

At a subsequent meeting, the United States Delegation introduced a draft resolution recommending the prompt establishment of a zone of inspection in the Arctic region to guard against surprise attack. The resolution called upon five members of the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission, together with Denmark and Norway and any other states having territory north of the Arctic Circle that desired to participate, to join in discussions to secure agreement on the technical arrangements required. The proposed zone of inspection was to include the area within the Arctic Circle, Alaska and the Aleutian Islands, and Kamchatka and the Kurile Islands.

Canada and several other members of the Council strongly supported the United States proposal. Even the Secretary-General, departing from his usual role of non-participation in public debate, made a statement welcoming the United States initiative. The United States draft resolution as amended by Sweden (i.e. with the addition of a paragraph to express the view that the discussion proposed might serve as a useful basis for the deliberations on the disarmament problem at a Summit Conference) received ten votes in favour and one against (U.S.S.R.) and was not adopted, since the negative vote was that of a permanent member of the Council. Nevertheless, the entire debate served to focus public attention on the problem of surprise attack and the desirability of finding means to minimize the dangers of accidental war as well as of deliberate aggression.

### **Treatment of Indians in South Africa**

The question of the treatment of persons of Indian origin in South Africa has been considered at every session of the General Assembly except the fourth. The basis of discussion has been a complaint by India, and later by Pakistan as well, that under South African legislation and administrative practices people of Indian origin in the Union are discriminated against on racial grounds. It is charged that South African laws and practices violate the human rights provisions of the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and an international undertaking (the Capetown Agreement of 1927). South Africa has consistently maintained that the matter is one of domestic jurisdiction in which, according to Article 2 (7) of the Charter, the General Assembly may not intervene.

A Good Offices Commission was set up at the seventh session in 1952 to promote negotiations between the Governments concerned, but it met with no success. Subsequent resolutions have urged the seeking of a solution by direct negotiation, have noted that such negotiations have not in fact taken place, and have urged further efforts. In 1956, South Africa withdrew from all but token representation in the United Nations in protest against the continued inscription on the agenda of this item and the one on race conflict. South Africa returned to full participation in the United Nations in 1958, and did not again withdraw although the item was once more inscribed on the agenda (agenda item 62). The Delegation of South Africa did not, however, participate when this item (and the items on racial conflict and South West Africa) were being considered. In the past Canada has