

"In our opinion, the territory of the State of Israel has been determined and delimited by an international instrument, that is, the resolution of the General Assembly of 29th November, 1947, which has not been revoked by anybody, and which remains in force. Not only does that resolution delimit the territory and boundaries of the State of Israel, but the resolution has a map appended to it, which can be consulted at any moment by any member of the Security Council or by anybody else."

The U.S.S.R. representative also used the word "enforcement" in relation to the boundaries referred to in the above resolution. As these boundaries are not now acceptable either to the State of Israel or the neighbouring Arab states, the Canadian representative was anxious not to be put into the position of appearing to accept them in voting for the Israel application. That is why he supported a French resolution for a short postponement of the application, which would not in any event have delayed a final decision, as the Assembly, which would also have to approve the application, does not meet until April 1, 1949. The request for postponement was rejected, and the Canadian representative therefore felt obliged to abstain on the vote on the application, which, of course, can be made again by the State of Israel, if it so desires.

Israel's Reply

The Secretary of State for External Affairs further announced on December 27 that the following reply had been received from Mr. Shertok:

"I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your cable of 24th December and to convey to Your Excellency on behalf of the Provisional Government of Israel an expression of deep appreciation of the *de facto* recognition by the Canadian Government and the hope of the early establishment of formal relations between Canada and Israel. The Provisional Government of Israel is anxious for the rapid restoration of peace and the settlement of all outstanding questions either directly or through the good offices of the Conciliation Commission appointed under the General Assembly resolution of December 11th, 1948, and regards this act of recognition by Canada as an important contribution towards this end."