

first Spanish Minister to Canada, Mr. Vaillancourt was told that the visit would "serve no useful purpose", since the views of the Government were unchanged. The Count did come, however, and was informed that Canada was not only indisposed to exchange diplomatic missions but also did not wish, as suggested, to send a Consul-General to Spain. It would accept him again as Consul-General in Montreal if a formal request was made. This was done, and Count de Morales received provisional recognition in August 1946. So matters stood when the question of Spain again came up in the General Assembly of the United Nations.(1) The Count then called, under instructions from his Government, to urge that Canada should not support any resolution attacking Spain or its government. He took occasion to raise again the question of diplomatic relations, but with the same result. In reporting on the interview, Mr. Pearson commented that the Consul-General was:

"At some pains to point out that he had received many indications of friendship for, and understanding of, his Government from persons he had met in Quebec, especially those connected with the Church".

127. The debates in the U.N. General Assembly in 1946 and thereafter indicated one phase of Canadian policy. Although Canada abstained from voting on the resolution concerning Spain which was adopted at the General Assembly in December, 1946, because it disapproved of some of the sections of the resolution, Mr. Ilsley summed up the Canadian position on Spain as follows:

"We abhor the record and the present policies of the Franco dictatorship.

"We earnestly hope that the Spanish people may be able to rid themselves of Franco by peaceful means and establish a democratic, responsible and enlightened administration.

"We are not prepared to support at this time any intervention in Spain which might impede Europe's recovery or revive in Spain the horrors and sufferings of civil war".(2)

The resolution, as adopted, asked U.N. members to withdraw their heads of missions from Madrid (which, of course, did not affect Canada), barred Spain from membership in specialized agencies until a new and acceptable government is formed in Spain, which Canada considered inadvisable, and recommended to the Security Council that if, within a reasonable time, the Franco regime had not been replaced by a satisfactory government, the Security Council should consider "the adequate measures to be taken in order to remedy the situation" . . . As this final claim was constitutionally improper, in recommending that the Security Council take action which was a violation of the Charter, it was the chief reason for the Canadian abstention on the omnibus resolution. At the Second Session of the General Assembly in 1947, Spain was again a subject of debate. The Canadian spokesman reaffirmed the dislike of the Franco regime expressed on the last occasion, and Canada voted for the resolution which, in its final form, simply expressed the confidence of the General Assembly in the Security Council exercising its responsibilities under the Charter as soon as it considers that the situation in regard to Spain so requires. When the Security Council deleted the Spanish

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(1) At the first part of the General Assembly Session in London a resolution had been carried that barred Spain from membership.

(2) This statement was repeated by Mr. St. Laurent in the House of Commons on February 16, 1947, in answer to a question from Mr. Dorion.