

least 1961, for \$5.2 million; 51 members owed approximately \$25.3 million to the UNEF Special Account for at least their 1961 assessments; and 64 members were in arrears to the ONUC Ad Hoc Special Account for at least their 1961 assessments, for approximately \$51.4 million. Thus about 94 per cent of the total arrears of \$82 million resulted from the failure or inability of member states to pay their assessed share of UNEF and ONUC costs.

Canada has consistently paid its assessed share of all United Nations costs and has shown lively interest in the financial aspects of the organization's activities. For example, at the fifteenth session, Canada co-sponsored a resolution which set up a Committee of Experts to examine United Nations financial and budgetary procedures. At the sixteenth session, Canada co-sponsored a resolution authorizing the Secretary-General to issue \$200 million in United Nations bonds to provide working capital to help overcome the organization's serious financial crisis. These bonds are to be repaid over a 25-year period, with interest at 2 per cent, out of the annual assessments of member states under the regular budget. Canada was the first country to announce its intention to subscribe to the bond issue and has pledged a purchase of \$6.24 million (U.S.). At the sixteenth session, Canada also co-sponsored a resolution which requested the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to give an advisory opinion as to whether UNEF and ONUC costs were expenses of the organization under Article 17(2) of the Charter. In company with 20 other countries, Canada made a submission to the Court. In its submission Canada contended that United Nations members had a collective responsibility for UNEF and ONUC expenses and that all members had an obligation to contribute according to their assessed shares. On July 20, 1962, the Court, in a majority decision of nine to five, found that the expenses authorized by the General Assembly relating to UNEF and ONUC constitute expenses of the organization. The Court thus corroborated Canada's views that UNEF and UNOC costs were expenses of the United Nations. The question of the financial obligations of member states is to be discussed at the seventeenth session.

It has only been since 1956 that special accounts for United Nations peace-keeping operations have been maintained. However, in the six years since UNEF was created, Canada's share of UNEF costs has been over \$2.8 million, while, since ONUC was created in 1960, Canada has been assessed approximately \$7.3 million. In addition, Canada has written off billings of about \$600,000 which the United Nations owed to Canada resulting from the provision of transportation facilities for the United Nations Force in the Congo.

UNHCR and Refugees

A refugee is defined by the United Nations as a person who has left the country of his normal residence because of fear of persecution. At the end of the Second World War, the number of refugees in Europe was close to 2.2 million people. Immediately after the War, Canada and other countries joined together to form the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees in order to assist refugees in their emigration, re-establishment in their country of present asylum or voluntary return to their original homes. In 1946, a United Nations Specialized Agency, the International Refugee Organization (IRO), was established to continue this work. Canada became a member of the IRO in 1947 and from 1946 to 1961, Canada contributed about \$18.8 million to the organization.