

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

EDITORS' NOTE

In all fairness to those who use the following summaries of the work of international organizations in 1946, it should be clearly stated that the editors do not make any pretense at having covered the work of *all* international organizations, nor even all which are official. To select among the multitude of existing international organizations those of particular significance for an audience presumed to have varying specialized interests is no easy task, and the problem was approached with some diffidence by the Board of Editors. It was finally agreed, however, that every effort should be made to present summaries of the work of the most important international organizations and agencies in five categories: 1) The United Nations; 2) The Specialized Agencies; 3) Other International Organizations; 4) Regional International Organizations; and 5) War and Transitional Organizations.

Having accepted these rather flexible categories, and decided that in the main we would concern ourselves primarily with "official" rather than "mixed" or "private" international organizations, further limitations developed, partly in shortage of time and staff, but primarily in the difficulty of securing official documents from some of the smaller agencies. Although it was, therefore, our original intention to prepare these summaries exclusively from official documents, press releases, or working papers, we have in some instances, particularly in the case of the War and Transitional Organizations, been forced to rely on sporadic newspaper reports which fail to give an adequate picture of the work of the agency summarized. We have, however, attempted to note the terms of reference establishing the organization and to mention any official publication of which we are aware. No doubt there are omissions, but we hope these may be corrected in subsequent issues.

Two additional limitations have operated to restrict the organizations mentioned. First, we have omitted reference, even by listing, to international agencies which were dormant or which held few important meetings during 1946. Second, we have omitted reference to organizations, or to their meetings, which were exclusively or primarily technical in character. It is not our intention, however, to limit ourselves only to those agencies treated in this issue, but rather to summarize, in each four month period, the work of all major international organizations in these five categories as they are or become active and as documents are available.

It is necessary to add a comment on the documents cited, particularly those of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies. As a general rule, we have cited as reference only those documents and records generally available to anyone through subscription. Because of the uncertainty at the present writing of the exact nature of the final form of documentation available by subscription, there follows a brief explanation of the documentary references used.

The two editors primarily responsible for the section which follows — including the errors — would be lacking in the most elementary courtesy if they failed to express their gratitude to the scores of officials in the United Nations and Specialized Agencies, in the Department of State of the United States, and in various interna-

tional organizations who have patiently answered our requests for documentary material and guided us through their complexities. Our special thanks go to Mr. Waldo Chamberlain and Mr. V. J. G. Stavridi of the secretariat of the United Nations without whose cooperation these summaries would not have been possible, and to Mrs. Patricia Stewart Alexander, Mrs. Jane Knowles Webb, and Benjamin Rivlin of the staff of the World Peace Foundation, whose diverse skills have been of invaluable assistance in these compilations.

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The principal documentation on the General Assembly, as referred to in the following sections, consists of three different types of material. First, reference is made to the *Journal of the General Assembly*, the verbatim record of the First Part of the First Session held in London in January, 1946. Second, reference is made to *Journal of the United Nations*, which contains similar, though provisional, verbatim records of Plenary Meetings and summaries of statements made at Committee Meetings. Third, occasional reference is made to mimeographed documents presented either to the Plenary Meetings or the Committees or subcommittees. References to Plenary Meetings carry a *Journal* number, the letters P.V., a supplement letter and the number of the Plenary Meeting, as *U. N. Journal*, No. 58/A/P.V./46. Summaries of Committee meetings carry a *Journal* number, a number indicating the supplement and a symbol for the Committee number, as *U. N. Journal*, No. 39/3/C.3/84 — this particular report on the Third Committee is to be found in Supplement No. 3 of the 39th issue of the *Journal of the United Nations*. Assembly documents all start with A, followed either by a number or, in the case of committees, a committee symbol followed by a number. Revisions or additions to document are indicated by appropriate further breakdowns. Thus A/C.4/Sub. 1/26/Rev. 1 indicates the first revision of the twenty-sixth document filed with Subcommittee 1 of the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly.

The work of the Security Council is covered for the period January 18 — June 26, 1946 by the *Journal of the Security Council*, supplemented by Documents S/1 to S/94. The verbatim records included in the *Journal* and the more important documents are to be printed together as the *Official Records, First Year: First Series* in the near future. Starting with the 50th meeting on July 10, printing of the provisional *Journal* was discontinued, and both verbatim records and documents were included in the *Official Records, First Year: Second Series*. In the period to June 25, reference has been made freely both to the *Journal* and to the numbered documents in the belief that the citation may easily be found in the *Official Records* for this period when available. For the period from June 26 to December, delayed distribution of the Second Series of the *Official Records* has forced us to rely on other documentation which may or may not find its way into the printed records. In such cases we have cited the document number and tried in all cases to mention the exact number of the meeting at which the subject matter was discussed for easier reference when the *Official Records* get up to date.

The work of the Economic and Social Council for its First and Second Sessions is covered by the *Journal of the Economic and Social Council*; starting with the Third Session the *Official Records, First Year: Third Session* were issued. These journals and records are supplemented by Documents issued by the Council, which carried the basic symbol E/ and number, and by those issued by the various commissions and conferences of the Council, which carry the symbol E/, plus a commission or committee symbol, and a number; additions, corrections and revisions are also

shown: thus E/EMP/Sub. 1/4 indicates the fourth document submitted to subcommission one of the Economic and Employment Commission of the Economic and Social Council. Because the *Official Records* were not yet available, we have had to rely almost exclusively on documents to cover the work of the Third Session; these documents include, however, a number of verbatim records of the Council sessions, which are indicated by the symbol E/P.V./ plus the number of the meeting.