

on the political conclusions of the report, believing that bodies like UNSCOB should merely report facts and leave the Assembly to draw conclusions.

Australia believed that it was essential for the United Nations to remain seized of the Greek question, and for a United Nations agency to remain in the Balkans. But UNSCOB had proved by experience that it could not simultaneously perform the functions of conciliation and investigation; it was impossible for any one to be at the same time detective, prosecutor, judge, and negotiator. It was necessary also to consider the question of costs, if results were again to be negative and UNSCOB were to be little more than the "chronicler of the Greek tragedy." The United Nations should not be content to observe passively a situation they could not direct, but should attempt the constructive task of conciliation. The Australian delegation considered that UNSCOB should be reconstituted, preferably with smaller membership, as a mediatory body with observation as a secondary function. Secondly, they proposed that a meeting of representatives of Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, and Yugoslavia be convened immediately in Paris by the President of the Assembly and the Secretary-General to explore the possibilities of settling outstanding differences.

The consideration of the Greek question in the First Committee occupied two and a half weeks, developing towards the close into a single-handed filibuster by Dr Bebler, who used all possible procedural (and some non-procedural) devices to prevent the joint resolution from coming to the vote. Among the diversions which he initiated were a debate on whether or not a film on Greek children in Yugoslavia should be shown to delegates, and a proposal that the Committee should intercede on behalf of a number of Greek trade-unionists condemned to death for subversive activities. The Committee disposed of the second problem by adopting a French proposal that the Chairman should consult with the Greek delegation on the matter.

The joint resolution of *China, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States* was eventually put to the vote, and after several *Australian* amendments had been incorporated was adopted by 48 votes (N.Z.) to 6.

The *Soviet* resolution was voted on paragraph by paragraph. Before a vote was taken on the paragraph relating to the Albanian and Macedonian minorities in Greece, the representative of *New Zealand* said that he did not deny that there might be a minority problem in Greece, or assert that in no circumstances would the United Nations be competent to make a recommendation on such a problem. However, the Committee was discussing "threats to the political independence and territorial integrity of Greece," not the Greek problem in general; this was therefore an inappropriate context for such a recommendation, and he would vote against it. The paragraph was rejected, as were the