

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

[resuming in Russian] As regards the questions that are being discussed here in the Committee on Disarmament, our position on those, too, has been repeatedly stated, and not only in a general way but also in the form of concrete proposals and in particular in the form of a draft convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons and a draft treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests.

With respect to the Vice-President's assertions about violations of the Geneva Protocol of 1925, I should like to remind him, and others as well, that the Geneva Protocol has indeed been violated. The facts are well known: in 1935-1936, poison gases were used by Fascist Italy against Ethiopia; they were used by Hitlerite Germany against my country, especially in the Crimea, in 1942; both before the Second World War and during it, as President Roosevelt said, chemical substances were used by Japan against China. Lastly, poisonous chemical substances were widely used for a long time during the period of the American aggression against Viet Nam, and this, too, is well known. As to the lies about the Soviet Union's use of chemical weapons in Afghanistan and south-east Asia, well, a lie will never be anything but a lie, however many times it is repeated.