

by basis, but that, apart from welcoming these offers, he had not been in a position to do much more than this in the absence of approval by an appropriate organ of the United Nations. He therefore suggested that it might be useful to study the whole question of advance planning and asked for appropriate action which would authorize the undertaking of such a study. A number of countries including Canada welcomed this invitation. Progress was affected, however, by the need to resolve the broader constitutional issues thrown up by the controversy over Article 19. As it happened, the terms of reference of the Special Committee on Peace-Keeping Operations established by the Assembly before it adjourned were broad enough to include both kinds of problem for study.

Disarmament

It was hoped that in 1964 the United Nations would be able to make significant progress in achieving some measure of disarmament to follow such advances as the partial test-ban treaty, the direct communications link between Moscow and Washington, the General Assembly resolution banning nuclear weapons from outer space, the reduction of the military budgets of the Soviet Union and the United States, and the mutual cut-backs in the production of fissionable materials for military purposes by these two countries and Britain. However, the financial crisis not only prevented any substantive discussion of disarmament in the General Assembly but also had an adverse affect on the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee. Nonetheless, while the expectations that existed at the beginning of the year were not realized, interest in the subject remained high as reflected in the inscription on the nineteenth session's agenda of six items in the disarmament field: the question of general and complete disarmament (report of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee); the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons; a declaration on the denuclearization of Africa; the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons; the suspension of nuclear tests; the conversion to peaceful needs of the resources released by disarmament. Similarly, in the general debate at the nineteenth session, most speakers placed emphasis on disarmament matters, and it was clear that an extensive and lively discussion would have taken place if the First Committee had met. In his statement during the debate, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, commenting at length on disarmament, stressed in particular the current need of measures to prevent the dissemination of nuclear weapons, pointing out that "the need for such agreement is greater now that the number of nuclear powers has increased". "It is no longer sufficient to depend on the restraint of the nuclear powers