

January 9, when the military forces garrisoned in the Canal Zone had opened fire on Panamanian nationals demonstrating over the question of the flying of the Panamanian flag in the Zone. The United States Representative argued that action had been necessary to protect United States property and citizens from assaults by disorderly crowds. The Council adopted a proposal appealing to both governments to restore order; it had earlier been informed that the presidents of the two countries had already conferred over the incident and that the Inter-American Peace Committee of the Organization of American States would go to Panama and recommend measures for a settlement of the dispute.

Kashmir

At the request of Pakistan, the Security Council, on three occasions between February and May, discussed the dispute between India and Pakistan over disposition of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Representative of Pakistan charged that certain Indian measures designed to modify the governmental structure of the state not only marked a further step toward the integration of Kashmir into the Indian Union but also threatened to destroy the special status granted to it by the Security Council Commission and by the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan in 1948 and 1949. In reply, the Indian Representative claimed that these charges were unjustified and that the measures his Government had taken were entirely within India's domestic jurisdiction. The discussions ended on May 18 without a consensus being reached, though all members agreed that the two countries should continue to seek a peaceful solution to the problem.

The Kashmir question was again brought to the Council's attention in July and August by communications from both India and Pakistan pointing to the spread of cease-fire violations. In December, further communications were received from both sides concerning a new Indian law which extended to Jammu and Kashmir the "emergency government" provisions of the Constitution. None of these communications required action by the Council.

In line with its policy of friendship with both India and Pakistan, and of encouraging the solution of international disputes through the maintenance of peace in areas of friction, Canada, at the request of the Secretary-General, agreed during the year to increase from seven to ten its membership in the United Nations Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan. It also provided a "Caribou" aircraft with full crew to UNMOGIP to facilitate its operations.