

(b) Threats to the Political Independence of Greece

31. On December 3, 1946, Greece brought before the Security Council the problem of guerrilla warfare along its northern borders and alleged that assistance was being given to the guerrillas by Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. In the ensuing debate, these states denied the Greek charges and blamed the disturbances on a "reactionary Greek administration", the presence of foreign troops in Greece and the struggle for liberty which, they stated, was being waged by free Greeks. The Security Council therefore set up a Commission of Investigation, consisting of representatives of all members of the Council plus the four states concerned. The report of this Commission was presented to the Council in May 1947. The majority of the members of the Commission concluded that Yugoslavia and, to a lesser extent, Albania and Bulgaria, had supported the guerrilla warfare. The Soviet Union and Poland defended the three accused states in the Security Council and argued that the evidence supplied was untrustworthy. As no proposal could be agreed on in the Security Council, the matter was placed on the agenda of the second regular session of the General Assembly.

32. In the discussions of this matter in the General Assembly in the autumn of 1947, the majority of Members supported the findings of the majority group in the Commission. By a vote of 40 to 6, with 11 abstentions, the Assembly created a Special Balkan Committee consisting of 11 members. The Committee, with headquarters in Salonika, was set up to maintain a watch on Greece's northern borders, and to observe the compliance of the states concerned with the Assembly's recommendation that they co-operate in the peaceful settlement of their disputes. The Soviet Union, and the other Eastern European states which voted against the establishment of the Committee, announced that they would not participate in it.

33. The Canadian position on this matter was to vote in favour of the resolution setting up the Special Committee on the Balkans. The Canadian position was stated by the Canadian representative in the Political Committee of the Assembly on October 6, 1947: "In view of the serious situation which has been shown to exist in the Balkan Peninsula, the Canadian delegation considers that the Assembly should take action immediately towards the maintenance of peace and security in that area We have come to the conclusion, therefore, that we should support the operative parts of the United States resolution and especially the proposal to establish a special committee." A Canadian proposal, presented by its representative on October 10, 1947, resolved the problem of the composition of the Special Committee. This proposal provided for Great Power membership on the Special Committee, and its adoption ruled out the possibility that the Committee might be composed only of representatives of the smaller states. Places on the Committee were also, by this proposal, held open for the Soviet Union and Poland. The Canadian view was that a committee on which the Great Powers were not represented might not enjoy sufficient prestige to enable it to perform its duties adequately in the troubled area of the Balkans. Canada is not a member of the Special Committee on the Balkans established by the Assembly resolution and therefore has not participated actively in this question since the discussions in the General Assembly last autumn.

(c) The India-Pakistan Question

34. When the India Independence Act was passed last year and the two new independent states of India and Pakistan were established, the final steps were taken in the transfer to the Indian people of the right of self-government which had begun many years ago. History can possibly afford no parallel of an imperial power abdicating its sovereignty so generously and so speedily as Britain has done in India. Yet the rapid