

of the Wall Street warmongers"; and in the second part of the Third Session in the spring of 1949 when the North Atlantic Pact was described as a means of establishing military and air bases on territories of treaty powers for an attack on the Soviet Union.

When the Soviet proposal came up for discussion in the Political Committee, the United Kingdom and the United States jointly submitted a counter-proposal entitled "Essentials of Peace". The object of this resolution was to establish the principle that, if peace were endangered as the Soviet Delegation claimed, it was for reasons other than those enumerated by the U.S.S.R.* The resolution began with a declaration that the Charter of the United Nations laid down basic principles necessary for an enduring peace; that disregard of these principles was primarily responsible for the continuance of international tension; and that it was urgently necessary for all members to act in accordance with these principles. Every nation was called upon to act according to certain principles; for example, to refrain from threatening and using force contrary to the Charter, and to refrain from threats or acts, direct or indirect, aimed at impairing the freedom, independence or integrity of any state. Every member was called upon to participate fully in the work of the United Nations and the five permanent members of the Security Council were called upon to broaden progressively their cooperation and to exercise restraint in the use of the veto. Finally, every nation was called upon to settle international disputes by peaceful means and to cooperate in supporting United Nations efforts to resolve outstanding problems; to cooperate to attain the effective international regulation of conventional armaments; and to agree to the exercise of national sovereignty jointly with other nations to the extent necessary to attain international control of atomic energy, which would make effective the prohibition of atomic weapons and assure the use of atomic energy for peaceful means only.

The discussion which followed in the Political Committee was marked by the vigour of the statements made by many representatives of the Western democracies in support of the joint United Kingdom-United States resolution. It was significant that this was perhaps the first important occasion on which the Western democracies have made a concerted counter-offensive against the Communist charges. The debate, which ranged far and wide over history, philosophy and politics, gave the opportunity to the representatives of the democracies to analyze at length the practices, the motives and the ideology of international communism.

Speakers from the non-Communist states repudiated with emphasis the suggestion that the United Kingdom and the United States were preparing for war. They pointed to the long series of concessions made by these two states in the past four years in the attempt to secure peace. Particular reference was made by many representatives to the voluntary withdrawal of British rule in India, Pakistan, Burma, and Ceylon. The voluntary relinquishment of power in these areas on the part of the United Kingdom was strongly contrasted with the expansion of Soviet domination in the past few years in the Baltic states, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Roumania. In reply to the charges regarding military preparations in the democracies it was pointed out that the Soviet Union had persistently refused to give the figures of the number of men it had under arms, or details of its military expenditures. Nevertheless, on the basis of what information

*For the text of the resolution, see Appendix 7, p. 241.