

of the Assembly, prepared to discuss the possible establishment of a body for the purposes suggested by Mr. Marshall in his opening address.

Opening the debate on this item in the First Committee, the United States representative introduced the original United States proposal¹ which outlined the suggested functions for the Interim Committee. These functions were:

- (a) to consider as it may determine, such situations as may come to its attention within the purview of Article 14, or such questions as are brought before the General Assembly by the Security Council pursuant to Article 11 (2), and to report thereon, with its recommendations to the General Assembly;
- (b) to consider and to make recommendations to the General Assembly upon general principles of co-operation in the maintenance of international peace and security under Article 11 (1) and to initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of promoting international co-operation in the political field under Article 13 (1) (a);
- (c) to consider whether occasion may require the calling of a special session of the General Assembly and, if it deems that such session is required, to so advise the Secretary-General;
- (d) to conduct investigations and appoint commissions of enquiry within the scope of its duties and functions as it may deem useful and necessary;
- (e) to study, report and recommend to the third regular session of the General Assembly on the advisability of establishing a committee of the General Assembly on a permanent basis, to perform the duties and functions of the Interim Committee with any changes considered desirable in the light of its experience;
- (f) to perform such other functions and duties as the General Assembly may assign to it.

The United States representative emphasized that the creation of such a Committee for 1948 would be in the nature of an experiment and that any decision to establish it permanently would have to be taken after the experience of the Interim Committee's operations in this period.

The main discussion in Committee centered around the powers to be allocated to this Committee and the matters which it would be permitted to discuss. Various delegations warned against giving the proposed Committee powers that properly belonged either to the Security Council or to the General Assembly. The United States delegation, however, made it clear that, according to its proposal, the

¹The text of the United States proposal is given in Appendix I, Q, pp. 208 to 210.