



Fifteenth session  
Agenda item 85

## SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Letter dated 28 October 1960 from the Deputy Minister for  
Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics  
addressed to the President of the General Assembly

As the question of the situation in the Republic of the Congo has been placed on the agenda of the fifteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly, the delegations participating in the session naturally require complete and reliable information on the subject. Lately however, the publication by the United Nations Secretariat of official information concerning the situation in the Congo and United Nations action in that country has been greatly curtailed; in fact, many documents dealing with the activities of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Command in the Congo are no longer made public. Incidentally, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has not submitted a report on his activities in the Congo for over a month.

The paucity of official information on the situation in the Congo makes it impossible for United Nations Members to form a clear picture of what precisely is being done by the executive organs of the United Nations in pursuance of the well-known Security Council decisions of 14 and 22 July and 9 August 1960 and the decisions of the General Assembly's emergency special session on the Congo.

On the other hand, judging by available information, the situation in the Congo has sharply deteriorated in the past few days - which is causing more and more concern to world public opinion, since there is a real danger that the source of tension in the centre of the African continent will spread further.

It has in fact been learned that Belgian military personnel, whose withdrawal from the territory of the Republic of the Congo was never completed, are beginning

to return there and are engaging in subversive activities against the Republic's political independence and territorial integrity. Belgian officers are recruiting armed bands, which operate under the flag of the Congolese army and are organizing attacks on the civilian population and carrying out economic sabotage in an attempt to bring about complete political and economic chaos in the Congo.

I should like to draw your attention to the fact that, as a result of the intrigues of the colonizers, who are openly interfering in the affairs of the Congolese people, the Parliament of the Republic of the Congo remains inactive. The immediate re-assembly of Parliament has been energetically demanded here, in the United Nations, by many representatives of Asian and African countries. It is surprising that this demand has so far elicited no response from the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Meanwhile it is reported that agents of Belgium and certain other countries are doing their utmost either to eliminate Parliament altogether, or to convert it into an obedient tool of the military dictatorship by direct bribery and intimidation of the deputies.

In view of the foregoing, I should like to ask for your co-operation in obtaining for the Members of the United Nations immediate and complete information from the Secretary-General and the United Nations Command, as to what concrete action is now being taken to implement the Security Council decisions of 14 and 22 July and 9 August 1960. It is especially important to have information on the present situation with regard to the withdrawal of Belgian armed forces and military experts from Congolese territory and to know what action the United Nations Command intends to take to facilitate the immediate re-assembly of the Congolese Parliament, to put a stop to the subversive activities of Belgian agents and local opportunist elements and to create conditions that would enable the lawful government of the Republic of the Congo to resume its functions.

(Signed) V. ZORIN

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs,  
Chairman of the delegation of the  
USSR to the fifteenth session of the  
United Nations General Assembly.