

to the assurances of M. Schuman that France intended to honour its obligations under the Charter. At the same time, sympathy was expressed for the aspirations of the Tunisian and Moroccan peoples. This group viewed Tunisia and Morocco in the context of an evolutionary process by which many peoples had achieved, or were moving toward self-government. The Canadian Representative referred to the evolutionary development by which Canada had acquired the status of a sovereign nation, emphasizing the mutually beneficial experience of continuing close co-operation between the newly emerging sovereign state and its former protector.

The voting was consistent with the general attitudes outlined above. A proposal of thirteen African and Asian states urging the Government of France to establish normal relations and normal civil liberties in Tunisia and providing for a committee of good offices to assist in the negotiations between the French and the true representatives of the Tunisian people, was rejected in Committee by 24 votes in favour and 27 against (including Canada), with 7 abstentions. A milder resolution, introduced by Brazil and co-sponsored by ten other Latin American states, expressed confidence that the French Government would endeavour to further the effective development of free institutions in Tunisia; expressed the hope that the parties would continue negotiations on an urgent basis with a view to bringing about Tunisia's self-government; and appealed to the parties to refrain from any acts likely to aggravate tension. Following the defeat of their own resolution, the African and Asian group gave their support to the Latin American proposal which was adopted by the General Assembly on December 17 by a vote of 44 (including Canada) to 3, with 8 abstentions.

The eleven Latin American states also put forward a resolution on Morocco which was similar to the proposal they had submitted on the Tunisian item, but which, in view of the relative lack of democratic political experience in Morocco, referred to the development of *free political institutions* rather than the achievement of *self-government*. The Latin American resolution was finally adopted in this form by the General Assembly by a vote of 45 in favour (including Canada), 3 against, and 11 abstentions.

In December 1952, the Bey of Tunis enacted two draft laws for municipal and regional representative institutions which had been put forward by the French authorities. Tunisian nationalist leaders repudiated the reform laws on the grounds that civic rights had been improperly granted to French residents in Tunisia and that the Bey had acted under duress. As a consequence they enjoined their followers to boycott the municipal elections which were held in the spring of 1953.

On March 19, fourteen African and Asian nations addressed joint communications to the President of the General Assembly, expressing regret that France had failed to implement the General Assembly's resolutions on this subject. In the case of Tunisia, the fourteen powers appealed to the President of the Assembly to intercede to secure a stay of execution of thirteen prisoners sentenced to death by French military tribunals. In the case of Morocco, the President was requested to urge the Government of France to bring