

Trieste

By the autumn of 1953 it had become apparent that Italy and Yugoslavia could not find a mutually acceptable solution of the problem of Trieste. In an attempt to end this unsatisfactory situation, the United Kingdom and the United States announced on October 8, 1953, that they intended to withdraw from Zone A of the Territory of Trieste, which they had occupied since the end of the war, and to turn over its administration to Italy. Unfortunately, the reaction of Italy and Yugoslavia was such that the two administering powers could not withdraw, but they continued their efforts to find a solution acceptable to both countries. Yugoslavia remained in charge of the administration of Zone B.

On October 15, at the request of the Soviet Union, the Security Council met to discuss a Soviet resolution on the appointment of a Governor for the Free Territory of Trieste.¹ On October 20 the Council adopted a Colombian proposal to adjourn consideration of the question for two weeks in order to allow time for the efforts being made by the United Kingdom, the United States and France to find a solution. After two more adjournments of three weeks each, the Council on December 14 adopted by 8 votes to 1 (U.S.S.R.) with 1 abstention (Lebanon) a United States motion that the discussion of the item be postponed "pending the outcome of the current efforts to find a solution" to the problem. Since this was a procedural question, the negative Soviet vote did not constitute a veto.

The Guatemalan Question

The Security Council met on June 20, 1954 at the request of the Guatemalan Government, to consider the revolution which had broken out in Guatemala two days previously. A motion to refer the dispute to the Organization of American States as a regional agency under Article 52 of the Charter was vetoed by the U.S.S.R. A compromise motion proposed by France, calling for the immediate termination of any action likely to cause bloodshed and requesting all member states to abstain from giving assistance, was adopted unanimously.

On June 23, the chairman of the Inter-American Peace Committee of the Organization of American States informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations that a committee of enquiry was proceeding to Central America to investigate and suggest a solution.

The Security Council met on June 25 to consider the charge made by Guatemala that certain member states were not complying with the June 20 resolution. The adoption of the agenda was defeated by 4 in favour (U.S.S.R., New Zealand, Denmark and Lebanon) 5 against (United States, China, Turkey, Brazil and Colombia) and 2 abstentions (France and United Kingdom). Those who voted against the adoption of the agenda contended that a regional agency was dealing effectively with the dispute under Articles 33 (1) and 52

¹See *Canada and the United Nations 1948*, p. 79.