

21. The issue of how to pay for the U.N.'s major peace-keeping activities came to a head at the 19th session of the General Assembly. On the one hand the Soviet bloc and France owed so much that under terms of Article 19 of the Charter they should lose their votes in the General Assembly; on the other the U.N. had used up all its available sources of credit so that some form of corrective financial action was imperative. As you will remember, the 19th session was stalemated over this issue, which was resolved only a few weeks before the beginning of the 20th Session last September. The solution, if that is the right word, was to reach a "consensus", the essence of which was that the applicability of Article 19 would not be raised with regard to UNEF and ONUC, and that the financial difficulties of the Organization should be solved through voluntary contributions by member states.

22. General acceptance of this consensus enabled the 20th Session of the General Assembly to function normally but it has