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Armed Forces Talk

346.

Five Years of the United Nations.

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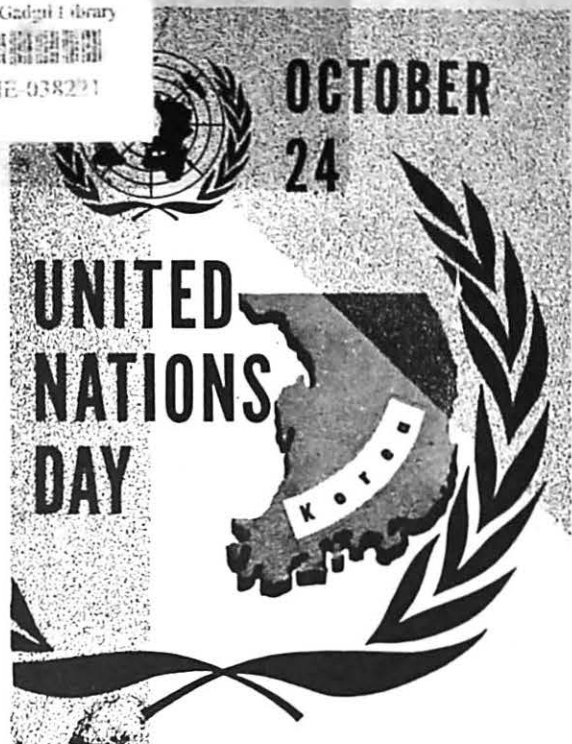
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ARMED FORCES TALK

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FIVE YEARS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SHORTLY before noon on 26 June 1945, a little more than five years ago, two leather-bound books were placed on a desk in the auditorium of the San Francisco Veterans Memorial Building. Beginning at 12 o'clock sharp, representatives of fifty nations walked one by one into the semicircle of flags and solemnly affixed their signatures to the document which the books contained—the Charter of the United Nations.

The Charter provided that it would become effective when the governments of the five big powers (China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States) and a majority of the other 45 countries had ratified it. *The last necessary ratification was obtained on 24 October 1945, which thus became virtually the United Nations' birthday.* The anniversary of this date has been designated by the UN General Assembly and by most of the member governments as UNITED NATIONS DAY.

The five years of United Nations activities have not been without heartaches. Nevertheless, the organization has made important progress. Sixty

countries have joined; 14 others have applied for membership.¹ UN has become a genuine force for world peace and understanding. It has proved far more practical in its general activities and more effective in time of crisis than the former League of Nations.

What Progress Has the United Nations Made Toward International Peace and Security?

Most of the disputes in the United Nations have been between the western nations and the Soviet Union, but other nations have also had their share of disagreements. Some of these quarrels have been only "threats to world peace"; others have led to open warfare. The United Nations has not ironed out all of them, but it has settled many of them, affecting millions of lives over vast areas. The disputes involving Indonesia, Palestine, and India-Pakistan alone meant peace or war to 500 million people, one-fourth of the world's population.

¹ See section 4-c of *Presentation Pointers* (page 11) for list of members and applicants.

Let us see what major disputes the United Nations has faced so far and how it has settled them.

Iran. The first major matter before the Security Council of the United Nations was the complaint of the Iranian Government in 1946¹ that the Soviet Union had refused to withdraw its troops from northern Iran after the war. *Following the airing of the dispute before the Security Council, the Soviet Government withdrew its forces.*

Syria and Lebanon. In 1946 Syria and Lebanon requested the Security Council to use its influence to have all French and British troops withdrawn from their countries. *The United Nations Security Council considered the complaint and subsequently the troops were withdrawn.*

Greece. Although the Soviet Union vetoed the attempts of the Security Council to help end the threats and dangers to Greece caused by the aggressive policies of Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia in 1947, the General Assembly, whose decisions cannot be vetoed, found that these countries were violating Greek frontiers and threatening Greek independence, through aid to the Greek guerrillas. The Assembly created a Special Committee on the Balkans to keep watch over Greece's northern frontiers and to attempt to conciliate the disputes at issue between Greece and her northern neighbors. This action helped prevent a more direct form of aggression, against Greece, by her Communist neighbors. The United Nations Assembly later recommended that no nation should send war materials to Bulgaria and Albania as long as these countries helped the Greek guerrilla Communists. (Yugoslavia has for some time ceased to give such illegal aid.) The Greek Army decisively routed the Greek guerrillas in the fall of 1949. Thus, *the United Nations, by putting its moral support behind the Greek Government, and by keeping the world fully informed, diminished the threat to world peace from that area.*

Indonesia. Military action by the Netherlands against the Republic of Indonesia brought the dispute between the Dutch and their former colonials to the attention of the Security Council. A United Nations Commission, sent by the Council to Indonesia, succeeded in putting an end to the fighting and setting up a basis on which the Dutch and Indonesians would settle their long-term political difficulties. This work resulted in a solution and the peaceful creation of the world's newest republic—The Republic of Indonesia.² *What was one of the world's richest colonial territories is now joined in the Netherlands-Indonesian Union as a free and*

equal partner. This accomplishment was another feather in the cap of the United Nations.

Palestine. Palestine had been the cause of conflict between Arabs, Jews, and the great powers since World War I. To end the conflict, the General Assembly recommended that Palestine should be divided into an Arab state and a Jewish state, independent politically but united economically. It also recommended that the city of Jerusalem should be put under an international trusteeship. This recommendation touched off open violence in Palestine; but the UN, through the tireless efforts of a mediator, finally obtained armistice agreements between the new state of Israel (which was proclaimed by the Jews) and the neighboring Arab states. Peace was established in Palestine in last.³ *The achievement of these armistice agreements is among the outstanding accomplishments of the United Nations.* Through a special commission, the UN is now seeking a *lasting peace in Palestine.*

India-Pakistan. In 1948, the United Nations was faced with a dispute between the newly independent countries of India and Pakistan, the former of which is populated mostly by Hindus and the latter mostly by Moslems. In the predominantly Moslem province of Kashmir, a revolt broke out against its Hindu rulers. At the same time, Moslem tribesmen invaded Kashmir. The Hindu ruler declared Kashmir to be a part of India and India complained to the Security Council that Pakistan was arming and aiding the attacking tribesmen. The United Nations persuaded both sides to order a cease-fire. The Security Council appointed a Commission and, later, a UN representative to draw up a program to demilitarize Kashmir in cooperation with India and Pakistan. *These efforts failed to solve all the issues, but it is believed that strong United Nations pressure will ultimately lead to a just settlement of the Kashmir dispute.*

China. One of the toughest problems currently facing the United Nations is that of China. The question was first brought up in the General Assembly in 1949, when the Chinese Nationalist Government charged that the Soviet Union had violated both the United Nations Charter and a treaty between China and the U. S. S. R. by helping the Chinese Communists capture China and by seeking economic and political control of Manchuria. The Soviet Union sought to prevent Security Council discussion of the charges and questioned the right of the Nationalist Chinese delegation to sit in the General Assembly on the ground that it no longer

¹ The first regular session of the General Assembly began on 10 January 1946.

² Sixtieth nation admitted to UN membership (September 1950).

³ The General Assembly will consider the status of Jerusalem during its 5th session this fall.

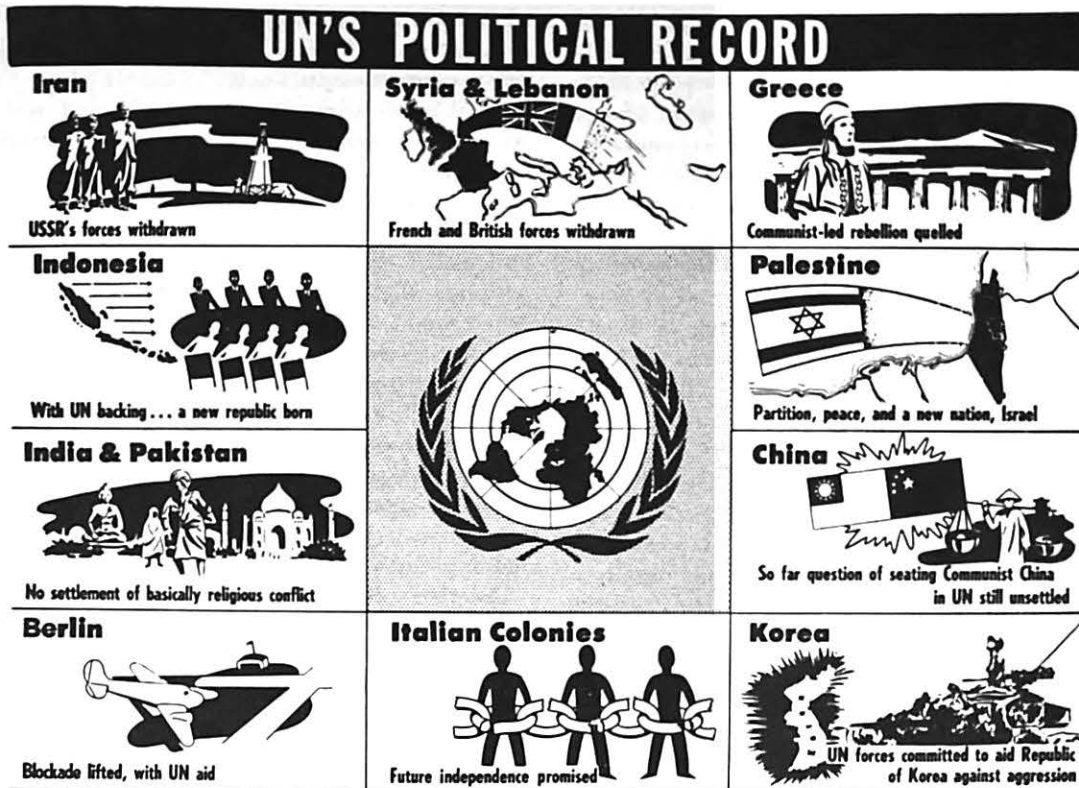


Figure 1

represented the Chinese people. The Assembly rejected the Soviet plea. *It adopted a resolution calling on all nations to respect Nationalist China's independence, to observe their treaties with that government, and to refrain from seeking any special rights in that country.* The Assembly also instructed the Interim Committee (known as the Little Assembly) to report on the Chinese question in its fall meeting. The Soviet Union, when its plea was rejected, walked out of each organ of the United Nations, but on 1 August 1950 returned to the Security Council despite the fact that the representative of the National Government was still sitting for China.

The U. S. S. R. and India have claimed that the National Government of China should not be permitted to represent China in any organ of the United Nations but that China should be represented by the Chinese Communists. Their position has received support from a number of states in Western Europe and Asia that have recognized the Chinese Communists. The United States has taken issue with the Soviet Union on the question but has indicated that it would abide by any decision reached by the majority when the matter is presented in the General Assembly.

Berlin. Although the United Nations was not responsible for making peace treaties with the former Axis Powers, it has dealt with some of the tough problems resulting from the failure of the big powers to reach such treaty agreements. One of these problems grew out of the Soviet blockade of Berlin in 1948, which created an international crisis. The Security Council attempted a solution of the problem, but a resolution agreed to by nine members was vetoed by the U. S. S. R. Although these efforts in the UN brought no immediate results because of the Soviet attitude, they made public opinion throughout the world aware of the nature of the threat to peace. *Later, as a result of the airlift and negotiations between United States and Soviet authorities brought about through United States-Soviet contacts in the United Nations, the Berlin blockade was lifted and the situation improved at least temporarily.*

The Italian Colonies. The question of the disposal of Italy's former colonies was placed before the General Assembly by the United States, Britain, France, and the U. S. S. R. because these powers could not agree on what to do with these colonies when they drafted the Italian peace treaty, ratified in September 1947.

With only one dissenting vote (Ethiopia's), the General Assembly decided that Libya should become independent not later than 1 January 1952; that Somaliland should be governed under Italian trusteeship for ten years and then become independent, and that the future of Eritrea should be determined at the 1950 session of the General Assembly. United Nations bodies have been set up in both Libya and Italian Somaliland to assist in achieving the desired goals.

Korea. After the Japanese surrender in World War II, two temporary military governments were set up in Korea—one by the United States, below the 38th parallel and the other by the Soviet Union, above this parallel.

In 1947, following the failure of the United States and the U. S. S. R. to agree on the unification of the entire country under an independent Korean government, the United States brought the problem before the UN's General Assembly. The General Assembly recommended the election of a national assembly for all Korea and appointed a commission to observe the elections and to help the national assembly establish a new government. Soviet occupation forces in northern Korea refused entry to the UN commission. Therefore, *UN-supervised elections were held in southern Korea and the United Nations recognized the government of the new Republic of Korea, established there, as the only legal government in Korea.* Our government recognized the new Republic of Korea. So did 31 other nations. But the Soviet Government and her satellite states did not recognize it, and it has been unable to join the United Nations because of a Soviet veto.

Following a recommendation of the General Assembly that the occupying powers should take their forces out of Korea as soon as possible, the United States withdrew all its forces. This withdrawal was verified by the United Nations Commission on Korea. The Soviet Union announced that it, too, had withdrawn its forces; but it did not allow the United Nations Commission to see whether the withdrawal had actually taken place.

In the meantime, a Communist regime was set up north of the 38th parallel. This regime, called the "Democratic People's Republic of Korea," claims jurisdiction over all Korea and operates in defiance of the United Nations.

Prompt Action in the Korean Crisis. The surprise attack on the Korean Republic by the North Korean Communist regime in June 1950, was a serious threat to world peace. It was made against a peaceful people ruled by a free government of

their own choice—a government created with the support of the United Nations, and recognized by most countries of the world.

With great speed, the Security Council met and passed a resolution stating that the armed attack on the Republic of Korea by forces of North Korea violated world peace. The resolution demanded that the fighting should be stopped immediately, and called on the North Korean Communists to withdraw their forces to the 38th parallel. It also asked the United Nations Commission on Korea to submit recommendations for dealing with the crisis; to observe the withdrawal of the North Korean forces to the 38th parallel, and to keep the Security Council informed on whether or not this resolution was carried out. Furthermore, the resolution directed all member nations to give every assistance in carrying out the resolution, and to refrain from helping North Korea in any way.

Another resolution on 27 June asked member states to furnish to the Republic of Korea the necessary aid to repel the attack and restore international peace and security in the area. The greater part of the fighting against the North Korean aggressors so far is being carried on by the United States, but all the action is under the flag of the United Nations. Several other member nations have sent units of their armed forces. Their number, and the quantity of military aid are increasing. The majority of the United Nations members have agreed to give material and moral support to the Korean Republic, and many nations have promised special types of aid according to their abilities.

The action of the United Nations in Korea has greatly increased its prestige and effectiveness. By taking a firm and unmistakable stand against armed aggression and by upholding the rule of law and order in international affairs, the UN has given new strength to its Charter.

What Has the United Nations Done Toward World Economic Progress?

Because the *political* problems affecting world peace are dramatic, they make headlines. But equally important to the United Nations are the *economic* and *social* issues facing the peoples of the world. Two-thirds of the world's people live in poverty, disease, and hunger, which tend to breed unrest and war. Therefore, the United Nations Charter states that one of the purposes of the organization is to help improve the world's social and economic conditions. What has the United Nations done toward reaching these goals? *A major goal of the United Nations is to develop every coun-*

try's economic resources. To achieve this goal the General Assembly, the Trusteeship Council, the Economic and Social Council, its commissions, and the specialized agencies of the United Nations, have given a variety of advisory, technical, and financial help to many nations.

Through its *Economic and Social Council*, the United Nations arranged immediately for a series of conferences to reduce import duties collected by the world governments. As a result, 33 countries have agreed to reduce their import duties on goods which make up 80 percent of world trade. In addition, the United Nations has set up separate committees to handle problems relating to specific commodities such as cotton, rubber, tin, wheat, sugar, and wool. Through this Council as well as subordinate agencies, the United Nations has also promoted safety, efficiency, and economy in international transportation and communication, the improvement of labor standards, and the reduction of unemployment.

The *Economic Commission for Europe* has tried to promote trade among European countries. Moreover, to coordinate all world trade activities, the United Nations member nations have submitted a plan for an *International Trade Organization* (ITO).

The *International Labor Organization* (ILO) drew up a labor relations code which has already improved working conditions in many countries. This code calls for an 8-hour day, a 48-hour work-week, holidays with pay, sickness and old-age pension, freedom of association, and the right to organize and to bargain collectively. ILO has helped many countries to use their manpower more effectively through vocational and apprenticeship training, and employment services. It has sponsored a worldwide investigation of forced (slave) labor.

The *United Nations' International Bank for Reconstruction and Development* has loaned nearly a billion dollars to many countries throughout the world to improve their economic situation. At the end of World War II the Bank came to the aid of the European countries which were financially in bad shape. When the United States set up the European Recovery Program (ERP), the Bank shifted its aid to the underdeveloped areas of the world. For example, India is being helped to modernize its railroads and to improve unfertile lands and Brazil, Chile, and Mexico have obtained loans to develop their electric power. Ethiopia and Turkey have been granted loans with which to be-

gin the process of industrialization and to finance small industries.

The *International Monetary Fund* (IMF) has helped to stabilize the value of money, to make currency exchange between nations simpler, and to aid countries which are temporarily in need of foreign currency. In 1949 the Fund cooperated in the currency devaluations of many countries, including the United Kingdom. These devaluations were included to help trade and movements of money.

The *Food and Agriculture Organization* (FAO) has helped to increase the world's food supply by encouraging and helping the majority of the world's countries, which are undeveloped, improve their agricultural methods, reduce losses from plant and animal diseases, and make the distribution of food more efficient. In China, alone, FAO veterinarians have vaccinated 15 million animals against rinderpest—a disease which killed nearly a million cattle a year in that country. Similar work has been done to fight hoof and mouth disease, locusts, rats, molds, and fungus. The FAO also allocated food which was in short supply during the period of scarcity which followed the war. The UN's Regional Economic Commissions for Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Trusteeship Council have also helped to increase the world's farm products.

The UN's *International Civil Aviation Organization* has set up, in the North Atlantic, a network of floating stations which not only provides routine weather and navigational information, but also performs search and rescue services to downed aircraft and surface vessels in distress. This organization has also helped to standardize flying regulations, customs regulations, etc., which are important to international aviation. The *Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization*, which is to become a permanent agency, carries on similar work in the field of ocean shipping. The *International Telecommunication Union* assigns radio frequencies to countries and draws up uniform operating procedures for radio, telegraph, and telephone facilities. The *International Meteorological Organization* has promoted interchange of weather information. The *Universal Postal Union* is assuring uniform and efficient exchange of mail among the world's nations.

What Has the United Nations Done Toward World Social Progress?

Health.

The United Nations has done important work in the field of health and social welfare.

Its *World Health Organization (WHO)* is waging a worldwide campaign against malaria, venereal disease, and tuberculosis. A nationwide WHO campaign in Greece reduced the number of sufferers from malaria by as much as 85 percent in some regions. Before this campaign, from one to three million persons of the Greek population of 7½ million annually suffered from this disease. Similar campaigns are being conducted in India, Pakistan, and Iran. The WHO director has predicted that in about 50 years malaria will no longer be a major health menace.

WHO, in the largest single health program ever undertaken, is fighting tuberculosis, which kills from 3 to 5 million persons annually. Fifty million children in Europe and many others in Asia and Africa are being tested. When the results are negative, the children are vaccinated.

Anti-syphilis campaigns, based on penicillin treatment developed in the United States in World War II, are now carried on in a number of European countries.

Among WHO's outstanding achievements was the control of the 1947 cholera epidemic in Egypt which spread at the rate of one thousand cases a

day. WHO effectively checked the disease in six weeks.

Aid to Refugees and Displaced Persons. World War II made refugees or displaced persons of over a million people whose care, maintenance, and resettlement became the responsibility of the United Nations' *International Refugee Organization (IRO)*, created in 1946. The IRO has already found homes for nearly 800,000 of these. The *International Tracing Service*, which is a part of IRO, has conducted a worldwide search for families lost during World War II. It has searched especially for lost children, a great many of whom are still missing.

Another serious refugee problem was caused by the Arab-Jewish conflict in Palestine in 1948. Some 750,000 Arabs fled or were driven from their homes in areas which later became the state of Israel. To meet their urgent needs, the General Assembly created an emergency relief program in 1948, and in 1949 it proposed a permanent works program to rehabilitate the Arab refugees on reclaimed land in Jordan. The United Nations is trying to meet special needs of the world's children through its *International Children's Emergency Fund*, which furnishes a daily meal for six million children as well



Figure 2

as the raw materials for clothing, shoes, and blankets for many of them.

Other Social Welfare Activities. The United Nations has furnished technical aid to various governments in such fields as public welfare administration, social insurance, child welfare, and vocational rehabilitation. Other activities include the control of world narcotic traffic, the suppression of prostitution, a campaign against traffic in women and children, and the drafting of codes for the humane treatment of war prisoners. The Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly have taken steps to prevent child marriage and to end all forms of slavery in the territories under United Nations jurisdiction.

UNESCO. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) sponsors a world-wide crusade for peace by nations large and small, whose leaders believe that "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be built." The preamble to UNESCO's constitution reads: "Ignorance of each other's ways and lives has been a common cause, throughout the history of mankind, of that suspicion and mistrust between nations of the world through which their differences have all too often broken into war. . . ."

UNESCO's job is to promote understanding among all these people, to help remove tensions which lead to war, and to create cooperation among nations in all efforts which make for better living standards and a happier life. It works in the fields of education, science, and culture. It tries to draw up practical programs through which all citizens of the world—not just the leaders—can take an active part in education, the sciences, and the arts. UNESCO is now promoting an exchange of educational, scientific, and cultural activities among all nations. One of the first steps taken by UNESCO was the campaign to restore the thousands of schools, libraries, and museums destroyed in World War II. As a long-range program, UNESCO is working to stamp out illiteracy throughout the world.

The Declaration of Human Rights. One big endeavor of the United Nations has been its effort to protect the basic rights of human beings everywhere. In 1948, the General Assembly proclaimed, for the attention of the world, a Declaration of Human Rights, including the right to life and liberty; protection against torture, slavery, forced labor, and arbitrary arrest and detention; fair trial, privacy of

the home; protection against unemployment; an adequate standard of living; free education; private property; freedom of speech, assembly, religion; freedom of movement and residence, and equal protection against discrimination.

Through this Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations has brought moral pressure to secure these rights. More important, the United Nations *Commission on Human Rights* is drafting a *treaty*, so as to include certain of these rights in the laws of the nations which sign the treaty.

The United Nations has also taken other steps to protect human rights:

1. In 1948, the General Assembly unanimously approved what is known as the *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*. (Genocide is the mass destruction of a racial or religious group.)

2. The United Nations *Conference on Freedom of Information* proposed agreements to assure the right of every person to free expression and the right of all nations to receive information without censorship.

3. The United Nations *Commission on the Status of Women* has developed a plan to extend equal voting rights to women throughout the world, to remove hardships resulting from conflicting laws on the nationality of married women, and to give educational opportunities to all women.

4. The United Nations *Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities* has recommended that minorities in every country should be given the opportunity to use their own language in courts and that state-supported schools should teach the language of such groups, if their members so desire. The subcommission is considering new proposals to prevent discrimination against all minorities.

Human Rights Controversies. Several controversies regarding human rights have come up before the United Nations. The first concerned the treatment of Asiatic Indians living in the Union of South Africa. The Indian Government charges that the government of South Africa discriminates against persons of Indian nationality or descent. The South African Government has replied that its laws were precautionary rather than discriminatory and that the United Nations could not concern itself with the internal affairs of the South African Government. However, as a result of United Nations action, it is proposed that representatives of the governments of India, the Union of South Africa,

and Pakistan meet to see what can be done about the matter.

The second controversy grew out of violation of human rights by the Communist governments of Bulgaria, Hungary, and Rumania. The United Nations charged that these governments violated human rights (which they had guaranteed under the peace treaties at the end of World War II) by destroying democratic political parties, by denying freedom of the press, assembly, and fair trial to persons accused of crimes, and by persecuting Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish groups. When these governments failed to accept a United Nations appeal to respect their treaty obligations, the matter was referred to the International Court of Justice. The Court ruled that the three governments were bound to settle controversies according to the provisions of the treaties. However, the Court's decision has been ignored and further action is pending.

Technical Assistance Program. In his Inaugural Address on 20 January 1949, President Truman stated, in what has become known as "Point Four," that "we must embark on a bold new program for making the benefits of our scientific advances and industrial progress available for the improvement and growth of underdeveloped areas—we should make available to peace-loving peoples the benefits of our store of technical knowledge in order to help them realize their aspirations for a better life. And, in cooperation with other nations, we should foster capital investment in areas needing development." He also stated that this program should be carried on, wherever practicable, through the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

Acting upon this pronouncement, the United States, the United Nations, and the specialized agencies immediately began to prepare for greatly expanded programs. The United Nations' program is being financed from a special technical assistance fund made up of voluntary contributions. For the first 18 months, 52 countries have pledged a total of a little over \$20,000,000. The United States pledge was approximately \$12,000,000.

Although the present program is small in relation to the needs of the underdeveloped countries in which two-thirds of the world's population live, a technical assistance program is limited in the beginning by such factors as the number of experts available and the number of people in underdeveloped countries who are ready for training.

¹ Up to 15 September 1950 the U. S. S. R. had used its veto power 45 times (including 3 double vetoes); France, once; the U. S., China, and the United Kingdom not at all.

What Has the United Nations Failed to Accomplish?

So far we have been talking about the accomplishments of the United Nations. Let us see where it has failed.

Its principal failure has been its inability to settle the postwar differences between the Soviet Union and the nonsatellite members of the UN. These conflicts, which have increased year by year, are the greatest single threat to world peace. They have prevented permanent peace treaties with Germany and Japan. They have colored all discussions in the United Nations. Because of them, the United Nations has been unable to organize the permanent military force which it needs to carry out its decisions when peaceful solutions cannot be found. At the same time the United Nations has been unable to regulate or to reduce the armament race among nations or to adopt an effective control over atomic energy.

However, these failures of the United Nations are due to the failure of the U. S. S. R. to discharge its obligations under the Charter. The Security Council, in particular, has often been unable to operate effectively because of the obstructive tactics and the vetoes of the Soviet representative.¹ *Strengthening the General Assembly, where there is no veto, has been suggested as one way to preserve the peace when the Security Council is unable to act effectively.*

Summary

The tasks and goals of the United Nations, defined in its Charter, include keeping the peace, creating friendly relations among nations, persuading governments to cooperate in solving the world's economic and social problems, and protecting the human rights of peoples everywhere.

Nearing the organization's fifth anniversary, and as the General Assembly begins its fifth regular session, we do not have peace. Instead we find serious international tensions and, in Korea, armed conflict which could spread to other parts of the world.

Some people may scoff at the United Nations and brand it as an organization that is talking itself to death. They may say that it cannot bring international peace and security. Most observers feel, however, that the world owes thanks to the United Nations. What would the world be like, they ask, if there were no such organization, no Security

Council, no General Assembly, to which nations large and small could bring their disputes and under whose sponsorship try mediation and reconciliation? How would the problems of Palestine, Iran, Greece, and other areas have been solved?

Despite its shortcomings, the United Nations has a fine record of accomplishment. Not only has it successfully challenged aggression in a number of instances, but it is doing an especially fine job in the improvement of economic and social conditions in several world areas. It has supported the right of self-government of formerly dependent peoples. It has taken important steps to protect basic human rights. It has given a greater measure of equality to nations, irrespective of their size or power, in the settlement of international disputes. It has solved

peacefully several such disputes which might have led to war. In the present Korean crisis it has branded the Korean Reds as guilty of aggression and, with the material or moral support of all except a few of its members, it has taken a firm stand and positive armed action against armed aggression. *This forthright action in Korea has given hope that the world may really be on the verge of achieving an effective system of collective security against aggression.*

The United Nations is an important international force—a force which all the nations of the world must strengthen so as to solve international disputes, prevent war, and thus help attain a lasting peace. The United States, among other countries, is pledged to its support.

DISCUSSION LEADER'S OUTLINE

(For a 20-minute presentation, which may be shortened or lengthened as desired)

I. Introduction

- A. The 24th of October is UNITED NATIONS DAY.
- B. This year's commemoration celebrates FIVE YEARS of UN activity.
- C. It is therefore a good time for taking stock of what UN has accomplished up to now.

II. What Political Accomplishments Has UN Achieved for International Peace and Security?

(Note.—The recommended film, "The United Nations and World Disputes," may substitute for oral presentation of Section II-A.)

A. Use figure 1, "The United Nations' Political Record," and follow text, to present gist of accomplishments in:

1. Iran
2. Syria and Lebanon
3. Greece
4. Indonesia
5. Palestine
6. India-Pakistan
7. China
8. Berlin
9. The Italian Colonies
10. Korea
11. The Korean Crisis

B. THE UNITED NATIONS HAS NOT IRONED OUT ALL THE FOREGOING DISPUTES, but IT HAS SETTLED MANY OF THEM PEACEFULLY AND FAIRLY.

C. ITS ACTION IN THE KOREAN CRISIS HAS GREATLY INCREASED ITS PRESTIGE AND EFFECTIVENESS AND GIVEN TEETH TO THE CHARTER BY TAKING A FIRM STAND AGAINST ARMED AGGRESSION AND FOR THE RULE OF LAW AND ORDER IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

III. What Have Been UN's Principal Economic Accomplishments?

A. Use figure 2, "The United Nations' Economic and Social Record," and follow text to present gist of things done by the—

1. Economic and Social Council.
2. International Labor Organization.
3. International Bank.
4. International Monetary Fund.
5. Food and Agriculture Organization.
6. Other agencies.

IV. What Have Been UN's Principal Achievements in Social Progress?

A. Use figure 2, "The United Nations' Economic and Social Record," and follow text to present gist of things done by the—

1. World Health Organization.
2. International Refugee Organization.
3. International Children's Emergency Fund.
4. UNESCO.
5. Commission on Human Rights.
6. UN Technical Assistance Program for Point Four.

V. What Has UN Failed to Accomplish?

A. Its principal failure has been inability to settle differences between the Soviet Union and the nonsatellite members of UN.

B. This failure has thus far meant—

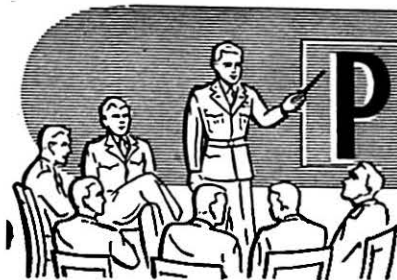
1. No permanent peace treaties with Germany and Japan.
2. No permanent UN military force.
3. No reduction in the armament race.
4. No effective international control over atomic energy production.
5. Other unsolved problems.

C. Central difficulty has centered around Soviet Union's excessive use of the veto.

D. STRENGTHENING THE POWER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS BEEN SUGGESTED AS ONE WAY TO ALLOW UN TO ACT WHEN SECURITY COUNCIL IS UNABLE TO.

VI. Summary

Follow summary in text.



PRESENTATION POINTERS

1. **Salient Points**, for stress, are the accomplishments of the United Nations to date, as outlined in the TALK under

- a. *Political accomplishments*
- b. *Economic and social accomplishments.*

2. **Method.** Presentation by the conference method, followed by a short small-committee session, is recommended.

3. **Preparation.**

- a. Follow the usual method of preparation.
- b. As part of your preparation, familiarize yourself again with AFT 248, "The United Nations—Three Years of Progress."
- c. Also see pages 5 and 6 of AFT 191, "The United Nations—One Year At Lake Success," for an explanation and discussion of the veto privilege.
- d. As further background material, the following TALKS, in addition, trace the story of the United Nations from its birth:

ARMY TALK	46	Dumbarton Oaks As A Step Toward Real Peace
	80	San Francisco—Charting World Security
	81	Looking Ahead From San Francisco
	115	The United Nations Assembly
	136	The United Nations—What Progress So Far?
	143	The Case of Iran
ARMED FORCES TALK	189	The Problem of Palestine

e. MOST OF THIS TALK WAS PREPARED AS OF 15 SEPTEMBER 1950, BEFORE THE FIFTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY BEGAN (19 SEPTEMBER). BRING YOURSELF UP-TO-DATE, BEFORE LEADING A DISCUSSION, ON LATER OR CURRENT HAPPENINGS IN THE UNITED NATIONS, SO THAT YOU MAY TIE THEM IN WITH YOUR PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION. (For example, has it been decided whether the representative of Communist China shall be seated instead of the representative of Nationalist China?)

4. **Presentation Aids.**

- a. **FILM.** A special film, Armed Forces Screen Report (AFSR) 123 titled, "The United Nations and World Disputes" (running time, 20 minutes) has been prepared. It should be available in film libraries and through usual I&E film supply channels on and after 23 October 1950. Arrange for a preview of this film, before the time set for the discussion period, so that you can decide whether you want to use it either during the discussion period or at some other time. It might

be substituted for the section of the TALK on "Political Accomplishments."

b. **LARGE VISUAL AID.** Wall-sized reproductions of figure 1 are in preparation. They should be available through regular I&E supply channels in time for use during the week of 24 October. Ask for *Visual Aid for Use with AFT 346, "Five Years of the United Nations."* The following lists may help you:

c. **MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS:** Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand (Siam), Turkey, Ukraine, Union of South Africa, U. S. S. R., United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP (THUS FAR UNSUCCESSFUL):

Countries whose applications are supported by governments other than the Soviet Union: Austria, Ceylon, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Nepal, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Transjordan.

Countries whose applications are supported by the Soviet Union: Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Mongolian People's Republic, Rumania.

A UN resolution now bars SPAIN (which has not applied) from membership.

5. **Questions to Stimulate Discussion.**

a. What do you think, in general, of the veto privilege? If you think that the present rule should stand, give your reasons. If you think it should be modified, give your reasons and state what you think the modifications should be.

b. Some authorities think that the General Assembly, which is in general a body for discussion and the expression of opinion, should have greater power to act. How do you feel about this, and why?

c. What do you think of the Soviet Union's claim that actions of the Security Council taken during the absence of the Soviet Union's representative are not official or valid? Explain your point of view.

d. If the UN had NOT taken a firm, armed stand against the invasion of the Republic of Korea, what do you think some of the consequences would have been?

6. **Summary.** Be sure to SUMMARIZE at the end of the discussion period. Follow, if you desire, the summary appearing at the end of the printed TALK and add other significant points brought out through discussion.

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STEPS TOWARD

WORLD PEACE

OCTOBER 24, 1950

marks the fifth
anniversary of UN action
What is the record of
progress?
What have been its
major obstacles?

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THIS WEEK'S DISCUSSION
FIVE YEARS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

(Time)

(Place)