

general debate to improve the organization and work of the United Nations. To stem the "sea of words" that is often an obstacle to constructive work by the organization, the Canadian delegation introduced two draft resolutions: one was intended to rationalize the system of documentation in the United Nations system, while the other dealt with United Nations conferences. Both resolutions were adopted unanimously. Canada played an active part, as well, in negotiations for the expansion of United Nations headquarters facilities in New York, and the initiation of a study on the possibilities of relocating some United Nations units elsewhere. A resolution on these subjects, which Canada had introduced, received strong support from the Assembly.

Unlawful interference with aircraft was a new and important item dealt with by the Sixth Committee. A resolution co-sponsored by Canada urging ratification of the Tokyo Convention on hijacking, domestic legislation to prosecute hijackers, and support for ICAO's work in this field was adopted by the Assembly. A draft convention on special missions sent from one country to another, a topic of constitutional significance to Canada, was reviewed and completed by the Committee.

Considerable progress was made by the Third Committee in the social field, including the redrafting and completion of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development. The problems of youth were discussed, and the General Assembly proposed the establishment of an international volunteer corps for development.

Security Council

Though Canada's term on the Security Council expired December 31, 1968, the Council's activities were followed closely. During 1969, the Security Council held 64 sessions, bringing the total number of meetings from its inception to over 1,500. Twenty-four meetings were held concerning the Middle East; eight on the Namibia (South West Africa) question; seven on Southern Rhodesia; six on relations between Zambia and Portugal; five on relations between Senegal and Portugal; five on Guinea and Portugal; two on peace-keeping in Cyprus; and two on the membership of "micro-states" in the UN. Debate in the Security Council was clearly dominated by two focal points of world tension -- the Middle East and colonialism and racism in Africa.

The Council heard complaints from Lebanon and Jordan on a number of Israeli actions on their territories. The Council condemned Israeli air attacks on Jordanian and Lebanese border villages and censured Israel for its continued control of Jerusalem. There was no substantive progress in finding a settlement.

In southern Africa, the Security Council called on South Africa to cease its administration of Namibia and subsequently set a time limit -- October 6, 1968 -- on such a withdrawal, a deadline that South Africa failed to meet. An initiative by Algeria, Nepal, Portugal, Senegal and Zambia on the Rhodesian question, calling on all states to sever relations with "Southern Rhodesia" failed by a vote of eight in favor to none against, with seven abstentions. The Council also reviewed its sanctions against Rhodesia and condemned countries not co-operating in these measures.