

After several months of fruitless negotiations a renewed attempt to reach a settlement was made in September on the basis of new proposals submitted by the United States member of the Committee of Good Offices. Despite further negotiations between high officials of the Netherlands and Republican Governments, the situation again became deadlocked and, on Dec. 14, the Netherlands Government announced its decision to go on with its intentions to form a United States of Indonesia under the Netherlands Crown. Five days later the Netherlands launched military operations and invaded Republican territories. This action was severely criticized by the Committee of Good Offices and, in the Security Council, Canada's representative deplored the resumption of military operations but opposed a United States resolution calling for a withdrawal of Netherlands troops on the ground that it could not be enforced.

**Palestine.**—Both in the Security Council and in the General Assembly Canada contributed to efforts to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Palestine conflict. Since the Commission which was to have carried out the Assembly's partition plan of November, 1947, was unable to function, a special session of the Assembly decided in May, 1948, to substitute for it a Mediator, whose proposals for a peaceful settlement were completed just before his assassination in September. The Mediator's proposals were modified by an Assembly decision of Dec. 11 which was supported by Canada. This provided for a Conciliation Commission to assist Arabs and Jews to reach an agreed settlement, to plan an international regime for Jerusalem and to supervise the repatriation of refugees.

Meanwhile Canada's representative in the Security Council had given full support to that body's unremitting efforts to check disorders in Palestine with the aid of the United Nations Mediator and a Truce Commission. Throughout the period of the first general cease-fire in June and the period of the truce imposed by the Security Council under threat of sanctions in July, Canada voted in favour of Security Council resolutions designed to reinforce the authority of United Nations personnel in Palestine and to restrain military drives which were renewed in October, November and December.

Canada was among those who held that Israel's application for membership should be considered at a later date.

**Korea.**—The Temporary Commission on Korea, with a mandate from the Assembly to "facilitate and expedite the national independence of Korea", acted as observer in the elections held in South Korea on May 10, and heard representations regarding the conduct of the elections. As instructed by the Assembly, the Commission continued in Korea to offer its services as a consultant, first to the newly elected Korean representatives, and later to the Government of the Republic of Korea. The Canadian member of the Commission was Dr. G. S. Patterson, of the Department of External Affairs. During the Third Session of the General Assembly, the Commission on Korea was reconstituted. The number of members was reduced from nine to seven, because of the decrease in the Commission's responsibilities, and Canada and the Ukraine were omitted from membership.

**Atomic Energy Commission.**—The record of the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission during 1948 is a discouraging one. Discussions of the Soviet Government's proposals of June, 1947, and of the organizational structure of an international control agency were continued but, after more than 240 meetings, the Commission reluctantly decided in May that it had reached an impasse which only the Security Council or the General Assembly could resolve.