

Peace-keeping

Peace-keeping was discussed generally in low key, although the U.S.S.R. and France maintained their strong opposition to "violation of the Charter" — meaning by this proposals which, in their view, might derogate from the authority of the Security Council. The report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations ("Committee of 33") reflected its continuing inability to resolve the financial and organizational, as well as constitutional, problems it had been established to consider. The Committee had not met during the summer to carry out the terms of its mandate owing to the preoccupation of its members with the situation in the Middle East and it, therefore, recommended only that the mandate be renewed.

The debate in the Special Political Committee at the twenty-second session revealed several positive trends. First, there was general recognition among member states that the Security Council and the General Assembly had complementary roles in the maintenance of peace and security. Second, the debate gave evidence of general support for the conception of a special scale for the financing of peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures, and that in such cases the contribution of the developing countries should not exceed five per cent of the total cost. Third, there was indication of a growing interest in the need for improving peacekeeping preparations so that the organization could respond promptly and effectively when the need arose. Fourth, it was emphasized that peacekeeping operations, valuable as they were, must be accompanied by progressive moves toward a peaceful and permanent settlement.

Four draft resolutions were tabled. One, resulting from amendments to a U.A.R. draft, was acceptable to the major powers and was adopted by a wide margin in both the Special Political Committee and in plenary session. The compromise text provides, *inter alia*, that a study be prepared on matters relating to facilities, services and personnel which member states might provide for use in peacekeeping operations. The resolution also states that the proposed study should be included in the report of the Committee of 33 to the twenty-third session. Speaking in plenary session on this item, Canada expressed satisfaction at the positive trends evident in the debate and indicated willingness to co-operate fully in the further work of the Committee of 33, with particular reference to the proposed study of peace-keeping. Canada also made a strong plea to those countries that had not made voluntary contributions, particularly the highly-developed countries, to do so, in order to eliminate the United Nations financial deficit.

First Committee

Outer Space

At its twenty-first session, the General Assembly had unanimously commended for signature and ratification the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Use of Outer Space, including the