

was only the final step in a carefully worked-out schedule of the Netherlands Government. Dr. Palar charged that the Netherlands had violated the Ren-ville truce agreement while the Republic had always co-operated with the Committee of Good Offices.

On December 27 the Netherlands representative assured the Security Council that his Government had given immediate and serious consideration to the Council resolution of December 24. Military observers might be sent to the scene of fighting as requested. Some Republicans had been released and all Republican leaders would be free to participate in later consultations on the formation of a Federal Interim Government. Neither a Soviet resolution ordering an end to hostilities within twenty-four hours nor a Ukrainian resolution demanding immediate withdrawal of troops received enough support to pass.

On December 28, the Council passed by eight votes to three abstentions (U.S.S.R., Ukraine, United Kingdom) a resolution submitted by China requesting that the Netherlands release Republican leaders forthwith in accordance with the December 24 resolution and report on its action within 24 hours to the Security Council. A Colombian resolution asking the Consular representatives in Batavia to report on the situation there was passed by nine votes to two abstentions (U.S.S.R., Ukraine).

■