

should be established this time (instead of the previous four), one on economic and financial measures and one on military measures. Canada continues to be, as it was last year, a member of the military sub-committee. At the time of writing, neither sub-committee has progressed very far with its studies and it is in fact unlikely that there will be much new ground to break, with the possible exception of the question of the equitable sharing of the burdens of collective action and the question of a United Nations Legion.

The Committee itself has requested the Secretary-General to send a communication to both member and non-member states, asking for information on the steps they are taking in furtherance of the General Assembly recommendations, and also a communication to member states not represented on the Committee, asking for suggestions on subjects which the Committee might explore in its future work. The Committee has also approved certain nominations by the Secretary-General for the Panel of Military Experts. Among the appointments to the Panel is Major-General R. O. G. Morton, CBE (Retired) of Toronto and Montreal.

### Free German Elections

The problem of uniting the eastern and western parts of Germany, which has for some years been an issue hotly contended between the Soviet Union and the free world, was brought before the sixth session of the General Assembly during December 1951 in the following fashion. In September 1951 the Government of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) had proposed to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany that representatives of East and West Germany should meet to consider the holding of free and secret elections to an all-German parliament. In his reply to this proposal Dr. Adenauer, the Chancellor of the Federal Republic, laid down 14 principles of election procedure. Dr. Adenauer also sent a note, early in October, to the Allied High Commission — the representatives of the Western occupying powers. In this note he proposed the setting up of an international commission, under the control of the United Nations, to determine whether conditions in Germany were such that free elections could be held. France, the United Kingdom and the United States requested on November 5 that this proposal be made an item on the agenda of the sixth session of the General Assembly. The request was agreed to by the General Assembly on November 13 by a majority which included Canada.

The subject of an electoral commission was first discussed in the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee on December 4, in terms of a resolution put forward by the representatives at the General Assembly of the Western occupying powers. A few days later delegations from both East and West Germany presented their respective cases to the Committee. The East Germans, painting a rosy picture of conditions in the East Zone, rejected the proposal for an investigation by a United Nations commission; the West Germans and the Mayor of West Berlin welcomed an investigation and spoke of the