

A third draft resolution, submitted by Nigeria, proposed 1970 as the target date for the independence of all African countries.

A fourth draft resolution, co-sponsored by 36 delegations, proposed the appointment of a 17-member special committee to examine the application of the Assembly's Declaration on Colonialism and make recommendations on its implementation.

The fifth draft resolution, submitted by India, urged negotiations between Indonesia and the Netherlands, under the aegis of the Assembly President, to find a solution to the question of West New Guinea.

Interrupting its debate on these items, the Assembly adopted a 34-nation resolution appealing to France to "redress the legitimate grievances" of Algerian prisoners in France by recognizing their status as political prisoners. This question was introduced as a matter of urgency, to deal with the situation created by the hunger strike of several thousand Algerian prisoners. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 62 in favour, none against, with 31 abstentions (including Canada).

The Assembly's General (Steering) Committee decided, on the request of India, to recommend inscription of a new item on the agenda concerning the designation of a year as a United Nations Year for International Co-operation. As explained by the Indian representative, the aim of the year would be to shift the balance from conflict to co-operation and to concentrate attention on the constructive side of United Nations efforts. The Assembly has yet to approve inscription of this item.

First (Political and Security) Committee

During the period under review, the First Committee considered its first three items: the Indian item on "The Continuation of the Suspension of Nuclear and Thermonuclear Tests and Obligations of States to Refrain from their Renewal"; the United Kingdom-United States item on "The Urgent Need for a Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons Tests Under Effective International Control", which the Committee decided to consider simultaneously with the Indian item; and "The Question of Disarmament".

Concern over the adverse effects on world health of the atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons which the Soviet Union had abruptly resumed on September 1 was intensified with Premier Khrushchov's announcement that his Government intended to explode a 50-megaton bomb in the atmosphere before the end of October.

At the request of Canada, Denmark, Iceland, Iran, Japan, Norway, Pakistan and Sweden, the Committee interrupted its debate on nuclear weapons testing to give immediate consideration to a draft resolution submitted by these eight members, appealing to the Soviet Union to abandon its announced intention to explode a 50-megaton bomb.

Calling for urgent action by the United Nations, the Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs stated on October 20 that the 50-megaton bomb, to-