

ment in Aden nor presented a balanced assessment of the situation in the territory. Accordingly, proposals for United Nations action deriving from that assessment were not likely to achieve a genuine step forward in the attainment of independence for the territory. In plenary, the resolution was approved by a vote of 90 in favour and 11 against, with 10 abstentions.

One of the central issues in the debate on the question of Oman was whether or not it was a colonial territory, with Arab delegates insisting that the Sultan was in power only because of British assistance and the British citing international treaties contracted by Oman as evidence of its sovereignty. The Committee decided, in reversing the practice followed in previous years, to regard Oman as a colonial issue and to refer it to the Committee of Twenty-four on Colonialism. In plenary, 18 delegations, including Britain and Canada, voted against the resolution concerned.

Other Colonial Territories

In considering the report of the Special Committee of Twenty-four on Colonialism, the Fourth Committee dealt with and approved resolutions on Equatorial Guinea, Gibraltar, Ifni and the Spanish Sahara, and British Guiana. Canada supported these resolutions, although it had reservations about some paragraphs in the resolution on British Guiana, since they demanded an end to a state of emergency which had been declared at the request of a freely-elected government. Canada, however, abstained in the voting on the resolutions on Mauritius and Fiji, since they failed to recognize the efforts of the administering powers to introduce self-government in accordance with the wishes of their inhabitants, and on the resolution on the Falkland Islands, because it raised the issue of sovereignty, which Canada did not consider to be within the competence of the Fourth Committee. An omnibus resolution on 26 other territories (ranging from United States Samoa to St. Helena) was also approved but, along with other delegations, Canada abstained when it was put to the vote because the resolution contained a request (later rejected in plenary) for the dismantlement of military bases and gave blanket approval to the reports of the Special Committee of Twenty-four, some of which Canada was unable to accept.

The Fourth Committee approved a resolution which noted that in 1965 the inhabitants of the Cook Islands had been granted full internal self-government by New Zealand and the right to complete independence if they wished, and that, therefore, transmission of information under Article 73(e) of the Charter was no longer necessary. The Committee also approved several reso-