

## Chinese Representation

The question of the representation of China has been raised in the United Nations since 1950 when a resolution aimed at replacing the Chinese Nationalist Delegation by representatives of the newly established Communist Government in Peking was defeated. In all subsequent years substantive votes on the question of Chinese representation have been avoided by the adoption of procedural resolutions providing for postponement of consideration of the question.

On July 13, 1959 the Indian Delegation submitted a request for the inclusion of an item dealing with Chinese representation on the provisional agenda of the fourteenth session. On September 16, 1959 the General Committee (which deals with the agenda) adopted a resolution submitted by the United States Delegation which decided:

- (1) To reject the request of India for the inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly's fourteenth regular session of the item entitled: "The Question of the Representation of China in the United Nations".
- (2) Not to consider at the fourteenth regular session any proposals to exclude the representatives of the Government of the Republic of China or to seat Representatives of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China.

This resolution was adopted by the General Assembly in plenary session on September 22, 1959 by a vote of 44 in favour (including Canada), 29 against with 9 abstentions. Cuba and Ethiopia switched from an affirmative vote at the thirteenth session to an abstention at the fourteenth. This was balanced by the affirmative votes of Greece and Laos, both of which had abstained at the thirteenth session. An additional negative vote was registered by Guinea. These results compare with the following votes at the twelfth and thirteenth sessions:

<i>Session</i>		<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>
Twelfth .....	1957	48	27	6
Thirteenth .....	1958	44	28	9

## Tibet

The suppression of the Tibetan revolt by the Chinese Communist Government gave rise to widespread condemnation throughout the world and led Ireland and Malaya to propose an item entitled "The Question of Tibet" for inscription on the Agenda of the fourteenth session. The item was referred directly to plenary after the General Committee had voted in favour of inscription.

The General Assembly considered a resolution submitted by the Delegations of Malaya and Ireland. This resolution based itself on the violation of fundamental human rights implied in the Chinese Communist action in Tibet. It affirmed the Assembly's belief that respect for the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was essential for the evolution of a peaceful world order based on the rule of law. The resolution also called for respect for the fundamental rights of the Tibetan people and for their distinctive cultural and religious life.

While no delegation—with the exception of those from the Soviet bloc of countries—defended Chinese action in Tibet, there was some division of opinion in the Assembly on the resolution. Certain delegations argued that a debate on the question would not likely be of assistance to the Tibetan people, while others took the legal view that the matter, being one of internal jurisdiction, did not fall within the range of subjects that could be