

by a vote of 41 in favour, with 18 against (including Canada) and 36 abstentions, that would have had the Assembly recognize the right of the people of the territory to self-determination and independence, call for the withdrawal of "foreign forces" from Oman, and invite "the parties concerned" to settle their differences peacefully with a view to the restoration of normal conditions in the area.

The Assembly's action followed an announcement by the representative of Britain that the Sultan of Oman and Muscat was prepared to invite, on a personal basis, a representative of the Secretary-General to visit the territory to obtain first-hand information on the situation there. In making this announcement on behalf of the Sultanate, the British representative emphasized the fact that the Sultan was maintaining his position and that he did not recognize the right of the Assembly to discuss the internal affairs of the Sultanate. The announcement was also made on the understanding that the Assembly would not take any action at this time.

In another decision, on December 12, the Assembly took note of a report from the Special Political Committee that the representatives of Venezuela and Britain, in conversations regarding the question of the boundaries between Venezuela and the territory of British Guiana, had agreed to examine, together with the Government of British Guiana, all documentary material available to all parties relevant to this question. In view of the possibility of direct discussions among the parties concerned, the Committee had asked the Assembly not to proceed further with the debate on this question. It is understood that the United Nations will be informed of the result of the conversations.

International Year of Co-operation

One of the last acts of the Assembly at the seventeenth session was to adopt unanimously a resolution co-sponsored by Canada and India setting up a preparatory committee of up to 12 members to study the desirability of declaring 1965, the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations, a Year of International Co-operation. The Committee will also consider various possibilities for a programme of international co-operation involving member states, the Specialized Agencies and non-governmental organizations. This proposal had originally been advanced by Prime Minister Nehru in 1961, but action had been deferred until the Assembly's seventeenth session. Here again, the Canadian Delegation was instrumental in obtaining modifications to the terms of the original draft resolution, which enabled it to obtain unanimous approval.

Economic and Financial Matters

On the recommendation of the Second Committee, the Assembly approved a number of important resolutions adopted earlier in committee. The most important of these called for the convening of a United Nations conference on trade and development no later than early 1964.

The Assembly's resolution on the subject, which was adopted on December 8