

connection M. Frangulis suggested that it would be desirable to specify in time of peace "undefended open towns and medical zones to be used as a site for hospitals and ambulances, which all states would undertake to respect and refrain from bombing."

The Polish delegate (M. Komarnicki) while prepared to accept the desirability of laying down general rules for the conduct of bombing operations emphasized that Poland would not accept any resolution which embodied any condemnation, however indirect, of any particular situation, since there had been no impartial investigation of the allegations on which such condemnation might be based.

The Chinese delegation, which had the support of the Soviet and several other delegations, thought that certain sanctions should be applied to a state guilty of unlawful bombing, suggesting in this connection that other governments should refrain from supplying such a state with aircraft and petrol.

The Committee was in general agreement with the proposal put forward by the United Kingdom delegation. In view of the technical character of the question it was decided to ask the Assembly to have the Bureau of the Disarmament Conference, which was to meet shortly, undertake the necessary practical work involved in the preparation of a general agreement on the basis of the United Kingdom proposal.

At the same time the Committee congratulated the United Kingdom Government on having taken the initiative in setting up a Committee of Investigation to examine cases of air-bombing of civilian populations in Spain, and decided to recommend that the Council should take under consideration any other appeal for the establishment of an international committee to investigate breaches of the principles above set forth in cases of bombing of civilian populations from the air.

FOURTH COMMITTEE

(Budgetary and Administrative Questions)

Financial Situation and the Budget for 1939

The financial position of the League was examined by the Fourth Committee in the light of the reports of the Auditor and of the Supervisory Commission, the permanent advisory body on matters of finance and internal administration. The position was found to be sound with accounts balanced and reserves intact. The surplus of income over expenditure for the past financial year, the calendar year 1937, amounted to 4,558,625 gold francs. It was agreed that this surplus, which was due partly to devaluation, partly to the payment of contributions in arrears and, partly, to economies in administration, should be used to build up the Guarantee and the Reserve Funds and to reduce the assessment of Member States for 1939 and subsequent years.

The estimated expenditure for 1939, as approved by the Committee, calls for an outlay of 32,234,012 Swiss francs, as against 32,273,251 Swiss francs for 1938, and is made up as set forth in the following table. For convenience of comparison the corresponding figures for 1938 are given in a parallel column.

	1938	1939
Secretariat	15,929,331	16,188,063
International Labour Organization	8,335,272	8,394,243
Permanent Court of International Justice	2,894,516	2,839,689
Permanent Central Opium Board	124,064	126,399
International Assistance to Refugees	207,109	269,500
Buildings	1,584,000	1,584,000
Pensions	1,713,791	1,710,118
Settlement of Assyrians	300,000	150,000
High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany	73,168	
Fund at the disposal of the Supervisory Commission for expenditure resulting from currency depreciation	1,040,000	
High Commissioner of the League of Nations at Danzig	72,000	72,000
New York World's Fair	900,000
Total: Swiss francs	32,273,251	32,234,012