

experience in preparing, or in critically examining, Budget Estimates; and I think you will agree that the comparison of Estimates of one year with Estimates of another year, though in some respects a useful exercise, is not half such a useful exercise as the comparison of past Expenditures with proposed Estimates. I recognize, of course, in this that a time factor militates against the presentation at this time of expenditure patterns for the current year which would be so useful in our consideration of the Estimates proposed for next year.

I am informed that a document giving eight or nine months expenditures - and by expenditures I would hope that the word includes in addition to true expenditures, firm commitments that have been undertaken - will be available in possibly a couple of weeks. Unfortunately, we will have progressed by that time to a point where I would hope that our first reading of the estimates will have been completed. It is true that with this document in our hands we will be able to take a final, critical look at the Budget Estimates before the resolutions go forward. Nevertheless, I would like to commend to the consideration of the Secretariat the study of this problem, in order that we might have before us, at the time the details of the budget estimates come before us for consideration, some statement of actual and anticipated expenditures for the current fiscal year.

My delegation believes that the \$200,000 reduction proposed by the Advisory Committee under the heading of "Documentation" is a substantial indication of their awareness of the possibilities of economy in this particular section; and we will vote for it because of our understanding that the essential services can be conducted within the modified estimates. But here again I would like to associate myself with the representative of Egypt, who appealed for caution and moderation for reductions in this section. If we reduce documentation beyond a certain point we will not be briefed properly for our deliberations, and delegations (already over-burdened with work) will be faced with the need of doing far more of their own reporting back to governments than they would if they are able to rely in large measure on the reports of the Rapporteurs.

In short, Mr. Chairman, my delegation will vote for any reductions in the Budget Estimates, which, upon the evidence presented here, seem sensible to us. But, as we said last year, sympathetic as we are to reductions in expenditures, we will not support reductions which seem to us to be arbitrary.

But there is another side, too. It would appear that proposals may come forward for a restoration of certain cuts or for an increase in certain appropriations. If the proposals come forward in an orderly and judicious manner in keeping with the usual procedures of this Committee, we will of course, give careful consideration to the suggestions. We would hope, however, that the spirit of co-operation evident on the part of the Secretary-General will not be his alone. And that when increases are proposed, due consideration will be given to the considered opinion of our Advisory Committee, and to the statement of the distinguished chairman of that Committee, who said in presenting the report of the Advisory Committee, and I quote, "If in the effort to move with ease within