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THE SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Statement by the Delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
at the fifteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly regarding
the attitude of the Command of the United Nations Force to the Mobutu
forces in the Congo

21 November 1960

(Circulated to the Members of the General Assembly at the request of
the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics to the United Nations)

According to Press reports, there recently took place at Leopoldville a parade of military units of the Congolese army which are at the disposal of Colonel Mobutu, who claims to be the latter-day dictator in the Congo. The review of the Mobutu forces was attended by a number of senior United Nations representatives present in Leopoldville, who openly greeted the participants in the parade and congratulated Mobutu on his "successes".

In connexion with the above facts, the USSR delegation to the fifteenth session of the General Assembly deems it necessary to make the following statement.

As is well known, the regime of the adventurer Mobutu was established in the Congo as a result of a coup d'état carried out by him in September with the active support of Belgium and its NATO allies. In flagrant defiance of the will of the Congolese people, the Mobutu gang has prevented the Parliament of the Congo and the Government it set up from functioning, is carrying out mass arrests of the supporters of this Government and threatens the physical elimination of the Prime Minister of the Republic, Mr. Lumumba. The high-handed actions of the Mobutu gang in the Congo have already brought countless sufferings to the Congolese people, and, in particular, have led to the complete disruption of the political, economic and cultural life of the Republic.

The unconstitutionality and illegality of the Mobutu regime are obvious, and are plainly recognized by Mr. Dayal, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in his second report. The report points out that the so-called Collge of Commissioners does not derive any sanction for its existence from the Loi fondamentale, that disregard for the norms of justice and legality reigns in the Mobutu army headquarters, and that the Mobutu regime is essentially the regime of a Belgian puppet.

No possible doubt can remain that the political chaos now prevailing in the Republic of the Congo under the Mobutu military dictatorship serves first and foremost the purposes of the Belgian colonialists and their NATO allies. It is no chance, as Mr. Dayal's report openly recognizes, that the Belgian aggression against the Congo is now assuming increasingly sinister forms.

In the light of the above facts, it is quite clear that the attendance of official United Nations representatives at the review of the impostor Mobutu's forces can be regarded only as a direct challenge to the correct conclusions regarding the unconstitutionality of the Mobutu regime which were drawn in Mr. Dayal's report. Apparently yielding to pressure from the United States, which officially expressed its disapproval of Mr. Dayal's report, the United Nations Command in the Congo hastens to express its sympathy with those responsible for the military dictatorship in that country. It follows that the United Nations Command in the Congo intends to continue its co-operation with those who trample underfoot the laws of their country to please NATO, who prevent the implementation of the relevant Security Council decisions on the Congo, and who, moreover, are beginning to organize gangster attacks on the United Nations forces themselves.

It is not by chance, of course, that the fraternization of the United Nations Command in the Congo with the Mobutu gang has coincided with the attempts being made by the United States and its allies to push an obviously one-sided delegation into the United Nations as the delegation of the Congolese people. This political manoeuvre by the United States, Belgium and the other NATO countries reveals completely their real purposes. There is now no need even to expose these purposes - they lie open before the whole world in all their repulsiveness. At the same time, the United Nations Command in the Congo has once again demonstrated whose interests it is trying to defend, who stands behind its back and whom, it in reality opposes.

In these conditions, the latest reports of an attack by the Mobutu gang on the United Nations units guarding the Ghana Embassy in Leopoldville give rise to legitimate concern among those who are interested in preserving peace and tranquillity in the Congo. They demand an immediate and full report from the United Nations Secretary-General on the actual state of affairs in Leopoldville and on what the Secretary-General and the United Nations Command are doing to carry out the known decisions taken by the Security Council and the Fourth Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly with a view to ending Belgian aggression, assisting in re-establishing the functioning of the legal Central Government and Parliament of the Congo and putting an end to the domineering of the colonialists and their accomplices in that country.
