

and spirit of a people, only to lead that people to chaos and destruction, perhaps unequalled in the history of man.

Are there any objective standards by which one can determine the interests of the inhabitants of a territory or judge their capacity for self-government? A widespread popular desire for self-rule or, as the distinguished Foreign Minister of Pakistan has said, "an urge for freedom", is certainly necessary. But there are other factors which are also important if self-government in the interests of the inhabitants is to be real and lasting. Among these are a sound and solid administration, economic viability and a deep-seated understanding of democratic processes.

There being, in our view, no single authority, and no single method by which the interests of the inhabitants of a given territory may be determined, how should or how can these peoples move progressively toward self-government? The road ahead, we think, lies in a free and open interplay between the authorities of the Administering Power and indigenous groups as broadly representative of the various elements within the territory as possible. This interplay of forces and interests, to be constructive and progressive, should take place openly and above all should be peaceful and non-violent.

Recent events in Tunisia have not followed such a peaceful and non-violent course. We are aware also of the difficulties between the Government of France and the Bey of Tunis with respect to the latest reform programme put forward by the French Government. At the same time we have every confidence that France will honour the trust which it has assumed towards the Tunisian people.

The Tunisian problem is now before this Committee. In the light of the considerations I have set forth, we should like to express the appreciation of the Canadian Delegation for the initiative taken by the Government of Brazil in submitting, jointly with ten other Latin-American countries, a resolution which, in our estimation, provides the type of conciliatory approach with which the problem of Tunisia should be treated. It enshrines the ideals of the Charter and should be acceptable to all those who believe that these ideals should be clothed with real meaning. At the same time it does not attempt to accuse nor to condemn nor yet to trespass beyond the limits of the authority of this organization. We are prepared to support the Latin-American resolution and would appeal to African and Asian states to do likewise. Many of these speakers have paid tribute to the moral values of which France has been the guardian. In supporting the Brazilian resolution they will have an opportunity of appealing to the French sense of justice and fair play.

What we all seek is the establishment of peace and stability and the progressive unity of the free world. In these critical times all parties involved are called upon to make special efforts toward the attainment of these goals. France is well aware of this and is doing her full share which none of the nations of the free world should attempt to minimize. Within this context we are confident that she will show her usual generosity and farsightedness to meet the desires of those populations which are pressing for a still greater measure of self-government.