a grave injustice and to an unacceptable and
dangerous situation which had been perpetuated
in order to fulfil a policy increasingly repudiated.
This meant the immediate expulsion of the
representatives of the Chiang Kai-shek régime
from the seat which it unlawfully occupied in the
United Nations and its affiliated bodies.

In the explanatory memorandum accompany-
ing its request of 17 August 1971, the United
States said that, in dealing with the problem of the
representation of China, the United Nations
should take cognizance of the existence of both the
People's Republic of China and the Republic of
China; it should reflect that incontestable reality in
the manner in which it made provision for China's
representation. The United Nations should not be
required to take a position on the respective
conflicting claims of the People's Republic of
China or the Republic of China pending a
peaceful resolution of the matter as called for by
the United Nations Charter. Thus, the memo-
dandum added, the People's Republic of China should
be represented and at the same time provision
should be made to ensure that the Republic of
China was not deprived of its representation. To
succeed in its peace-keeping role and in advancing
the well-being of mankind, the United Nations
should deal with the question of the representa-
tion of China in such a just and realistic manner.

In a letter of 15 October 1971 the representa-
tives of 22 States—Albania, Algeria, Burma,
Ceylon, the Congo, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea,
Guinea, Iraq, Mali, Mauritania, Nepal, Pakistan,
the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen,
Romania, Somalia, Sudan, the Syrian Arab Repub-
lic, the United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen,
Yugoslavia and Zambia—requested the Secretary-
General to distribute, as an official Assembly
document, a statement of the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs of the People's Republic of China dated 20
August 1971. In this statement, made in response
to the United States letter of 17 August 1971 and
its accompanying explanatory memorandum, the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs declared that the
United States proposal was a blatant exposure of
the Nixon Government's scheme of creating "two
Chinas" in the United Nations. There was only one
China, the People's Republic of China. Taiwan, it
added, was an inalienable part of Chinese territory
and a province of China, which had already
returned to the motherland after the Second
World War.

For over 20 years, the statement continued, the
United States Government had arbitrarily inserted
in the United Nations the Chiang Kai-shek clique—which had long been repudiated by the
Chinese people—to usurp the seat of the People's
Republic of China. The relationship between the
Chinese people and the Chiang Kai-shek clique
was entirely China's internal affair. The United
States was plotting to separate Taiwan from China
and was wildly attempting to force Members of the
United Nations to submit to its will.

The Chinese Government declared that the
Chinese people and Government firmly opposed
"two Chinas," "one China, one Taiwan" or any
similar absurdities, as well as the fallacy that "the
status of Taiwan remains to be determined" and
the scheme of creating "an independent Taiwan."
Should any such situation or any other similar
situation occur in the United Nations, the Govern-
ment of the People's Republic of China would
have absolutely nothing to do with the United
Nations.

The statement further called for the immediate
expulsion of the representatives of Chiang Kai-
shek from the United Nations and all its organs
and for the restoration of all the legitimate rights
of the People's Republic of China in the Organiza-
tion.

Discussion in the Assembly took place at 12
plenary meetings between 18 and 26 October
1971, with 73 Members taking part in the debate.
At the beginning of the debate, the General
Assembly had before it three draft resolutions.
The first draft resolution, submitted on 25
September 1971, was sponsored by the following
23 States, including the 17 States which had joined
in placing the question on the agenda: Albania,
Algeria, Burma, Ceylon, the Congo, Cuba, Equa-
torial Guinea, Guinea, Iraq, Mali, Mauritania,
Nepal, Pakistan, the People's Democratic Republic
of Yemen, Romania, Sierra Leone, Somalia,
Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United
Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zamba.

By the preambular paragraphs of this draft, the
Assembly would recall Charter principles, make
the point that restoration of the lawful rights of
the People's Republic of China was essential both
for the protection of the Charter and for the cause
the United Nations must serve under the Charter,
and recognize that the representatives of the
People's Republic of China were the only lawful
representatives of China to the United Nations
and that the People's Republic of China was one of
the five permanent members of the Security
Council.

By the operative paragraph of the text, the
General Assembly would decide to restore to the
People's Republic of China all its rights, to
recognize the representatives of its Government as
the only legitimate representatives of China to the
United Nations and to expel forthwith the
representatives of Chiang Kai-shek from the seat
which they unlawfully occupied in the United
Nations and in all the organizations related to it.
The second draft resolution, submitted on 29