

independent international civil service must be preserved if the United Nations is to perform its impartial role.

There is no reason, moreover, why member states should try to keep control of their nationals in the Secretariat. The appropriate political control of Secretariat activities is exercised by the Security Council, the General Assembly and the other organs of the United Nations. These organs can give full instructions to the Secretary General.

As well, we have wisely adopted the practice of establishing advisory committees, especially for peace-keeping operations. These committees afford an additional opportunity for interested states to offer advice and give political guidance to the Secretary General in the discharge of his mandates. This is a practice which has proven its worth and one which can be developed in relation to many activities of the United Nations.

Berlin

Most speakers in this debate have referred to the prevailing crisis over Berlin. The Soviet Union has seen fit to create there a very dangerous situation, where a few months ago no imminent threat to peace existed.

The peoples of the world are watching anxiously the steps which are being taken in the direction of negotiation. I have no doubt it is the universal desire of this Assembly that a settlement in Berlin be negotiated with the least possible delay. Clearly the tension must be reduced and the frightening threat of armed conflict removed.

The primary responsibilities for solving the Berlin crisis rests with the four occupying powers in that city, but the United Nations could be called upon to play a role in a Berlin settlement. In any event, the United Nations cannot abdicate its responsibility in relation to any problem which raises acutely the fundamental issue of peace or war.