

question from its agenda in June, 1948, on the ground that no new developments had occurred to justify its retention, Canada, then a member, supported the resolution. There still remained on the U.N. record the recommendation concerning heads of mission in Madrid and the ban on Spanish membership in Specialized Agencies. The latter Canada had never liked, but felt bound to uphold, since it believed that it was clearly desirable that U.N. members should abide by resolutions which are passed by substantial majorities and are in accord with the Charter, and since it also believed that it was more important to have the Specialized Agencies in proper relationship with the United Nations than that Spain should be a member of any one of them. By 1950 the doubts concerning the wisdom of continuing the boycott of Franco's Spain had increased sufficiently to force a successful reconsideration of policy in the General Assembly. The resolution which recommended the revocation of the remaining operative clauses of the first resolution on Spain was supported by Canada and was adopted.(1) Again, however, Canada expressed dislike of the totalitarian form of government in Spain, while emphasizing that the General Assembly was not being asked to reach a political verdict.

128. During this period of U.N. activity Canadian diplomats who met Spanish colleagues in missions abroad were instructed in a circular despatch to assume an attitude "of formal courtesy and no more". They were also reminded, when necessary, to be discreet in expressing their personal views on Spain. On April 2, 1948, the Canadian Minister in Denmark, Dr. Laureys, reported a conversation of his in which the Danish Foreign Minister agreed with him that "now, in the presence of the Communist programme in Europe, we should all be more lenient towards Franco and not exclude Spain from our midst, a great people of twenty-seven million, which, in all Europe, is the only one to have really barred the way to the Communists". He was informed in a personal letter by Mr. Pearson of the former's concern that he might have gone "a little too far" in developing his own ideas on the relations between Spain and other Western countries. He was also reminded of the official Canadian views expressed at the U.N., which had not changed, and confidence was expressed that "you would have prefaced your remarks to Mr. Ramussen with some clear indication that they were very personal and tentative opinions that you were advancing, and that they did not in any way represent the views of the Government".

129. Shortly after this admonition another Spanish Consul-General raised the question of diplomatic relations with Mr. St. Laurent, emphasizing that it would not be necessary for Canada to send a Minister to Spain immediately. Because of his claim that the only countries which refused to accept Spanish missions were the Slav countries, Mexico and Venezuela, it was decided to prepare a departmental memorandum summing up the general situation. The Consul-General's statement was found to be incorrect, notably with regard to the Commonwealth, and on July 21, 1948, the usual refusal was sent to him, although it was qualified by the adjective "malheureusement". The wish was also expressed that circumstances might make it possible in the future "d'agir dans la sens de la suggestion que vous avez soumise". In January, 1948, Mr. Desy reported from Rome that he had been approached informally by the Spanish Ambassador with a suggestion much on the lines of the Consul-General's, but with the additional

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(1) Canada is now (1952) also prepared to support the admission of Spain to UNESCO, and would not object to Spain being included in a "package deal" on admission of states to the United Nations.