

1948, and decided to remove it from its agenda on the grounds that no new developments had occurred which would justify taking up the matter. Canada supported this decision.

At the second part of the Third Session of the General Assembly, in April 1949, two proposals on Spain were considered. The first, sponsored by Poland, called on the United Nations to reaffirm the 1946 General Assembly resolution condemning the Franco régime and to place an embargo on the shipment of arms and strategic materials to Spain. After an acrimonious three-day debate, the Political Committee rejected the resolution, Canada voting against; and later it was again defeated in the plenary meeting by a vote of 40 to 6, with 7 abstentions.

The second resolution, giving each member of the United Nations freedom of action with regard to its diplomatic relations with Spain, which was sponsored by Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Peru, was passed in the Political Committee but failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majority in plenary session. Canada abstained, and none of the North Atlantic Treaty nations supported this resolution.

The question of Spain was not raised at the Fourth Session of the General Assembly. The 1946 resolution still stands, and Canadian policy towards Spain continues to be governed by its terms.

Former Italian Colonies

Under the terms of the Peace Treaty of February 10, 1947, Italy was obliged to renounce all right and title to its former colonies in Africa—namely, Libya, Eritrea and Italian Somaliland. Signatories of the Treaty were unable to decide what to do with these territories, however, and the Four Powers were consequently authorized to arrange a settlement themselves. If they could not agree by September 15, 1948, the question was to be referred to the General Assembly whose recommendations the Four Powers undertook to put into effect. Representatives of the Four Powers sent a Commission of Investigation to Africa during the winter of 1947-48 and in 1948 consulted the other signatories of the Peace Treaty, including Canada, but they were still unable to agree. On September 15, 1948, the question therefore came to the General Assembly, but the latter could not discuss it until the spring of 1949.

The Assembly had before it during the second part of its Third Session in April and May 1949, separate proposals for six geographical areas—namely, for Italian Somaliland, for the eastern and western portions of Eritrea, and for Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, and the Fezzan, in Libya. Since the defeat of Axis forces in Africa one of these areas, the Fezzan, had been under French control; the others were under British control.

The United Kingdom showed no interest in retaining a special position in any of the regions it occupied except Cyrenaica, whose geographical location gives it some importance in connection with over-all defence plans for the Eastern Mediterranean area. France seemed desirous of remaining in the Fezzan, whose administration had already been integrated with the