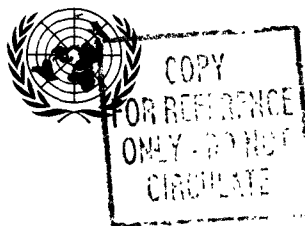


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**GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**  
THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION  
*Official Records\**



FOURTH COMMITTEE  
7th meeting  
held on  
Monday, 31 October 1983  
at 3 p.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 7th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. TREIKI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

later: Mr. HERMIDA CASTILLO (Nicaragua)

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7 November 1983

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS

1. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that 12 communications containing requests for hearings on item 18 had been received.
2. He suggested that, in accordance with the usual practice, the communications should be distributed as Committee documents and taken up at a later meeting.
3. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 103: ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH ARE IMPEDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN NAMIBIA AND IN ALL OTHER TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued) (A/38/23 (Part III); A/38/444; A/AC.109/731, 736, 737 and Corr.1, 738, 742, 743, 744)

4. Mr. YONIS (Iraq) said that, despite the efforts of the General Assembly and the Special Committee of 24 during the previous 20 years to end imperialism and racism, over 3 million persons were still unable to exercise their right to self-determination.
5. The increasing scope of the economic and military activities of the imperialist countries which impeded the independence of Non-Self-Governing Territories had been demonstrated clearly in the report of the Special Committee (A/38/23 (Part III)). Transnational corporations continued to plunder the resources of countries under colonial and imperialist domination. The transfer of profits from the operations of the transnational corporations in colonial Territories was rapidly emptying such Territories of their wealth. The international community must adopt strategies to offset such activities. He welcomed the report of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (A/38/444), which had provided information on the huge profits obtained by such corporations from their activities in colonial Territories. It was a matter for regret that a number of corporations had refused to provide information required by the Centre to complete its register.
6. Iraq had in the past fought successfully against the monopoly of the oil companies and therefore understood the attitude of foreign interests which continued to ignore all the relevant United Nations resolutions.
7. Iraq had always supported the struggle of colonial peoples for self-determination and independence, and accordingly called for sanctions against the South African racist régime to end its exploitation in southern Africa. Iraq had already adopted measures designed to isolate it. The implementation of existing United Nations resolutions required the co-operation of certain Western

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(Mr. Yonis, Iraq)

Powers which continued to support the transnational corporations. The inability of the international community to make progress on the issue had enabled the racist régime to escalate its acts of aggression against its neighbours. Its military activities had assumed a more sinister character. Document A/AC.109/743 showed clearly that South Africa had acquired increased military and nuclear capability. Its aggressive attitude represented the greatest obstacle to the independence of Namibia and a threat to the peace and security of the region.

8. His delegation deplored the activities of certain Western countries and Israel, which had co-operated with South Africa in the nuclear field. In view of the political and economic importance of Namibia's natural resources, South Africa refused to relinquish control of the Territory. Control of Namibia's uranium resources gave South Africa a key strategic advantage in the nuclear field, as well as enabling it to reap huge profits. Its control of uranium also ensured that it would retain the support of the Western Powers irrespective of its internal policies.

9. Iraq had followed closely the increased co-operation between Pretoria and the Zionist entity covering not only the economic, financial and military fields but also the nuclear field. Reports indicated that the racist régime of Pretoria was a major exporter of uranium. Israel and South Africa were collaborating not only in extracting Namibia's uranium but also in a joint project for the development of nuclear weapons and for military communications and intelligence. Such co-operation served the interests of the imperialists and supported the continuation of colonialism in southern Africa and Palestine.

10. A solution must be found through an economic, political and military boycott of both racist régimes until they conformed to United Nations resolutions and to the will of the international community and the Namibian and Palestinian peoples. His delegation affirmed the right of peoples to dispose of their own natural resources and condemned the activities of transnational corporations and those who co-operated with them. He appealed for an end to the support of military activities in colonial Territories and urged the colonial Powers to end such activities. His delegation supported the recommendations of the Special Committee (A/38/23 (Part III), chaps. IV and V).

11. Mr. SALAMI (Togo) said that his delegation denounced the co-operation of certain States and interest groups with the racist Pretoria régime, which co-operation helped to perpetuate the system of colonial domination.

12. It should be noted that, since the 1960s, when many countries had nominally achieved sovereignty, their economic development and reconstruction policies had done no more than mark time. It had become clear that, notwithstanding the loudly trumpeted development decades, the wrong path had been followed and that basic changes must be made. During the past two decades the indebtedness of the developing countries had increased and currently reached unbelievable proportions. That illustrated how pernicious had been the activities of foreign economic and other interests which had striven single-mindedly to perpetuate the economic dependence of colonial peoples, frustrating all efforts to eliminate colonial domination.

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(Mr. Salami, Togo)

13. The South African racist régime would have been unable to defy the entire international community had it not enjoyed the support of certain States and interest groups. His delegation condemned them strongly for their short-sighted policy. It supported all measures to assist the struggle for independence. He reaffirmed his country's support for national liberation movements in the colonial Territories, particularly SWAPO, the only true representative of the Namibian people.

14. His delegation hoped that the debate on Namibia in plenary would lead to concrete measures enabling Namibia to achieve its independence speedily in accordance with Security Council resolution 435 (1978). His delegation urged all who were providing direct or indirect support to the South African racist régime and to all other colonial Powers to reconsider their attitude while there was still time; the stakes were too high for the international community to accept delaying tactics dictated by short-sighted interests. The only alternative might be armed struggle.

15. Mr. SPAIN (Guinea-Bissau) noted the renewed efforts of the former colonial Powers to perpetuate their illegal domination and to continue to enjoy the advantages flowing from their exploitation of the wealth of the dependent Territories. While their strategies rebounded to the advantage of foreign economic interests, they also ensured the presence of a protective rearguard in the event of a threat to the colonial system. In that connection, the multiplicity of military, economic and other activities in the colonial Territories seriously impeded completion of the liberation process.

16. The case of Namibia must be singled out for special attention. South Africa was constantly increasing the size of its occupation force in that Territory. The introduction of compulsory military service, the attempt to form tribal armies and the recruitment of mercenaries and other foreign agents completed the disquieting picture. That strategy represented the principal obstacle to the independence of Namibia.

17. The disturbing build-up of South Africa's military and nuclear potential was the result of the collaboration of certain Member States with South Africa despite censure by the overwhelming majority of members of the international community. The military relationship between South Africa and Israel was most revealing. The similarity of the situations of those two countries was only too clear.

18. Any military or other aid, which helped to augment the aggressive and repressive forces of the apartheid régime could in no way be regarded as neutral. Such aid encouraged South Africa in its repeated acts of subversion and aggression against neighbouring States, particularly Angola, where the racist forces were occupying areas more than 250 kilometres from the Namibian border.

19. His country fully subscribed to the Special Committee's decision and its recommendation to the General Assembly (A/38/23 (Part III), chap. IV), and was totally committed to United Nations resolutions on Namibia, particularly General Assembly resolution ES-8/2 calling upon States to cease forthwith all dealings with South Africa.

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(Mr. Spain, Guinea-Bissau)

20. Notwithstanding such measures, nearly 100 transnational corporations continued operations in Namibia. Such activities, the scope of which remained hidden as a result of the refusal of many corporations to provide information to the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, represented a violation of the Charter and of relevant United Nations decisions, particularly Decree No. 1 enacted by the United Nations Council for Namibia. Motivated solely by the desire to safeguard their economic interests in South Africa and Namibia, certain Western States continued to disregard the freedom of the Namibian people and the principles of justice and law which, in other circumstances, those same States would have defended resolutely. It was inconceivable that the enormous profits reaped by the transnational corporations benefited the Namibian people.

21. His delegation supported the Special Committee's decision and the draft resolution it recommended for adoption by the General Assembly on the item (A/38/23 (Part III), chap. V). He also reaffirmed this country's unswerving support for the efforts of all peoples still under foreign domination to assert their rights and defend their national interests. His delegation reiterated its support for SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people, and totally rejected the ridiculous manoeuvre of Pretoria and its allies whereby the independence of Namibia had been linked to the presence of Cuban forces in Angola.

22. His delegation was deeply concerned at recent developments in East Timor (S/16034), arising from Indonesia's large-scale military operations. The international community could not remain indifferent in the face of such a situation.

23. Mr. BEKHBAT (Mongolia) said that the activities of foreign economic and other interests in colonial Territories were continuing to increase, despite repeated condemnations by the General Assembly, largely because of the policies and activities of certain Western countries which were trying to block the aspiration of the colonial peoples to freedom and independence and preserve the last enclaves of colonialism and racism. The activities of economic and financial interests were helping to safeguard the military and strategic interests of those countries, and for that reason those Governments were zealously protecting the major transnational corporations, which were devastating the natural and human resources of the colonial Territories and even engaging in open collusion with the South African racist régime. Western corporations controlled the economies of the colonial Territories and imposed structures which were unsuited to local conditions, thus hindering the development of self-sufficiency, and they were accumulating and repatriating enormous profits to the detriment of the indigenous populations.

24. In Namibia, the enormous profits reaped by foreign economic interests and remitted abroad resulted in terrible poverty for the indigenous population, which was the object of both racial and economic discrimination. Document A/AC.109/744 revealed that gross inequalities in pay, unemployment and cramped living conditions were some of the results of the so-called civilizing mission of the transnational corporations. His delegation felt that the register prepared by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (A/38/444) should be maintained, and that the methods used should be improved and the sources of information expanded.

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(Mr. Bekhbat, Mongolia)

25. The intensification of the military activities of certain Western Powers in colonial and trust Territories was particularly alarming in conditions of increased international tension. Those Territories were of key importance in the global system of military bases of those Powers, particularly the United States, used for interference in the internal affairs of other countries. That was the case of islands such as Guam, Micronesia, Diego Garcia, the Malvinas, Bermuda and Puerto Rico. The latest example of the imperial attitude of the United States and its total disregard for the freedom-loving peoples had been its flagrant armed aggression against Grenada. The international community firmly condemned the foreign armed intervention in the internal affairs of Grenada and called for the immediate withdrawal of the troops of the aggressor.

26. The acquisition of nuclear capacity by the Pretoria régime, constituted a new attempt to terrorize the front-line States and a danger to world peace and security. The generous assistance which certain countries, particularly the United States and Israel, were providing to the South African régime in the military and nuclear fields made them accomplices in its criminal acts. The assistance and political and diplomatic protection provided to South Africa by those countries encouraged it to persist in its practice of apartheid, continue its occupation of Namibia, suppress the struggle of the Namibian people and escalate aggression against independent African States. His delegation firmly condemned all collaboration with the South African régime, particularly in the military and nuclear fields, and called for the strictest respect for the arms embargo imposed by the Security Council in resolution 418 (1977).

27. Mongolia supported all United Nations efforts to denounce the criminal activities of foreign economic, military and other interests in colonial Territories and believed that the Organization should take stronger measures to end such activities. His delegation supported the demand that comprehensive and mandatory sanctions should be imposed on South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter.

28. Mr. DOMOKOS (Hungary) said that his delegation strongly supported the resolution of the Special Committee (A/38/23 (Part III), chap. V, para. 11), particularly paragraph 7. The activities of foreign economic interests, by their very nature, could not contribute to the well-being of the inhabitants of the colonial Territories. The economies of most colonial Territories remained imbalanced, living standards were low and health care and education were deficient or completely lacking. The natural and human resources of the colonial Territories had been exploited for centuries and the transnational corporations blocked any autonomous development based on local initiative. It was no coincidence that the former colonial Territories had arrived at independence with almost identical economic difficulties and that the remaining Territories were facing the same difficulties. There was a close interrelationship between colonialism, racism and economic exploitation; racism served to perpetuate economic exploitation, for which colonialism provided the overall structure.

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(Mr. Domokos, Hungary)

29. In defiance of international law, United Nations resolutions and public opinion, the South African racist régime was continuing its colonial domination of Namibia; it had extended its apartheid system to that Territory and was enforcing its laws by a vast military and police force. The black population of Namibia was denied the most elementary human rights; inequitable distribution of income and unbelievable exploitation of black workers could be perpetrated only by the most brutal racist oppression. The main beneficiaries of the exploitation of the labour force of Namibia were the racist régime itself and the transnational corporations with interests in Namibia, which were plundering the resources of Namibia in violation of United Nations resolutions and of Decree No. 1 for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia.

30. Responsibility for perpetuating the colonial situation in Namibia lay with South Africa and also those States which supported it. The major imperialist Powers were closely co-operating with South Africa in many fields and had contributed to South Africa's acquisition of the most sophisticated weapons, including nuclear weapons. South Africa's allies gave political support to the régime by blocking comprehensive and mandatory sanctions in the Security Council. That support, motivated by economic interests, was a major factor not only in perpetuating the colonial situation in Namibia but also in maintaining the system of apartheid in South Africa.

31. The Hungarian people and Government supported all actions aimed at eliminating colonial domination. They were in solidarity with the peoples fighting for their independence. Hungary was ready to lend full support to the national liberation movements in their struggle for self-determination, independence and sovereignty.

32. Mr. Hermida Castillo (Nicaragua) took the Chair.

33. Mr. WAYARABI (Indonesia) said that the activities of foreign economic and other interests were impeding the right of colonial peoples to self-determination. The United Nations had identified various aspects which bolstered the intransigence of certain foreign interests which denied colonial peoples their rights, the main reason being the excessively high profits earned through ruthless exploitation of the human and natural resources of colonial Territories.

34. The best example of that vestige of classic colonial economic exploitation was Namibia, where the United Nations had sought to forbid the operations of transnational corporations from the outset. Two important measures had been the General Assembly's endorsement of the Council for Namibia's Decree No. 1 for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia and the special declaration on Namibia adopted by the International Conference on Sanctions against South Africa, which had established an important precedent by making foreign companies liable to pay damages to a future independent Government of Namibia. Member States should reaffirm that precedent and initiate the establishment of machinery to exact reparations, since Namibia's attainment of independence was only a question of time.

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(Mr. Wayarabi, Indonesia)

35. During the International Year of Mobilization for Sanctions against South Africa in 1982, despite all the efforts of the Council for Namibia, the exploitation had significantly increased. Exploration in virtually all mining operations had intensified and there were indications that oil deposits would also become prey to that illegal exploitation. The unbridled exploitation of Namibia's human resources was shown in the discriminatory treatment of white and black workers. Not only were the latter's wages about one tenth of those of white workers but also their working, safety, living and health conditions were deplorable and they were denied the right to organize trade unions. The companies following those practices were allowed to do so by their own Governments, which had the power to force them to leave Namibia, whereas such treatment in their home countries would lead to prosecution.

36. Indonesia, as a member of the Council for Namibia and a country which had always maintained solidarity with the Namibian struggle to achieve independence under the leadership of SWAPO, had repeatedly denounced the ruthless exploitation of Namibian natural and human resources by transnational corporations which collaborated with the racist Pretoria régime. It had consistently worked with the international community to enforce the Council's Decree No. 1. It believed that efforts must continue to have the Security Council impose mandatory and comprehensive sanctions against South Africa, because that was not only the most effective way to compel transnational corporations to leave Namibia but also the only means left for the international community to force South Africa to comply with United Nations decisions on Namibia.

37. His delegation was also concerned with the activities of transnational corporations in the other colonial Territories under review. Indonesia would always strive to encourage the administering Powers to ensure that all economic activities in the Territories were directed towards self-determination by developing the economic sphere in the interests of the indigenous populations. Political independence without economic security was independence without substance. The developing countries must therefore show unity and solidarity in their efforts to convince the developed countries that decolonization necessarily required economic decolonization as well.

38. Mr. MAHONEY (Gambia) said that it was unacceptable that precisely in the one Non-Self-Governing Territory administered by the United Nations, self-determination had yet to be achieved.

39. The role played by foreign economic and other interests in Non-Self-Governing Territories was problematical. It had been demonstrated that under certain conditions their activities could make a positive contribution by providing revenue and employment, and that the concomitant transfer of technology and managerial skills constituted an important asset for the future development of the Territories. However, those very activities could well result in the creation of vested interests detrimental to the indigenous population. It was not yet possible, because of the paucity of information available to the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, to make a final assessment of the role of those interests in the majority of the Territories considered in the Centre's report (A/38/444).

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(Mr. Mahoney, Gambia)

40. In the case of Namibia, however, no such ambiguity existed. The adverse consequences of the activities of foreign economic and other interests found their clearest expression in the continued subjection of that Territory to foreign occupation and colonial domination. Under South Africa's illegal occupation, the barbarous system of apartheid had been extended to Namibia. To maintain that system, the Territory had been completely militarized, with the establishment of no less than 85 military bases and a ratio of approximately 1 soldier per 10 civilians.

41. The Territory had been partitioned on the racist South African model, so that 90 per cent of the arable land had been appropriated for the exclusive use of the white minority. The remaining area, waste land for the most part, had been fragmented into no less than 10 tribal reserves which were incapable of supporting the more than 1 million Africans dispersed to them. The African population of Namibia was therefore reduced to providing migrant labour for the voracious industries operating in the Territory.

42. As a result of the transplanted system of apartheid operating in Namibia and the racially differentiated employment policies and wage structures enforced by South Africa - among the most inequitable in the world - the supply of African labour was not only large but cheap. For transnational corporations, such conditions were close to optimal, guaranteeing them the vast profits which had led them to flock in droves to join in the plunder of Namibia.

43. There was therefore a clear linkage between the activities of foreign economic interests and South Africa's continued occupation of Namibia; the one was made possible only by the other. That collusion existed at various levels. Transnational corporations operated, for one thing, under licences issued by South Africa, a procedure that not only provided an important source of revenue for the occupying Power but also conferred a measure of respectability upon its occupation. Those corporations had, meanwhile, not hesitated to collaborate militarily with South Africa to maintain the status quo by establishing private armies of their own. At the same time, the fantastic profits remitted abroad by the foreign corporations provided no incentive to their home Governments to alter that status quo.

44. Persuasive evidence of the predatory nature of the activities of foreign interests in Namibia was the frenzied rate at which they had been extracting and consuming Namibia's resources. That suggested a mad race against time, the deadline, of course, being Namibia's accession to independence. The calamitous impact of foreign economic activities in Namibia was perhaps most clearly illustrated by the fishing industry. Namibia's territorial waters had long been among the richest in the world. With the advent of capital-intensive industrial fishing, not only had the price of fish risen beyond the means of the local inhabitants, who thus had been deprived of a leading source of protein; but, worse still, conservation measures had been disregarded, with the result that the once-abundant stocks had been almost entirely depleted.

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(Mr. Mahoney, Gambia)

45. It was therefore evident that the activities of foreign economic interests in Namibia neither envisaged nor resulted in the transfer of wealth, technology or managerial skills to the Namibian people. Instead, the corporations had consciously assumed the role of accomplices in the occupation and pillage of the Territory.

46. There was an inconsistency between the rapacious activities of those interests and the stated commitment of their home Governments to a free and independent Namibia. Those activities must therefore be brought to a halt, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

47. The Namibian people were living through their one-hundredth consecutive year of colonial domination and it was high time to end their long ordeal. The sole valid basis for doing so already existed in the plan for Namibia adopted by the Security Council in resolution 435 (1978). South Africa, however, had invented one pretext after another to delay the implementation of the plan. It had drawn considerable comfort from the passive indulgence of certain quarters and had interpreted the complacency as endorsement of its policies and practices. Gambia would like to believe that South Africa's impressions were unfounded. It was therefore imperative to apply appropriate coercive measures, as provided under Chapter VII of the Charter, to ensure South Africa's compliance and secure justice for the people of Namibia under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole and authentic representative.

48. Mr. JANI (Zimbabwe) said that, although all States were on record as being unwaveringly committed to the eradication of apartheid and the liberation of Namibia, the global consensus simply vanished when the time came to give effect to that commitment.

49. One wondered how the United Nations could remain silent in the face of South Africa's militarization of Namibia. The militarization had been made possible only by the tremendous assistance given by those same countries which had vehemently opposed any resolution that singled them out and exposed their complicity with the apartheid régime.

50. The report on the military situation in Namibia (A/AC.109/743) was full of irrefutable evidence that some permanent members of the Security Council were supplying nuclear-weapon technology to South Africa and helping it produce its own arsenal by facilitating the involvement of companies under their jurisdiction in building up the régime's military establishment. A campaign was being waged to convince the international community that assisting a régime which survived on violence to produce weapons of violence would increase the leverage of those countries and thereby create conditions for curbing apartheid. The reality, however, spoke for itself: the instruments of violence had bred increasing violence. Only recently, a South African newspaper had reported that changes in the country's military service system were being proposed because the Government was planning to increase its military presence in Namibia over the next three years. Violation of the United Nations arms embargo would never create the conditions for stability and for the independence of the Namibian people, who put no store in a purported change of heart in Pretoria.

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(Mr. Jani, Zimbabwe)

51. Zimbabwe had been dismayed to learn of a resolution adopted by the European Parliament on development aid to Namibia. By stipulating that administration of such aid should be non-political and should be channelled through non-violent private agencies, that resolution ignored the international status of the Territory and undercut the existing United Nations Institute for Namibia and thus implicitly recognized South Africa's presence in the Territory. Aid on such terms would actually constitute a threat to Namibian independence.

52. It was amazing how certain countries discriminated in their willingness to fight for the principle of self-determination. The very ones which were willing to sacrifice lives in defence of the principle of self-determination by the 2,000 or so white inhabitants of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) were calling for "patience" and "pragmatism" in the case of the more than 20 million black people in South Africa and Namibia. They must recognize the gravity of the situation in southern Africa and the fact that only they, having helped to create that situation, could now set it right. The imperialist arrogance with which South Africa subjected the entire region to a reign of terror must be stopped.

53. Mr. DABO (Guinea) said that, from whatever angle one considered the lot of colonized peoples, one always discerned a denial of their fundamental freedoms, a negation of their national cultures, a de-personalization and a reckless exploitation of their natural resources.

54. The documents before the Committee pointed to the exploitation and wanton waste of the human and material resources of Non-Self-Governing Territories. It was hardly accidental that the discussions in the Committee had focused on the stark anachronism of the conditions prevailing in Namibia. The unbelievable stubbornness of the Pretoria régime, which continued to exploit the South African and Namibian peoples and violate the territorial integrity of Angola, with the shameful complicity of certain Western Governments, was a challenge that had to be taken up.

55. There was no way of claiming to condemn apartheid while giving assistance to the South African régime, or claiming to support Namibian independence while subordinating it to the sacrifice by an uninvolved neighbouring country of its security and the survival of its political system. Guinea hoped that the latest resolution of the Security Council would persuade the Governments which were doing so to abandon purely selfish interests.

56. In the small Non-Self-Governing Territories, naval and air bases were proliferating. The same Powers at work in southern Africa were using such military installations for their own political ends and were blocking the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

57. As the report on the activities of foreign economic and other interests in Namibia (A/AC.109/744) demonstrated beyond doubt, the South African occupying régime had earmarked the natural wealth of the Territory for exploitation by foreign corporations, and the Namibian people themselves had been systematically

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(Mr. Dabo, Guinea)

denied access to it. The transnational corporations either remitted their profits abroad or reinvested them in the Territory in ways that perpetuated the economic dependence of the future State of Namibia.

58. Guinea condemned colonialism not because of what it read in well-substantiated documents but because it had itself lived through colonialism and understood what other peoples were still undergoing.

59. A selfish minority within the Organization argued against the termination of all forms of collaboration with that citadel of injustice, South Africa, on the grounds of certain benefits to the African population. Yet that same minority had rushed to apply economic sanctions against a number of countries of a different political persuasion. Guinea itself had for a time been the object of a total economic blockade by some of those same Governments.

60. It was time for all States, including the dissident minority, to prevent their transnational corporations from pillaging colonized Territories and to fulfil their obligation under the Charter to bring about the independence of colonial peoples everywhere.

61. Mr. SHOWKATIAN (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the activities of foreign economic, military and other interests had either destroyed or plundered the resources of oppressed people, and the shadow of colonialism still existed in the form of neo-colonialism, zionism and apartheid. Despite their claim that they alone could bring peace to the Territories concerned, the new colonizers' discriminatory conduct had disturbed the peace and had cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent people. On the pretext of economic prosperity, they first brought in the transnational corporations and then established military bases to protect their newly acquired interests. The survival of transnational corporations was based on the exploitation of the lands and resources of oppressed peoples; through their technology and investments in the third world, those corporations manipulated the oppressed peoples in order to achieve world economic hegemony.

62. Hard work would not make any country a great Power without domination and manipulation of the oppressed and their resources. Human struggle against oppression had already led to the collapse of many colonial empires. The hypocritical policy of the United States and its lackeys, including the United Kingdom and France, towards the racist régime of South Africa was the best example of their discriminatory position. The "constructive engagement" policy of the United States merely stabilized the South African régime and was a "destructive engagement" for the oppressed peoples of southern Africa. The United States wanted to establish peace and democracy on its own terms, which were contrary to the needs of colonized peoples. It even had a separate definition of terrorism: it called liberation movements "terrorist groups" but did not regard the sale of sophisticated weapons to South Africa or their intervention in the internal affairs of States as acts of terrorism, even though they had sown terror among innocent people throughout the world.

(Mr. Showkatian, Islamic Republic of Iran)

63. The solution could not be found at the negotiating table. The oppressed and the oppressor had two different sets of criteria. The South African racist régime had repeatedly defied United Nations resolutions, and the Organization's condemnation of that régime for occupying Namibia had been shamelessly challenged by the front-runners of democracy such as the United States and its lackeys.

64. The Committee should not ignore the co-operation among South Africa, the United States, members of the Contact Group and the Zionist occupiers of Palestine. The apartheid régime could be ended only through a constructive policy which required the sacrifice and collective efforts of true freedom-seekers throughout the world. In the name of democracy and peace, colonizers manipulated oppressed people in order to divide and rule. If that was democracy, the oppressed people were better off without it.

65. Mr. Treiki (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) resumed the Chair.

66. Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the main obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was the increasing military activities and maintenance of military bases and installations of colonial Powers in the Territories under their administration. Such activities had been condemned by the General Assembly, notably in resolution 35/118 and in decision 37/420.

67. The military activities of the South African racist régime constituted an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration in relation to Namibia and a threat to world peace and stability. Despite numerous United Nations resolutions, the South African régime was stubbornly refusing to leave Namibia and was expanding its military activities against the Namibian people and their sole authentic representative, SWAPO. The Pretoria régime was using Namibia as a platform for aggression against Angola, against which it was waging an undeclared war, and was constantly committing acts of armed aggression against other African countries. Only recently the South African régime had bombed fully populated areas of Angola and occupied part of its territory and had carried out a raid against Mozambique.

68. South Africa's nuclear ambitions were particularly alarming. Despite General Assembly resolutions, Western countries - above all the United States - and Israel were co-operating with the apartheid régime and had thus enabled it to establish and expand its nuclear potential.

69. Document A/AC.109/743 contained extensive data about the role of Western Powers, particularly the United States, in the development of South Africa's nuclear potential. It had been reported recently that the United States had decided to increase the sale of dual-purpose goods to South Africa, including goods which could be used for nuclear weapons, and had decided to allow United States companies to provide services for South African nuclear installations. South Africa was producing modern military technology, largely under Western licences, and at the same time was continuing to purchase military technology abroad, as was illustrated by the 1982 yearbook of the International Peace Research Institute

(Mr. Berezovsky, USSR)

(SIPRI). Pursuing a policy of so-called "constructive engagement", the United States had removed limitations on the supply of equipment to South Africa, including technology used for military purposes and sophisticated computer equipment. Israel, according to data compiled by SIPRI, had become a supplier of arms to South Africa. Furthermore, the United Kingdom had authorized the supply of radar equipment to South Africa, which would further strengthen the military potential of the racist régime.

70. It was quite obvious that the South African racists would not be able to ignore United Nations decisions without the support of members of NATO, primarily the United States, which were trying to maintain South Africa as an outpost for the struggle against the national liberation movement in the African continent.

71. The colonial Powers claimed that military bases benefited the peoples of dependent Territories and provided income and employment for the local population. The reality was that South Africa's military bases and military presence in Namibia were being used to strengthen its occupation, combat the people of the Territory and their national liberation movement, SWAPO, and perpetrate aggression against independent African States.

72. Military bases in many other Territories were used solely for military purposes to suppress the national liberation movements and interfere in the internal affairs of independent States. A major United States naval and air base was located in Guam and military installations occupied almost one third of the Territory; it had been used by the United States to wage war against the heroic people of Viet Nam. Puerto Rico, on which the United States had imposed a colonial status, had virtually been transformed into a military base for sending United States "rapid deployment" forces to any region of Central and South America, and military installations occupied 14 per cent of the Territory. The base had been used to commit armed intervention against Grenada in an attempt to impose a colonial order on that State and to intimidate other freedom-loving countries. All States must firmly rebuff the attempts of the colonialists to wage a counter-offensive against the peoples recently freed from the colonial yoke. The Soviet Union firmly condemned United States aggression against Grenada as a crime against peace and humanity.

73. The United Kingdom's military actions to restore the colonial status of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) clearly demonstrated the danger to peace of the preservation of any colonial possessions, however small, and the determination of colonial Powers to maintain their domination at any price by waging large-scale colonial wars. The concern of the Latin American countries about the United Kingdom's further militarization of the Falklands Islands (Malvinas) was fully understandable.

74. A serious situation was developing in Micronesia; in pursuit of its military and strategic goals, the United States was pursuing a policy of fragmenting the Territory and turning it into a colonial possession to which it had unrestricted access for military purposes and was imposing long-term military agreements on the

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population of individual parts of the Territory. The measures already carried out by the United States in Micronesia represented a serious threat to the security of the people of Micronesia and of adjoining countries.

75. The USSR believed that the Committee should recommend that the General Assembly condemn the activities of States which were still co-operating with the South African régime in many fields and providing political and diplomatic support to that régime. Those States must be required to comply with United Nations decisions on the question, observe the arms embargo against South Africa and terminate any co-operation with South Africa in the nuclear field; the Security Council must adopt measures to prevent South Africa from acquiring nuclear weapons. The General Assembly should firmly demand that the colonial and racist régimes cease all military activities and immediately dismantle all military bases and installations in the dependent Territories. His delegation supported the demand of the African States for the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter.

76. Mr. PIMENTEL (Dominican Republic) said that his country had itself experienced the same sufferings as the people of Namibia and therefore categorically opposed the presence of foreign forces in that Territory. It also strongly condemned the policy of apartheid, which it considered a crime against humanity.

77. His country's Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the plenary Assembly, had expressed his concern at the continued deterioration of the international situation, which made it essential for the United Nations to do its utmost to find means of solving current problems. All countries must seek to promote respect for justice and for their commitments under international law.

78. The peace his country was currently enjoying was a product not only of the sacrifice of its people but also of the solidarity of many brother countries. It could therefore not fail to express the strongest condemnation of the policies and interests which maintained southern Africa in economic and social backwardness and restricted its sacred right to self-determination.

79. His delegation endorsed the Secretary-General's concern at the increase of international tension and the escalation of the nuclear arms race. It exhorted all countries to reaffirm their faith in the Charter and to renew their efforts to ensure respect for United Nations resolutions. It opposed the partial or total occupation of one country by another, whatever the size of the aggressor or the aggrieved. It unreservedly endorsed the principle of non-intervention and self-determination of peoples and would support any measures designed to preserve international peace and security.

80. Mr. TOUSSAINT (Haiti) said that the international community should redouble its efforts to eliminate colonial situations throughout the world, especially since the desire for political and economic domination continued to exercise a harmful influence on international relations.

(Mr. Toussaint, Haiti)

81. The most striking and paradoxical example of such domination was South Africa's continued presence in Namibia against all moral considerations and despite the unanimous disapproval on the part of the international community. The continued support of that régime by powerful foreign economic and other interests was equally revolting. Those interests systematically plundered the natural resources of Namibia. According to the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/744), the Pretoria régime had reserved 90 per cent of the arable land for the exclusive use of the white minority and had also granted important mining concessions to transnational corporations. The participation of those corporations in the barbarous exploitation of black labour also threw discredit on States which failed to use their power to control those operations and thus became accomplices.

82. His delegation therefore once more appealed to the States concerned to bring the necessary pressure to bear on the Pretoria régime and thus put an end to the indescribable situation of the blacks in Namibia. In accordance with Decree No. 1 adopted by the United Nations Council for Namibia, the powerful allies of South Africa should also require the transnational corporations to assist all efforts to persuade South Africa to respect the wishes of the Organization.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.