

and was instructed "to study and report on the measures, including political, economic and military measures, which the United Nations might use to maintain and strengthen international peace and security" During the period under review the Committee studied the problems involved in implementing the clauses of the Uniting for Peace resolution which recommended that member and non-member states determine how they might appropriately carry out the economic and financial measures and the military measures that might be required for participation in United Nations collective action. The General Assembly noted this second report, expressed appreciation of the constructive work done by the Committee, requested it to continue its work for the maintenance and strengthening of the United Nations security system, and instructed it to report to the ninth session.

The Disarmament Commission, of which Canada is a member, was established on Jan. 11, 1952, to replace the Atomic Energy Commission and the Conventional Armaments Commission, and to prepare proposals to be embodied in a universal agreement for the regulation and balanced reduction of all armaments, for the prohibition of all major weapons adaptable to mass destruction, including atomic weapons, and for the effective control of atomic energy. Neither of the two reports submitted by the Commission in 1952 contained any recommendations or conclusions, as it had not been possible to reconcile the differences of view between the Western powers and the Soviet Union.

Palestine.—At the seventh session of the General Assembly, the Arab States requested a review of the work of the Palestine Conciliation Commission on the grounds that it had not fulfilled its mandate to bring about agreement between Israel and its neighbours. By virtue of the temporary territorial arrangements made under the 1949 armistice agreements, Israel controls roughly three-fourths of the former mandated territory of Palestine while, in 1947, the General Assembly recommended that it be shared on a fifty-fifty basis with the Arab States. The Arab States were anxious that any future discussions between the parties should be on the basis of the relevant Assembly resolutions, while Israel wished that negotiations should be without reference to previous decisions taken by the United Nations. It proved impossible to reconcile these opposing points of view and no resolution on Palestine was adopted at the seventh session.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWAPR) continued its work, which so far has primarily been that of relief for some 850,000 Palestinian Arabs who fled from their homes following the setting up of the State of Israel. The rehabilitation program has gone more slowly but negotiations regarding agreements on long-term projects are now proceeding with the Arab governments concerned. Canada made a substantial contribution to UNRWAPR in the autumn of 1952.

Tunisia and Morocco.—National unrest and agitation against French rule in Tunisia and Morocco led to several attempts by Arab and African States during 1951 and 1952 to have one or the other question considered by the Security Council or the General Assembly. Both matters were on the agenda of the seventh session and both were fully debated. Substantially similar resolutions were adopted urging the parties to continue negotiations and to refrain from acts likely to aggravate the present tension. There was a sharp division at the Assembly between those who wished to have these questions examined and those who maintained that the United Nations was not competent to do so. On the grounds that the United Nations was incompetent, the representative of France did not participate in the discussion.