THE UNITED NATIONS General Assembly went into recess last week. The Assembly President, Mr. Alex Quaison-Sackey, said he proposed to call the Assembly back again on 1 September unless a prospective report on the peacekeeping issue, due by mid-June, brooked no delay. The Assembly took final decisions of its initial session and a half-month period after having resorted to the first and only vote taken since it met on 1 December. It rejected, by 97 against 2 in favor, and 13 abstentions, an Albanian move challenging a ruling by Mr. Quaison-Sackey that there was a consensus against departing from the no-vote procedure followed since the start of its 19th Session. After having thus voted to continue not to vote, the Assembly proceeded to make arrangements on the peacekeeping problem, to grant the Secretary-General interim budgetary authority, to fill a vacancy on the Economic and Social Council, and to provide for U.N. supervision of the spring elections in Congo. The adjournment came on Tuesday 18 February, shortly after eight in the evening following a session lasting well over four hours and devoted largely to the voting question. The vote moratorium agreed on last December was to avoid raising the issue of applying a Charter Article stating that Members two full years in arrears shall have no vote in the assembly. A most recent U.N. financial report gives 13 nations at over the two-year arrears level, including the Soviet Union and other East European countries (among them Albania) as well as France — who on various legal and political grounds have refused to pay their assessed share of certain U.N. military operations.

Two days after the Assembly recessed, Albania took the floor to ask that the Assembly revert to regular business and procedures and that this proposal itself be put to a roll call vote. Following 48 hours of intensive consultations, the Assembly met again on Thursday afternoon, and Mr. Quaison-Sackey, in an opening statement, ruled that the Assembly had already decided to follow the no-vote method and that there was a consensus against reconsidering that decision. Ambassador Halim Budo of Albania challenged the ruling and Mr. Quaison-Sackey.

IRISH PRESENTED UNIFICYP MEDALS BY COMMANDER

Commandant Jim Ryan receives his UN medal from Gen. K.S. Thimayya, Force Commander at a presentation ceremony in Skouriotissa last Wednesday.

U Thant reiterates his confidence in UNIFICYP

The following statement by a spokesman for the Secretary-General was issued at United Nations Headquarters in New York on Saturday.

"The question of the extension of UNIFICYP beyond March 26 is under consideration by the Secretary-General but he has reached no conclusion about it and is taking no position at this stage. He is seeking from the Government of Cyprus and the other Governments directly concerned their views on the question of extension, and his ultimate recommendation to the Security Council on this matter will be made in the light of responses received from the Governments concerned.

"Pending Security Council action on the future of the Force in Cyprus, the Secretary-General is confident that the Force will continue to function with the remarkable dedication and success that have attended its efforts thus far, despite some recent indications that it may meet increasing difficulties.

The Secretary-General has expressed his appreciation to his Special Representative, Mr. Carlos Bernardes, and to the Commander of the Force, General K.S. Thimayya, for the meticulous way in which they have sought to carry out the mandate of the Security Council and the instructions of the Secretary-General regarding the Cyprus operation. As a matter of routine in a peacekeeping operation, the Secretary-General is in daily contact with Mr. Bernardes and General Thimayya."
The Blue Beret was the title of a new unit created in 1955, and became the first of its kind to be established in the United States armed forces. It was composed of a small group of highly skilled soldiers who were trained in counterinsurgency and unconventional warfare. The unit was led by Colonel William Colby, who had previously served in Vietnam and had a reputation for being a skilled and fearless leader.

The Blue Beret was formed as a response to the increasing number of low-intensity conflicts that were becoming the norm in the post-Cold War era. These conflicts were often characterized by guerrilla warfare, terrorism, and other forms of asymmetric warfare. The unit was designed to be flexible and adaptable, and to be able to operate in a variety of environments, from urban areas to remote wilderness areas.

The Blue Beret's primary mission was to conduct operations in areas where conventional forces were not effective. This included providing training to local forces, conducting reconnaissance and surveillance, and conducting operations to disrupt insurgent activities. The unit was also used to support other units, including special operations forces, by providing intelligence, security, and other support.

The Blue Beret's success was due in part to its ability to adapt to changing situations. The unit was able to quickly adjust its tactics and strategies to fit the needs of each mission. This adaptability was a key factor in the unit's success, and it helped to establish it as a model for other military units to follow.

The Blue Beret was disbanded in 1993, and its assets were transferred to other organizations. However, its legacy lives on in the work of the Special Forces, who carry on its traditions of excellence and innovation in the field of unconventional warfare.
UN mission to help solve population problem in India

At the request of India, the United Nations has appointed a five-member technical committee to undertake a mission of economic and social development.

The mission will be the first of a series of economic and social missions provided by the United Nations to India in the field of family planning.

The terms of reference for the mission are to study the economic and social consequences of the methods of family planning employed in India, with a view to suggesting measures that would be in harmony with the needs of the economic and social development of the country.

The mission will be composed of experts in the field of economics, population studies, and social welfare.

In addition to the technical committee, the United Nations will also provide a team of experts in the field of population studies to advise on the implementation of the recommendations of the mission.

The mission is expected to submit its report to the United Nations at the end of its mission.

New stamp to commemorate UNFCYPC

The United Nations Federation of Cyprus (UNFCYPC) has announced the release of a new stamp to commemorate the organization.

The stamp, designed by a local artist, features the UNFCYPC logo and the organization's official colors. The stamp will be available for purchase at post offices across the island.

The UNFCYPC is a non-governmental organization that advocates for the rights of the people of Cyprus and works towards a peaceful resolution of the Cyprus problem.

For your listening pleasure...

Radio broadcasts are a popular medium for the dissemination of information in the United Kingdom.

The BBC provides a wide range of radio programs, including news, music, and entertainment. Popular radio stations include the BBC Radio 1, BBC Radio 2, and BBC Radio 4.

In addition to the BBC, local radio stations throughout the United Kingdom also provide a range of programming.

For your reading pleasure...

Reading material is available in a variety of formats, including books, magazines, and newspapers.

Books are a popular medium for the dissemination of information, with a wide range of genres and topics available. Magazines often focus on specific interests, such as fashion, entertainment, or sports. Newspapers provide the latest news and information on a daily basis.

For your viewing pleasure...

Television provides a variety of programming, including news, documentaries, and entertainment. Popular television channels include the BBC, Sky, and Channel 4.

In addition to the mainstream channels, there are also a number of niche channels, such as the History Channel and the Food Network.

For your drinking pleasure...

Beverages are a popular choice for a wide range of occasions, from breakfast to evening cocktails.

Popular beverages include coffee, tea, and soda, as well as a variety of alcoholic drinks.

For your driving pleasure...

Transportation is an essential part of daily life, with a wide range of options available.

Popular modes of transportation include cars, buses, and bicycles. For longer distances, trains and planes are also available.

For your working pleasure...

Employment is a crucial aspect of life, with a wide range of career options available.

Popular industries include healthcare, technology, and finance. For those looking for a career change, there are also opportunities in fields such as entrepreneurship and non-profit work.

For your learning pleasure...

Education is a fundamental aspect of life, with a wide range of options available.

Popular educational institutions include schools, universities, and online courses. For those looking to further their knowledge, there are also opportunities in fields such as research and consultancy.

For your eating pleasure...

Food is a universal language, with a wide range of options available.

Popular cuisines include Italian, Mexican, and Chinese. For those looking to try something new, there are also opportunities to explore local and international dishes.

For your sleeping pleasure...

Sleep is essential for rest and recovery, with a wide range of options available.

Popular sleeping arrangements include beds, futons, and air mattresses. For those looking for a unique sleeping experience, there are also opportunities to sleep in alternative settings such as treehouses or igloos.
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Viet-Nam developments hold UN attention

The developments in Viet-Nam continued to hold the attention of delegations at United Nations Headquarters last week.

Further statements on the situation in Viet-Nam were issued in New York. One, by the United Arab Republic, called for an end to all military operations in Viet-Nam in order to ease the situation and avoid complications which would threaten world peace. The U.A.R. reaffirmed its support for the idea of convening a new Geneva conference to find a political solution to the problem of Southeast Asia on the basis of the 1954 Geneva agreements, and in accordance with the legitimate aspirations of the Vietnamese people for freedom and peace.

Another statement was issued by Poland which together with Canada and India, is a member of the International Control Commission set up by the 1954 accord on cessation of hostilities in Indochina.

The Polish statement condemned recent United States military action against the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam as well as the military intervention which it said the U.S. had been carrying on for years in South Viet-Nam. Poland said the U.S. had engaged in acts of aggression in violation of the Geneva agreements and the United Nations Charter.

The United States and the Republic of Viet-Nam have said that the actions which they have carried out against targets in the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam were a defensive response to the attacks by Viet-Cong forces, mainly infiltrated from North Viet-Nam.

The United Nations Secretary-General, U Thant, has urged all parties concerned to refrain from any new acts which may lead to an escalation of the present conflict in Viet-Nam.

Appealing for the utmost restraint in both words and deeds, U Thant declared that means must be found, and found urgently, with or without United Nations, of shifting the quest for a solution away from the field of battle to the conference table.

Sudden death of Irish NCO

A SENIOR NCO of the Irish Contingent died in the Austrian Field Hospital, Nicosia, early on Monday morning. Later the following statement was issued by an UNIFCYP spokesman:

"At 0105 hours, 22 February, a non-commissioned officer of the 41 Infantry Battalion of the Irish Contingent of UNIFCYP died in the Austrian Field Hospital. He was admitted at 2105 hours, February 21, 2001, as a result of a sudden illness. A post-mortem is being held. In addition, the deceased are being withheld pending notification of next of kin."

The United States last week informed the Secretary-General, U Thant, that it would contribute up to $2 million dollars for the current term of the United Nations Force in Cyprus depending on the contributions of other Governments.

At the same time, the Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations, Mr. Mehdi Vakil, informed the Secretary-General that, despite the heavy financial burden placed upon it by extensive development projects, the Government of Iran had decided to pledge an additional $4,000 for the UN Force in Cyprus, increasing Iran's total commitment to the amount of $10,000.