

the beginning of the discussion rather than at the end of it.

The representative of China observed that several delegations had referred to the fact that the case could have been taken to the International Court in the first place, but he reminded those delegations that, since Albania was not a member of the United Nations, it could not have been compelled to appear before the Court. However, since it had accepted the obligations of the Members of the United Nations when it accepted the Council's invitation to participate in the discussion, it was now, like any Member of the United Nations, obliged to comply with both the provisions of the Charter and the Statute of the International Court.

A vote was taken on April 9, 1947, on the United Kingdom proposal to recommend "that the United Kingdom and the Albanian Governments should immediately refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice in accordance with the provisions of the Statute of the Court."

The result of the voting was as follows: Affirmative—Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Syria and the United States. Abstention—Poland and the U.S.S.R. Being a party to the dispute, the United Kingdom did not vote. The President of the Council announced that the resolution was carried.

On May 23, 1947, the Secretary-General received notification that the United Kingdom had filed with the International Court of Justice its applications against the Albanian People's Republic in the Corfu Channel Case.

II. TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT FOR THE FORMER JAPANESE MANDATED ISLANDS

On February 17, 1947, the Secretary-General of the United Nations received from the United States representative on the Security Council a letter enclosing the text of a draft Trusteeship Agreement for the former Japanese mandated islands. The Secretary-General was requested to submit the draft Agreement to the Security Council for its approval, and he was further requested to place this matter on the agenda of the Security Council at an early date. The area included in the Agreement took in the Marshall, Mariana and Caroline Islands—a total of 98 islands with a population of some 48,000.

The draft Trusteeship Agreement differed from the eight United Nations Trusteeship

Agreements already in effect by its designation of the former Japanese mandated islands as a strategic area. Article 82 of the Charter provides that there may be designated in any Trusteeship Agreement a strategic area or areas to include part or all of the Trust Territory. Under Article 83, all functions of the United Nations relating to such strategic areas, including the approval of the terms of the Trusteeship Agreements and of their alteration or amendment, are exercised by the Security Council. Subject to the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreements and without prejudice to security considerations, the Security Council is to avail itself of the assistance of the Trusteeship Council on political, economic, social and educational matters in the strategic areas.

The letter and the enclosed draft Trusteeship Agreement were placed on the agenda of the Security Council at its 113th meeting held on February 26, 1947.

In explaining the purpose of the draft Agreement, the United States representative to the Security Council reiterated the declaration made by President Truman on November 6, 1946, that "the United States is prepared to place under trusteeship, with the United States as the Administering Authority, the Japanese mandated islands and any Japanese islands for which it assumes responsibility as a result of the Second World War."

Final disposition of islands which were under Japanese sovereignty before the war must await the peace settlement with Japan, the United States representative went on to state. The draft Trusteeship Agreement submitted to the Security Council for its approval related only to the former Japanese mandated islands, which had never belonged to Japan but were part of the League of Nations mandates system.

The United States representative described the strategic value of the mandated islands to Japan in its campaign of aggression. The purpose of the United States, he maintained, was to defend the security of these islands in a manner that would contribute to the building up of genuine, effective and enforceable collective security for all Members of the United Nations.

He stated that in conformity with the provisions of the Charter for strategic areas, the Trust Territory would contain bases, and that the United States might from time to