

"Let us not mislead ourselves and our peoples about the difficulties of the task which lies ahead of us. We will today only have laid an essential stone in the foundation of a just and stable world order, in which it may be possible for men and nations by their joint and sustained efforts to live together as good neighbours, free from fear and want and with liberty of thought and worship.

"The task of completing the edifice of peace will be heavy. It will be long and dreary. It will be full of setbacks and heartbreaks. There will be brief moments of elation, such as that of last night and of today, but there will also be periods of despair. If we, the peoples of the United Nations, are to succeed in our task we must be willing to experiment, and to run great risks to attain great objectives. We must be resolute and display in our just cause a holy obstinacy.

"We must have faith in ourselves and in each other. Above all we must remember that all men are brothers and that upon the dignity, the liberty, the inviolability of the individual men, women and children of the world depend the welfare of the people, the safety of the state and the peace of the world."

The resolution adopted by the Assembly deals with four related aspects of the disarmament problem:

- (1) the prohibition of atomic and all other major weapons adaptable now and in the future to mass destruction;
- (2) the control of atomic energy to the extent necessary to ensure its use only for peaceful purposes;
- (3) the placing of armed forces at the disposal of the Security Council;
- (4) the general regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces.

So far as the first two aspects are concerned, the resolution reaffirms the Assembly resolution of January 24, 1946, which set up the Atomic Energy Commission; it urges the Commission to fulfill its terms of reference as set forth in section 5 of that resolution, it recommends that the Security Council expedite consideration of a draft international convention, or conventions, based on the reports of the Commission; and it states that these conventions should create, within the framework of the Security Council, an international system of control and inspection operating through special organs desiring their powers and status from the conventions.

On the third aspect of the problem, "the General Assembly, regarding the problem of security as closely connected with that of disarmament, recommends the Security Council to accelerate as much as possible the placing at its disposal of the armed forces mentioned in Article 43 of the Charter."

The first two aspects of the problem had already been dealt with by the Assembly in its resolution of January 24, 1946. It was not therefore necessary for the Assembly to deal with these two aspects in detail in its December resolution.