

When the Fifth Session of the Assembly opened on September 19, the Korean question was given priority on the agenda. The Canadian attitude was outlined in a statement by Mr. Pearson on September 27, during the opening debate. This statement set forth five main principles which might govern the Assembly's decision on Korea:

- (1) "The general objective of the United Nations in Korea should be to fulfil now the purposes which have repeatedly been stated at previous Assemblies — a united Korea, a free Korea, a Korea which the Korean people itself governs without interference from outside."
- (2) "The United Nations must assist the people of Korea to establish peace and order throughout its territory as a firm foundation for democratic institutions and of free self government."
- (3) "The Korean people, once peace has been restored, must be assured that no nation will exploit the present situation in Korea for its own particular advantage."
- (4) "Nothing shall be done in the establishment of a united free Korea which carries any menace to Korea's neighbours."
- (5) "The free governments of Asia should take a major share of the responsibility for advising the Korean people upon methods of government which they should adopt and procedures which they should follow in establishing those methods of government."

The main debate centred on two draft resolutions: an eight-power resolution sponsored by Australia, Brazil, Cuba, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines and the United Kingdom, and the second, a five-power resolution, sponsored by Byelo-Russia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Ukraine and the U.S.S.R.

The eight-power resolution, presented by the United Kingdom, made the following recommendations:

- (1) that "all appropriate steps should be taken to ensure conditions of stability" throughout Korea;
- (2) that "all constituent acts be taken, including the holding of elections under the auspices of the United Nations for the establishment of a unified and democratic government";
- (3) that United Nations forces should only remain in any part of Korea so long as necessary for achieving these objectives;
- (4) that all necessary measures be taken to accomplish economic rehabilitation.

The resolution went on, in its operative part, to call for the establishment of a Commission to be known as the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (UNCURK).

The Cominform bloc opposed the eight-power resolution on the grounds that it sanctioned United States "intervention" in the internal affairs of the Korean people, and tacitly permitted the military occupation of Korea "by imperialist powers". Their counter-resolution consequently recommended that the "belligerents"