

When the amended Belgian draft resolution was voted on in the Assembly on December 15, 30 favoured it, 18 voted against and 9 abstained. The Canadian Delegation abstained because it doubted the usefulness of conducting further enquiries when Israel and Jordan had already made their stand crystal clear. Having failed to obtain a two-thirds majority the resolution was defeated. No other resolution was brought forward, since none would have obtained the necessary support. Jordan and Israel both made voluntary commitments that they would protect the Holy Places under their control, guarantee freedom of access to them and maintain existing rights of religious denominations.

Thus, for the time being at least, United Nations representatives regularly assigned to tasks in the Middle East growing out of the partition of Palestine will be the members of the Truce Supervision Organization, the Conciliation Commission and its special office, and the Relief and Works Agency and its Advisory Commission. They will not include United Nations representatives specifically responsible for dealing with questions relating to the administration of Jerusalem, the protection of the Holy Places or the maintenance of the rights of religious communities.

Greece

Between the Fourth and Fifth Sessions of the General Assembly there were no further attempts by communists and Macedonian separatists to overthrow the Greek Government by force of arms. Relations between Greece and Yugoslavia showed signs of improvement, but the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans (UNSCOB) reported that there still remained a threat to the political independence and territorial integrity of Greece. It recommended to the General Assembly among other things that Bulgaria and Albania should be named once more as having given aid to the Greek guerrillas, that Albania, Bulgaria and Greece should be called on to establish diplomatic relations and provide effective machinery to control their common frontiers, and that the United Nations should continue to maintain representatives in the Balkans. There had as yet been no international verification of the internment and disarming of the thousands of Greek guerrillas who had escaped across the northern boundaries of Greece. The Assembly should ask once more that this should be done. Military and civilian personnel carried across the boundary by the Greek guerrillas and still detained in other countries should be allowed to return, and every possible effort should be made to find some means of restoring to their homes the Greek children carried off by guerrillas.

The Soviet Representative argued that the real threat to Greek independence was Anglo-American intervention in Greece. This should be terminated, UNSCOB should be dissolved, a general amnesty should be declared, executions should be prohibited and communists should be allowed to vote. The Soviet draft resolutions