

on: "We do not consider that the situation in these territories warrants mandatory Security Council action involving sanctions or other punitive measures, and we consider it important that the language of resolutions on this subject should not be open to different interpretations. Since, therefore, we had this difficulty with Operative Paragraph 1, which is the most important part of the resolution, my Delegation found it necessary to abstain."

The General Assembly was to complete its consideration of the situation in the territories under Portuguese administration by adopting on December 16, by 102 votes in favour (including Canada), two against, with one abstention, a resolution which drew the attention of member states within whose boundaries refugees from the territories in question might be residing to the possibilities opened to the said refugees of obtaining educational assistance from the United Nations under the organization's programmes of technical co-operation.

The Assembly dealt with the remaining chapters of the Report of the Special Committee of Twenty-Four without reference to its main committees. Following a general debate on colonialism, in the course of which some 45 speakers were heard from, the Assembly adopted, on December 11, seven resolutions dealing respectively with Aden, British Guiana, Malta, Fiji, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and the three territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland. A last resolution concerned the work of the Special Committee of Twenty-Four.

The seven resolutions referred to above contained the following recommendations:

*The resolution on Aden*, adopted by 77 votes in favour, ten against (including Canada), with 11 abstentions, recommends that the people of the territory and of the Aden protectorates be allowed to exercise their right to self-determination, and that the exercise of that right take the form of a consultation of the population, to be held, in the presence of United Nations observers, on the basis of adult universal suffrage. (A separate resolution on Aden, adopted by the Assembly on December 16, this time on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, invites Britain (a) to take effective measures to secure the immediate release of the national leaders and trade unionists in the territory and (b) to end all acts of deportation. This resolution was approved by 53 votes in favour, 23 against, with 31 abstentions.

*The resolution on British Guiana*, adopted by 78 votes in favour, none against, with 21 abstentions (including Canada), reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the territory to independence and calls on the British Government to fix, without delay, a date for the independence of British Guiana in accordance with the wishes of its people.

*The resolution on Malta*, adopted without vote, notes with satisfaction that the island will attain independence not later than May 31, 1964, and congratulates the Governments of Malta and Britain for the steps taken to achieve the aims of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence.

*The resolution on Fiji*, adopted by 78 votes in favour, none against, with 21