

GENERAL
ASSEMBLYASSEMBLEE
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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON THE BALKANS

ADDENDUM

RECOMMENDATION SUBMITTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION ON
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. The Australian delegation feels that the Special Committee has so far achieved a useful work in clarifying some of the conditions necessary for a settlement of the Greek question. It considers that this settlement cannot be found by a continued examination or investigation of the frontier situation only, but is bound up with the solution of wider and more complex problems. Not only does the present emphasis on frontier investigation appear to be no longer necessary, but it may preclude the full co-operation that will be necessary in any real attempt to better relations in the Balkans.
2. It is true that so long as no initiative is taken to break the deadlock in the relations between Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia on the one hand, and Greece on the other, the United Nations will continue to be seized of the disquieting situation in the Balkans. At present there are some promising features in the situation. If it remains unchanged or shows signs of further improvement by October, the General Assembly may well consider the time propitious for the advancement of constructive and positive measures for a final solution. Relations between the Governments concerned, however, will probably remain too strained to allow them of themselves, without the good offices of an intermediary, to solve their many problems.
3. It is accordingly recommended that Governments should consider the advisability of reconstituting the Special Committee with a small membership and with purely conciliatory functions, or of establishing a "Good Offices Commission". This commission might consist of three outstanding individuals of international prestige, selected on their personal qualifications, but who should not be nationals of any of the five permanent members of the Security Council. These persons might be

selected by an ad hoc committee appointed by the First Committee (Political and Security) of the General Assembly. They would be responsible only to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

4. The functions of this body should be those of mediation and conciliation. To this end they should be authorized to meet at any place and in any country, and to consult with such Governments, organizations or individuals as will further their general objective. In particular they should in the first instance pay due attention to the four recommendations contained in the General Assembly Resolution of 21 October 1947, which are sound in principle and provide a satisfactory starting-point for the settlement of the Greek question through the machinery of conciliation.
