

ica. The abstained on resolutions supporting the armed attempt to free Namibia and the observer status at the UN to the High West African People's Organization (HAPPO).

The texts of the two resolutions concerning Zimbabwe (formerly Southern Rhodesia) remained essentially the same in both sessions, and Canada supported them. They reaffirmed the goal of majority rule, condemned the white regime, called for assistance to the people of Zimbabwe, and urged the strict enforcement of international law.

Canada Middle East

port a series of resolutions relating to various aspects of the conflict between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Canada also occupied a good deal of the Assembly's time, but no new major initiatives, such as the resolution of the previous session linking racism with Zionism, were proposed by Arab members. The status of the Palestine Liberation Organization was again debated, and no attempt was made to challenge the credentials of Israel. The session was focused on the Palestinians, especially those living in the occupied territories, and on their future as an organized community. Twenty-two resolutions dealing with one aspect or another of the conflict were adopted, including a moderate Egyptian resolution calling for a reopening of the Geneva conference before the end of 1977.

6 - Canada had hoped that the Assembly would take steps to place the Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees on a secure footing. Current voluntary contributions are not sufficient to enable the Agency to function properly. Despite resolutions on the subject, however, the situation of the Agency remains difficult and there is no guarantee that contributions will be any more numerous or larger than in the past.

Canada participated for the first time in the general debate on the Middle East, and its delegation took pains to explain Canadian votes on most of the major issues. Canada's reservations usually related to statements in resolutions running counter to the basis agreed on for further Middle East talks and set out in Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, or to provisions that prejudged the future status of the occupied territories. In addition, Canada objected to one resolution on racial discrimination that recalled a resolution of 1975 purporting to equate Zionism with racism. Resolutions that singled out Israel for special condemnation without taking into account the actions of others were unacceptable to Canada.

In all, Canada voted in favour of ten resolutions, abstained on eight and opposed four.

The debate on Cyprus at the thirty-first session again reflected the frustration felt by many delegations over the lack of real progress on this question. Mr. Jamieson summed up the situation in his speech to the General Assembly on September 29, 1976, in which he said:

In Cyprus, the United Nations Force (UNFICYP) still faces a difficult situation. The parties to the dispute are no closer to agreement now than before. The situation on the ground remains tense and dangerous. It is generally agreed that the UN Force plays a vital role, but the costs of the Force are running \$40 million over the contributions collected. We believe strongly that all member states, in particular the permanent members, should make appropriate contributions to duly-authorized UN peacekeeping operations. The fact that only a dozen or so governments have made payments to the UN Special Account for the first six months of this year is not a record of which we can be proud.

Canada's dissatisfaction was reflected in its delegation's abstention on the main resolution on Cyprus, which did not include an appeal to the parties concerned to co-operate with UNFICYP. On the other hand, the debate did provide the occasion for the Cypriot Government to renounce ENOSIS (union with mainland Greece) as an objective of the Greek-Cypriot community, and Turkey indicated that it wanted no status for Cyprus other than non-alignment.

On December 14, the Security Council renewed the UNFICYP mandate for a further six months and, at the request of the Secretary-General, Canada renewed its commitment to provide forces for this period.

Disarmament

The UN's active involvement in the complex problems of disarmament continued at the thirty-first session. More than 100 statements of national position and the adoption of an unprecedented number of resolutions reflected a growing dissatisfaction with the slow rate of progress, especially by the five nuclear powers, two of which do not even participate in negotiations on the subject. Perhaps Mr. Jamieson captured the mood of many delegations in his statement of September 29 to the General Assembly, in which he said:

*Canadian
abstention
on Cyprus
resolution*