ARTICLE 48

TEXT OF ARTICLE 48

1. The action required to carry out the decisions of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security shall be taken by all the Members of the United Nations or by some of them, as the Security Council may determine.

2. Such decisions shall be carried out by the Members of the United Nations directly and through their action in the appropriate international agencies of which they are members.

NOTE

1. No decisions requiring treatment under this Article have been taken by the organs of the United Nations.

2. Certain decisions of the Security Council, however, have contained recommendations or requests which, although not referring to Article 48, may have some bearing on its objective. These include the following:

   (a) The resolution 1/ of 16 April 1948, in connexion with the Palestine question which called upon all Governments and particularly those of the countries neighbouring Palestine to take all possible steps to assist the Council in the implementation of the measures set out under paragraph 1 of that resolution, particularly those referring to preventing the entry into Palestine of armed bands and fighting personnel, groups and individuals and weapons and war materials.

   (b) The resolution 2/ of 29 May 1948, in connexion with the Palestine question which called upon all Governments and authorities concerned to undertake that they would not introduce fighting personnel and war material into Palestine, Egypt et cetera, and called upon all Governments to take all possible steps to assist in the implementation of this resolution.

   (c) The resolution 3/ of 27 June 1950, in connexion with the agenda item "Complaint of aggression upon the Republic of Korea", which recommended that "the Members of the United Nations furnish such assistance to the Republic of Korea as may be necessary to repel the armed attack and to restore international peace and security in the area."

1/ S C, 3rd yr., Suppl. for April, pp. 7 and 8, S/723. The resolution was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

2/ S C, 3rd yr., Suppl. for May, pp. 103 and 104, S/801. The resolution was adopted in parts by votes ranging from 7 to 10 in favour, none against and from 4 to 1 abstentions.

3/ S C, 5th yr., No. 16, 474th mtg., p. 4, S/1508/Rev.1. The resolution was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 2 members not voting and 1 permanent member absent.

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(d) The resolution 4/ of 7 July 1950, in connexion with the same agenda item, under which the Council recommended that all Members providing military forces and other assistance pursuant to the resolutions of the Council of 25 and 27 June 1950, make them available to a unified command under the United States.

(e) The resolution 5/ of 31 July, also in connexion with the same agenda item, which requested "the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council ... other appropriate United Nations principal and subsidiary organs, the specialized agencies ... to provide such assistance as the Unified Command may request".

3. In addition, the Article has been mentioned incidentally during the discussion in the General Assembly of the agenda items "Presence of forces of Members of the United Nations on non-enemy territories" and "United action for peace". 6/ In resolution 503 A (VI), entitled "Methods which might be used to maintain and strengthen international peace and security in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter", adopted by the General Assembly on 12 January 1952, language was used which appears to throw light on the subject-matter of the Article. 7/ There was also incidental reference to Article 48 in the first report 8/ of the Collective Measures Committee to the Security Council and to the General Assembly. Furthermore, the first and second reports 9/ of this Committee contain matter possibly relevant to Article 48.

4/ G A (V), Suppl. No. 2, pp. 25 and 26, S/1587. The resolution was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 3 abstentions and 1 permanent member absent.
5/ S C, 5th yr., No. 21, 479th mtg., p. 5, S/1652. The resolution was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 1 abstention and 1 permanent member absent.
6/ G A (I/2), 1st Com., p. 152; G A (V), 1st Com., 357th mtg., para. 45; 366th mtg., para. 48.
7/ By this resolution, adopted by 51 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions, the General Assembly recommended "to Member States that they take such steps as are necessary to enable them, in accordance with their constitutional processes and to the extent to which in their judgment their capacity permits them to do so, to provide assistance and facilities to United Nations armed forces engaged in collective military measures undertaken by the Security Council or by the General Assembly". It also recommended "to Members of the United Nations which belong to other international bodies, or which are parties to international arrangements concluded in accordance with the Charter, that, in addition to their individual participation in the collective security system of the United Nations, they seek to obtain, when appropriate, in and through such bodies and arrangements within the constitutional limitations and the other provisions of those bodies and arrangements, all possible support for collective measures undertaken by the United Nations".
8/ G A (VI), Suppl. No. 13 (A/1891), para. 152.
9/ G A (VI), Suppl. No. 13 (A/1891), and G A (VII), Suppl. No. 17 (A/2215).