

Assembly membership, to encourage the world-wide collection and central collation of more accurate information on radiation. We took this initiative in the knowledge that even if nations agree to stop testing nuclear weapons, the problem of radiation will not vanish. It seems imperative that the substantial gaps which exist in our knowledge of this frightening phenomenon should be filled, and that research into the biological effects of radiation should be based upon the fullest and most reliable information possible. I was greatly heartened by the enthusiasm with which the Canadian people greeted this initiative and by the complete support it received in the United Nations.

In other and perhaps less spectacular matters the Canadian Delegation was also active. During the previous year Canada had been a member of the Outer Space Committee, and some useful work in the technical and legal spheres was accomplished. However, the Soviet Union declined to participate because of the make-up of the Committee. If the Committee was to succeed the Soviet Union must take part and accordingly some change in the composition of the Committee was necessary. The Canadian Delegation applied itself to this problem and, eventually a change was agreed upon which satisfied the West, the East, and the uncommitted countries--so there is now hope of worth-while results being achieved and Canada is a member of the new committee.

We also continued our humanitarian contributions to the several United Nations programmes for refugees and took a lead, which we hope other nations will follow, in marking World Refugee Year with a special Canadian project for the admission to Canada of 100 tuberculous refugees and their families. In this endeavour the Federal Government has had the welcome support of most provincial governments, not including British Columbia!

Towards United Nations efforts at peace-keeping and peace-supervision, Canada continues to make a contribution in which, I think, we all can take pride. Our support for the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East continues undiminished and I believe it is true to say that we have contributed more manpower to various United Nations observation groups--for example, in Palestine, Kashmir and Lebanon--than any other single nation. In consequence, we have developed in Canada a very large corps of both civil and military observers highly experienced in this specialized type of work. Although we do not believe that a standing United Nations force in being is a practicable possibility today, we do maintain in Canada a battalion earmarked for service with the United Nations should the necessity arise.