

United Kingdom Government announced its intention to introduce on October 1 the Macmillan Plan (the so-called "partnership plan") which called for increased Greek-Turkish participation in the administration of the island but without prejudice to the ultimate political pattern, which would not be determined until after a "cooling off" period of seven years. When it became evident that the implementation of the Macmillan Plan might well intensify the violence in Cyprus, and cause a strong reaction against NATO in Greece, an effort was made to promote a solution of the dispute within the framework of NATO.

Mr. Spaak, the Secretary-General of NATO, sought to arrange a conference of representatives of the United Kingdom, Greek and Turkish Governments, and of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, and it appeared for a time that he would be successful. Greece, however, eventually announced that she could not agree to attend such a conference, on the grounds that, were it to fail to achieve a settlement, the situation would be worse than if no conference had been convened. Instead, Greece decided to appeal once again for United Nations' support of self-determination for Cyprus (agenda item 68).

In the debate in the First Committee, the Representatives of the United Kingdom, Greece and Turkey reiterated, with minor modifications, what had become their traditional positions on the Cyprus question. These were as follows:

- (a) The United Kingdom, while endorsing the idea of a negotiated solution acceptable to all parties concerned (including one which would encompass self-government), rejected a solution which would be based entirely on the principle of self-determination. For the time being, the United Kingdom considered that the Macmillan Plan should be put into effect.
- (b) Greece maintained her demand for the self-determination of the people of Cyprus, and contended that Turkey had no real claim to an active partnership in the discussion of the future of Cyprus, because she had abandoned her rights in the island in the Treaty of Lausanne signed in 1923.
- (c) Turkey, concerned with the status of the Turkish Cypriots, again emphasized that the rights of the *peoples* of Cyprus was the most important factor in the problem, claiming that the recognition of such rights was expressed in Article 73(b) of the United Nations Charter.

The debate was characterized by a certain moderation and restraint on the part of the three countries most directly concerned. There appeared to be a general desire for the achievement of some concrete settlement during this session, but this hope was disappointed.

Several resolutions calling for renewed negotiations between the parties concerned were tabled in the First Committee, but were either defeated, or withdrawn by their sponsors because of lack of support. Finally Mexico proposed a compromise resolution in the plenary session of the Assembly, which merely recalled the resolution adopted by the General Assembly in 1957 and expressed confidence that continued efforts would be made by the parties to the dispute to reach a peaceful, democratic and just solution in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Mexican resolution was adopted unanimously without a formal vote.