

temporary relief by adopting, by a vote of 67 (Canada) to 13, with 15 abstentions, a proposal for an appropriation of \$80 million to cover costs of United Nations operations in the Congo up to June 30, 1962.

The Palestine Problem: UNEF, UNTSO

In 1961 the Palestine problem was discussed at the resumed fifteenth session and at the sixteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly. On both occasions the debate was concerned with the problems of the Palestine refugees and UNRWA's efforts to alleviate them, but it ranged beyond the situation of the refugees to cover many aspects of the Palestine problem including, in particular, the Middle Eastern policies of various great powers.

A dispute between Jordan and Israel was brought to the attention of the Security Council in March. The occasion arose when, in pursuit of its intention to mark its Independence Day, April 20, 1962, by holding a military parade in Jerusalem, Israel arranged a rehearsal which required the movement into Jerusalem on March 17 of tanks, armour and artillery. Advance notice of its plan and assurances of peaceful intention were both given before the event. Jordan nevertheless regarded the presence of the heavy equipment in the vicinity of Jerusalem as a violation of the General Armistice Agreement. With Israel's Representatives absent from the meeting, the Jordan-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission on March 20 confirmed the Jordanian case, the Chairman having voted with the Jordanian Representatives. Thereupon Jordan took the matter to the Security Council, which on April 11 endorsed the decision of the Mixed Armistice Commission, urged Israel to comply with this decision and requested the members of the Mixed Armistice Commission to co-operate so that the General Armistice Agreement would be complied with. At a further meeting of the Mixed Armistice Commission on April 19, when the Chairman abstained on an Israeli motion to bind both governments to implement all the articles of the armistice agreement, the Israeli delegates walked out and the plans for the parade on April 20 were carried out.

Despite the acuteness of the disagreement between Jordan and Israel regarding the Independence Day parade, the situation on the borders between Israel and its Arab neighbours was relatively peaceful during the year. An air battle between Israeli and U.A.R. aircraft near the Gaza strip on April 28, and a difficult period in June on the Syria-Israel border showed, however, that the tension was high under the superficial calm.

To prevent the development of tension into serious border incidents, the United Nations maintains two peace-keeping military groups in the Middle East. Of these the older is the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), composed of more than 100 officers seconded from the armed forces of United Nations member states. These officers, 17 of