

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



GENERAL

A/1658
11 December 1950

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifth session

REQUEST BY EL SALVADOR FOR THE INCLUSION
OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF
THE FIFTH REGULAR SESSION

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to communicate to the Members of the General Assembly the text of a cablegram dated 8 December 1950 received from the Tibetan delegation:

Kalimpong, 8 December 1950

WE HAVE HEARD WITH GRAVE CONCERN AND DISMAY OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECISION SETTING ASIDE THE DISCUSSION OUR APPEAL* REGARDING THE UNWARRANTED VIOLATION OUR NATIONAL TERRITORY BY ARMED FORCES OF THE CENTRAL PEOPLES GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA. THE AGONY AND DESPAIR WHICH PROMPTED US TO SEEK FOR THE ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION AT A CRITICAL STAGE OF THE INVASION WILL BE BETTER APPRECIATED BY THOSE NATIONS WHOSE LIBERTY IS ALWAYS AT THE MERCY OF BEING JEOPARDIZED BY THE AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS OF THEIR MORE POWERFUL NEIGHBOURS. WE WHO ARE COMPLETELY SECLUDED BY A NATURAL BARRIER FROM EASY CONTACT WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD HAVE COME TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE ONLY SECURE FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND ORDER CAN LIE ON THE FIRM DETERMINATION OF ALL PEACE LOVING NATIONS OF THE WORLD TO RESIST AGGRESSION AND ON THEIR FRANK DISAPPROVAL OF ALL VIOLENT METHODS OF SETTLING INTER-STATE DISPUTES.

IT IS THEREFORE A MATTER OF GREAT SURPRISE AND REGRET TO US THAT THE UNITED NATIONS ON WHOM SOLELY RESTS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAINTAINING THE PEACE AND WELL BEING OF ALL NATIONS SHOULD HAVE SO INDIFFERENTLY TREATED THE PEACE APPEAL OF A WEAK AND PEACE LOVING PEOPLE, HARDLY EXCEEDING 3 MILLION, BELEAGUERED BY THEIR POWERFUL NEIGHBOURS. WHO ARE A MIGHTY HOST OF 450 MILLION AND WHOSE RESOURCES ARE INCOMPARABLY WASTER THAN THOSE OF TIBET. ARE WE TO BELIEVE IN THE JUSTICE OF CHINESE DEMANDS OVER OUR LIBERTY MERELY BECAUSE THEY HAPPEN TO BE STRONG IN ARMS.

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IT IS TODAY A MATTER OF COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN HOSTILE INCURSIONS INTO OUR TERRITORY BY CHINESE TROOPS AND THAT WE HAVE HAD TO SURRENDER A GOOD PORTION OF OUR LAND TO THE INVADERS. WE HAVE EARLIER REPORTED HOW BY SURPRISE AND FORCE THEY SEIZED THE TOWN OF CHAMBO AND CAPTURED THE LARGE GARRISON WE MAINTAINED THERE. OUR LIBERATORS (?) HAVE NOT MADE MUCH PROGRESS SINCE THEN BUT THEIR ARMED SOLDIERY ARE ROVING OVER WEAKLY HELD AREAS IN BOTH EASTERN AND WESTERN TIBET. IN CONSEQUENCE THE CONSTANT THREAT OF BEING OVERPOWERED HANGS OMINOUSLY OVER US AND OUR MEAGRE RESOURCES, SO LONG DEVOTED TO PEACEFUL ENDS AND TO OUR RELIGION, NOW STRAINED BY THE NEED OF PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY FROM BEING SUBMERGED BY A FORCE THAT IS LETHAL TO THE VALUES LONG CHERISHED BY OUR PEOPLE, WE ARE CONVINCED THAT IT WOULD BE THE HEIGHT OF COWARDICE TO BOW TO SUPERIOR FORCE. WE WOULD RATHER BE OVERPOWERED BY ITS BLIND RAGE THAN ACCEPT IT WITH A SHOW OF REVERENCE.

WE HAVE ALREADY MADE KNOWN OUR DECISION TO ABIDE BY ANY SETTLEMENT ADVOCATED BY THE UNITED NATIONS. WE DO NOT WISH THE WORLD TO BE CONVULSED INTO AN ARMED CONFLICT FOR OUR SAKE AND YET WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THAT THE WORLD HAS GIVEN THOUGHT AND CONSIDERATION TO THE ISSUE THAT WE HAVE SO HUMBLY BROUGHT BEFORE THEM AND ADVISED THE CHINESE NOT TO INDULGE IN MURDER AND INTIMIDATION OF OUR PEACEFUL LANDS. THERE CAN BE NO BETTER OPPORTUNE MOMENT THAN THE PRESENT WHEN CHINESE DELEGATES HAVE ARRIVED AT LAKE SUCCESS IN CONNEXION WITH OTHER MATTERS TO HAVE A FULL AND FRANK DISCUSSION OF THE TIBETAN ISSUE. WE HAVE DECIDED IF NECESSARY TO DESPATCH A SMALL DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS TO ASSIST THE ASSEMBLY IN THEIR DELIBERATIONS.

SHOULD THERE BE ANY DOUBT OR HESITATION ON THE PART OF ANY OF THE VARIOUS DELEGATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS REGARDING OUR CLAIM TO A SEPARATE TIBETAN CULTURE AND EXISTENCE APART FROM THE CHINESE WE SHOULD BE HAPPY TO WELCOME A UNITED NATIONS FACT FINDING COMMISSION TO CARRY OUT INVESTIGATION IN TIBET.

HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA GRACIOUSLY CONSENTED TO ASSUME FULL POWERS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF TIBET AT THE UNANIMOUS REQUEST OF ALL HIS PEOPLE ON 17 NOVEMBER. IT IS WITH HIS CONSENT AND BLESSINGS THAT WE VENTURE TO PLACE THIS FRESH APPEAL BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION.

DATED LHASA, 3 DECEMBER 1950, TIBETAN DELEGATION, SHAKABPA (HOUSE KALIMPONG)