

the Temporary Commission on Korea had made an attempt to fulfil its mandate and been refused admission to the areas occupied by Soviet troops.

The discussions about the Interim Committee raised a question of more far-reaching consequence. Could the machinery of the General Assembly be developed so that its influence could be exercised continuously throughout the year and not simply during its sessions? In other words, could the authority given to the Assembly under the Charter be developed so that the Assembly could act effectively to deal with the problems of peace and security which the Security Council had not been able to settle?

The effort to provide for greater use of the Assembly in relation to these three subjects proved a difficult and contentious task. The result, however, was a constructive one. It represented the beginnings of a process of constitutional development which may in time greatly alter the relationships between the various organs of the United Nations.

The desire to make more effective the authority of the General Assembly was more than an expression of concern over the inadequate functioning of other branches of the United Nations. It was also an indication that Member States were disturbed because the United Nations had fallen short of providing the guarantee for their security which had originally been anticipated. In the minds of many delegates therefore the question was raised whether, by some means within the structure of the United Nations, the machinery for collective security could not be strengthened and developed in a manner which would, without weakening the organization, enable it to provide benefits, which until the present, have been lacking.

It was not, of course, possible for the Assembly to avoid being involved in the controversies which have arisen between the states of eastern Europe and the western democracies. The effects of the controversy were even more apparent during the Second Session of the Assembly than they had been in 1946. The attempt to strengthen the authority of the Assembly provided occasions for this controversy, and the debates on Greece, Korea, and the Interim Committee included discussions not only on the merits of these subjects but