

growing out of these demands were decisively rejected by the Assembly, after its Political Committee had refused to be drawn into a debate on the domestic affairs of Greece.

On December 1, Canada and all other members present at a plenary session of the Assembly, except representatives of the Soviet bloc and Yugoslavia, voted in favour of a Greek draft resolution recommending the repatriation of those members of the Greek armed forces still detained abroad. They also voted in favour of a draft resolution jointly sponsored by Australia, France, Pakistan, the United Kingdom and United States, approving the report of UNSCOB and continuing that body in being until the Sixth Session of the Assembly. If in the meantime, however, the Special Committee should recommend its own dissolution, the Interim Committee of the General Assembly is authorized to take appropriate action.

It was reported to the General Assembly that, except for Yugoslavia, no country harbouring Greek children carried away by the guerrillas had yet taken definite action to comply with Assembly resolutions of 1948 and 1949 calling for the return of the children. Moreover, the number Yugoslavia had offered to repatriate up to the time the Assembly convened had been negligible in relation to the total detained, even after due allowance had been made for some thousands whose parents are living in Soviet-dominated territory, who do not wish their own children to be repatriated. On December 1, the Assembly adopted by 50 votes to 0 a joint resolution of Australia, Denmark, France and the Netherlands repeating in effect the recommendations adopted in 1948 and 1949 regarding repatriation of Greek children and establishing for the first time a standing committee, composed of representatives of Peru, the Philippines and Sweden, to consult with the Secretary-General and the states concerned so as to facilitate the early return of the children. Partly because they objected to the appointment of this committee, the five Cominform members abstained instead of voting for repatriation of the children as they did during the Fourth Session.

## Human Rights in Eastern Europe

In 1950, for the second year in succession, the General Assembly was called upon to consider charges of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms levelled against the Governments of Bulgaria, Hungary and Roumania. The policy of religious persecution and political oppression deliberately followed by these governments, apart from the concern which, of necessity, it must cause to the international community, is in flagrant contravention of specific articles in the Peace Treaties of which the three Balkan states are signatories. Although a number of the Allied and Associated powers repeatedly protested through diplomatic channels against these violations of human rights, and invoked the disputes machinery laid down in the Peace Treaties, the Governments of Bulgaria, Hungary and Roumania not only refused to acknowledge the existence of a dispute, but made no attempt to refute the charges which continued to be directed against them.