

eral Assembly Matters Files of the Sec. - Gen. : U Thant  
cerpts from statements by Representatives in the 11th Regular Session of the General Assembly  
taining references to the Sec - Gen.

16/11/1956 - 06/12/1956

Clear pp

PLEASE RETAIN  
ORIGINAL ORDER  
CLEAR

MAR 17 2014

UN ARCHIVES  
SERIES 0856  
BOX 5  
FILE 4  
ACC. DAG 1/5.2.1.3

Jan 27  
SP

EXCERPTS FROM STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES IN THE  
ELEVENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
CONTAINING REFERENCES TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

General Debate

581st Meeting (16 November 1956 at 3 p.m.)

Mr. de FREITAS-VALLE, Brazil (A/PV.581 at page 2): "...We also agree heartily with the proposals made by the Secretary-General - whose outstanding performance of his duties is a source of pride to all the Members of the United Nations - concerning the duties and functions of the Emergency Force. And we hope and pray that this new experiment in world diplomacy may yet prove to be the nucleus from which will emanate the strength that will lend to this Organization the physical power which it has so sorely lacked."

Mr. AL-JAMALI, Iraq (A/PV.581 at pages 12 and 27): "...The United Nations is very fortunate indeed in having a Secretary-General whose ability, integrity, courage and humanity are recognized by us all. Mr. Hammarskjold personally has contributed much to the dignity and effectiveness of the United Nations. He symbolizes the spirit of the Charter.

....

We believe that the United Nations must set up an advisory board, a sort of a 'brain trust', to supervise the conditions of world peace and prescribe measures to promote it. This board could consist of some ten to fifteen members of the best-qualified men in the whole world - qualified for their high-mindedness, erudition, integrity and international spirit. International problems are usually dealt with by each of us from his own national angle. Such a board, under

the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, could make impartial objective reports about world situations and about human progress on the path of freedom, prosperity and social justice as they affect world peace, and at the same time, warn against sources of danger that threaten world peace. It should be a sort of radar for the United Nations."

Mr. HOOVER, United States (A/PV.581 at pages 32 and 41): "...The Secretary-General's request for admission of United Nations observers into Hungary has been rejected. This means that we must redouble our support of his efforts.

....

The past year has also seen a major growth in the role of the Secretary-General. By steady and devoted effort, he has contributed in many ways towards resolving serious issues. The part he has been playing, especially in the Middle East, shows how much the Secretary-General can contribute to world peace. The United States wishes to record its thanks and congratulations to Mr. Hammarskjold, both for his devotion to his task and for his personal competence as a man of peace."

Mr. TRUJILLO, Ecuador (A/PV.581 at page 57): "...It is in times of trial that one may see the goodness of men and of institutions. That is why I would not wish to conclude without expressing my admiration for the Secretary-General of the United Nations who is discharging the heavy responsibilities we have assigned to him with dignity and untiring efficiency."

588th Meeting (21 November 1956 at 9 p.m.)

Mr. CASEY, Australia (A/PV.588 at page 13): "...From a practical point of view, I would believe that we are unlikely to reach any practicable, workable solution of Egyptian-Israel relations in other than a small body. Indeed I would not be without hope that the two parties principal (sic) might be brought into direct contact, with the aid of a small committee of this Assembly in association with the Secretary-General."

Mr. MACDONALD, New Zealand (A/PV.588 at page 88): "...In his report, the Secretary-General has indicated the various problems with which this Assembly must deal, in one way or another, as a result of the increase in membership. One of these concerns the size of the principal organs of the United Nations."

589th Meeting (22 November 1956 at 10:30 a.m.)

Mr. SHEPILOV, USSR (A/PV.589 at page 31): "...The aide-mémoire of the Egyptian Government transmitted to the United Nations Secretary-General on 18 November stated that Britain and France are not withdrawing their armed forces from Egypt, but, on the contrary, 'are consolidating their positions in Egyptian territory'.

'These armed forces' - says the aide-mémoire - 'are at the same time launching upon extremely provocative acts in Port Said and the Suez Canal area, which acts include indiscriminate shooting of the population resulting in many victims killed, maimed or wounded. To this are added the searching and looting of houses and stores, and forcing labourers, under all kinds of threats, to work with the invading forces.'

This state of affairs is fraught with grave danger."

590th Meeting (22 November 1956 at 3 p.m.)

Mr. BANDARANAIKE, Ceylon (A/PV.590 at page 3): "...I read with great interest the annual report of the Secretary-General. There are some matters of importance in which appreciable success has been achieved in the year under review. In certain others, valuable progress has been made - and in all I suppose it might be said that a certain degree of continuous activity appears to have been maintained.

I should like to take this opportunity, if it is not out of place, to congratulate the Secretary-General on the able, efficient and devoted manner in which he has been and is performing his functions, particularly during recent events. The Secretary-General, as the chief executive officer of the United Nations, in carrying out, in the letter as well as in the spirit, the decisions of the United Nations has greatly enhanced the reputation and prestige of the United Nations. I congratulate him and I congratulate ourselves on possessing an officer of such pre-eminent and distinguished qualities."

Mr. RIFA'I, Jordan (A/PV.590 at page 31): "...My delegation is pleased to take this opportunity to express to the Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, the great appreciation and high regard of the Jordan Government. We remember with gratification his last two visits to our country, in the performance of his important duties."

Mr. KIMNY, Cambodia (A/PV.590 at pages 51, 52 and 57): "...In this connexion, the delegation of Cambodia entirely approves the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his introduction to the annual report on the activities of the Organization. The Secretary-General said the following:

'The Charter itself foresees negotiations between parties as an initial step in the solution of conflicts which are unavoidable during a period of fundamental change. But I believe that such negotiations gain by being conducted against the background of the Purposes and Principles of the Charter and that the results can usefully be brought within the framework of the United Nations.' (A/3137/Add.1, page 2)

....

We must encourage such arrangements for economic co-operation, which must not entail political links that might work to the detriment of the countries assisted.

In this connexion, the introduction to the annual report of the Secretary-General is somewhat disquieting. The Secretary-General said in effect that, during the last decade, the gap between the industrially developed countries and the underindustrialized countries had become accentuated since pre-war days only if one considered the relative income per inhabitant.

In spite of the efforts made, the Secretary-General adds, even if one compares percentages, one finds that the poor countries are only relatively poorer."

Mr. BALAFRES, Morocco (A/PV.590 at page 83): "...It is my duty, as representative of Morocco, to pay tribute to the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and of the Members of this Assembly, efforts which continue unstinted, to restore peace and security."

597th Meeting (27 November 1956 at 10:30 a.m.)

Mr. BELAUNDE, Peru (A/PV.597 at page 32): "...I should like to express my tribute to the Secretary-General, who has carried to the Middle East our message of justice and peace, and we hope that, very soon, he will carry to the Hungarian people a message of hope."

The PRESIDENT (A/PV.597 at page 71): "...Before we adjourn, I have an announcement to make. The Secretary-General states that as a matter of course and independent of the initiative taken here, he gives current and official attention to the type of matter referred to by the representatives of Egypt and India."

598th Meeting (27 November 1956 at 3 p.m.)

Mr. LANGE, Norway (A/PV.598 at page 17): "...let me here express the gratitude of the Norwegian Government in the first place to our distinguished Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjold, for the courage and sense of leadership he displayed in a situation the implications of which one hesitates fully to recognize.

....

Another prerequisite for initiating peace is the withdrawal of troops from Egypt. This is the expressed policy of the General Assembly and we feel confident that the three Governments will abide by this decision of the General Assembly as readily as they responded to the call for a cease-fire.

We note their declarations in response to the Secretary-General's questions on this point and feel confident that, as and when United Nations forces enter the area in sufficient strength to discharge

fully the mission entrusted to them by the General Assembly, there will be full compliance with the decisions of this Assembly."

....

(at page 23-25): "The exchange of letters between the Foreign Minister of Egypt and the Secretary-General, following their exploratory talks in October, would seem to indicate that, given good will on all sides, a framework for the implementation of the six agreed principles could be worked out..."

I turn now to the situation in Hungary. We cannot but deeply regret and reprove the attitude of the Hungarian authorities and the Soviet Union in flatly refusing to comply with the repeated urgent requests of this Assembly - voted by overwhelming majorities - to allow observers, appointed by the Secretary-General, to enter Hungary and investigate freely what has happened and is still happening there, to cease forthwith any deportations and repatriate all persons who may have been forcibly removed to the Soviet Union, and without delay to withdraw Soviet troops from the country."

Mr. NASZKOWSKI, Poland (A/PV.598 at page 37): "...It is true that in their effort to solve this problem the United Nations and its Secretary-General can record a certain measure of success. But we must see to it that the recommendations of our Organization should be meticulously carried out, that, first of all, the troops of those States which committed aggression against Egypt should be withdrawn immediately. We cannot let certain Powers accomplish even in part their colonial designs in the Near East behind the shield and under the protection of United Nations resolutions."



Mr. ARISMENDI, Venezuela (A/PV.598 at page 56): "...In the same spirit I reiterate to the General Assembly that the Government of Venezuela in expression of sympathy and solidarity with the Hungarian people has decided to contribute in order to alleviate the sufferings of the Hungarian people by admitting to Venezuela a group of refugees up to 1,500 and appropriate the equivalent of \$50,000 to be spent in the manner already announced officially to the Secretary-General."

Mr. NUÑEZ-PORTUONDO, Cuba (A/PV.598 at page 86): "...I appeal to you, Mr. President, on behalf of the Cuban delegation and the delegation of Argentina, with whom we are associated in this matter, to have the Secretary-General report to us as soon as possible, so that we may know whether or not any progress has been made. If no progress has yet been achieved, I feel it is high time for us to adopt other resolutions. We should begin, for instance, by expelling from this Assembly the delegation which claims to represent the Hungarian Government, because that Government is not complying with the resolution of the General Assembly."

599th Meeting (28 November 1956 at 10:30 a.m.)

Mr. MAHGOUB, Sudan (A/PV.599 at pages 26 and 27): "...As the report of the Secretary-General clearly points out - and if we may be allowed to comment, this is borne out by our own experience of the surging national feeling - the fact that responsibility is given to the local people will by itself raise the standard of devotion and alertness and ipso facto engender a high standard of public service."

Mr. Jacques N. LEGER, Haiti (A/PV.599 at page 32): "...After his negotiations with the Government of Egypt the Secretary-General submitted two reports to the General Assembly on these new objectives of the United Nations. My delegation was happy to vote in favour of the six-Power resolution which conferred full powers on the Secretary-General to carry out these objectives. In the same spirit, we voted for the resolution contained in document A/3383/Rev.1, which deals with the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force."

Mr. POPOVIC, Yugoslavia (A/PV.599 at page 68): "...I wish to make particular reference to the active and very useful role that the Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjöld, has played throughout the present crisis - and long before it, for that matter."

Mr. BROUSTRA, France (A/PV.599 at pages 69-70 and 71): "Mr. Fawzi, the Foreign Minister of Egypt, made yesterday at this rostrum a statement relating to press information, according to which French tanks in the past few days had been unloaded at Port Said. As his source for this information, Mr. Fawzi quoted the United Press and the British newspaper, Daily Herald."

Mr. Krishna Menon then asked the Secretary-General immediately to get in touch with the French Government to obtain confirmation or repudiation of this report. I am very happy to be able to read to this Assembly the communiqué published this morning by the French Government on the subject." (The representative of France read out the text, which described the Daily Herald report as "fanciful".)

"Not only has there been no landing of new French forces in Port Said, but I am authorized to announce that after the arrival of the Norwegian units of the international Emergency Force the French command withdrew a company of infantry and a naval commando unit from Port Said and that it is preparing for the withdrawal of another unit after the arrival of the Yugoslav group of the Emergency Force."

600th Meeting (28 November 1956 at 3 p.m.)

Mr. FAWZI, Egypt (A/PV.600 at page 21): "...The 29th of October 1956 had initially been scheduled as the date of a meeting in Geneva between the Foreign Ministers of France, the United Kingdom and Egypt, with the assistance of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to resume the previous discussions of the question of the Suez Canal that had taken place in New York during the month of October last. Those discussions had preceded the formulation of the six principles embodied in the resolution of the Security Council on 13 October last, and had given serious promise of further progress and a definite solution. This was shown by, among other things, the note of the Secretary-General on 3 November, which pointed out that further and significant developments toward a solution had been made; and also by the statement which was made on 24 November by the Foreign Minister

of Belgium, who is not particularly known for partiality towards Egypt in this connexion, that all that was needed to accomplish a solution of the Suez Canal question was a little more effort."

....

(at page 27): "On 12 October the Secretary-General of the United Nations presented to the Security Council, in the form of six principles, what, in his view, emerged from the talks which had been taking place between the Foreign Ministers of France, the United Kingdom and Egypt. In a resolution on 13 October these principles were unanimously endorsed by the Security Council."

Mr. ALDUNATE, Chile (A/PV.600 at page 56): "...However, the peremptory declarations which have been made in the last few days to the representatives of the countries directly implicated in the problems lead us to believe that the resolutions adopted by this General Assembly will be implemented in their entirety and that the Secretary-General will be empowered to seek formulae for co-existence that will bring about a permanent and stable peace in that region of the world."

Mr. URQUIA, El Salvador (A/PV.600 at page 83-85): "...You may count on the intelligent and diligent co-operation of the indefatigable Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjold, and the decided and constant co-operation of the majority of the delegations to the General Assembly - of all those delegations which, as in the case of the one over which I have the honour to preside, would like to see inscribed in great letters in front of this home of nations, the immortal words of the Mexican statesman: 'Respect for another's right is peace.'"

30 November 1956

- 12 -

601st Meeting (29 November 1956 at 10:30 a.m.)

Mr. DERESSA, Ethiopia (A/PV.601 at page 11): "...Finally, I would refer, briefly, to the problem of Africa as a whole. With great prescience and justification, the Secretary-General for some time has been directing the attention of the Organization to the necessity of finding some means of resolving the problems of the African continent. However, as he has pointed out, too little heed has been paid to them, with the result that the questions relating to that vast area are now multiplying at an almost uncontrollable rate.

....

I would commend to the particular attention of the General Assembly the decisive and stimulating chapters which the Secretary-General has devoted to this subject, especially to the Technical Assistance Programme, in his report for the period June 1955 to June 1956."

....

(at page 16): "It is true that by force of circumstances the Security Council has been unable to act in the questions now before us. The responsibility for evolving solutions is now ours and must not be evaded on the theory that the Assembly can only have recourse to empty recommendations. We have remained faithful to that duty. In our present endeavours, we are also sustained by the courageous and selfless statesmanship of our great Secretary-General. Surely there is cause for hope."

Mr. KHAN NOON, Pakistan (A/PV.601 at page 22): "...We are strongly of the opinion that the rule of law and international justice must prevail, and that the resolutions of this Assembly concerning evacuation of all foreign troops and Canal clearance must be implemented

at once. This duty now devolves on the Secretary-General; and we are confident that he will discharge his responsibility immediately."

U PE KIN, Burma (A/PV.601 at page 42): "...Further, we are indeed indebted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and for the unflagging devotion of that new creation of our times, a dedicated corps of international civil servants, capable of harmoniously reconciling national patriotism and supranational service."

Mr. CHAVEZ ORTIZ, Bolivia (A/PV.601 at page 62): "...In the report prepared by the group of experts set up by the Secretary-General in 1951 for the purpose of encouraging the economic development of under-developed areas it is indicated that Latin America, having the highest index of demographic growth, needs \$2,540 millions in order to increase by 2 per cent the national per capita income; and yet, it is the area of the world that shows the lowest deficit."

602nd Meeting (29 November 1956 at 3 p.m.)

Mr. UNLEN, Sweden (A/PV.602 at page 8): "...I will say ... that my Government completely agrees with the Secretary-General's interpretation of the task of the United Nations Emergency Force in Egypt, which the General Assembly has sanctioned. Thus the task of this force must not be to remain in Egypt to put political pressure on that country with the intention of bringing about a settlement of the Suez Canal issue."

Mr. SASORITH, Laos (A/PV.602 at page 21): "...we can only welcome the recent creation of an international police force under the high authority of our Secretary-General. We hope that this is only a first step and that this nucleus of a world police force will develop into an effective instrument of action, a real armed force in the service of peace."

....

"While we regard the dispatch of this United Nations Emergency Force to Egypt as an event to be welcomed, we cannot altogether help being surprised at the casualness, not to say indifference, with which certain States seem to accept the flouting of the Assembly's recommendations on Hungary. We place all our hopes in the efforts of the Secretary-General to solve this problem;"

....

"I am also instructed by my Government to respond to the appeal addressed by the Secretary-General to all Member States, inviting them, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions of 4 November, to participate within the limits of their possibilities in providing relief for the Hungarian people."

Mr. INTEZAM, Iran (A/PV.602 at page 42): "...If I take part in the general debate it is only in order to speak briefly of recent developments - those developments which have taken place since the publication of the Secretary-General's annual report. The questions dealt with in the Secretary-General's report will be discussed fruitfully in the various Committees, and it is in those Committees that my delegation will express its views as the various items are taken up."

Mr. PREOTFASA, Romania (A/PV.602 at page 66): "...Within the framework of international economic co-operation, the problem of economic and technical assistance to under-developed areas is of particular importance - assistance to those regions where, as Mr. Hammarskjold put it in the introduction to his annual report, 'poverty continues to be the law of life for the great majority of mankind'."

Mr. FEKINI, Libya (A/PV.602 at page 68-70): "...The Libyan delegation would like to express also its great satisfaction at the manner in which the Secretary-General is discharging his numerous heavy duties, and we wish to convey to him, as well as to his collaborators, the expression of our consideration, together with our appreciation, admiration and encouragement."

603rd Meeting (30 November 1956 at 10:30 a.m.)

Mr. MONTERO de VARGAS, Paraguay (A/PV.603 at page 27): "...This resolution, sponsored by Canada, Colombia, India, Norway, the United States of America and Yugoslavia, takes note with approval of the progress so far achieved by the Secretary-General in connexion with the arrangements to clear the Suez Canal, progress which was reported by the Secretary-General in document A/3376. This resolution authorizes the Secretary-General to continue with the exploration of practical arrangements and the negotiation of agreements so that the clearing operations may be promptly and effectively undertaken. We have already explained our abstention on these points, but we feel it is necessary to stress the purpose and significance of this resolution. We sincerely feel that the cost of clearing the Suez Canal



cannot and should not be borne in a pro rata manner by all the Member States."

....

"In his preliminary report, the Secretary-General indicated that he was not yet in a position to advise on the manner in which this expenditure should be distributed among the various Member States of the United Nations. We hope that, with his great intelligence and sagacity, he will find a fair formula to meet the expenditures incurred in clearing the Suez Canal."

....

(at page 28): "Let us hope that the Secretary-General will be able to receive some facilities, from the Soviet Union, not from the Hungarian people, so that he can carry out this humanitarian work."

609th Meeting (5 December 1956 at 10:30 a.m.)

Mr. PINARD, Canada (A/PV.609 at pages 36 and 37): "...I want to make it perfectly clear that I am not hinting necessarily of making the present United Nations Emergency Force a permanent force, although we should build upon that experience. Shall we go back once again to the situation in which the United Nations found itself both in June of 1950 and in November of this year, when everything had to be improvised, when there were no units, and no financial and administrative procedures to which the Secretary-General could turn in the task assigned to him by the Assembly of putting a United Nations force into a very dangerous and rather delicate situation.

If the United Nations had had such an organization available in September and ready for use in our time of emergency, I think that many of the difficulties and delays which arose could have been avoided. The Secretary-General's truly amazing energy and devotion brought something together out of nothing with what I thought to be remarkable speed."

Mrs. MEIR, Israel (A/PV.609 at page 57): "...The campaign of terror unleashed against Israel was not stopped by the intervention of the United Nations. The cease-fire secured by the Secretary-General last April was not honoured."

....

(at page 63): "...In a letter of 30 October 1956 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, we put the following questions:" (Here questions are listed)

610th Meeting (5 December 1956 at 3 p.m.)

Mr. ARENALES CATALAN, Guatemala (A/PV.610 at page 22): "...It is also on the basis of that policy that the delegation of Guatemala is determined to spare no effort to ensure that observers of the United Nations or the Secretary-General - in his capacity as a negotiator - are permitted to go to Hungary in order to facilitate the taking of any intelligent and effective action which can improve rather than worsen the situation in that part of the world. That is why we listened yesterday - with some doubts, but nevertheless with great hope - to what the Secretary-General had to say on the results of the negotiations which had taken place between him and the Government of Hungary on the Secretary-General's visit to Budapest."

....

(at page 32): "...Another development in the right direction is the diplomatic functions which have been undertaken by the Secretary-General. This has been possible because of the Secretary-General's devotion to the Organization, his respect for the principles of the Organization and his personal ability. My Government and my delegation wish to congratulate the Secretary-General and to express our profound satisfaction at the manner in which he has handled these matters."

611th Meeting (6 December 1956 at 10:30 a.m.)

Sir Pierson DIXON, United Kingdom (A/PV.611 at page 12): "...I should like also to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General, who, by his energy and devotion, has increasingly excited the admiration of the world and whose unique qualities I have been fortunate to come to value through close personal experience."

Mr. Krishna MENON, India (A/PV.611 at page 62): "...I should like to say that it is our view that the Soviet Union would make a great contribution toward peace initiatives, toward the solution of the problem of disarmament, toward the lowering of tensions in the world, toward preventing the renewal of the cold war, toward maintaining and promoting the feelings of understanding that have developed, certainly in our part of the world, in regard to the Soviet Union, and toward enabling its own forces of liberalization to go forward - irrespective of whatever legal arguments may be raised - if it would use its undoubted influence in this question to ask the Hungarian Government to invite the Secretary-General to go to Hungary without delay.

It is not a question of what the Secretary-General can find out. It is not a question of what an observer can find out. I do not believe they can find out any more than the five or six hundred people who were already there from other countries. But it is a question of making a contribution to the relief of tension and of paying some attention to the expression of opinion overwhelmingly made in this Assembly."

....

(at page 63): "...Therefore, there are times when even extreme legal considerations should be put on one side, the necessary reservations

made, and the consideration shown to this Assembly of responding to the suggestions and the proposals made the other day by the Secretary-General."

....

(at page 88): "...I have made references in my observations to these two problems. One was necessitated by the references made by the representative of Pakistan to Kashmir, a problem of which the Security Council has been seized and, if communications made to the Secretary-General have any validity, it should be considered there."