

The twenty powers proposed that the *ad hoc* committee be composed of the following eighteen states: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Sweden, the Soviet Union, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States. The Soviet Union proposed that the preparatory group should consist of Argentina, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States. Although agreement on the remaining aspects of the twenty-power draft resolution appeared to be attainable after its revision to include certain features of the Soviet draft, it was not possible to reach agreement on the question of membership. The twenty-power draft resolution, as revised, was then adopted by 54 votes to 9 with 18 abstentions on November 24.

Further efforts were made to find agreement on the question of membership of the *ad hoc* committee, but without success. The General Assembly then adopted the proposal transmitted by the First Committee by 53 votes to 9 with 19 abstentions on December 13. Shortly before the vote the Soviet Representative declared that the composition of the Committee would not ensure fruitful co-operation and that the Soviet Union would not participate in its work.

A United Nations Peace Force—Standby Arrangements

Repeated efforts since 1945 to establish a force capable of acting as the enforcement agency of United Nations decisions have failed. Similarly, attempts to develop even a modest para-military arm of the United Nations have been frustrated. The thirteenth session of the General Assembly witnessed a somewhat different approach to the problem of how to increase the effectiveness of the United Nations in maintaining or restoring international peace. For the first time proposals did not centre on the establishment of a force as such, or even on the earmarking of national units for service with a force. At this session emphasis was placed on the need for flexible planning to meet a variety of possible situations and on the importance of general agreement on certain basic principles which should govern the creation, composition, deployment and operation of whatever United Nations instrument might be created to deal with a specific situation (agenda item 65).

In the introduction to the Annual Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organization, submitted to the United Nations in June 1957, Mr. Hammarskjöld wrote: "There is need for careful analysis and study of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) experience in all its aspects in order to give the United Nations a sound foundation, should the Organization wish to build an agreed standby plan for a United Nations Peace that could be activated on short notice in future emergencies to serve in similar ways. Steps have been taken for such a study to be undertaken in the Secretariat". Through the following year this study proceeded and on October 9, 1958, the Secretary-General presented to the thirteenth session of the General Assembly a summary study which contained a condensed history of the various aspects of the operation of UNEF since its inception. Its concluding chapter, however, contained a summary of observations and principles which should, in the Secretary-General's view, be borne in mind by members of the United Nations when considering any plans for United Nations action to meet future emergencies.

The need for flexibility in the planning of standby arrangements was emphasized by the Canadian Representative (the Secretary of State for