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**SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE, 288th
MEETING**



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CONTENTS

Agenda item 76:

Question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of "apartheid" of the Government of the Republic of South Africa (concluded) 147

Chairman: Mr. Yordan TCHOBANOV (Bulgaria).

AGENDA ITEM 76

The question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of "apartheid" of the Government of the Republic of South Africa (A/4804 and Add.1-5; A/SPC/L.71 and Corr.1 and Add.1-6, L.72/Rev.1 and Add.1, L.73, L.74, L.75) (concluded)

1. The CHAIRMAN called upon those representatives who wished to explain their votes cast at the 287th meeting on the joint draft resolution (A/SPC/L.71 and Corr.1 and Add.1-6) and the eight-Power draft resolution (A/SPC/L.72/Rev.1 and Add.1) to take the floor.

2. Mr. U SAIN BWA (Burma) said that both in the United Nations and elsewhere his country had always condemned the policy of "apartheid". Burma had therefore voted in favour of both draft resolutions as a whole. It had abstained from voting on operative paragraphs 4 and 5 of the joint draft resolution A/SPC/L.71 and Corr.1 and Add.1-6, and had been unable to vote in favour of the amendments of the USSR (A/SPC/L.74) and of Pakistan (A/SPC/L.75) to the eight-Power draft resolution A/SPC/L.72/Rev.1 and Add.1.

3. Mr. GOMEZ ROBLEDO (Mexico) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the Ethiopian amendment (A/SPC/L.73), on the clear understanding that the steps which might be taken against the Republic of South Africa would not include expulsion since any initiative in that direction had to come from the Security Council. The tenor of the Soviet amendment was the same as that of paragraph 6 of the joint draft resolution. The Mexican delegation had therefore abstained from voting on that amendment and on operative paragraph 6 of the joint draft resolution A/SPC/L.71, as well as on the Pakistan amendment. It had voted in favour of the eight-Power draft resolution as a whole because it wished to signify its disapproval of the South African Government's policy of racial discrimination.

4. Mr. ALVARADO (Venezuela) said that his delegation had voted against operative paragraph 6 of the joint draft resolution and against the amendments of the Soviet Union and Pakistan to draft the eight-Power resolution, because it considered that only the Security Council was competent to adopt measures against the Republic of South Africa. Since paragraph 6 had been adopted, the Venezuelan delegation had abstained from voting on the joint draft resolution as a whole. Since the amendments of the Soviet Union and Pakistan had been incorporated into the eight-Power draft resolution, of which Venezuela was a co-sponsor, the Venezuelan delegation had been obliged to abstain from voting on that draft resolution as a whole. Venezuela condemned "apartheid" and believed that the United Nations should cause that policy to cease. But any steps for that purpose should be in complete conformity with the principles of the Charter. Venezuela had therefore supported the Ethiopian amendment. Lastly, the Venezuelan delegation's votes in favour of operative paragraph 5 of the joint draft resolution and of the Ethiopian amendment should not be interpreted as the adoption of a position on the substance of the question.

5. Mr. PLIMPTON (United States of America) said that his delegation had intended to vote in favour of the original text of the eight-Power draft resolution. It considered that Member States should bring home to the South African Government the full force of their opposition to "apartheid". The adoption of the Soviet Union's amendment had introduced a cold war element into that text, and the United States delegation had been forced to abstain from voting on the eight-Power draft resolution as a whole. If, as the United States delegation hoped, the Assembly did not approve the Soviet amendment, then it would be able to support the draft resolution without reservations.

6. Mr. VERRET (Haiti) castigated the evils of the policy of "apartheid", which was contrary to the Charter and all humanitarian principles. As a gesture of solidarity towards the African continent from which it had sprung, the Republic of Haiti had voted in favour of the eight-Power draft resolution which was designed to put an end to that abominable policy.

7. The CHAIRMAN reminded the Committee that at its next meeting it would take up item 74 of the General Assembly's agenda.

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.