

# SECURITY COUNCIL ORDERS CEASE FIRE IN INDONESIA

THE United Nations Security Council, meeting in Paris on December 24, called upon the Netherlands and the Indonesian Republic to cease hostilities forthwith. The Council's resolution which was adopted by 7 to 0 with four abstentions (Belgium, France, the Soviet Union and the Ukraine), reads:

## THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Noting with concern the resumption of hostilities in Indonesia and Having taken note of the reports of the Committee of Good Offices Calls upon the parties:

(A) To cease hostilities forthwith; and

(B) Immediately to release the President and other political prisoners arrested since December 18.

Instructs the Committee of Good Offices to report to the Security Council fully and urgently by telegraph on the events which have transpired in Indonesia since December 12, 1948; and to observe and report to the Security Council on the compliance with sub-paragraphs (A) and (B) above.

The resolution in its original form was presented jointly by Colombia, Syria and the United States. Part of it, which called upon the parties immediately to withdraw their armed forces behind the demilitarized zones established by the Renville truce agreement was defeated for lack of the necessary seven affirmative votes. Only five members voted for it with Argentina, Canada, France, Belgium, the Soviet Union and the Ukraine abstaining. The Ukrainian delegate was absent but the chairman ruled that his absence be counted as an abstention.

Other proposals defeated for lack of a sufficient number of affirmative votes were:

Clauses of the joint resolution (*a*) stating resumption of hostilities to be in conflict with the Council's previous cease fire order for Indonesia and (*b*) requesting the Committee of Good Offices to assess responsibility for the outbreak of hostilities.

An Australian amendment asking the Committee of Good Offices to ensure that no reprisals or punitive action would be taken against individuals in Indonesia.

A Soviet proposal (*a*) condemning the Netherlands Government on the charge of aggression against the Indonesian Republic, (*b*) ordering immediate cessation of hostilities, with release of political prisoners and (*c*) providing for the creation of a Security Council Committee to supervise the cease fire order and the withdrawal of troops and assist in settling the Indonesian conflict.

A Canadian proposal requesting the Committee of Good Offices to make an early report which might enable the Security Council to determine what steps could be taken in view of the existing situation in Indonesia, to bring about speedy establishment of peaceful conditions.