

maining sponsors to insert a reference in their resolution to the objectives of the Indian proposal. This reference took the form of a declaration that one of the essential prerequisites of lasting peace and security was a reduction of armaments and a corresponding development of the human and economic resources of nations for the general welfare, with due regard to the needs of under-developed areas of the world.

The record of the discussions on this item illustrates the increasing tendency for the Assembly to become involved each year in a hostile and fruitless propaganda debate on "peace". There can be no doubt that the U.S.S.R. welcomes this perennial opportunity to air before a world audience its plausible but empty protestations, and it is regrettable that the delegations of those member states whose policies are vilified by Soviet spokesmen should be obliged to devote so much time and effort to exposing the baselessness of Soviet arguments. It may be assumed that Mr. Pearson reflected the views of many delegations when he suggested in his statement on the Soviet resolution "a two-year moratorium on bellicose and violent speeches about peace at the United Nations and a two-year attempt to do something about peace". It is, however, too much to hope that the U.S.S.R. will surrender the full use of this forum for its propaganda. It is also certain that the non-Cominform delegations will continue to dissect and examine Soviet statements in case they should bring to light a genuine readiness to do something more than talk about peace.

Former Italian Colonies

During its Fifth Session the General Assembly had to deal with a number of issues arising out of its comprehensive resolution of November 21, 1949, on the disposal of the former Italian colonies. These affected all three of the territories: Italian Somaliland, for which the Assembly had recommended a ten-year period of trusteeship; Libya, with its three component parts of Cyrenaica, Tripolitania and the Fezzan, which was to become a sovereign state by January 1, 1952; and Eritrea, concerning which the Assembly had asked for more information before it attempted to make a definite recommendation. Canada took an active part in the Assembly's work during the Fifth Session in regard to both Libya and Eritrea but made only one brief intervention in the debate on Italian Somaliland.

On January 27, 1950, the Trusteeship Council completed its draft of a trusteeship agreement for Italian Somaliland, worked out at Geneva in consultation with representatives of Italy, which accepted the draft, and Ethiopia, which did not. In accordance with the terms of this agreement, the formal enactment of which was subject to the approval of the General Assembly, Italy took over the administration of Italian Somaliland on a provisional basis from the United Kingdom on April 1, 1950, having bound itself to observe the terms of the draft agreement. This was similar in many respects to the trusteeship agreements adopted in 1946 for trust territories