

areas, there should be some precision in the directives given by the Assembly to the United Nations agencies concerned. However, these ideas were not formalized in a Canadian draft resolution, although the possibility of doing so had been considered. The need for a resolution diminished somewhat after Israel announced its decision to withdraw.

On March 8 the Secretary-General reported to the General Assembly Israel's full compliance with the first resolution of February 2. He also stated that the completion of withdrawal put into full effect the operative paragraphs of the second resolution of the same date. Accordingly, technical arrangements had been made for the entry of UNEF into the Gaza strip during the night of March 6 and for a similar take-over of the Sharm al-Shaikh area on March 8. The General Assembly then adjourned its eleventh session temporarily, but made provision for reconvening, if necessary, to discuss either the Middle East question or the Hungarian question.

Race Conflict in South Africa

The question of race conflict in South Africa was first placed on the agenda of the General Assembly at its seventh session in 1952 by India, on the grounds that the racial policies of the South African Government were creating "a dangerous and explosive situation which constituted both a threat to international peace and a flagrant violation of the basic principles of human rights and fundamental freedom which are enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations". The South African Government replied that the United Nations was precluded from intervening in the domestic affairs of any state by Article 2(7) of the Charter. Nevertheless in 1952 the Assembly established a three-member Commission on the Racial Situation in South Africa, but South Africa considered this action to be unconstitutional and refused either to recognize or co-operate with the Commission. In 1953 and again in 1954 the General Assembly renewed the mandate of the Commission even though South Africa would have nothing to do with it. At the General Assembly's tenth session in 1955, the South African Delegation announced that it would not participate in the debate nor be present when the item was being discussed, although it reserved the right to vote on any proposal which might be made. In spite of this development, the matter was discussed by the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee and a resolution was passed¹. Thereupon the South African Representative said that his country had decided to "recall the South African Delegation and also the Permanent Representative to the United Nations from the present session".

At the eleventh session of the General Assembly, India, Indonesia and Pakistan requested that the item be inscribed on the agenda and the General Committee considered the problem of inscription on November 14, 1956. The South African Representative stated his Government's objections on the usual grounds of infringement of domestic jurisdiction; nevertheless the Committee decided unanimously to recommend the inclusion of the item on the eleventh session's agenda. When the item was taken up in plenary session, Mr. Louw, the South African Minister of External Affairs, made

¹See *Canada and the United Nations 1954-55*, pp. 26-27.