

ANALYSIS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION OF DECEMBER 14, 1946, INCLUDING
REFERENCE TO PROBLEM OF ATOMIC ENERGY

The resolution on the regulation and reduction of armaments dealt with four related aspects of the disarmament problem:

- (1) the prohibition of atomic and all other major weapons adaptable now and in the future to mass destruction;
- (2) the control of atomic energy to the extent necessary to ensure its use only for peaceful purposes;
- (3) the placing of armed forces at the disposal of the Security Council;
- (4) the general regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces.

Insofar as the first two aspects are concerned, the resolution reaffirmed the Assembly resolution of January 24, 1946, which set up the Atomic Energy Commission. On the third aspect the General Assembly urged that Article 43 of the Charter be implemented.

With regard to the fourth aspect, concerning general regulation and reduction of armaments, the General Assembly resolution stated four principles for general disarmament:

- (1) the early general regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces in order to strengthen international peace and security;
- (2) practical measures to assure that the regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces would be observed by all participants and not by some only;
- (3) practical and effective safeguards by way of inspection and other means to protect complying states against the hazards of violations and evasions;
- (4) an international convention or conventions on disarmament to create, within the framework of the Security Council, an international system of control and inspection, operating through special organs deriving their powers and status from the convention or conventions.

The resolution set forth four stages which might take place in the process of general disarmament. The first stage was that taken by the General Assembly when it adopted a resolution on the principles which would govern the general regulation and reduction of armaments. The second stage was to be the formulation by the Security Council, under Article 26 of the Charter, of plans for the establishment of a system for the regulation and reduction of armaments. The third stage would be consideration by all members of the United Nations at a special session of the General Assembly of the plans formulated by the Security Council. The final stage was seen as ratification by the signatory states and the coming into force of disarmament treaties or conventions approved by the General Assembly. The question of general disarmament remains in the second stage; that is formulation by the Security Council of plans for the establishment of a system for the regulation and reduction of armaments.

DEPLY OF FORCES

I will now comment briefly on the steps which have been taken to give effect to Article 43 of the Charter, by which all members of the United Nations are obligated to make available to the Security