

In connection with the location of United Nations forces, the Soviet Union proposes that such forces "shall be garrisoned within the frontiers of the contributing member nations own territories or territorial waters, except in cases envisaged in Article 106~~x~~ of the Charter."~~xx~~ The viewpoint of the United Kingdom, the United States and China, and the other hand, is that "Armed Forces made available to the Security Council by Member Nations when not employed by the Security Council will be based at the discretion of Member Nations in any territories or waters to which they have legal right of access."

I do not intend to go into further points of disagreement, as I do not have first hand knowledge of them. It is now evident, however, that four of the five members of the Military Staff Committee have for some time been in general agreement on the fundamental principles, and that the inability of the Committee to make progress in its work is due largely to the fact that the Soviet Union has consistently disagreed with the position taken by the other four members.

CREATION OF THE COMMISSION FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS.

FEBRUARY 13, 1947.

On February 13, 1947, the Security Council adopted a resolution creating the Commission for Conventional Armaments. This Commission was given the task of preparing plans for the general regulation and reduction of armaments, and was instructed to submit a plan of work to the Security Council. The Commission was established with the same membership as the Security Council.

The first issue debated by this Commission was whether or not the question of the prohibition of atomic weapons should be considered together with the general reduction of armaments and armed forces by the same body in drafting plans of disarmament. The Soviet Union desired to have the two matters considered together while the majority of the other members, on the other hand, pointed out that the problems involved in the working out of a plan for the international control of atomic energy involved technical questions which were different from those relating to the question of disarmament involving conventional arms and armaments.

DEFINITION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS

In view of the differences which became apparent early in the Commission's work, it became important to establish a definition of "conventional armaments."

The Assembly resolution of December 14, 1946, stated that nothing contained in it should alter or limit the resolution of the General Assembly of January 24, 1946, creating the Atomic Energy Commission. Similarly the Security Council resolution of February 13, 1947, setting up the Commission for Conventional Armaments stated that those matters falling within the competence of the Atomic Energy Commission should be excluded from the jurisdiction of the Commission.

At the first meeting of the Working Committee of the Commission for Conventional Armaments, the United States representative proposed a definition of weapons of mass destruction. This definition was adopted in the Working Committee. The resolution of the Working Committee considered that all armaments and armed forces, except atomic weapons and weapons of mass destruction, should fall within its jurisdiction and that weapons of mass destruction should be

Article 106 of the Charter of the United Nations.
Chapter IX, Article 32, page 21.