

The Canadian Representative, after expressing regret that the prospect of a free and united Korea was not much closer than when the subject was last discussed, called for an attitude which would be practical and flexible, and an approach which, while not deviating from certain principles fundamental to unification, would not allow unreasonable stubbornness to stand in the way of negotiations leading to a settlement. Rather than being imposed, the settlement must be negotiated and even if the process of achieving it in this manner is prolonged and often frustrating, it is the most honourable work of the United Nations. Although sceptical of the good faith of the North Koreans, he nevertheless expressed the conviction that all those in Korea who must be a party to a political settlement should participate in the negotiation of it. The resolution seemed consistent with these principles and did not preclude negotiations for a settlement which should satisfy the legitimate demands of all concerned. The resolution was adopted by the General Assembly on January 11, 1957 by a vote of 57 in favour (including Canada), 8 against, with 9 abstentions.

Algeria

Algeria first appeared squarely in the United Nations spotlight at the tenth session of the General Assembly in 1955¹. On that occasion 14 Asian and African nations sought to have the question of Algeria inscribed on the agenda of the General Assembly on the grounds that the continuance of the nationalist revolt was creating a threat to the peace in the Mediterranean area. Inscription was bitterly opposed by the French Delegation on the grounds that Algeria was an integral part of metropolitan France. When the Assembly decided by a majority of only one vote (Canada voted with France in the minority) to inscribe the item, the French Delegation withdrew from the Assembly declaring that France would consider as null and void any recommendations made by the Assembly on this issue. There followed a period of intense effort to find a formula which would effect the return of the French Delegation to the Assembly and also offer some satisfaction to the nations which had proposed the inscription of the item. In the end an Indian resolution was adopted to the effect that the General Assembly decided not to consider further the Algerian item and was therefore no longer seized of it on the agenda of the tenth session.

In January 1956 a general election in France led to the formation of a government pledged *inter alia* to an active policy of seeking the end of bloodshed in Algeria and the creation of a permanent political and administrative structure for the area. French policy announced then and maintained with little modification to the present, was as follows: as a first step there should be an unconditional cease-fire; this would be followed by free elections; negotiations could then take place between the elected representatives of the Algerian people and the French Government regarding the new regime. The arrangements that eventually would apply in Algeria could not, of course, be anticipated, but the French Government made it clear that it would propose a greater measure of local autonomy, while insisting on "equality of rights" of all inhabitants and "indissoluble ties" with France.

¹See *Canada and the United Nations, 1954-55*, pp. 17-20.