

simplest proof that this is a delusion is that the Working Capital Fund, which was set up to deal with the question of late payment of contributions, is now depleted because of the calls upon it which have been made, quite properly, to finance peace-keeping operations. This situation has cancelled out the working capital fund as a source of cash to fill the gap left by late payments. This is only one indication that the finances of the United Nations cannot be conveniently compartmentalized and parts of it forgotten or ignored. Apart from the practical links which exist between all expenditures of the United Nations, there is the overall consideration that all the work of the United Nations suffers if part of its undertakings collapse through financial indifference.

We have seen during the past few years and especially in the last few months that the Secretary General has had to avail himself of his borrowing powers and have recourse to large scale advances from the reserves of UNICEF, the Special Fund and other sources. I do not need to elaborate on how undesirable this procedure is. But, one thing is certain, the United Nations must not allow the peace-keeping operations of the United Nations to wither away for lack of funds. The organization's ability to undertake such operations is perhaps the greatest test of its value and efficacy and they will have the first priority on our support.

Governments and the people who under our system are the ultimate arbiters of what we do, will find it increasingly more difficult to support the voluntary programmes of aid under the United Nations in the face of the discouraging response of member states to their mandatory obligations for all-important and peace-keeping undertakings. Should this happen, the whole organization will be diminished in our eyes.

I repeat again, we are a technical body and our decisions must be taken in the light of our collective experience on the best methods and procedures for ensuring that the work of this organization is done smoothly. This Committee has, over the years,