

ARTICLE 54

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TEXT OF ARTICLE 54

The Security Council shall at all times be kept fully informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation under regional arrangements or by regional agencies for the maintenance of international peace and security.

NOTE

1. The application of the provisions of Article 54 has been considered in the proceedings of the Security Council in relation to one question only. 1/ At the 675th meeting of the Council on 20 June 1954, during the consideration of the question of Guatemala, several representatives, without expressly mentioning the Article, made reference to its provisions in connexion with a draft resolution 2/ submitted by Brazil and Colombia which would request "the Organization of American States to inform the Security Council as soon as possible, as appropriate, on the measures it has been able to take on the matter." 3/ Express and implicit references to Article 54 were also made at the 676th meeting on 25 June 1954, during the discussion on the adoption of the agenda on the same question.

2. The Security Council has been kept informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation by the Organization of American States, in particular by its Council and by the Inter-American Peace Committee, as indicated below: 4/

a. Communications from the Chairman of the Council of the Organization of American States (OAS)

1. Letter 5/ to the President of the Security Council, dated 15 December 1948, transmitting the resolutions adopted by the Council of the OAS on 12 and 14 December 1948 concerning Costa Rica and Nicaragua.*
- ii. Cablegram 6/ to the Secretary-General, dated 24 December 1948, transmitting the resolution adopted by the Council of the OAS on 24 December 1948 concerning Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

1/ The Article has been mentioned incidentally during the debates on some of the items referred to in this Repertory under Articles 51 and 52. For an account of the practice of the Security Council and the General Assembly with regard to the meaning of the term "regional arrangements or agencies" as used in Chapter VIII of the Charter, see in this Repertory under Article 52.

2/ S C, 9th yr., 675th mtg., para. 69, S/3236.

3/ For an account of the proceedings on the question of Guatemala, see in this Repertory under Article 52.

4/ Communications in which specific references were made to Article 54 are marked with an asterisk.

5/ S/1171.

6/ S/1172.

- iii. Cablegram 7/ to the President of the Security Council, dated 23 February 1949, concerning the Pact of Friendship signed between Costa Rica and Nicaragua on 22 February 1949.
- iv. Letter 8/ to the Secretary-General, dated 23 May 1950, transmitting the report of the Investigating Committee and the decisions taken by the Council of the OAS with regard to the cases submitted by the Governments of Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

b. Communications from the Secretary-General of the
Organization of American States

- i. Letter 9/ to the Secretary-General, dated 24 January 1949, transmitting the text of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance in connexion with the documents referred to in footnotes 5 and 6.*
- ii. Letter 10/ to the Secretary-General, dated 24 January 1949, transmitting the texts of the Charter of the OAS and of the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement.*
- iii. Letter 11/ to the Secretary-General, dated 10 July 1950, transmitting the report of the Special Committee for the Caribbean which was submitted to the Governments of the States Members of the OAS on 30 June.*
- iv. Letter 12/ to the Secretary-General, dated 21 May 1951, transmitting the reports of the Special Committee for the Caribbean which were submitted to the Governments of the States Members of the OAS.*
- v. Letter 13/ to the Secretary-General, dated 11 September 1951, transmitting the text of the Final Act of the Fourth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.*

c. Communications from the Chairman of the Inter-American
Peace Committee 14/

- i. Letter 15/ to the Secretary-General, dated 7 April 1949, concerning an alleged conflict between the Governments of Haiti and the Dominican Republic.*

7/ S/1268.

8/ S/1492.

9/ S/1239.

10/ S/1240.

11/ S/1607.

12/ S/2180.

13/ S/2344.

14/ Provided for in resolution XIV of the second Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics held in Havana, Cuba, 21-30 July 1940. Originally the Committee functioned under the name "Inter-American Committee on Methods for the Peaceful Solution of Conflicts". On 6 July 1949, it adopted the name "Inter-American Peace Committee". In the descriptive titles in the present text this body is referred to throughout as the "Inter-American Peace Committee".

15/ S/1307.

- ii. Letter 16/ to the Secretary-General, dated 20 June 1949, concerning the settlement of the situation submitted to the Inter-American Peace Committee by the Government of Haiti on 21 March 1949.
 - iii. Letter 17/ to the Secretary-General, dated 7 September 1949, transmitting the text of a note sent by the Inter-American Peace Committee to the representatives of the States Members of the OAS.*
 - iv. Letter 18/ to the Secretary-General, dated 7 September 1949, concerning the outcome of a situation which had arisen between Cuba and Peru.*
 - v. Letter 19/ to the Secretary-General, dated 15 September 1949, transmitting the text of the conclusions of the Inter-American Peace Committee regarding the Caribbean situation.*
 - vi. Letter 20/ to the Secretary-General, dated 7 January 1952, transmitting the text of a declaration signed by the Republic of Cuba and the Dominican Republic.*
 - vii. Letter 21/ to the Secretary-General, dated 2 February 1954, transmitting the text of the conclusions of the Inter-American Peace Committee in the case submitted to it by the Republic of Colombia on 17 November 1953.*
 - viii. Cablegram 22/ to the Secretary-General, dated 23 June 1954, informing him of developments in connexion with the question of Guatemala.*
 - ix. Letter 23/ to the Secretary-General, dated 27 June 1954, transmitting copies of various Notes and informing him of the contemplated itinerary of the Inter-American Peace Committee in connexion with the question of Guatemala.
 - x. Cablegram 24/ to the Secretary-General, dated 5 July 1954, on the latest activities of the Inter-American Peace Committee in connexion with the question of Guatemala.
 - xi. Communication 25/ to the Secretary-General, dated 8 July 1954, transmitting the report of the Inter-American Peace Committee on its intervention in the question of Guatemala.
- d. Communications from the States parties to disputes or situations
- 1. Letter 26/ to the Secretary-General, dated 18 August 1948, from the representative of the Dominican Republic informing him that it had applied to the Inter-American Peace Committee concerning the conflict which had arisen between the Dominican Republic and Cuba.*

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- 16/ S/1346.
 - 17/ S/1389.
 - 18/ S/1390.
 - 19/ S/1407.
 - 20/ S/2494.
 - 21/ S/3176.
 - 22/ S C, 9th yr., Suppl. for April, May and June, p. 16, S/3245.
 - 23/ S/3256.
 - 24/ S/3262.
 - 25/ S/3267.
 - 26/ S/982.

- ii. Note 27/ to the Secretary-General, dated 7 October 1948, from the permanent representative of the Dominican Republic informing him that it had complied with a suggestion made by the Inter-American Peace Committee.*
- iii. Telegram 28/ to the President of the Security Council, dated 12 December 1948, from the permanent representative of Costa Rica alleging that its territory had been invaded by armed forces coming from Nicaragua.
- iv. Cablegram 29/ to the President of the Security Council, dated 28 November 1951, from the Minister of State of the Cuban Republic, giving the text of a note addressed to the Inter-American Peace Committee.*
- v. Cablegram 30/ to the President of the Security Council, dated 27 December 1951, from the Minister of State of the Cuban Republic informing him of the result secured by the Inter-American Peace Committee in the Cuban-Dominican dispute.
- vi. Letter 31/ to the Secretary-General, dated 5 January 1952, from the Secretary of State for External Relations of the Dominican Republic giving the text of the declaration signed by the Dominican Republic and Cuba before the Inter-American Peace Committee on 25 December 1951.*
- vii. Letter 32/ to the Secretary-General, dated 25 January 1952, from the chairman of the delegation of Cuba transmitting "necessary rectifications" to the document referred to in footnote 30.*
- viii. Letter 33/ to the Secretary-General, dated 31 January 1952, from the chairman of the delegation of the Dominican Republic making statements "in rectification" of the document referred to in footnote 31.
- ix. Letter 34/ to the President of the Security Council, dated 15 April 1953, from the permanent representative of Guatemala requesting that, if necessary, a statement annexed to the letter be placed on the agenda of the Security Council, for the record.
- x. Cablegram 35/ from the Minister for External Relations of Guatemala, dated 19 June 1954, requesting the President of the Security Council urgently to convene a meeting of the Security Council in order that it might take measures in accordance with Articles 34, 35 and 39. 36/

27/ S/1036.

28/ S/1116.

29/ S/2425.

30/ S/2460.

31/ S/2480.

32/ S/2495.

33/ S/2511.

34/ S/2988.

35/ S C, 9th yr., Suppl. for April, May and June, pp. 11-13, S/3232.

36/ For the question brought to the attention of the Security Council in this cablegram and documents that followed it, see also in this Repertory under Article 52.

e. Statement in the Security Council

At the 475th meeting of the Security Council on 30 June 1950, the representative of Ecuador, for the information of the Council and for inclusion in the record, read a resolution 37/ adopted by the Council of the Organization of American States on 28 June 1950, in connexion with the resolutions adopted by the Security Council on 25 and 27 June on the item "Complaint of aggression upon the Republic of Korea".

3. All the communications listed above have been circulated as Security Council documents. It has also been the practice to include in the report of the Security Council to the General Assembly summary accounts of the questions to which these documents refer. 38/ With the exception of the question of Guatemala, none of those questions has been placed on the provisional agenda of the Security Council.

4. The Security Council has been informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation by the Political Committee of the League of Arab States in connexion with the Palestine question by means of the following communications from the Secretary-General of the League, which were circulated as Security Council documents:

1. Cablegram 39/ to the Secretary-General dated 15 May 1948.
2. Cablegram 40/ to the Secretary-General dated 17 July 1948.
3. Telegram 41/ to the Secretary-General dated 18 July 1948.
4. Cablegram 42/ to the Secretary-General dated 31 August 1951.

37/ S C, 5th yr., No. 17, 475th mtg., pp. 6 and 7.

38/ See:

G A (IV), Suppl. No. 2, p. 97;

G A (V), Suppl. No. 2, p. 64;

G A (VI), Suppl. No. 2, paras. 814 and 815;

G A (VII), Suppl. No. 2, paras. 484-487;

G A (VIII), Suppl. No. 2, paras. 208 and 209;

G A (IX), Suppl. No. 2, paras. 348 and 462.

39/ S C, 3rd yr., Suppl. for May, pp. 83-88, S/745.

40/ S C, 3rd yr., Suppl. for July, pp. 79 and 80, S/906.

41/ S C, 3rd yr., Suppl. for July, pp. 82-86, S/908.

42/ S/2321.

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