

efforts, however, the Soviet Union refused to accept the amended text and the vote of the Assembly on the 14-power resolution was 54 in favour, none against and 5 abstentions, all Soviet amendments having been rejected. The Assembly subsequently rejected by an overwhelming majority the Soviet resolution on measures to avert a new world war, which, in addition to the disarmament proposals mentioned above, contained recommendations for the dismantling of military bases in foreign territories and for the condemnation of propaganda.

The only substantive addition to the original 14-power text in the resolution approved by the Assembly was a suggestion that the Disarmament Commission study the desirability of establishing a sub-committee consisting of representatives of "the powers principally involved" which should seek in private an acceptable solution and report to the Disarmament Commission as soon as possible. At the request of the Western powers the Disarmament Commission reconvened in April to consider the Assembly's suggestion and on April 19 the Commission approved by a vote of 9 in favour, 1 against (U.S.S.R.) and 2 abstentions (China and Lebanon) a United Kingdom proposal to establish a sub-committee composed of representatives of France, the United Kingdom, the United States, the U.S.S.R. and Canada. A Soviet proposal suggesting that Communist China, Czechoslovakia and India be added to the sub-committee was defeated by a vote of 1 in favour (U.S.S.R.) 10 against and 1 abstention. At its first meeting held in New York on April 23 the sub-committee dealt with procedural matters and decided that discussions on substantive matters should be held in London. The sub-committee held 19 private meetings at Lancaster House between May 13 and June 22 and on the latter date submitted its report to the Disarmament Commission.

The sub-committee's report is non-committal and merely enumerates the various proposals submitted during its meetings. The main proposals are those contained in an Anglo-French memorandum, a United States working paper on the international control organ, and a Soviet paper on a general disarmament programme.

The Anglo-French memorandum<sup>1</sup> proposes, in the first place, that the international disarmament treaty to be submitted to the United Nations for consideration by a general disarmament conference should provide for: (1) the total prohibition of the use and manufacture of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction of every type, together with the conversion of existing stocks of nuclear weapons for peaceful purposes; (2) major reductions in all armed forces and conventional armaments; and (3) the establishment of a control organ with rights and powers and functions adequate to guarantee the effective observance of the agreed prohibitions and reductions.

The Anglo-French proposals recommend that the states member of the sub-committee — that is, France, the United Kingdom, the United States, the U.S.S.R. and Canada — should regard themselves as prohibited in accordance with the terms of the Charter of the

<sup>1</sup>The full text of the memorandum will be found in U.N. document DC/SC.1/10, June 11, 1954.