution was adopted by 32 votes to 5, with 4 abstentions.

<u>In favour:</u>	Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Greece, Guatemala, India, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Sweden, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.
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<u>Against:</u>	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
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<u>Abstained:</u>	Saudi Arabia, Syria, Yemen, Yugoslavia.
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10. The Sixth Committee therefore recommends the General Assembly to adopt the following resolution:

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PROVISION OF A UNITED NATIONS DISTINGUISHING RIBBON OR OTHER
INSIGNIA FOR PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN KOREA IN THE DEFENCE
OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The General Assembly,

1. Desiring to symbolize the valour and sacrifices of the men and women who have served on behalf of the United Nations in repelling aggression in Korea,
2. Recalling its resolution 92 (I) on the official seal and emblem of the United Nations, its resolution 167 (II) on the United Nations flag, and the resolution of the Security Council of 7 July 1950 authorizing the Unified Command to use the United Nations flag,
3. Resolves that the Secretary-General be requested to make arrangements with the Unified Command, established pursuant to the Security Council resolution of 7 July 1950, for the design and award, under such regulations as the Secretary-General shall prescribe, of a distinguishing ribbon or other insignia for personnel which has participated in Korea in the defence of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

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