

within three months and the dismantling of military bases, were defeated.

On December 15 the Assembly adopted by large majorities, with only the Soviet bloc opposed and two members abstaining, the separate sections of a draft resolution carefully worked out in sub-committee with the aid of Italian and Egyptian representatives, providing for the orderly transfer to Libya, with the aid of a United Nations tribunal, of various categories of Italian state property and other economic and financial interests. With regard to claims for war damages in Libya the Secretary-General was asked in a separate resolution, unanimously adopted, to study the problem within the context of the technical assistance which Libya is to receive. Mr. Lie will submit his findings to the Sixth Session of the Assembly.

Undelimited portions of the boundaries of two of the former Italian colonies are to be fixed according to procedures approved by the Assembly in a further resolution adopted on December 15. After Libya has achieved independence it is to negotiate a boundary settlement with France directly, although the aid of a "third person" may be provided, either by decision of the parties themselves or through an appointment to be made by the Secretary-General. The boundaries of Italian Somaliland with British Somaliland and with Ethiopia are to be fixed through negotiations conducted by Italy with the United Kingdom and Ethiopia respectively. In case of difficulty recourse may be had to a United Nations mediator. Should his recommendations not be accepted by either party a procedure of arbitration will be adopted.

Canada voted in favour of all the resolutions adopted at the Fifth Session of the Assembly in relation to the former Italian colonies. It also agreed with a decision that the proposed adjustment of the boundary between Egypt and Libya should be held over for consideration at the next regular session of the Assembly.

Palestine

The United Nations had five matters to consider during 1950 in its efforts to help bring about stable conditions in Palestine on the basis of the partition of the country between Jews and Arabs. These five questions were studied against the background of the formal incorporation of the central portion of eastern Palestine into the Kingdom of Jordan in April 1950, which permitted its inhabitants for the first time since 1920 to regard themselves as citizens of an independent state. The particular issues considered by the United Nations were: certain violations of the armistice agreements between Israel and its Arab neighbours, a question referred to the Security Council; the negotiation of a general peace settlement, a task devolving upon the Palestine Conciliation Commission; the repatriation, resettlement and compensation of Palestine refugees, also a responsibility of the Conciliation Commission; the temporary maintenance of the refugees through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; and the