

Supply—External Affairs

are still being credited with that money which we have already spent as against our ultimate expenditures. When this United Nations emergency force was set up, it was understood we would pay our own expenses as we went along, and eventually there would be payments received from other members of the United Nations and our expenses would be credited against those receipts. Would the minister make a report to the committee on this matter?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have not the precise figures on the strength of the Canadian contribution to the United Nations emergency force in toto, but the strength has been running in the neighbourhood of 1,000 to 1,100 men. As to the strength at a particular moment, I speak subject to correction.

In so far as financing is concerned here again it is a case of the general assembly starting out bravely in 1956 with a decision that the expenses of the force should be collectively shared by all members of the United Nations in accordance with the scale of assessment approved for the regular budget of the United Nations for 1957. It has not been possible to adhere to that because the communist countries have flatly refused to make any contribution toward meeting the expenses of the United Nations emergency force.

There has been a continuing and serious contention in the United Nations as to the financing of these forces. In 1959 the general assembly adopted a resolution, of which Canada was a co-sponsor, which incorporated a formula designed to preserve the principle of collective responsibility while reducing the burden on the underdeveloped countries which had found it impossible to meet their obligations. Under this formula it would be open to the participating governments to accept or decline a 50 per cent rebate of their assessment which the United Nations was able to offer as a result of voluntary contributions pledged by the United States and the United Kingdom. In October, 1960, the Canadian government considered this offer and decided to forego the rebate. This means that Canada has become liable to pay a full share of the \$20 million total costs of the force in 1960. This full share is 3.11 per cent of the total, which is the same percentage Canada pays to the regular budget of the United Nations. Pending a decision on the rebate, Canada has already paid half of the 1960 assessment. This payment—adjusted to take account of certain credits in the United Nations budget of which Canada is entitled to a share—amounted to \$307,182 U.S. The remaining portion of Canada's assessment

for 1960 amounts to \$310,764 U.S. What is submitted in these estimates represents the Canadian equivalent of the balance of the 1960 assessment and the full 1961 assessment, totalling \$892,680 U.S., converted at the current rate of exchange.

I expect the Leader of the Opposition is going to ask me a question, as he did last year, about the defaulters so perhaps I might as well go on to that. The following members of the United Nations are respectively in arrears in their contributions to the support of the United Nations emergency force at March 7, 1961. The countries that are in arrears for four years are, Afghanistan, Albania, The Argentine, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Byelorussia S.S.R., Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Greece, Hungary and Iraq.

Those in arrears for three years are Costa Rica, El Salvador, India. Those in arrears for two years are Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras. Those in arrears for one year are Austria and Denmark.

There is another page containing these names, so may I qualify that answer by adding to those who were four years in arrears the following: Jordan, Libya, Mexico, Nepal, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Ukrainian S.S.R., U.S.S.R., and the U.A.R. and Yemen. We add to the three-year list the Philippines and Venezuela. We add to the two-year list Lebanon and Liberia, and to the one-year list Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

Mr. Benidickson: We thank the minister for that information which he anticipated would be requested. I do not have in front of me the estimates for 1960-61, and I should like to know if there was a special item to which this is an addition or is this something that comes completely on its own at the end of the year?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): This item, Mr. Chairman, is quite apart from the ordinary budgetary contributions of Canada to the United Nations. It is also quite apart from Canada's contributions of all kinds to the special United Nations undertakings. As I mentioned, the amount of this item represents the Canadian equivalent of the balance of the 1960 assessment and the full 1961 assessment, converted at the current rate of exchange.

While I am on my feet, I think I should, in fairness to certain countries that appear on this list, say that while Afghanistan, Chile, China, Cuba, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Panama and Peru are in arrears for four years in connection with United Nations emergency force operations, each of those countries has made at least one direct contribution to the fund which, however, was not sufficient to