

of information does not remove the obligations which the Netherlands Government has assumed under the Charter to promote the achievement of a full measure of self-government.

External Affairs
Supplementary Paper

(NOTE) - The following is the text of the resolution on agenda item 34(a) of the General Assembly on October 29, 1953.

No. 53/44 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES AND SURINAM

Text of a statement made on October 29, 1953 by Mr. A.R. Crepault of the Canadian Delegation in the Fourth Committee of the eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly on agenda item 34(a) - Decision of the Netherlands to cease transmitting information under Article 73(e) of the Charter of the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam.

Note - The text of the resolution adopted on this subject by the Fourth Committee on October 29, 1953, and the results of the voting are included at the end of this Supplementary Paper.

My Delegation regrets to have found it necessary to vote against the Swedish proposal as a whole and as amended in the course of today's voting.

My Delegation had welcomed the initiative of the Swedish Delegation in tabling a proposal which in effect would have postponed final decision on the question of the Dutch Antilles and Surinam until next year. As the original Swedish proposal clearly stated, there are negotiations about to be resumed between the Netherlands authorities and the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam. As the Pakistan and New Zealand delegates very correctly pointed out, in the course of their main interventions, there was, therefore, little to be gained in these circumstances by the Committee's becoming involved in complex and controversial considerations which had no direct bearing at this stage on the specific point at issue.

However, some delegations have nonetheless thought it desirable to insist that the question of the competence of the Assembly should be incorporated in the Swedish proposal and that the members of this Committee be called upon now to take a stand on this matter. As my delegation has often explained on previous occasions, we believe that an administering power is completely within its rights in ceasing to transmit information on territories which have assumed control of the internal matters on which information is required. The documentation submitted by the Netherlands Government has made it clear, in the view of my delegation, that the Government of the Netherlands Antilles and of Surinam have assumed control over the economic, social and cultural matters within their territories. Accordingly, we are of the opinion that the Netherlands Government is not entitled to decide that information on these matters is no longer required.

Of course, and I am sure that the Netherlands Government concurs in this, cessation of the transmission