

by the United States 5 years later, in the resolution "Uniting for Peace."

The Latin American states also showed great interest in a stronger International Court of Justice with compulsory jurisdiction. They championed the principle of absolute domestic jurisdiction of the states in their internal affairs, however, and defended the doctrine of nonintervention.

They fought successfully to preserve the inter-American system by means of article 51 of the charter, which allows regional groupings of states within the structure of the United Nations.

Since the first meeting of the General Assembly in London, Latin America has shown itself aware of the importance of its 20 votes. Because of common international traditions, the Latin Americans decided to function as a group. Their delegates caucus frequently during the sessions of the Assembly in order to exchange views and to formulate common policies. It is not that they are always in agreement or that they always vote in a bloc, but the caucus system provides them an opportunity to cooperate toward common ends, which they generally do.

The three basic problems confronted by the United Nations, in which Latin America has participated actively, are the political conflicts of the cold war, the economic problems of underdeveloped countries, and the struggles of dependent peoples for self-government.

In the major political conflicts between East and West, the Latin American States have nearly always sided with the West. Nevertheless, they have often taken a more compromising attitude than that of the big powers, principally because of the fear of a total war in which they might be involved. In the Greek crisis of 1946 and during the Berlin blockade of 1948, Latin America supported the West but took a conciliatory position and favored the mediation of the disputes. When the Korean war broke out in 1950, the republics backed the U.S. stand wholeheartedly, and of course supported the important resolution "Uniting for Peace." They also backed the United States during the Suez, Hungarian, and Lebanon crises. However, in some countries the United States was criticized for sending the Marines to Lebanon, while the U.N. was acting on the problem.

Also, there has been disagreement between Latin America and the United States in the implementation of recommendations calling for sanctions. During the Korean war, only Colombia, which was then ruled by a rightist authoritarian regime, sent military aid. Some Latin American countries claimed that their constitutions would not allow them to send troops outside of their territory, but the real reason was their lack of a feeling of responsibility to participate in U.N. actions in geographically remote regions.

The only important U.N. political problem that has involved the Western Hemisphere was Guatemala. When Guatemala protested to the Security Council, in June of 1954, against direct aggression from Honduras and Nicaragua, the U.S. delegation, with the support of the two Latin American members of the Council (Brazil and Colombia), insisted that the complaint should be referred to the OAS. The U.S. delegate, Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge, stated that Guatemala's request was "an effort to create international anarchy, rather than inter-