

## ARTICLE 34

### TEXT OF ARTICLE 34

The Security Council may investigate any dispute, or any situation which might lead to international friction or give rise to a dispute, in order to determine whether the continuance of the dispute or situation is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security.

### NOTE

1. During the period under review, Article 34 was not invoked in the resolutions or decisions of the Security Council. Neither was there any constitutional discussion bearing on the interpretation or application of the Article.
2. On a number of occasions, suggestions were made in the Security Council, together with expressions of readiness on the part of the Governments concerned to co-operate in the implementation of these suggestions, that the United Nations conduct immediate and impartial investigations either to verify charges made during the debate<sup>1</sup> or to ascertain facts regarding the incidents under consideration in order that the Security Council might judge the situation.<sup>2</sup> None of these suggestions culminated in a decision by the Council to conduct a formal investigation or to establish a fact-finding mission.
3. Explicit references to Article 34, without leading to any constitutional discussion, were also made in the Security Council during the consideration of the following items: the complaint by Haiti;<sup>3</sup> the complaint by Senegal;<sup>4</sup> and the complaint by Guinea.<sup>5</sup>
4. In the General Assembly, only incidental references were made to the Security Council's power of investigation into disputes or situations likely to endanger international peace and security.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In connexion with the situation in the Middle East: S C, 22nd yr., 1348th mtg.: United States, para. 16; 1350th mtg.: United Kingdom, para. 73.

<sup>2</sup> In connexion with the situation in the Middle East: *Ibid.*, 1353rd mtg.: Israel, para. 184; Syria, para. 181; 1369th mtg.: India, para. 92. In connexion with the complaint by the United States (*Pueblo* incident): *Ibid.*, 1389th mtg.: Ethiopia, paras. 22 and 23.

<sup>3</sup> S C, 23rd yr., 1427th mtg.: Haiti, para. 34.

<sup>4</sup> S C, 24th yr., 1520th mtg.: Spain, para. 54.

<sup>5</sup> S C, 24th yr., 1526th mtg.: Spain, para. 5.

<sup>6</sup> See, for example, in connexion with the comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects: G A (XXII), Sp. Pol. Com. 570th mtg.: Ireland, para. 34.