

reform of the office of the Secretary-General. After intensive behind-the-scenes negotiations, the Security Council recommended the appointment of the Permanent Representative of Burma to the United Nations, U Thant, as Acting Secretary-General for the unexpired portion of Mr. Hammarskjöld's term. A resolution to this effect was adopted unanimously by the General Assembly on Nov. 3.

At the 16th session, Canada took the lead in focusing world attention on the hazards created by increasing levels of fallout from atmospheric explosions. The Assembly unanimously adopted a Canadian resolution calling for a new program for measuring the incidence of radioactive fallout and endorsing the view that principles of international law and concern for the future of mankind impose responsibilities on any State whose actions increase the level of radioactive fallout. Canada also gave active support to resolutions calling for the cessation of nuclear tests and co-sponsored an appeal to the Soviet Union not to carry out its intention to explode a 50-megaton nuclear bomb.

In the field of disarmament, Canada underlined the desirability of an expansion of the ten-power disarmament negotiating body, of which Canada is a member, to include new members representing the main geographical areas of the world. A resolution reflecting United States-Soviet Union agreement along these lines was approved unanimously by the Assembly. The Assembly had previously agreed on a set of principles to guide the negotiations which are expected to re-open early in 1962.

On the question of outer space, Canada co-sponsored a resolution endorsing the principle that international law, including the United Nations Charter, applies to outer space and celestial bodies and that, while outer space is open for exploration and use by all States, it is not subject to national appropriation. This resolution, which won unanimous approval, also set the stage for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space, particularly in the telecommunications and meteorological fields.

In the economic sphere, Canada secured the adoption of its proposal for a world food bank which had been put forward by the Canadian Prime Minister at the General Assembly in 1960.

At the second half of the 15th session in the spring of 1961, Canada had taken the initiative to focus Assembly attention on the growing financial difficulties facing the organization. At the 16th session, the Assembly took extraordinary steps to deal with these acute problems, resulting in the main from the heavy costs of the peace-keeping operations. Canada took a lead in securing the adoption of a resolution seeking an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on the question of the legal obligations of members to contribute to the costs of United Nations operations in the Middle East and the Congo. Canada also co-sponsored a second resolution authorizing the Secretary-General to issue bonds in the amount of \$200,000,000 to be repaid from the regular budget over a period of 25 years. The proceeds from the bond issue will be used to meet the growing cash deficit of the United Nations. Canada's attitude on these questions reflects its interest in developing the peace-keeping role of the United Nations and in establishing a sound financial basis whereby the burden carried by Canada and other nations participating in peace-keeping activities will be equitably shared by the whole membership of the United Nations.

Unable to complete all of the items on its agenda, the Assembly adjourned on Dec. 20, after a decision to resume its work on Jan. 15, 1962 with an agenda including Angola, Ruanda Urundi, British Guiana, Southern Rhodesia and the Cuban complaint against the United States.

Canada's membership on subsidiary organs of the General Assembly was, in 1961, augmented by the election to the International Law Commission of Mr. Marcel Cadieux, Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. He is the first Canadian to receive this honour, reflecting interest in Canada's distinctive position vis-à-vis two great legal systems of the world.