

held in the year under review, the Council studied the political, economic, social and educational conditions of the Territories on the basis of the annual reports of the administering States and petitions from the Territories themselves, dealt with a number of specific questions referred to it by the General Assembly and made recommendations to the administering States. The report of a United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories in East Africa, the seventh of its kind appointed by the Council since it came into being in 1947, was approved at the Council's fifteenth session early in 1955, and a "periodic visiting mission" to Territories in West Africa was named. Canadian policy on matters of Trusteeship before the United Nations General Assembly is governed by a careful weighing, within the provisions of the United Nations Charter, of the responsibilities, rights and aspirations of both the administering States and the indigenous populations. To date Canada has not been elected to the Trusteeship Council.

International Court of Justice.—To "adjust and settle international disputes in conformity with justice and international law" is one of the purposes of the United Nations and it was therefore essential to establish a judicial arm for the Organization. The Statute of the International Court of Justice is an integral part of the Charter of the United Nations. During 1954-55 San Marino, Japan, West Germany and Italy—although non-members of the United Nations—became parties to the Statute of the Court. All members of the Organizations are automatically parties to the Statute. The Court is composed of fifteen judges who are elected in individual capacities. Mr. John E. Read of Canada has been a judge of the Court since 1946.

Secretariat.—The Secretariat operates the administrative machinery of the United Nations. At the ninth session of the General Assembly Canada and a majority of other members approved plans of the Secretary-General for reorganizing the Secretariat. The Secretary-General's proposals included a reduction of 284 posts in the headquarters establishment and a number of important structural changes in the supervisory ranks of the Secretariat. The changes were expected to result in savings and increased efficiency. At the ninth session approval was given for establishment of a procedure for dealing with appeals from decisions of the Administrative Tribunal which considers applications alleging non-observance of contracts of employment of staff members or of their terms of appointment.

Subsection 3.—Canada and the North Atlantic Treaty

Within less than two years of the end of World War II in 1945 and the establishment of the United Nations hopes of a lasting peace gave place to growing anxiety. The United Nations Security Council, which had been given responsibility for maintaining world-wide security, was deliberately prevented by the USSR representatives from fulfilling this function. The Soviet Union maintained its armed forces after the War at a level that insured to itself a preponderance of military strength in Europe. The Soviet Government blocked attempts by the Western Powers to reach a peace settlement in Europe and communist parties were used as an instrument of Soviet policy to sabotage Western European efforts at economic recovery and political co-operation. Under these circumstances, the countries of the Atlantic community felt themselves in grave peril of Soviet aggression and communist subversion and they therefore took special collective measures under the United Nations Charter to maintain peace. The Prime Minister of Canada was one of the first to foresee this development. In 1947, when Secretary of State for External Affairs, he said before the United Nations General Assembly that nations might be forced to seek greater safety "in an association of democratic, peace-loving states willing to accept more specific international obligations in return for a greater measure of national security"

The first step in this direction was taken in the spring of 1948 when Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom signed the Brussels Treaty establishing Western Union. On Apr. 4, 1949 as a result of negotiations between these