

(Mr. Wegener, Federal Republic of Germany)

where the workshop is to take place differs from the United States installation in design and throughput. The workshop is therefore expected to yield additional insights. We look upon the United States invitation and ours as being mutually reinforcing.

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24-25

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

With this, Mr. Chairman, I would like to end my statement as co-ordinator of the group of socialist countries and now make a short statement as head of the Soviet delegation. The other day, a letter was distributed to members of the Committee from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany concerning two statements made by the Soviet delegation on 4 and 22 February of this year.

As far as this letter is concerned, I would like to state the following.

The crimes against humanity committed by the German fascists constitute one of the darkest and most shameful pages of history. The fact that these crimes were committed has been proven beyond all doubt by, among others, the International Tribunal in Nuremberg which, as everyone knows, convicted the principal Nazi war criminals, guilty of the deaths of millions and millions of innocent people. The German fascist leaders received the punishment they deserved, in accordance with the sentence of the Tribunal.

The many atrocities committed by the Nazis and fully proven at the Nuremberg trials and other trials of war criminals included the use of chemicals to exterminate people. Hundreds of thousands of people of different nationalities — Russians and French, Jews and Poles, Czechs and Belgians — perished in the gas chambers in the death camps at Auschwitz, Majdanek, Buchenwald and Treblinka. Poisonous chemicals were widely used at these factories of mass destruction.

However, in various instances, the Nazis used such substances during military operations. In our statements of 4 and 22 February of this year, we referred to the use of poisonous gases by the German fascist forces in the Crimea in 1942 during military action against units of the Soviet armed forces and civilians defending themselves in the Adzhimushkai quarry.