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OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Letter dated 15 November 1972 from the Permanent Representative of
China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Chinese representative to the fifty-third session of the Economic and Social Council made a statement on the "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees" submitted to the Council for consideration.

Enclosed herewith is the full text of the above statement. I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the current session of the General Assembly.

(Signed) HUANG Hua
Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of China
to the United Nations



Statement made by the representative of China at the
fifty-third session of the Economic and Social Council,
on 27 July 1972

Mr. President,

We have taken note of the fact that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has, in the past years, continuously extended so-called "assistance" to the so-called "Tibetan refugees" and "Chinese refugees" in Macao. The Chinese delegation is instructed to state the position of the Chinese Government on this question.

(1) Tibet is China's territory. Matters concerning Tibet are China's internal affairs in which no foreign country or international organization has the right to interfere. Upon the failure of the serf-owners' rebellion it instigated in China's Tibet Region in 1959, the Indian Government brazenly coerced tens of thousands of Tibetan inhabitants into going to India and exploited the matter for rabid anti-China activities. This so-called "question of Tibet refugees" is a result of the Indian Government's interference in and subversion against China.

(2) Both Hong Kong and Macao are China's territories. There has always been interflow of Chinese between Hong Kong-Macao and other parts of China. The Chinese living in Hong Kong and Macao are not "refugees" at all, and the so-called "question of Chinese refugees" simply does not exist. The so-called "question of Chinese refugees" in Hong Kong and Macao is nothing but an anti-China falsehood concocted by the imperialist-supported Chiang Kai-shek clique, which has long been repudiated by the Chinese people.

(3) In past years, at the instigation of the United States, the Chiang Kai-shek clique and India, the United Nations on several occasions discussed and adopted illegal resolutions on the so-called "question of Tibet" and "question of China refugees in Hong Kong", thus leaving behind most dishonourable records. Besides, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has regarded as "refugees" the Tibetan inhabitants who have gone to India under the coercion of the Indian Government, regarded as "refugees" Chinese inhabitants of Hong Kong and Macao, carried out activities of "raising contributions for relief" and set up "offices" and other agencies for such illegal activities. This constitutes interference in China's internal affairs in open violation of the United Nations Charter. As regards the report submitted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to the current session of the Council, although some amendments to the text have been made, the above-mentioned illegal activities of interference in China's internal affairs are now still going on. This is what the Government and people of China absolutely cannot tolerate. The Chinese delegation solemnly demands that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees must immediately and completely stop all the illegal activities on the questions of so-called "Tibetan refugees" and "Chinese refugees" in Hong Kong and Macao, abolish the organs for these illegal activities, and delete all the related parts from the report.

Please put on record the full text of my statement.

Thank you, Mr. President.
