

City Swiss Club

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The foundations were laid at Dumbarton Oaks. On the important question of voting procedure, however, agreement was not there reached. The present Conference has been able to resolve this difficulty.

We have agreed that a conference of United Nations should be called to meet at San Francisco in the United States on April 25, 1945, to prepare the charter of such an organization, along the lines proposed in the informal conversations at Dumbarton Oaks.

The Government of China and the Provisional Government of France will be immediately consulted and invited to sponsor invitation to the conference jointly with the Governments of the United States, Great Britain and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. As soon as the consultation with China and France has been completed, the text of the proposals on voting procedure will be made public.

MEETINGS OF FOREIGN SECRETARIES

Throughout the Conference, besides the daily meetings of the heads of governments and the Foreign Secretaries, separate meetings of the three Foreign Secretaries, and their advisors have also been held daily.

These meetings have proved of the utmost value and the Conference agreed that permanent machinery should be set up for regular consultation between the three Foreign Secretaries. They will, therefore, meet as often as may be necessary, probably about every three or four months. These meetings will be held in rotation in the three capitals, the first meeting

being held in London, after the United Nations Conference on World Organization.

UNITY FOR PEACE AS FOR WAR

Our meeting here in the Crimea has reaffirmed our common determination to maintain and strengthen in the peace to come that unity of purpose and of action which has made victory possible and certain for the United Nations in this war. We believe that this is a sacred obligation which our Governments owe to our peoples and to all the peoples of the world.

Only with the continuing and growing cooperation and understanding among our three countries and among all the peace-loving nations can the highest aspiration of humanity be realized — a secure and lasting peace which will, in the words of the Atlantic Charter, 'afford assurance that all the men in all the lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want'.

Victory in this war and establishment of the proposed international organization will provide the greatest opportunity in all history to create in the years to come the essential conditions of such a peace."

The San Francisco Conference was attended by fifty states. Of these, twenty-six were original signatories of the United Nations Declaration of January 1, 1942; twenty-one had adhered to that Declaration between 1942 and March 1, 1945; Argentine, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic were admitted at San Francisco.

Although these fifty states could certainly not all claim an equal share in the belligerent activities against the already defeated Italy nor against Germany and Japan who were to surrender later, they felt no inhibitions against the official title which the organization inherited from the alliance of the nations united against a common enemy.

The San Francisco Conference sat from April 25 to June 26, 1945. With the ratification of the Charter by the five powers permanently represented on the Security Council and by a majority of other signatory states, it came into force on October 24, 1945. It is on that latter date that the United Nations could celebrate their legal birth as an international organization "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war".

(To be continued.)

CITY SWISS CLUB.

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