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Agenda item 70

QUESTION OF OMAN

Report of the Fourth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Buyantyn DASHTSEREN (Mongolia)

1. At its 1564th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1967, the General Assembly in adopting the recommendations of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda and allocate to the Fourth Committee the following item:
"70. Question of Oman: (a) 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;^{1/} (b) report of the Secretary General".^{2/}
2. The Fourth Committee considered this item at its 1727th, 1728th, 1732nd, 1734th, 1737th, 1740th and 1742nd meetings, between 24 November and 8 December.
3. At the 1727th meeting, on 24 November, the Rapporteur 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 introduced the chapter of the report of the Special Committee relating to Oman.^{3/}
4. The Committee also had before it the report of the Secretary-General concerning this item (A/6909).
5. In connexion with its consideration of the item, the Committee, at its 1734th meeting, on 1 December, granted a request for hearing from

^{1/} A/6700/Add.12.

^{2/} A/6909.

^{3/} A/6700/Add.12.

Sheikh Suleiman Bin Himyar, Chairman, delegation of Oman, and Sheikh Talib Bin Ali Al-Hinai (A/C.4/701).

6. At the same meeting, Sheikh Talib Bin Ali Al-Hinai addressed the Committee and replied to questions put to him by members of the Committee.
7. The general debate on the item took place at the 1727th, 1728th, 1732nd, 1734th and 1737th meetings, between 24 November and 4 December.
8. At the 1740th meeting, on 6 December, the representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia and the Sudan introduced a draft resolution, which was finally sponsored by the following Member States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Burundi, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cyprus, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zambia (A/C.4/L.880 and Add.1).
9. At its 1742nd meeting on 8 December, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.880 and Add.1) by a roll-call vote of 70 to 16, with 18 abstentions (see paragraph 10 below). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Maldives Islands, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Brazil, Burma, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, India, Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Thailand.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

10. The Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Question of Oman

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Oman,

Having considered the chapter of the 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 relating to the question of Oman,^{1/}

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General,^{2/}

Having heard the statement of the petitioner,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling further its resolutions 2073 (XX) of 17 December 1965 and 2238 (XXI) of 20 December 1966,

Deeply concerned at the serious and critical situation arising from the colonial policies pursued by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the Territory,

1. Endorses the chapter of the 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 relating to the Territory of Oman;

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Territory as a whole to self-determination and independence and recognizes the legitimacy of their struggle to obtain the rights proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

^{1/} A/6700/Add.12.

^{2/} A/6909.

3. Deplores the refusal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to implement with regard to Oman the provisions of resolution 1514 (XV) and of resolutions 2073 (XX) and 2238 (XXI) of the General Assembly;
4. Further deplores the policies of the United Kingdom, which, by installing and strengthening unrepresentative régimes in the Territory without regard for the basic rights of the people, is contravening the relevant General Assembly resolutions;
5. Reaffirms that the natural resources of the Territory of Oman belong to the indigenous population and that the concessions granted to foreign enterprises without the consent of the people constitute a violation of the rights of the people of the Territory;
6. Considers that the military presence of the United Kingdom and the existence of military bases in the Territory constitute a major hindrance to the exercise by the people of their right to self-determination and independence and are prejudicial to peace and security in the region;
7. Calls upon the Government of the United Kingdom to take the necessary measures to implement without delay the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;
8. Further calls upon the Government of the United Kingdom to give immediate effect in the Territory to the following measures:
 - (a) Removal of British troops and military bases;
 - (b) Cessation of all repressive action against the people of the Territory;
 - (c) Release of political prisoners and political detainees and return of political exiles to the Territory;
9. Appeals to all Member States to render all necessary assistance to the people of the Territory in their struggle to obtain freedom and independence;
10. Requests the Special Committee to continue its examination of the situation in the Territory and to consider the establishment of a sub-committee on Oman;
11. Requests the Secretary-General to take, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and to report thereon to the Assembly at its twenty-third session.