

There is one remark made by the distinguished representative of the Soviet Union at our last meeting which I cannot let pass unnoticed. ... My Delegation finds intolerable the malicious and totally unfounded statement alleging the Secretary-General's complicity in murder.

I should like to correct one small error in fact in the speech of the distinguished Delegate of the Soviet Union. I am sure he would not wish to mislead the Committee consciously on the question of Canadian troops in the Congo. There are no Canadian combat troops in the Congo, only some 250 technical personnel charged with communications duties. I am sure he was not suggesting that Canada had any ambitions in the Congo, for that would be too absurd. Furthermore, Canada's membership in a defensive organization created for reasons he must well know, can have no bearing on Canada's assuming duties requested of it by the United Nations.

... My Delegation would like to examine the more specific measures which could be taken by the Assembly at this time. First of all, it seems to me important that we dismiss as final solutions of recourse to more widespread borrowing. To begin with, it is an admission of our indifference to the organization to allow it to fall into such predicament. Furthermore, in practical terms:

- (1) We cannot be at all sure that parliaments, legislatures or banks will agree to make sufficient advances; as a result, this organization will either become bankrupt or its activities will have to be reduced to a fraction of their current level.

- (2) In the unlikely event that sufficient advances are forthcoming, it is, of course, most undesirable in principle that the UN should have to rely on advances from governments or banks. The Indian Delegation and others pointed out to us last December that it would be beneath the dignity of the United Nations to borrow from commercial sources; and moreover it cannot be denied that advances from any source seriously weaken or make mockery of those provisions of the Charter which state that the expenses of the organization shall be apportioned by the General Assembly and financed collectively by member states.

... I think we should recognize that this current financial crisis has not come upon us suddenly. It has been building up for many years now.

In the years 1945 to 1956, the United Nations was plagued first by the failure of many member states to pay their assessment early in the year, and secondly by the tendency of many member states to be up to two years in arrears. It was therefore necessary to have substantial recourse to the Working Capital Fund to cover the resulting shortfalls. With the establishment of UNEF in 1956, the situation grew worse - and this worsening situation was explained to a very great extent by the fact that, although the treasuries and finance departments of member states had become accustomed to paying their assessments to the regular budget promptly, they tended to assign a lower priority to their payments to the UNEF Special Account. We have noted, for example, that there are forty member states which are in arrears in respect of the UNEF Special Account for 1959, compared to only ten states which are in arrears in respect of the regular budget for 1959.

My Delegation believes it is important to recall the action which the Assembly took in response to the worsening cash position in the years after 1956. Instead of taking steps to reverse the situation, the Assembly tended to take temporizing actions which served only to postpone the day of reckoning. For example, the