

countries have contributed on a large scale in terms of money, of men and of equipment to United Nations peacekeeping operations. Canada, amongst others, has provided military personnel for every one of the 15 odd peacekeeping operations undertaken since 1945. In July 1961, two Commonwealth countries, Canada and India, made up 43% of the total UNEF force. In October 1963, this percentage was even slightly higher, 44%. In the Congo, as of September 1962, the Commonwealth contribution constituted 61% of the United Nations force; six Commonwealth countries, Canada amongst them, were supplying nearly 11,000 officers and men. In November 1963, this Commonwealth contribution, by only four countries, including Canada, was still of 2,166 officers and men, that is 31% of the force. In West Irian, Pakistan provided the bulk of the force in which Canada also participated.

Commonwealth countries have also played a prominent and useful role in the work of the Economic and Social Council. In these circumstances it is perhaps not out of place, Mr. Chairman, to ask the question: "Can the General Assembly expect Member States to contribute substantially to the political, economic and social activities of the United Nations unless it is prepared to offer them a reasonable prospect of representation on the organs controlling these activities?"

almost to the exclusion of all others -

With the emphasis in recent years on geographic loyalties -/there has grown a tendency in some quarters to write off the Commonwealth as a group in the United Nations. My Delegation, Mr. Chairman, does not accept this viewpoint. In our view, the Commonwealth represents a happy combination of both geographical and functional considerations which make it eminently suitable as a group for purposes of representation on and effective contribution to the work of the Councils. I would also remind the Committee that the Commonwealth group itself in the United Nations, which consisted of a small number of six members at the birth of the United Nations, in 1946, has since grown to a total of 16. In a few days there will be two other applicants for membership, both from the Commonwealth. And the number is not closed. My Delegation is therefore firmly opposed to any suggestion which does not take fully into account the existence of the Commonwealth and its contribution to United Nations affairs.