

It would be desirable to have between sessions a Committee specifically charged with observing and reporting on the implementation of the most important of these resolutions.

"There remains the question: are we entitled to take action of the kind we contemplate? Is it legal and constitutional? Serious questions have been raised in this connection, and we should not dismiss them lightly. The only limitations which we face are the provisions of Articles 12 and 24. In our opinion and in spite of dogmatic but unsupported statements to the contrary, the U.S. proposal does not contravene either of these Articles. On the contrary, it falls within that provision of the Charter, Article 22, which provides for the establishment of subsidiary organs of the Assembly...."

"....The terms of reference to be given to such a Committee must be studied carefully. We do not agree entirely with those which have been suggested in the United States resolution and for this reason have submitted certain amendments to that proposal. It seems to the Canadian Delegation that there are important functions which might be performed by an Interim Committee and which are not mentioned in the proposal before us. The United States delegate, himself, in introducing his proposal, referred to the important duties which an Interim Committee might perform in preparing the way for the regular session of the General Assembly. He has not, however, made provision for performance of these duties in the resolution which he has presented.

"It seems to us also that the Interim Committee should consider the extent to which the more important resolutions of the General Assembly are being carried out. We realize that these resolutions are no more than recommendations to member nations. They are, however, expressions of international opinion which must carry great weight. During the experimental year which is proposed, it is probable that the Interim Committee should consider the effect of only such important resolutions as are referred to it by this Assembly. The Committee itself might later consider whether, in the long run, it would be useful for the Assembly to have before it, when it meets, a report on the implementation of its resolutions.

"There are also certain parts in the United States resolution which we think might be deleted. The Interim Committee will be both temporary and experimental in character, and we are not satisfied that at this stage it should be asked to assume the very general responsibilities which arise from Article 11 (1) and 13 (1) (B) of the Charter. The instrument which we are proposing to create may well prove so useful that we shall wish to extend its duties in this respect. At first, however, we should like to see excluded from its terms of reference the wide-ranging responsibilities which were suggested by these two Articles. The Canadian delegation is, however, in full agreement with the idea that the terms of reference of the Committee should give it full authority to consider all matters in regard to peace and security which come within the competence of the General Assembly. For this reason we would favour a reference to Article 35 as well as to Article 14 in the terms of reference of the Committee.

"Within the areas which I have suggested, we consider that the Interim Committee should be given clearly defined responsibilities. It should have the right to discuss fully any subject which comes on its agenda, to conduct investigations and to make reports and recommendations to the General Assembly, either in regular or special session. We do not think that it should have any other powers, nor do we consider that it should be established at this time for longer than an experimental period of one year. We agree with the United States proposal that it should be a Committee of the whole Assembly.

"Before I conclude may I support the appeal, or was it a warning, made yesterday by the Delegate from France: that this Committee should not become a platform for the rehashing of political propaganda of the kind we are becoming all too familiar with in this Assembly...."