

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TWELFTH SESSION

Official Records


**678th  
PLENARY MEETING**

 (Opening Meeting)  
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 at 3 p. m.

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President: Sir Leslie MUNRO (New Zealand).

 Temporary President: Prince WAN WAIHAYAKON  
 (Thailand).

## AGENDA ITEM 1

 Opening of the session by the Chairman of the  
 delegation of Thailand

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: I declare open the twelfth regular session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

## AGENDA ITEM 2

Minute of silent prayer or meditation

2. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: I invite the representatives to stand and observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation.

The representatives stood in silence.
Address by Prince Wan Waithayakon, Temporary President, Chairman of the delegation of Thailand:

3. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: The eleventh session of the General Assembly came to a close only a few days ago. This shows that the General Assembly has work to do which takes more time and more continuing effort than previously.

4. The fact is that the eleventh session had to continue the work of the two emergency special sessions in dealing with the tragic situations in the

Middle East and in Hungary. The General Assembly prior to the eleventh session had already adopted appropriate resolutions on those two questions, but they remained to be implemented. That was the task of the eleventh session.

5. In my speech of acceptance of the high office of President [574th meeting], I expressed my confidence that the United Nations had stood out as an efficient and effective instrument of peace, and in this connexion I paid a warm tribute to the outstanding role played by the Secretary-General and his associates. My confidence has been justified.

6. The resolutions on the question of the Middle East have been complied with, and this reflects great credit on the part of the Powers concerned. Their compliance redounds to their honour and good name, and their action is warmly appreciated by the world at large.

7. The Suez Canal was cleared in less time and at less expense than had been expected, and the United Nations is to be congratulated on this fine performance.

 8. It is also a general source of satisfaction that the Government of Egypt has accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in legal disputes arising between the parties to the Convention of 1888<sup>1/</sup> in respect of the interpretation or application of its provisions.

9. The United Nations Emergency Force has rendered a signal service to the cause of peace by helping to restore tranquillity in this region. It has deserved well of the United Nations and we owe it a great debt of gratitude. May the tranquillity thus restored be turned, in spite of an overcast horizon, into a more permanent condition of peace in due time.

10. With regard to the Hungarian question, compliance with the Assembly resolutions has yet to come. The General Assembly has, by resolution 1133 (XI), appointed me its Special Representative to negotiate for

<sup>1/</sup> Convention respecting the free navigation of the Suez Maritime Canal, signed at Constantinople on 29 October 1888.

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the achievement of the objectives of those resolutions. Indeed, the freedom of the Hungarian people as a problem of humanity is a cause which all Members of the United Nations should have at heart, and it should be possible to harmonize the actions of nations to this end.

11. The admission of one more State, the eighty-second, to membership in the United Nations is being recommended: it is the Federation of Malaya, a close neighbour and friend of my country, whose attainment of independence is a tribute to the exemplary application of the principle of self-determination contained in the Charter of the United Nations.

12. The General Assembly, at its eleventh session, called for a peaceful, just and democratic solution for the questions of Algeria and Cyprus, and it is my earnest hope that further progress will be made toward that end during the twelfth session.

13. Finally, I wish to reiterate that, if a positive step forward could be taken in the matter of disarmament, it would be hailed by the whole world.

14. May the twelfth session of the General Assembly, half of whose Member States are represented by their Foreign Ministers, be blessed with every success in its deliberations for the peace, freedom, justice and welfare of mankind.

### AGENDA ITEM 3

#### Credentials of representatives to the twelfth session of the General Assembly:

##### (a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee

15. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: Rule 28 of the rules of procedure provides for the appointment, at the beginning of each session, of a Credentials Committee consisting of nine members proposed by the President. In accordance with this rule, I should like to suggest that the following Members serve on the Credentials Committee for the twelfth session: Burma, Canada, Iceland, Liberia, Nicaragua, Panama, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

16. If there is no objection, I shall consider the proposal approved by the General Assembly.

It was so decided.

### AGENDA ITEM 4

#### Election of the President

17. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: The election of the President of the twelfth session of the General Assembly will be held in accordance with rules 31 and 94 of the rules of procedure. I invite the Assembly to proceed to the vote by secret ballot. The ballot papers have been distributed.

18. I call on the representative of Mexico, on a point of order.

19. Mr. PADILLA NERVO (Mexico) (translated from Spanish): I must apologize to the Assembly for speaking at this stage in the proceedings. I know that it is not customary to do so; it has never happened during all the years I have had the honour of representing my country in the Assembly. I am well aware of rule 94 of the Assembly's rules of procedure, according to which all elections shall be held by secret ballot and

there shall be no nominations. I do not intend to speak on that point.

20. My Government, like all the other Governments represented here, has a commitment regarding the candidates for the presidency and it will fulfil that commitment, as will all the others. I feel, however, that the Assembly should not be divided on this issue. The vote might carry with it political implications which are far from our minds.

21. Both candidates are deserving of our full consideration and respect. We are familiar with their ability and integrity, but the Assembly should, I believe, give complete authority to its next President. Like his predecessors, he must be above the battle and act impartially in dealing with all the problems submitted for our consideration. Like Prince Wan Waithayakon, the President of the eleventh session, and like previous Presidents, he will have to discharge his high office in full compliance with the principles of the Charter and the provisions of the rules of procedure.

22. For these reasons, I take the liberty of suggesting that one of the candidates should stand down, thus enabling us to elect the next president of the Assembly by a unanimous vote. I know that such a gesture would be welcomed by the Assembly. In so dealing with this matter — which is not political — we would begin our work in unity and amity instead of being divided and finding ourselves in the position of having to confer victory upon one candidate and inflict defeat upon the other.

23. I believe that the legitimate aspirations of the candidates will be supported by the delegations on a future occasion. For my part, I can say that my country will support the candidate who decides to withdraw, thus enabling us to give greater backing and authority to the President who will be elected for this session. The withdrawal of one candidate would be an expression of the unity and the spirit of friendliness which exists in this matter — for this is not a debate on a political issue. Thus, all the Members of this Assembly could write and work in an atmosphere of harmony that might be an augury of a brighter future for the United Nations and for the world.

24. Mr. MALIK (Lebanon): I listened with great care to the statement that we have just heard from our colleague and former President, Mr. Padilla Nervo. I think the arguments that he adduced are sound and should be fully considered. Basing myself upon his statement, together with the expressions in it regarding the future, I wish to make the following declaration.

25. The deliberations of the General Assembly affect the peace of the world, and therefore the President of the Assembly, to be able to guide our proceedings with the requisite authority and prestige, must enjoy the broadest and, if possible, the unanimous support of the Assembly.

26. Now the Assembly has before it two candidates, and we know that the house is fairly evenly divided between them. In the space of a few months we have been able to gather considerable support, which by itself would have justified our pressing for a contest on the floor.

27. However, considerations of strength or weakness are not the only, nor even the most important, considerations in this situation, for during our campaign it became apparent also that most of those who were

unable to vote for us were, at the same time, animated by a most genuine goodwill towards us. They expressed real unhappiness at not being able to support us now.

28. In these circumstances, and in the present critical situation of the world, a divided house containing also divided hearts is obviously not the best possible product of human wisdom.

29. We of the Government and delegation of Lebanon express our deepest gratitude to all those who have encouraged and supported us in this matter, as well as to those who have so profoundly heartened us by their sincere manifestation of goodwill. In the interest of harmony, concord, amity and peace, I am yielding to my good friend Sir Leslie Munro. I shall vote for him, and I am sure he knows that he can completely count on my support. I hope he will receive the maximum support from all sections of the Assembly, for under his exalted leadership there is no question but that we shall have a splendid session this year.

30. And so, my friends, let us inaugurate this twelfth session of the General Assembly with an act of unity, for without real unity - unity of spirit and unity of action - there can be no real peace and certainly no United Nations.

31. Mr. ROMULO (Philippines): The Philippine delegation wishes to note with admiration the gesture of renunciation just shown by Mr. Charles Malik, the distinguished chairman of the Lebanese delegation.

32. As an old friend and colleague of his in this Organization, I can think of no higher tribute to Mr. Malik than to say that he is one of the outstanding statesmen of our time who would honour the presidency of the General Assembly at any time.

33. It is in recognition of his indisputable merits that I wish to put on record the earnest hope and expectation that the General Assembly, will, at some future time, avail itself of the services of so able and deserving a man for its President, both as a simple matter of justice to Mr. Malik himself and as an act by which the General Assembly would honour itself.

34. Mr. DULLES (United States of America): This Organization is fortunate that it has among its members those who are well qualified to serve as President of the General Assembly. We have just heard one of them speak: Mr. Malik, a man of great eminence whom it has been my privilege to know even before the United Nations was formed. He has shown, I think, by his statesman-like act today, his devotion and dedication to the principles and ideals of the United Nations. I know that we all rejoice that he will be able in the future to serve this Organization, the more so because of his act here today.

35. Mr. TSIANG (China): The Secretary for External Relations of Mexico, in putting before us the suggestions which he made, has rendered the General Assembly one more service. The sentiments that he expressed are those of my delegation. Indeed, it would be a privilege for my delegation to vote for Mr. Malik for President of the General Assembly. He has, in the interests of harmony, decided to withdraw. It will be a privilege for my delegation to support him whenever he should offer his services to us in the capacity of President of the General Assembly.

36. Mr. DE FREITAS-VALLE (Brazil) (translated from French): I should like to add a few words on

behalf of Brazil to what has already been said. His long years of service to the United Nations entitle Mr. Malik to our wholehearted respect and gratitude. His outstanding ability and his devotion to the cause of the United Nations are deeply appreciated in Brazil, his countrymen are well liked in our country and their descendants have become integrated into our national life. We hope that Mr. Malik will be available at a future session to serve in the office for which he was so well qualified a candidate and which he has now so graciously renounced.

37. Mr. GEORGES-PICOT (France) (translated from French): We owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Malik for the gesture he has made today, affording a further instance of his high-mindedness and his subtle grasp of the most complex situations. Many countries, including my own, would - as he saw, and as Mr. Padilla Nervo pointed out in his able statement, for which we thank him - have been loath to choose between two candidates such as Mr. Malik and Sir Leslie Munro and, by voting for one, to have seemed to be voting against the other.

38. On this as on other occasions, Mr. Malik has endeavoured to avoid the creation of a situation which would have divided the Assembly. He was anxious to permit the Assembly to open, as he said himself, in unity and concord. We fully and wholeheartedly associate ourselves with the remarks of Mr. Romulo, Mr. Dulles and the representatives of China and Brazil. Like them, we hope that in the near future the Assembly may be able to take advantage of Mr. Malik's talents, learning, philosophy, political experience and experience of the United Nations, as well as of his impartiality and the statesman-like qualities of which he has just given additional proof to the Assembly.

39. Mr. CASEY (Australia): I appreciate the opportunity of joining in the many expressions of appreciation of the high-minded and selfless attitude which Mr. Malik has just demonstrated to us.

40. It was a matter of very considerable distress to me, and I know to a number of other representatives, that the Assembly might be called upon to choose between two gentlemen of such high distinction and achievements as Sir Leslie Munro and Mr. Charles Malik. As the representative of Mexico has said, there is obvious advantage and merit in unanimity in this case, since unanimity clearly adds to the authority of the incoming President.

41. This high-minded and selfless attitude of Mr. Malik in standing down today has, I believe, added appreciably to his prestige in the United Nations and elsewhere, now and in the future.

42. A long time ago - in fact, fourteen years ago - I had some association with the Middle East and with Lebanon. At that time, I became acquainted with a number of those who now occupy the highest positions in Lebanon. Mr. Malik, as a great many, if not all, of us know, as a man of high distinction and reputation, which go far outside his own country. He is one of the best speakers in the United Nations. He is notable, perhaps, for his calm and philosophical analysis of world affairs.

43. In concluding this brief statement of appreciation, I would say that Mr. Malik has increased in stature and in prestige by his selfless and high-minded action today.

44. Mr. Krishna MENON (India): I wish to join representatives who have spoken before me in expressing appreciation of what occurred in the Assembly a few moments ago.

45. It is the General Assembly's good fortune that in any one year there are a number of representatives able to fill with distinction the office of President. It is quite normal that in the process of election, under the democratic procedures we have adopted, there should be more than one person willing to serve in this place. We recognize that those who are willing to be elected offer to perform a service for the United Nations. When we all know — whether it is officially stated or not — that there are two distinguished leaders in the Assembly who are available for the office of President, it becomes very difficult to choose between them. Moreover, as the Secretary for External Relations of Mexico has pointed out, an election in such a case would not be a unanimous one. We are therefore grateful to Mr. Malik for having spared us this difficult task and for having enabled the Assembly to proceed to the election of its President. I wish to express my appreciation to Mr. Malik for standing down.

46. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now proceed to the election of the President.

At the invitation of the Temporary President, Mr. Padilla Nervo (Mexico) and Mr. Luns (Netherlands) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	81
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	81
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	78
Required majority:	39
Number of votes obtained:	
SIR Leslie Munro (New Zealand) . . . . .	77
Mr. Charles Malik (Lebanon) . . . . .	1

Having obtained the required majority, Sir Leslie Munro (New Zealand) was elected President of the twelfth session of the General Assembly, and took the Chair.

Address by Sir Leslie Munro, President of the Twelfth session of the General Assembly

47. The PRESIDENT: I need hardly say how profoundly I am moved by this occasion. Before I speak, as I want to speak, of the words that have been uttered by my most distinguished friend Mr. Malik, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lebanon, I would like to acknowledge what has been said by the Secretary for External Relations of Mexico, by the Secretary of State of the United States of America, by the heads of the delegations of the Philippines, France, China and India and, it goes without saying, by the Minister of State for External Affairs of Australia.

48. I am very conscious of Mr. Malik's magnanimity and of his high-mindedness in withdrawing his candidature before this election. His action, which is consistent with all that we in this Assembly know and admire in him, is one in accordance with the highest traditions of the General Assembly. I can assure the Foreign Minister of Lebanon, and the Assembly, that his

example of disinterestedness and selflessness is a personal inspiration to me.

49. I am profoundly sensible of the honour which my fellow representatives have conferred upon me. I look upon my election as a tribute to my country and to the efforts it has always made to play a constructive part in the activities of this Organization. I shall in all humility use my utmost endeavours to justify the confidence reposed in me by the Assembly and to carry out impartially the duties which I have assumed.

50. In approaching my task I am fortified by the knowledge that I shall be able to count on the co-operation and the support of all members of the Assembly. We are enjoined under our Charter to have as our common purpose the preservation of peace and the enlargement of human welfare. It is my hope that the work of this twelfth session will advance these noble purposes and that it will reflect in a practical way our common attachment to the principles of the Charter.

51. Like all my distinguished predecessors, whose record of service provides me with both guidance and inspiration, I shall be sustained in the discharge of my responsibilities by the certainty that I can rely on the invaluable advice and assistance of our Secretary-General and his most excellent staff.

52. We meet with the memory fresh in our minds of a period of acute uncertainty and tension in major areas of the world. During the last twelve months, problems of the utmost gravity have confronted the United Nations. Our Organization has not failed to respond. The achievements of the eleventh session, which followed hard on the heels of two momentous emergency sessions, are none the less real for being limited. When full allowance has been made for their limitations, these achievements emphasize anew the position which the United Nations has come to occupy in the settlement of disputes and the quest for an international order based on justice. We must pursue the quest with unflagging determination.

53. In that quest, our Organization has made and will continue to make an essential contribution in all the diverse fields of international activity. We should, as our Secretary-General has pointed out in the introduction to his annual report, "recognize the United Nations for what it is — an admittedly imperfect but indispensable instrument of nations in working for a peaceful evolution toward a more just and secure world order" [A/3594/Add.1, p.3].

54. The session we are now beginning is not to be distinguished from those preceding it in the range or complexity of the issues it presents. The record shows that the responsibilities resting on this Organization are not episodic, but cumulative. The United Nations must do its work in a divided world in which for ten years the nations have been without dependable safeguards against the catastrophe of total war. It is a matter for deep concern that many stubborn problems should elude solution and should each year reappear on our agenda in one form or another. A constant effort is therefore required if there is to be any enlargement of gains painfully made and painfully maintained.

55. Nor has the need diminished for vigilance in establishing realistic priorities in applying the test of practicability to the initiatives that are proposed and



in avoiding the imposition of excessive demands on the resources of the Organization.

56. It seems pertinent to refer here to the universal concern which has accompanied the world's latest and most awesome technological revolution. The advent of the nuclear age offers the greatest promise and the greatest threat in human history. It is natural that close attention should be devoted to strengthening co-operation in the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. A welcome and a decisive step forward has been the establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and further advances can be expected when the Second International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy is convened next year. It is moreover gratifying to note that the Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation is making progress in its series of fact-finding surveys which will form the basis for the Committee's report to the Assembly next year.

57. It is natural also that the problem of disarmament, both conventional and nuclear, should be given a prominent place in the deliberations of this twelfth session of the Assembly. Time is not on our side. It is not necessary for me to stress the urgency of the problem nor to dwell on its formidable difficulties. Surely we must all share the conviction of the need to reach a sound and workable agreement; however limited it may be in its initial stages, it becomes more pressing with every increase in the enormously destructive power of modern weapons.

58. The peoples of the world long for a release from fear, from the burden of a terrible uncertainty. The search for a solution of this and of the other issues to be examined here must make the heaviest demand on the patience, on the good will and on the understanding of us all.

59. I venture to hope, as your President, that these qualities will not be found lacking as we proceed with our business and that this, the twelfth session of the General Assembly, will in its turn add to the achievements of the United Nations in the cause of peace.

60. In that hope I call upon the Assembly to begin its work.

**Statement by the President regarding the procedure for the admission of the Federation of Malaya to membership in the United Nations**

61. The PRESIDENT: The next item on the agenda is one which I am very happy to place before the General Assembly: it is the admission of the Federation of Malaya to membership in the United Nations.

62. The Security Council has unanimously recommended [A/3654] to the General Assembly that the Federation of Malaya be admitted to membership in the Organization. Today the Assembly will take action on a draft resolution submitted by Australia, Canada, Ceylon, Ghana, India, New Zealand, Pakistan and the United Kingdom [A/3655/Rev.1].

63. I understand that there is a general desire, a desire also expressed in the Security Council, that a decision should be taken with respect to the admission of the Federation of Malaya at the earliest opportunity in order that we may welcome its representatives at the beginning of the session and benefit also from their participation in our work from the very outset. The broader question of the admission of new Members to

the United Nations appears as item 25 of the provisional agenda [A/3610]. I will therefore propose that, bearing in mind the provisions of rules 40 and 67, item 25 be considered as included in the agenda, for the limited purpose of acting immediately upon the application of the Federation of Malaya [A/3652].

It was so decided.

**AGENDA ITEM 25**

**Admission of new Members to the United Nations**

**ADMISSION OF THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS**

64. Mr. LLOYD (United KINGDOM): May I just say a word of congratulation to you, Mr. President, upon your election. There are many reasons why I should do so - our old friendship, a high regard for your personal qualities and a deep admiration for your country, one of the Commonwealth family. I hope, and I am sure that all my fellow representatives hope too, that you will have a most successful term in the office which you are so well qualified to hold.

65. But my congratulations to you in no way detract from the warmth of the feelings of the United Kingdom delegation and its respect for Mr. Charles Malik, another old friend of mine in this Organization, and for his country. I agree with everything that has been said about him. He is certainly a man endowed with all the qualities needed by a President of the General Assembly, and his action today has added to the lustre of his great reputation.

66. With regard to the item now before the General Assembly, less than three weeks ago the Federation of Malaya achieved independence and at its own request was received into our Commonwealth of Nations, with the consent and warm welcome of all the Governments. The Federation of Malaya thus became the tenth member of that expanding community of independent and democratic States to which my country is proud to belong.

67. The Government of the Federation of Malaya immediately applied to the United Nations for membership. Within a week, the Security Council met to consider this application and unanimously adopted a resolution - which the United Kingdom, together with Australia, had been proud to sponsor - recommending to the General Assembly that the Federation of Malaya should be admitted to membership in this Organization. Today we are about to take the final step in that process of admission.

68. This has been done at the earliest opportunity in the twelfth session, immediately after the election of the President, so that the Federation of Malaya will be enabled, without delay, to take its part in our deliberations. We believe that through this Organization the Federation will gain strength and friendship, but it will also have an individual and responsible contribution to make to our work. Her Majesty the Queen, in her Independence Day message to the Head of State of the Federation, said:

"I am confident that Malaya will respond worthily to the challenging tasks of independence and that she will continue to show to the world that example of moderation and good will between all races that has been so marked a feature of her history."

69. We in the United Kingdom have no doubt about the qualifications of the Federation of Malaya for

membership. British people have worked in, with and for the Federation over the past eighty years in friendship and co-operation with its people. We know the people of Malaya well. If I may say so, we take a measure of pride in the fact that, as the Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya has himself so generously acknowledged, we have handed over a legacy of good administration and a sound economic and constitutional foundation on which the state can strengthen and fortify its independence, and we are sure that this legacy is in good hands.

70. The Federation, as an equal and independent member of the Commonwealth, can rely on the continued help and support of the United Kingdom and of the other Commonwealth countries, both here in the United Nations and in other ways.

71. May I make just one further point. Some people have congratulated the Federation of Malaya on having won its fight for independence. Well, that fight was not against us, the British. We have, as a matter of deliberate policy, sought to guide the peoples of the British Empire to self-government and independence. We have not always agreed with them upon the timing or the precise methods, but it has been, and is, our declared and deliberate course of policy — a policy not forced upon us but voluntarily undertaken, and we are proud of it.

72. This is the forth occasion since the first session of the General Assembly in 1945 upon which a representative of Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom has had the honour of proposing a newly independent member of the Commonwealth for membership in the United Nations, and it is our intention that there shall be other such memorable occasions in the future.

73. I am therefore honoured and glad to recommend to the General Assembly the draft resolution which other members of the Commonwealth have joined in sponsoring. I am sure that the General Assembly will accord a unanimous vote in favour of this draft resolution, and that that unanimity will be an auspicious introduction to the entry of the Federation of Malaya into the United Nations. In moving this draft resolution, I repeat once more the heartfelt good wishes of the people of the United Kingdom for those of the Federation of Malaya.

74. The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed to vote on the draft resolution submitted by Australia, Canada, Ceylon, Ghana, India, New Zealand, Pakistan and the United Kingdom [A/3655/Rev.1].

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Japan, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Japan, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cam-

bodia, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

The delegation of the Federation of Malaya was escorted to its place in the General Assembly hall.

75. The PRESIDENT: On behalf of the Assembly, I have the great honour, in sincerity and in friendship, to welcome to our membership the new State of the Federation of Malaya.

76. It is very proper, on this happy occasion, that I should recall the record of the Federation of Malaya's uninterrupted progress towards independence, the great responsibility and statesmanship exercised by the Malayan leaders, and the harmony and co-operation existing between the Federation of Malaya and the United Kingdom, with whose guidance and help the new State has taken its place in the community of nations.

77. I am confident that our Organization will substantially gain by this addition to our numbers of another Member dedicated to the purposes of the Charter.

78. Mr. ISMAIL (Federation of Malaya): On behalf of the Government of the Federation of Malaya, I would like to express our gratitude to the President and to the other representatives gathered here for their warm welcome. I would like particularly to express our thanks to the members of the delegation of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth countries for the draft resolution which preceded our admission to membership in the United Nations.

79. It is with pride and humility that I speak before you today so soon after the emergence of the Federation of Malaya as an independent and fully sovereign country on 31 August 1957. I speak here today in this, the greatest assembly of nations, as the representative of a small nation, a nation of only 6 million people, living in an area of only 50,000 square miles. The acceptance by the General Assembly of the membership of the Federation of Malaya in the United Nations confers on my country a privilege and a right which we shall cherish. At the same time, it confers on my country, small though it is, a great responsibility which we envisaged when we set out, with determination and singleness of purpose, on the road to independence.

80. Although our material wealth and our standard of living compare very favourably with those of many nations in the world today, as a small nation, our basic strength lies not in these material things, but in the moral character and purposes of our people. We have in Malaya three major racial groups: the Malays, the Chinese and the Indians, who have lived together for generations in peace and harmony. Neither the difference in religion and cultural background, nor the difference in their economic and social status, has created an insuperable barrier towards the national unity of these races. Our great desire is to have the right and the good fortune to live as a free, independent and united nation among the free nations of the world. The achievement of this desire, through peaceful and constitutional means, through friendly negotiation and a spirit of compromise, is the result of the abiding moral

strength inherent in each of the three racial communities living in Malaya today.

81. We suggest that, to a small nation such as ours, as to all small nations, it is in the moral strength of our people that we shall find the inspiration to shoulder the responsibility which membership in the United Nations bestows upon us. Our Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, declared, in the Proclamation of Independence for the Federation of Malaya, that the Federation of our eleven States, with God's blessing, shall be forever a sovereign, democratic and independent State founded upon the principle of liberty and justice and ever seeking the welfare and happiness of its people and the maintenance of a just peace among all nations.

82. Our King, at the opening of our Parliament, had this to say:

"It is the intention of my Government to be on the most friendly terms with all countries in the world. My Government stands for peace, freedom and the well-being of every country of the world."

Continuing, His Majesty further said:

"My Government will adhere to the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and, if the Federation is elected a Member of that Organization, my Government intends that this country should play its part within the bounds which limited resources must dictate in the work of the many international bodies which operate under the auspices of the United Nations."

83. It is now my duty as the representative of the new independent Federation of Malaya, to affirm solemnly in the General Assembly the aim and object of the Government and people of the Federation of Malaya: with the grace of God, to observe the principles and further the purposes of the United Nations Charter.

84. With pride and joy, and an awareness of the grave responsibility before us, we take our place among you today. With God's blessing, we shall not fail in the trust that is placed upon my country and my people.

85. Mr. CASEY (Australia): Although I realize very well, Mr. President, that there will be other and perhaps more appropriate opportunities for me, on behalf of the Australian delegation, to welcome very warmly your election to the presidency of the General Assembly, I cannot let this first opportunity that presents itself to me go by without saying one word of sincere congratulations to you and, if I may say so, to the General Assembly, on your assumption of that office.

86. I am also grateful for this opportunity to say a few words of welcome to the representative of the Federation of Malaya. The admission of any new Member into the United Nations is an event of consequence. The entry of a new Member such as the Federation of Malaya, following to closely upon its assumption of nationhood only two or three weeks ago, is a matter of particular significance for Australia, because over the years, over the generations, there has been a very close association between Malaya and Australia in directions that I need not detail at this moment.

87. Only a week or ten days ago, I returned from representing my country at the independence celebra-

tions at Kuala Lumpur, where I was one of the many proud witnesses of the achievement of nationhood by a people to whose development we in Australia like to believe we have made some contribution in recent years. There were representatives of a great many countries — of at least thirty or forty countries, I should think — at those celebrations. I heard from a number of non-Commonwealth representatives expressions of surprise that the handing over of power by the United Kingdom to the Federation of Malaya was accompanied by so friendly a spirit. I was glad to be able to explain that this was not a matter for surprise to those of us who are members of the Commonwealth, that it was merely the normal and traditional working of the process of evolution from a colonial status to self-governing independence, of which the Federation is but the most recent example and of which, as all of us know, there were the other examples quite recently of our friends from Ghana and, before that, of course, of India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma and many others before that, and, as the Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom said today, there are probably a number still to come.

88. This must be a proud day for my friend Mr. Ismail, the first Ambassador from the Federation of Malaya to the United States and the first Permanent Representative of the Federation to the United Nations. Mr. Ismail has had more than a passing acquaintance with my country, Australia. He was, with his distinguished Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, and others, among the architects of the nationhood of the Federation of Malaya, and, as I have said, he must be a proud man to be the first to represent his country in this great world Organization.

89. As I have said, the addition of any new Member to our ranks is a matter of importance. For Australia, and for the Commonwealth more generally, the attainment by the Federation of Malaya, first, of independence within the Commonwealth, and now of membership in the United Nations, is a matter for sincere congratulation, and, on my own behalf and on behalf of the Australian delegation and the Australian Government and people, I should like to extend our sincere and warm congratulations to the Federation of Malaya.

90. Mr. SMITH (Canada): Mr. President, will you allow me to add to the words of congratulation which have been addressed to you in respect of your election to the presidency. I do not subtract in any way from the warmth of my felicitations when I express to this Assembly the high regard in which Mr. Malik is held by the Canadian delegation. We salute Mr. Malik for his unselfish action this afternoon in withdrawing his candidature for the presidency.

91. A few weeks ago, a member of the Canadian Government, Mr. J. M. Macdonnell, was present as a representative of my country at the impressive ceremonies at Kuala Lumpur on the occasion when the Federation of Malaya became one of the independent members of the Commonwealth of Nations. At that time, the Canadian Government expressed its pleasure in welcoming the Federation as another independent member of that Commonwealth. I reiterate that welcome today to the representative of the Federation of Malaya, who has taken a seat in the General Assembly. It is most gratifying to me personally that my first utterance in the Assembly should be, on this

happy occasion, to welcome a new member of the Commonwealth to membership in the United Nations. The Canadian Government considered it an honour to take part in the historic ceremony at Kuala Lumpur, and it is for me a great privilege and pleasure to express today Canada's gratification over the election of the Federation of Malaya to membership in the United Nations.

92. Progress toward the goal of self-government and full independence in Malaya has been an orderly and constitutional development, purposefully supported and assisted by the United Kingdom at every stage. This evolution is one which Canadians are especially able to appreciate and understand. We qualify very readily as expert witnesses in this context. Our own growth to nationhood followed the peaceful pattern of gradual adjustment of responsibilities and relationships in a friendly and co-operative way. And it is, I think, fair to observe that the relationship between Canada and the United Kingdom which developed over the years of our evolution to nationhood has set, to some extent, the pattern for what is now the worldwide association of free nations to which we are proud to belong, and that is another example of the British policy that produces growth from colony to nation rather than the retrogressive step of going from nation to colony.

93. In warmly welcoming the Federation of Malaya to full sovereignty, national freedom and membership in the United Nations, the Canadian delegation is also applauding the United Kingdom for the enlightened attitude which has helped the Malayan people in their own efforts to achieve this happy result. Speaking for Canada, I can say that we are sure that this new State will make a most useful contribution to the work of the United Nations and therefore to that long-sought goal, the peace of the world.

94. Mr. GUNewardene (Ceylon): Mr. President, may I at the very outset congratulate you on your election as President of the Assembly. Knowing you as I do, I have not the slightest doubt that you will guide the Assembly with decorum, dignity and impartiality and bring credit to all of us.

95. It is a matter of great joy to me as representative of my country to offer our very sincere felicitations to the Federation of Malaya on its admission to the United Nations. We attached so much importance to the occasion of the independence of the Federation of Malaya that the Prime Minister of Ceylon, Mr. Bandaranaike himself, felt it his duty to be present at the celebration.

96. Our relations with Malaya have been long and cordial. For centuries we have enjoyed friendship with each other. In our small country there exists a Malayan community. The Malays came as early as the Dutch period, and during the British time there was a famous Malay regiment which did very great service. Their descendants have adorned the public and social life of our country. They have held high positions of trust and responsibility in the Supreme Court, the Foreign Service and many departments of the Government. They threw themselves fully into the life of the people and they identified themselves with every progressive cause in our country. It gives us very great pleasure indeed, therefore, to be able to congratulate the Federation of Malaya very sincerely on the achievement of its objectives of independence and admission to the United Nations.

97. Even a larger number of Ceylonese have made their home in Malaya, and they threw themselves in with the lot of that country. I believe they have done so with distinction. They have also occupied important places in the legislature of the land and in very important public positions. Our friendship will endure forever.

98. On behalf of the Government and people of Ceylon, I take very great pleasure in conveying to my colleague Mr. Ismail our sincerest congratulations and felicitations. I have not the slightest doubt that the Federation of Malaya will play a vital role in the maintenance of peace and justice in the world.

99. Mr. ADJEI (Ghana): On behalf of the delegation of Ghana, I wish to congratulate you, Mr. President, on your election as President of this twelfth session of the General Assembly. We hope that, under your wise guidance, the deliberations of the Assembly will prove to be a useful and constructive element in the maintenance of international peace and security.

100. It is indeed a pleasure and a special privilege to me to join my colleagues, the other Members of this Assembly, in welcoming the Federation of Malaya into the membership of this great assembly of nations. Perhaps more readily than any other Member, my delegation understands the justified pride and sense of achievement which our colleagues from Malaya feel at this time. It was not so long ago that we ourselves, Ghana, were graciously welcomed into the membership of this Assembly. It is therefore with great pleasure and pride that, on behalf of the Government and people of Ghana, I welcome our colleagues from Malaya to Membership in this Assembly.

101. By a coincidence of history, the State of Ghana and the State of the Federation of Malaya can be regarded as twins, having attained independence in the same year and practically in similar circumstances. We hope that the time will not be far distant when all colonial territories in Africa and elsewhere will also attain their independence, as Ghana and Malaya have now done, and take their rightful places in this great family of nations.

102. Mr. Krishna MENON (India): Mr. President, I would like on behalf of my delegation to take the opportunity of my presence on this rostrum so early in the proceedings of the Assembly to offer you our good wishes on your election to the high office of President of the Assembly. I feel sure that in expressing this I am expressing not only the view of my delegation, but also of my country, that the representative of New Zealand should take the Chair of the Assembly this year.

103. India has co-sponsored the draft resolution before the Assembly [A/3655/Rev.1] along with the United Kingdom and other members of the Commonwealth for the admission of the Federation of Malaya to membership in the United Nations. It is a happy augury for us that so early in this session we are welcoming the eighty-second Member, a new Member, to the United Nations, thus making a further advance in the process that began about two years ago when some sixteen new Members were admitted.

104. With Malaya my country has very ancient and historic connexions. In the third century before Christian era, before the emissaries of the Emperor



Asoka of that time went to preach peace and co-operation in this land - long before that - geologists have it that, by overland route on the continent that is now submerged, trade was carried on between India and Malaya of that day. Later on, through the Straits of Malacca we traded with China, and this connexion between the two territories was later cemented by the movement of populations. So today in this vast land there are some 700,000 people of Indian origin who are either citizens of or domiciled in the Federation of Malaya.

105. In welcoming the Federation of Malaya to membership in the United Nations, we are happy to recall the fact that once again the United Kingdom, in the exercise of its sovereignty and by the process of co-operation, has enabled one of its former colonial territories to become an independent nation.

106. On this occasion, the names of two men, who are not present in the Assembly, come foremost to mind. One is the present Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, whose statesmanship and patience has enabled both the United Kingdom and the several States that compose the Federation, to overcome the difficulties that made the achievement of independence a very long process extending over several years of negotiation.

107. The other name that comes to one's mind is that of other statesman, a Scotsman, the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in India, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, who a few years ago started what then seemed the impossible task of welding the various communities and territories of Malaya in preparation for independence.

108. It would not perhaps be inappropriate at this moment to say that, irrespective of the different racial stocks that exist in the territory, it is possible, given the will and the desire to co-operate, for them to be united in a form of independence within the aegis of the Commonwealth of Nations. This may be an instance which has lessons for all of us. We in India are happy to feel that the process that we began as an act of faith in the United Kingdom and in ourselves and other members of the Commonwealth eight or nine years ago, when the territories that became independent decided upon their own free will and with no pressure from the older members of the Commonwealth to remain in the fraternity - that act of faith stands justified today. Now the tenth member of the Commonwealth has been admitted as a Member of the United Nations at the dawn of its independence and welcomed by the other States in the same way as its predecessors.

109. This is a further step in the Asian revolution and the liberation of colonial peoples. Now two or three small pieces of territory have yet to take this course, and we hope that the United Kingdom and others that have assisted in the process of the liberation of Malaya will not be found wanting in the processes which will accomplish the same thing in regard to other territories.

110. On behalf of my Government, which was represented by one of my colleagues at the recent independence celebrations in the Federation of Malaya, we offer our congratulations and we hope that the resolution which has now been adopted will be welcomed all over

the world. I am sure that it will be welcomed in Malaya as it will be in my country.

111. That chapter of history which began 171 years ago, when the British went to this place and established a colony, and which has passed through various vicissitudes is now completed. We have no doubt that the attainment of independence by the Federation of Malaya is not merely the achievement of that country and the United Kingdom, but is also one of great credit to the world, and its admission to the United Nations is again to us as it is to that country.

112. Mr. MACDONALD (New Zealand): May I take this first opportunity of addressing a word of appreciation to Mr. Charles Malik of Lebanon for his action in the Assembly today. What he did could not have been an easy decision for him to make, but he made it very obviously in the interest of unity, and unity is of great importance to the work of the United Nations. My delegation, and indeed I think I can safely say the whole Assembly, has reason to be grateful to Mr. Malik for what he has done.

113. Naturally it is a source of pride to me as a New Zealander to see a fellow countryman, in the person of Sir Leslie Munro, in the position of President of the Assembly. He is well known in his native country of New Zealand. He is well known to many of the people here, and I feel sure that they, with me, will feel confident that he will guide the destinies of the Assembly ably and well during the time that lies ahead.

114. It was with the warmest pleasure that the New Zealand delegation joined with the other Commonwealth co-sponsors in submitting the draft resolution just adopted by the Assembly and recommending the admission of the Federation of Malaya to membership in the United Nations. Two weeks ago the Security Council indicated in a unanimous vote its approval of the Federation's application. The Assembly has now in like manner welcomed the new State to this Organization.

115. I am confident that the Federation of Malaya will bear with distinction the duties and responsibilities it has assumed on its entry into the United Nations. Together with representatives from the Commonwealth and from many other nations. I was privileged to be present at the celebrations which were held in Kuala Lumpur to mark the achievement of independence by the Federation of Malaya. I was able on that happy occasion to convey to the new State the good wishes and sincere congratulations of my own Government and people. My visit serviced also to confirm impressions of previous visits that I had made there that the leaders of the Federation, with the assistance of the United Kingdom, have achieved outstanding success, in the face of considerable obstacles, in creating a nation in a country inhabited by diverse races. The existence in the Federation of Malaya of a democratically elected Assembly and of a Government firmly established and enjoying wide support throughout the country is another indication of the eminent fitness of that State to join the community of nations.

116. That the new State is so soundly established is due also to the wise manner in which the United Kingdom carried out its responsibilities in Malaya. I feel that this is a proper occasion on which to pay tribute to the United Kingdom for the guidance and assistance it has given to the leaders and people of the Federation in their path to independence. Malayan statesmen at the

ceremonies in Kuala Lumpur freely acknowledged the help they had received and will continue to receive, and I was happy to note the close and friendly relations which exist between the United Kingdom and the Federation.

117. Through improved communications and other developments in the post-war world, the peoples of my own country and of the Federation of Malaya have happily been brought into closer association. Our common membership in the Colombo Plan has done much to increase the understanding and friendship between us. It was particularly gratifying to New Zealand that the Federation should, in obtaining independence, elect freely to become an independent member of the Commonwealth. Our joint membership will bring New Zealand and the Federation into a still closer relationship. The Federation is the fourth Asian member of this unique family of nations, and I know that it will have a valuable contribution to make. I believe also that it will have much to gain from this partnership.

118. It is, thus, with great pleasure that the New Zealand delegation desires to welcome the delegation of the Federation of Malaya into this Assembly.

119. Mr. AHMED (Pakistan): Mr. President, may I on behalf of my delegation offer you our congratulations on your election as President. My delegation has no doubt that the General Assembly has rightly placed its trust in you and that you will discharge the responsibilities of your office with wisdom and distinction.

120. I should like at the same time to pay a tribute to Mr. Malik for the spirit of self-abnegation and accommodation shown by him in withdrawing his candidacy in the interest of international amity.

121. It is a matter of very great pleasure to my delegation to associate itself with the other delegations in welcoming the representative of the Federation of Malaya to our midst. With the entry of the Federation into the United Nations, another step forward has been taken towards the universalization of this great Organization. Bound as our two countries are by ties of history, culture, religion, and common ideals, the admission of the Federation of Malaya to the United Nations as an independent State is for Pakistan a cause of special rejoicing.

122. The Federation of Malaya has attained its independence in accordance with the principle of self-determination of peoples through friendly understanding and negotiation with the United Kingdom. It has chosen to remain within the Commonwealth of Nations, which is a unique association of free and equal partners acting in concert for the common good. Here again there is a link with Pakistan, as indeed with a number of other Asian countries whose history has followed a similar course.

123. I feel that this is an appropriate moment to compliment the Government of the United Kingdom on once again making possible, by yet another fine act of renunciation, the orderly transformation of a dependent territory into an independent State. This is a great and auspicious occasion for the Federation of Malaya, for it is now established as another self-governing Asian Power. It has elected of its own free will to belong to that remarkable family, the Commonwealth, and it has today been elected, by unanimous consent, a Member of this wider international family, the United Nations.

124. The good wishes of us all here are with the people of the Federation of Malaya.

125. Mr. AIKEN (Ireland): I have great pleasure in joining with the other delegations in welcoming to this Assembly the new State, the Federation of Malaya. We in Ireland wish this new Member every success and we wish its people all prosperity and happiness.

126. May I also congratulate the United Kingdom on its wise and generous statesmanship, which has made possible the independence of the Federation of Malaya. We hope that the example which the United Kingdom has set in this case will be widely followed. It is an example of the practical and sincere application of one of the fundamental principles of the Charter, the principle of the self-determination of peoples.

127. The contrast between what has been done in Hungary and what has been done in Malaya cannot fail to impress us all profoundly.

128. We hope that the logic of what has been done in Malaya may become the universal law applicable to every other situation in every part of the world.

129. Mr. SHUKAIRY (Saudi Arabia): Mr. President, I have a word for you. Brief as it may be, it is a word of congratulation to you and to your country on the happy occasion of your election to the presidency of the General Assembly. I recall at this moment your presidency of the Security Council two years ago when we were pleading a highly contested question. You conducted the business of the Security Council in that bitter atmosphere with great fairness and a sense of justice. I have no doubt in my mind that as President of the Assembly you will continue conducting the work of the General Assembly on the highest level of fairness and equity.

130. It was predicted that, as a result of the determination of its people and its Government, our sister nation in Malaya would soon enjoy sovereignty, statehood and membership in the United Nations. There is hardly a more pleasant duty for the Government and people of Saudi Arabia, and for the Arab and Moslem people at large, than that of welcoming the new State, the Federation of Malaya, as a Member of the United Nations.

131. It is not a sheer formality of Assembly procedure that the delegation of Saudi Arabia welcomes the admission of the Federation of Malaya to membership in our Organization. As an Asian country, as a country with ancient and persisting cultural and spiritual ties with Saudi Arabia and the rest of the Arab world, my Government and people fully share in our joy at the emergence of the Federation as a worthy member of the international community.

132. In years to come — as in years past — the thousands of Malayan pilgrims at Mecca will share with us not only their traditional wisdom, not only their newly acquired political status and international personality. As such, their contribution to the peaceful and humanitarian objectives of the annual gatherings, sacred as they are, in our holy places, will certainly be full and complete.

133. Saudi Arabia and other Arab States on this solemn occasion earnestly hope that the admission of the Federation of Malaya to membership in the United Nations will be followed, and, we hope, soon followed, by the admission to membership of other Asian and

African nations, such as Algeria and Somaliland, not to mention other nations which at present are struggling to achieve independence and sovereignty.

134. But of paramount importance is the final triumph of people everywhere to fulfil their basic need for self-determination. This occasion indicates that, in the evolution of the present state of world affairs, due credit should be given to the part played in this body by world public opinion in bringing about the fulfilment of the aspirations of peoples for freedom, liberty, sovereignty and independence.

135. Finally, on behalf of all the Arab States, I wish to congratulate the Federation of Malaya on its independence and welcome it to membership in the United Nations. We send our heartfelt greetings to the people of the Federation, along with an expression of our admiration and our best wishes.

136. Mr. SASTROAMIDJOJO (Indonesia): First, I wish to associate my delegation with other delegations in extending to Sir Leslie Munro our congratulations on his election as President of the General Assembly. My delegation has come to know him as a friend who possesses a thorough familiarity with all aspects of the problems of this house, an intimate knowledge of the history of many of the items included in the Assembly's agenda, and a remarkable ability to establish workable and mutually satisfactory compromises in the most difficult situations.

137. The fact that yet another nation of Asia has achieved its independence, that the people of the Federation of Malaya have been reborn in freedom, cannot but be a source of deep gratification to my delegation. But, beyond that, we feel a special pride and joy in seeing the Federation of Malaya seated here among us. Malaya is our nearest neighbour and a country with which, since time immemorial, we have enjoyed the closest cultural and economic relations. These ties of friendship and co-operation will, I am sure, not only endure, but also grow and prosper in the future.

138. We have many things in common with the country and people of the Federation of Malaya. Both the Federation and Indonesia, while having deep roots in an old culture and tradition, are relatively young countries in the arena of world affairs. Together, we entered the atomic age, as under-industrialized but, in terms of natural resources and manpower, potentially very rich countries. We share, I believe, the enthusiasm and bold initiative generated by our struggle for national liberation. Happily I can note that in the case of the Federation the struggle for national freedom and self-government was achieved without warfare, in a peaceful, United Nations way. I sincerely hope that this example will soon be emulated in the case of other countries still struggling for self-determination and independence.

139. Indeed, we have with Malaya even a kinship of language. Thus, the love of freedom not only is commonly harboured in our hearts, but also is expressed by the same word: merdeka. And when, recently — on 31 August — the Federation of Malaya gained its freedom, when independence became a reality for it, the people of my country, I am happy to say, celebrated that day with the Government and people of the Federation.

140. Today is another day of rejoicing for the Federation of Malaya, as its struggle for independence culminates with its entry into the United Nations as a Member State. Today, too, the Government and people of Indonesia rejoice with the Government and people of the Federation.

141. To the Federation of Malaya and its eminent statesmen and people we send our warmest congratulations and best wishes. We are convinced that it will make an important contribution to the family of nations and, together with all the Member States, will work towards a realization of the noble ideals of the United Nations, so that peace and freedom may prevail everywhere, for the welfare of mankind.

142. Mr. ROMULO (Philippines): I should like, on behalf of the delegation and the Government of the Philippines, to congratulate you, Mr. President, on your election. Your personal record as the representative of New Zealand in the Security Council and in the General Assembly and New Zealand's services to the cause of peace have earned for you this exalted position.

143. There is more to the admission of the Federation of Malaya than the fact that it has become the eighty-second Member of the United Nations. Its admission marks the passing of an era in Asia: the era of Western colonialism. With the independence of the Federation, no major area of the Asian mainland is now a colony of a Western Power.

144. When my country, the Philippines, was given independence in 1946, the United Kingdom and the other colonial Powers of Europe followed suit by granting freedom to India, Ceylon, Burma, Indonesia and Indo-China, including the French protectorates of Cambodia and Laos. The fact is that since 1946 more than half of the world's population, inhabiting twenty-five nations, has emerged free and independent. That is a point to underscore now. The march of freedom continues, and Western colonialism has accepted the reality of the emergence of Asian nationalism and has voluntarily withdrawn.

145. The Philippines is happy to welcome the Federation of Malaya. India and Ceylon claim that their people went to Malaya. Our claim in the Philippines is that our ancestors came from Malaya. As fellow-Malays, we are proud of their achievement, and we wish them Godspeed as they embark on their new adventure of self-guidance.

146. The Federation of Malaya has a well-organized and competent civil service, inherited from the British, who, let it be said in all fairness, sent their best men to help the new nation gradually rise to freedom. We pay our tribute to Her Britannic Majesty's Government and to the people of the United Kingdom for this new token of their liberalism. So wealthy is this great peninsula of Malaya in the two strategic commodities of rubber and tin that it was predicted by some that the United Kingdom would never let Malaya go, because it was the biggest dollar-earner of the entire British Commonwealth of Nations — the figure was almost \$400 million a year. And yet, as the world sees today, through a voluntary act the Union Jack has come down from that flagpole at Kuala Lumpur, to be replaced by the banner of the Federation of Malaya: eleven red and white stripes, with an eleven-pointed star and crescent on a blue background.



147. The Philippines on this occasion salutes both flags: the one, the symbol of a country that has rendered service to the world by giving birth to several independent Asian nations; and the other, the symbol of the hopes and the ideals of a new Malayan nation determined to take care of its own destiny and to achieve the genius of its race.

148. Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON (Thailand): Mr. President, may I, on behalf of the delegation of Thailand, extend to you, sir, our warmest congratulations on your election to the high office of the President of the twelfth session of the General Assembly. There is no one to whom I would hand over the gavel with greater pleasure or confidence than yourself. I am sure that you will bring great success to the proceedings of this twelfth session, and you have the very best wishes of the delegation of Thailand.

149. And now, as an immediate neighbour of Malaya, may I claim the privilege of extending the warmest welcome to the Federation of Malaya on the occasion of its admission to membership in the United Nations. The Federation of Malaya is not only a good neighbour and friend of Thailand, we consider it a sister nation and, in fact, the two countries are sister nations bound together from time immemorial by ties of the closest friendship, ties which it is the policy of my country to develop, and I am sure that that policy is reciprocated on the side of Malaya as well.

150. I had the privilege of attending the independence celebrations in Kuala Lumpur and I was most favourably impressed by the peaceful attainment of independence in accordance with the principle of self-determination as contained in the Charter of the United Nations. Above all, I was impressed by the cordiality of feeling between the Federation of Malaya and the United Kingdom. I think that it reflects great credit on both the Federation of Malaya and the United Kingdom that the Federation was brought into the United Nations in this way.

151. I also had the privilege of attending the opening of Parliament and of hearing the statement of policy in the speech from the throne and I was greatly impressed — as no doubt all the others who were there on that occasion were also impressed — by the moderation and wisdom of the policy stated. And so I am sure, and I can assure the General Assembly, that the Federation of Malaya will play an important part in the United Nations towards the cause of world peace and freedom.

152. Mr. KUZNETSOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): Mr. President, allow me first of all to congratulate you on your election as President of the twelfth session of the General Assembly of our Organization.

153. The Soviet Union delegation, on behalf of the Soviet people and the Government of the USSR, sincerely congratulates the Malay people and its Government on the admission of the Federation of Malaya to the United Nations. The freedom-loving peoples welcome the achievement of independence by yet another nation of the Asian continent.

154. Since the earliest days of its existence, the Soviet Union has been opposed in principle to oppression of any form by one nation against another. It has consistently applied the principles of the full equality of all peoples and of friendship and mutual assistance

among them. It is therefore quite natural and logical that the establishment of a new independent State, the Federation of Malaya, should be greeted with joy in the Soviet Union.

155. It is well known that the independence of the Federation of Malaya within the British Commonwealth of Nations was achieved as the result of many years of heroic struggle by the valiant Malay people against the foreign colonists, who hindered the economic and social advancement of the country.

156. The admission of the Federation of Malaya into the United Nations and the establishment and development of friendly relations with all countries, irrespective of their social systems, on the basis of respect for the principles of equal rights, State sovereignty and non-intervention in domestic affairs can have a beneficial effect on the further development of the country. This will enable the Federation of Malaya to make its contribution to the cause of developing practical co-operation among the countries of Asia and of the whole world, the cause of strengthening peace and security.

157. The Soviet delegation regards the unanimous support for the admission of the Federation of Malaya to the United Nations as a new manifestation of the solidarity of Member States with respect of the principle of the universality of the United Nations. The Soviet delegation expresses the hope that in the future also this principle will be taken as the basis for the settlement of the question of the admission of new Members to the United Nations.

158. We sincerely wish the Malay people, which has embarked upon the first stage of independent existence, every success in rapidly achieving economic independence and the development of their country in every field, increasing their prosperity and developing their national culture.

159. The Soviet delegation welcomes the representatives of the Federation of Malaya who are here today and wishes them success and fruitful activity in the application of the lofty principles of the United Nations with respect to the maintenance and strengthening of universal peace.

160. Mr. DULLES (United States of America): Mr. President, the United States warmly welcomes the presence amongst us of the new State, the Federation of Malaya.

161. I recall that, when I first began work with the United Nations, there were only fifth Members. Now there are eighty-two. Of the increase, twenty are nations which have peacefully won their independence during these last, post-war years.

162. The people of Malaya have already shown in their struggles against communist terrorists that they have the qualities needed to sustain independence in the hard world of today; and the United Kingdom has shown the statesmanship to recognize those qualities and to give them their due. There is need in the world for those qualities and for that statesmanship.

163. Mr. EBAN (Israel): Mr. President, my delegation desires to congratulate you warmly on your elevation to the office and dignity of President of the General Assembly. Those who have been your colleagues, both here and in other spheres, have learned to admire the high qualities of statesmanship and integrity which



have today earned the unanimous acknowledgement of our Members.

164. Israel joins in the tribute of welcome extended by other delegations to the Federation of Malaya on its admission to membership in the United Nations.

165. One of the most impressive contributions of the United Nations to international harmony has been its constant interest in the orderly evolution of peoples towards self-government and sovereign independence. This process of emancipation has been especially broad and rapid in the continent of Asia where communities representing so many civilizations and cultural traditions have in recent years entered upon the responsibilities and rights of sovereignty. Governments such as my own which have recently crossed the threshold of independence are moved by a special emotion whenever they are able to raise their hand on behalf of the independence of other States. We do not doubt that the Federation of Malaya will at all times maintain and pursue friendly relations with all other Members of the United Nations and will bring a distinctive and valuable contribution to our work. In that confidence, Israel holds out a fraternal hand to welcome the Federation of Malaya into this family of sovereign nations.

166. Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador) (translated from Spanish): May I first, on behalf of the Latin-American delegations, warmly congratulate you, Mr. President, on your well-deserved and virtually unanimous election to the office of President of the twelfth session of the General Assembly.

167. Sir Leslie Munro is an outstanding figure known throughout the United Nations and we are certain that as President of the General Assembly he will do honour to the traditions of his country and demonstrate the intellectual and other gifts which have made him a distinguished diplomat.

168. May I also convey my delegation's warmest congratulations and those of the other Latin-American delegations to the delegation of the Federation of Malaya on the admission, by a unanimous vote, of that country to membership in the United Nations. We wish also to extend our congratulations to the delegation of the United Kingdom, whose Government has once again given proof of the ideals by which it is led in promoting the liberation of the peoples for whose administration and preparation for independent statehood it has been responsible.

169. Mr. SHAHA (Nepal): Mr. President, at the very outset permit me to congratulate you on your election to the high office of President of the General Assembly. My delegation has no doubt that your long experience of work at the United Nations combined with your intrinsic ability and merit amply qualify you for the post you now hold.

170. I wish to take this opportunity to say a word of welcome to the newly admitted Member State, the Federation of Malaya. My Government attaches very great importance to the achievement of independent statehood by the Federation, and it is shown by the fact that His Majesty the King of Nepal has sent a special message to the Head of the new State on the eve of the independence celebrations in Kuala Lumpur,

which were attended by one of the members of my Government. I want to be very brief and wish the new State Godspeed as it enters into a new era of independent nationhood.

171. U THANT (Burma): Before I make a brief congratulatory statement, let me say how gratified my delegation is Mr. President, at your election to this exalted office of the President of the General Assembly.

172. Let me join other delegations in congratulating the Federation of Malaya on its admission to the United Nations. Malaya and Burma, which I have the honour to represent, are not only close neighbours, but our two countries share the common strains of historical processes — our independence, our bondage, our struggles and our triumphs.

173. In this connexion, let me take this opportunity to express the heartfelt thanks of the country I represent to the United Kingdom Government for its magnanimity and foresight in according independence to the Federation of Malaya, which has now attained a sovereign status without the shedding of a single drop of blood. My delegation has no doubt that the admission of the new independent State of the Federation of Malaya to this world organization will be a force for peace. My delegation joins other delegations in wishing it a peaceful and prosperous future.

174. Mr. TSIANG (China): Mr. President, my delegation wishes to add its congratulations to the many that you have received upon your election to the presidency.

It is a great honour you personally and your country richly deserve. My delegation pledges you its support and co-operation in the discharge of your tasks.

175. In the Security Council it was my privilege — and I regarded it as a privilege — to vote for and speak in favour of the admission of the Federation of Malaya to membership in the United Nations. Similarly, today we are happy because a new nation, a new Asian nation, a goodly percentage of whose people is of Chinese origin, has been born. We are happy that that independence was peacefully achieved, without opposition or struggle between the United Kingdom, on the one side, and the Federation of Malaya on the other. It was a splendid example of a change from a colony to an independent nation, with the co-operation of both authorities.

176. I was deeply impressed by the tribute which the Prime Minister of the Federation paid to the United Kingdom on 31 August, when independence was celebrated. Indeed, this event is a credit both to the people of the Federation and to the Government and people of the United Kingdom. In fact, in the post-war period there has been no fighting between the United Kingdom and Malaya.

177. There has been much fighting and much bloodshed, but that was between the subversive agents of international communism and the freedom-loving people of Malaya. Fortunately, on the whole, that struggle has been won by the latter.

178. My Government and my people wish the Federation of Malaya peace, freedom, independence and prosperity in all the years to come.

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.