

the most important, from Canada's point of view, was this latter judgment of December 1951 which concerned the territorial waters of Norway.

The Norwegian Government claimed that the limits of its territorial waters were four miles seaward from straight base lines connecting the outermost points of the coast and islands belonging to Norway. The United Kingdom, which had brought the matter before the Court, admitted that a four-mile rule was applicable on the Norwegian coast but maintained that the base lines should follow the sinuosities of the coast. The Court found that the method employed by Norway for the delimitation of its fisheries zone and the base lines fixed by Norway in application of this method, were not contrary to international law.

The principle that base lines should follow the line of the coast has been widely accepted by Commonwealth and European countries and by the United States and has been generally regarded as applicable to the coast of North America. Since the judgment of the Court turned largely on a finding of fact concerning the publication of Norwegian decrees and acquiescence therein by other states — in other words an historical title — it does not necessarily follow that the Norwegian system will be adopted by other states in other parts of the world, whose territorial waters may be affected by different historical factors. However, several states in Europe, the Middle East and South America, and more recently Iceland, have made claims inconsistent with the classical theory that the base lines follow the sinuosities of the coast. Accordingly, the implications of the judgment of the International Court are being studied by the appropriate Canadian authorities.

VI

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

Introduction

Although this volume deals with the period from January 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952, no arbitrary time limit of this kind can be applied to budgetary questions: the calendar year is also the financial year for the United Nations and most of the Specialized Agencies. The first part of this chapter deals principally with financial and budgetary questions discussed by the General Assembly at its sixth session, November 1951 to February 1952, when its main task was to set the financial basis for the operations of the United Nations during the calendar year 1952, in the light of conditions prevailing during 1951 and trends which could be foreseen.

During 1951 the cost of participation in the United Nations and most of the Specialized Agencies continued its upward trend. There were, however, indications that the trend might be checked in 1952, the change becoming apparent in the budget estimates