



# SECURITY COUNCIL OFFICIAL RECORDS

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR

**1367<sup>th</sup>** MEETING: 10 JULY 1967

NEW YORK

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## NOTE

*Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.*

Documents of the Security Council (symbol S/. . .) are normally published in quarterly *Supplements of the Official Records of the Security Council*. The date of the document indicates the supplement in which it appears or in which information about it is given.

The resolutions of the Security Council, numbered in accordance with a system adopted in 1964, are published in yearly volumes of *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council*. The new system, which has been applied retroactively to resolutions adopted before 1 January 1965, became fully operative on that date.

## THIRTEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held in New York on Monday, 10 July 1967, at 3 p.m.

*President:* Mr. Endalkachew MAKONNEN (Ethiopia).

*Present:* The representatives of the following States: Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, India, Japan, Mali, Nigeria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

### Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/1367)

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Letter dated 6 July 1967 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/8036).

### Adoption of the agenda

*The agenda was adopted.*

**Letter dated 6 July 1967 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/8036)**

1. The PRESIDENT: In accordance with the decision previously taken by the Council, I propose now, with the consent of the Council, to invite the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to take a place at the Council table in order to participate without vote in the discussion of the item before us.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. T. Idzumbuir (Democratic Republic of the Congo) took a place at the Council table.*

2. The PRESIDENT: The first speaker on my list for this afternoon is the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, on whom I now call.

3. Mr. IDZUMBUIR (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (*translated from French*): At this meeting I would like to say a few more words about how certain countries have a hand in the most recent events in the Congo. I do so for the particular benefit of those who, following the line taken by the extreme right-wing press, have started rumours that the disturbances in Kisangani are merely an internal affair, a mutiny within the army provoked by certain dissident elements.

4. First of all I should like to say that when the Kisangani plot was discovered last year, it was also said that these

events had no foreign ramifications. Nevertheless the interrogation of the Katangese elements among the mutinous troops clearly showed that it was all part of a plan originating outside the country.

5. Furthermore, reliable sources, particularly of the Belgian reactionary press, had lost no time in spreading reports throughout world public opinion that Tshimpola, the leader of the mutinous Katangese units, had been burned alive. The Belgian League for Human Rights went right along with this reaction. But when the Government invited the journalists to see Tshimpola in the flesh and very much alive, the reactionary press, particularly in Belgium, did not even feel it ought to accept this invitation, which would force it to admit its mistake when confronted by the evidence.

6. Some people today are trying to use the same manoeuvre by laying stress on the mutiny at Bukavu in order to cast doubt on the invasion of Kisangani by mercenaries parachuted from two unidentified aircraft.

7. There has been no official statement about the landing of foreign commandos in Bukavu. In all my statements I have mentioned a mutiny at Bukavu of ex-Katangese elements supported by mercenaries and foreign armed civilians. The telegram from the Chief of State to the President of the Security Council said the same. But it was in Kisangani, formerly Stanleyville, that the landing of mercenaries from two planes took place, and it is with this landing that we are concerned.

8. Of course, today it is easy to challenge this. The Congolese Government was informed of an invasion of the Congo, aimed particularly at Katanga and carried out by mercenaries at the beginning of July. Exceptionally strict security measures were taken to meet that emergency.

9. According to our sources of information, Stanleyville, now Kisangani, which is in the very north of the country, did not seem to be the particular target of the international conspiracy and that is why it was given no special protection. But the presence in military units at Kisangani and Bukavu of foreign elements which the Government was in process of clearing out, was a trump card for the success of the second phase of the "Kerilis Plan", since the collaboration of those foreign elements was assured.

10. Again this will be denied, just as it was denied in October 1966 when our delegation here referred to the recruitment of mercenaries, particularly in Belgium, who were being trained to invade the Congo. And yet how true that was!

11. In that connexion, I should like to read you a few extracts from an investigation carried out by a Belgian journalist and published in a weekly paper called *Spécial*. The journalist had mingled with the candidates chosen in Belgium for an attack on the Congo after Mr. Mobutu, the President of the Republic, had decided to end the negotiations with the leaders of the former Union Minière last December. The anger of these gentlemen was a measure of the determination of the Congolese Government not to sacrifice the vital interests of the Congolese people. In anticipation of a breakdown in the negotiations, the recruiting centres of the Union Minière, which were the same as ever, accelerated the recruiting operation, and in December, in the middle of winter, without even taking the elementary precaution of discretion required in carrying out criminal acts of this nature, the recruiters launched a full-scale campaign, which enabled people who had no jobs in a few days to obtain passports, visas, medical certificates and holidays on the tourist beaches of Portugal and to open accounts in certain Belgian banks. Just listen to the report on this recruitment that was drawn up in anticipation of the President's decision of Thursday, 8 December, terminating the discussions with the agents of the Union Minière.

12. During the night of Monday, 5 December, when it was clear that the President would not yield in the talks, forty-two clandestine soldiers were assembled at the Ilona café at Bressoux, Belgium. "Be ready to leave", they were told in a mysterious telephone call. "Marching orders are from 6 o'clock to midnight". This is the boy-scout side of the plot hatched in Belgium. It would have been much simpler to say: "Take the 8.14 train for Brussels"—which is in fact what happened. But what fun would there have been in that?

13. The report continues. On Tuesday morning just before 8 a.m., some taxis arrived at the Guillemins railway station and deposited forty-two rather conspicuous "gentlemen" carrying silly little suitcases and huge revolvers. A man went from one group to another, like a cashier on holiday: this was Roger Leva, an employee of the Seraing branch of the Nagelmackers Bank, a person known in that circle as an "ex-colonel covered with glory". To each of these gaol-birds, Roger Leva gave a cash voucher payable at Brussels. "Operation K"—as in Kinshasa—was under way.

14. What were the criminal police in Liège doing during that time?

15. The report of the investigation continues: at that hour, the inspectors of the *police judiciaire* at Liège were coming to work in their dusty offices in the Palais de Justice. For several days they had had in their possession a list of seventy-eight names of young men between twenty-five and thirty-five years of age, who, curiously enough, had suddenly discovered a common passion for winter tourism. They had all applied for passports and had been given vaccinations by the Public Health Service in Brussels. Strangely enough, the usual formalities had been considerably shortened. What generally takes three weeks for most people had been arranged in three or four days for these belated tourists. Was this a coincidence?

16. The *police judiciaire*—the report continues—had known all about this for quite some time. They knew that

in the shady cafés of Seraing (Le Djinn), Bressoux and the Rue du Pot-d'Or, people were discussing a new attack somewhere in the Congo. "Customers" who had been out of work for weeks no longer walked about without their personal artillery. Recruitment papers were being passed around more freely than loaves and fishes.

17. The seventy-eight people who had submitted applications for passports were interviewed by the police inspectors. Some of them "ate humble pie" and confessed: yes, they were mercenaries and they had received orders to stand by.

18. But while the documents were piling up in their police dockets, the Liège police took no action; neither did their colleagues in Brussels who also knew that the dens of recruitment were swarming with activity: "Chez Betty", near the Grande Place, at the "Mercenaire", Avenue de la Reine, or at the "New Ginza", Rue du Charbon.

19. Why was nothing done, when the recruitment of mercenaries is forbidden by law? That was the question asked by the Belgian police investigator. Was it for lack of evidence? But one police raid would have been enough to pick up the whole pack of them: café owners, blatantly displaying recruitment contracts on their counters; customers bristling with revolvers, but unable to produce a semblance of a permit to carry weapons. It would have been enough to examine the books of the Nagelmackers Bank to discover that a certain number of "tourists" had just opened accounts there, which was rather strange, because when leaving the country without a cent in pocket, people do not usually make deposits in order to leave a bank account behind. Unless, of course, that bank account was suddenly fed by regular deposits of 18,000 Belgian francs per month, coming from God knows where.

20. But the *police judiciaire* had no such curiosity. Neither were they concerned about the comings and goings in Brussels of a notorious gun-runner, the Portuguese José Zogio of Norte Importadora, although they knew he was in town. But sometimes the police are guilty of incomprehensible "negligence", such as for example, letting the "tourists" from the Ilona escape across the Belgian frontiers to catch planes either at Amsterdam, Paris or Düsseldorf, with Lisbon as the regrouping centre. The operation had been carried out so "discreetly" that the Congolese Government learned about it a few hours later, the double-cross being the absolute rule in such circles.

21. However, this convoy was not the first, since recruitment had been going on since August, and a contingent of forty men had arrived in Lisbon at the beginning of September, and in Africa at the beginning of December. That is what the investigation found.

22. The contingent of forty-two men which had left Liège on Tuesday, 6 December, was far from being the first group of "Tshombist" mercenaries to take off for Portugal. The recruiters had been feverishly active in the country's principal towns ever since August. Thus at the beginning of September, a first contingent of forty men reached Lisbon, there to lead a life of luxury, whilst waiting to be briefed on their mission. Eight days later this gang was transported to Africa.

23. As a result it emerges, merely from the report of this investigation which I have been reading you, that close to a hundred people were recruited and reached Africa by the same Lisbon route.

24. Whom did these contingents contact in Lisbon? There, the commanding officers of the contingent received their orders from a certain Mr. Thomas, who lived in room 53 at the Ritz Hotel, situated on the Via Rodrigo de Fonseca. It was he who settled the petty cash expenses of the recruits through Major Croe, a liaison officer with the other commanding officers, namely Gardier, Zoltan, Mazi and Botu.

25. As for the mission of these mercenaries, let us hear what the report has to say. Croe's aim was to undertake a number of sabotage operations in the Congo. Croe was one of the few Belgian players in the Tshombe team who knew some of the details of the undertaking. Did he let the cat out of the bag in a relaxed moment? In any case, there soon began to be open talk about the "mission": to seize a bridge on the highway leading from Kinshasa to the airport of the Congolese capital and thus to allow the planes of the airlift to land undisturbed and to unload troops and materials. But this was only to be a diversionary attack, the main target of the offensive being Katanga, which was considered a base for the reconquest of the Congo.

26. These were the plans, when at the beginning of December, the forty men from Portugal were hastily pushed into planes which had arrived a week before. That was the mission at that time.

27. Do you think that the investigation was followed up? There were threats that it would be followed up, yes, but they were scotched when it became apparent that still more was known, and that statements might be made during the trial which would be very embarrassing to some people.

28. To complete the picture, let it suffice to say that, after the secession, a number of Belgian career officers joined Tshombe and are helping him to hatch various plans designed to return him to power. These officers were Colonel Vande de Walle, whom I mentioned yesterday, and Majors Lamerline and Protin. Regular officers cannot serve any commander without the permission of the military authorities.

29. Moreover, it is interesting to note that when our troops were moving towards Bukavu after mutinous Katangese units had besieged the town in a surprise attack, our Security Services intercepted a message from the Belgian Embassy at Bujumbura informing the Belgian Consulate at Bukavu of our troop movements.

30. At the height of the crisis the Belgian Communications Centre in Brussels, through which all our communications with the Democratic Republic of the Congo had to go, required that all communications with the Congo had to be in French or in Swahili—and I have proof of this, because I was personally instructed to use those languages—Swahili being the vernacular of Kisangani and Bukavu. Putting two and two together, one can easily understand why the Belgian transmission services issued that instruction.

31. We have just heard that the routed Katangese units, led by the Bukavu mercenaries, are trying to get to Kisangani through the bush to rescue mercenaries besieged in the out-buildings of Kisangani Airport together with civilian hostages, women and children, including professors of the Free University of the Congo at Kisangani and perhaps journalists who came to the Congo for the Independence Day celebrations. So far, in order to spare civilian lives, we have delayed an assault on the airport out-buildings and the mercenaries have been given a deadline to surrender.

32. This was the result of the complacency of some Governments, which have allowed such criminal activities to take place on their territories, and which will probably ask us tomorrow to guarantee the safety of their citizens. Those Governments should know that they are responsible for their present complicity in the disorders which they provoke in our country, and consequently they are also responsible for the measures which may be taken against their nationals and other foreigners living in the Congo.

33. After this investigation, is it conceivable that a country in which the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has its headquarters, with all that entails in the way of a security organization which can effectively preserve military secrets, can have a police force which was unaware of events such as those revealed in the report I have just read out?

34. You may make of this what you will. As far as Belgium is concerned, the facts speak for themselves. Portugal could not be unaware of the presence of these Belgian tourists, of Mr. Thomas and of the mission entrusted to them. But why should they be against these movements when it was a question of creating disorders in the Congo, and returning to power someone whose sympathy with Portuguese colonialism needs no further proof.

35. We could hardly be expected to believe that the Spanish Government was unaware of the nature of the visits that Mr. Tshombe received or of the real reasons for his numerous trips to Portugal. But perhaps Iberian solidarity is more important than the sovereignty of an African State with which one maintains diplomatic relations.

36. If there were any need for further proof of foreign intervention in these latest events, Southern Rhodesia's boast that it had a sympathetic hand in these events is more than sufficient. The Southern Rhodesian communiqué which speaks of solidarity with the mercenaries who had just landed in Kariba on board a DC-3 of the Congolese Airlines leaves no doubt on the subject.

37. In this connexion I should like to say that my Government hopes that the United Kingdom Government, which is responsible for the territory of Southern Rhodesia will take the necessary measures to arrest these criminals and will see to it that the stolen plane is returned to us.

38. I would like to say before concluding that while the immediate danger may be eliminated, the continuing danger remains—that of Portuguese colonialism on our frontiers. Our determination to live in freedom and dignity is firm

and unwavering. We have suffered too much for that cause since our independence.

39. This Council is in duty bound to ensure that this freedom and this dignity are respected by all, for they are the expression of our political independence and a basic right accorded by the Charter to us as well as to every other State. You should take the necessary measures to call upon Governments which allow such acts to be perpetrated on their Territory to ban these acts and never to authorize their citizens to take part in such activities.

40. Mr. RUDA (Argentina) (*translated from Spanish*): Once again the Security Council is called upon to consider complaints of the Democratic Republic of the Congo concerning the activities of a group of mercenaries in that country.

41. As my delegation has said on other occasions, the situation prevailing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo must be followed most attentively by the Security Council, because of the lengths to which the United Nations went to help that country during the early years of its independence, to enable it to find its own political and economic way without foreign interference. There is nothing new about the activities denounced by the Congolese representative. In July 1960, a few days after the independence of that country, the Security Council made an appeal to all States to abstain from acts which might effect the political independence of the Congo [*resolution 145 (1960)*]. That appeal has been repeated on a number of occasions, both by the General Assembly and by the Security Council. Nevertheless, we find ourselves confronted once again with what appear to be similar situations.

42. The complaint made by General Mobutu [*see S/8031*] mentions the arrival at Kisangani of mercenary commandos who, together with others recruited and paid by the Government of the Congo, rebelled and attacked the National Army. Fortunately, the information appearing in the press and that just presented to us by the representative of the Congo shows that this serious incident either has ended or is in its last stages.

43. Despite this heartening information, my delegation deems it necessary that we should once again, in the circumstances and as Members of the United Nations, reaffirm the principle of non-intervention in the internal and external affairs of other States as one of the basic principles of peace and international coexistence. This principle was reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its most comprehensive form in the historic resolution 2131 (XX) on the inadmissibility of intervention in the domestic affairs of States and the protection of their independence and sovereignty, as well as in the more recent resolution 2225 (XXI). With regard to the last resolution, it should be noted that in it the General Assembly calls on all States "...to refrain from armed intervention or the promotion or organization of subversion, terrorism or other indirect forms of intervention for the purpose of changing by violence the existing system in another State or interfering in civil strife in another State".

44. The point is that the classic concept that only the threat or the use of armed force constitutes intervention is now too restrictive, since it does not take into account other types of interference which have been scientifically applied by some States in the last few years.

45. Every State has the right to establish its own political identity without foreign interference. The activities of mercenaries or foreign agents whose purpose is to undermine the political life of a nation for the benefit of foreign interests, must be categorically rejected by the world community.

46. Therefore, my delegation wishes to pay special attention to the problem raised by the representative of the Congo, and hopes that all States will desist from interfering directly or indirectly in the affairs of that country, and particularly that they will abstain from permitting their countries to become bases of operations for such purposes. True peace will not be achieved as long as certain countries in various parts of the world continue to permit and, worse still, encourage the recruitment, training and financing of foreign agents or agents in the service of foreigners, or of mercenaries who go to other countries in order to intervene in their domestic affairs or to force them to serve the interests of great Powers or interests other than the genuine national interest.

47. Before concluding, I wish to stress that my delegation has learned with great satisfaction of the letter dated 7 July from the representative of Spain, Mr. Manuel Aznar, to you, Mr. President [*S/8039*]. In that letter the representative of Spain states that his Government does not approve "any activity intended to disturb or impair relations with the countries to which it is bound by diplomatic ties and ties of friendship".

48. Mr. FEDORENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): The Security Council is continuing its consideration of the question of imperialist intervention in the internal affairs of an African country—the Democratic Republic of the Congo—a State Member of the United Nations.

49. The Security Council has studied the text of the cable from the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo [*see S/8031*], and has heard statements by the representative of that country and by the representatives of other States which are members of the Council. The cable from the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo states, *inter alia*, that the Congo "is at present the victim of aggression on the part of Western colonialist imperialists".

50. We now have a fairly clear picture showing that the forces of colonialism are once again using the Portuguese colonies in Africa in their efforts to undermine the independence and sovereignty of the newly-independent countries of Africa which are struggling for complete liberation from the colonial yoke.

51. It is self-evident that the aggressive acts now being committed against the Congo, with the help of the hirelings of international imperialism, constitute a premeditated

encroachment on the political independence of that country and on its freedom.

52. The Soviet delegation shares the view expressed in the cable from the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Secretary-General to the effect that the situation created by the forces of imperialism around the Democratic Republic of the Congo is likely to jeopardize peace in Central Africa. It is absolutely clear that events in and around the Congo, and the efforts now being made by imperialist forces to undermine the freedom and independence of the Congo, are only one link in the long chain of crimes committed by the colonial and imperialist Powers against the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

53. This is not the first time that the Security Council is considering the situation in the Congo. Now, again, the question at issue is the continuation of a policy of brutal intervention and aggression by the colonialists against this long-suffering African country, a policy which has been pursued for a great number of years.

54. Only recently, in October 1966, the Security Council considered the question of the concentration in Portuguese colonial Territories of bands of mercenaries for a subsequent invasion of the neighbouring country of the Congo. As we know, on 14 October 1966, the Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution [266 (1966)] in which it urged "the Government of Portugal . . . not to allow foreign mercenaries to use Angola as a base of operation for interfering in the domestic affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo". The Council also called upon "all States to refrain or desist from intervening in the domestic affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo".

55. We see, however, that despite this appeal by the Security Council and in violation of the resolution it adopted, the Democratic Republic of the Congo is now once again the victim of an aggression committed by the imperialist colonial Powers. Thus, the colonialists are continuing to challenge the Security Council, the United Nations and the African and all freedom-loving peoples.

56. The just struggle of these African peoples for their independence and for the ideals of freedom and independent development is being opposed by the colonialists with attempts to apply in international relations the law of the jungle, and the diplomacy of gun-boats and air-borne landings—methods which have been rejected and condemned by the peoples.

57. It is no accident that the forces of colonialism have decided to intensify their aggression against the Congo at this precise moment. The organizers of the imperialist conspiracy against the Congolese people are counting on being able to carry out their plans more easily in the atmosphere of general international tension caused by the continued escalation of United States military operations in Viet-Nam and by Israel's aggression against Arab States in the Near East.

58. The most recent aggressive provocation against the Congo is taking place at a time when that country is striving to move forward towards the achievement of a certain degree of independence from foreign monopolies.

59. It is well known that, as a result of intrigues by the colonialists, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and its capital at Kinshasa have for a number of years been experiencing political and economic difficulties caused by the policy of Moïse Tshombe, the direct protégé and lackey of the foreign monopolies.

60. In these circumstances, the Congolese Government has been forced to take a number of unavoidable and energetic measures to protect the country's economy from foreign monopolies.

61. But, though these legitimate and moderate demands by the Government of the Congo were very modest, the foreign monopolies which were bossing the country during the period of colonial domination by Belgium, are not disposed to forgo even a part of their income and are prepared to go to any lengths and commit any crimes in order to maintain their economic position in the Congo.

62. The colonialists do not hesitate to send armed bandits to the territory of that country to sow discord, organize acts of sabotage, terrorize the population, and stir up discontent against the Government which is trying to pursue an independent policy.

63. The events taking place around the Congo show how seriously the African peoples are threatened by the remaining colonial Territories on the African continent. It is well known that the Portuguese possessions in Africa are used by the imperialist Powers as springboards for intervention in the affairs of newly-independent African countries and for provocative acts against the national independence and freedom of the countries of Africa.

64. The Soviet delegation considers that the Security Council must state firmly that it supports the demands of the African countries for an immediate cessation of provocative acts by the forces of colonialism against the peoples of Africa, and must take a decision designed to protect the sovereignty of the newly-independent African countries from intrigues by the imperialist countries.

65. The Soviet delegation strongly supports the request that the Security Council should take energetic steps to put an immediate end to the aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo and should call upon the Western countries concerned to fulfil their obligations under the provisions of the United Nations Charter.

66. If the aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo continues, the Security Council, guided by the United Nations Charter, must urgently consider the question of further steps to halt the aggression and stop interference in the internal affairs of that country.

67. Lord CARADON (United Kingdom): I merely wish to restate and reaffirm the policy of my Government. On 14 October 1966 this Council, in resolution 226 (1966), called upon all States "to refrain or desist from intervening in the domestic affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo". I made it clear then that we attached great importance to that purpose. We considered it vital, if the Democratic Republic of the Congo was to be permitted to

develop peacefully, that there should be no external interference whatsoever, from any source, in its internal affairs. That was our concern in October of last year and it remains the clear purpose of my Government today.

68. Certainly, we would most strongly condemn any outside interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We would condemn any activities, however stimulated and wherever organized, designed to disrupt the Congo's peaceful development or to challenge the authority of the Government of that country. We fully support the efforts of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to restore and maintain legal authority and order.

69. It follows from what I have said that we are firmly opposed to any activities directed against the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the kind that have been described by the Congolese representative. We supported the Council's call on all States last year to refrain from intervening in the Congo's internal affairs, and we stand ready now to support any renewed call by the Council to the same end.

70. Mr. PARTHASARATHI (India): My delegation is deeply concerned over the serious situation which has developed in certain parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as reported to the Council by the representative of that country. The take-over of Kisangani, fortunately for a brief period, resulting in bitter fighting, the sabotage of power stations in some other parts of the country, and the blowing-up of a railway bridge and power lines are subversive activities of grave import. The cable from the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo [see S/8031] and the statements made by Mr. Idzumbuir before this Council last week [1363rd and 1364th meetings] contain certain information about the causes of the disturbances.

71. We cannot but take a serious view of any attempt to intervene in the domestic affairs of States or to threaten or infringe upon their independence, sovereignty or territorial integrity. My delegation is gratified to note that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is making strenuous and successful efforts to reassert its authority in the areas in which it is sought to be challenged.

72. At this juncture, I would like to dwell briefly on the poignant and sombre record of external intervention which the Democratic Republic of the Congo has consistently experienced since its very inception. As far back as July 1960, the Security Council adopted a resolution [145 (1960)] calling on all States to refrain from any action which might undermine the independence of the Congo. Since then, almost all resolutions adopted on the Congo have included a clause appealing to all States to desist from interfering in its affairs. The latest of these resolutions, resolution 226 (1966), adopted by the Security Council in October 1966, also contained a similar clause.

73. In the view of my delegation, the persistent attempts to undermine the territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo are organically linked with the forces of colonialism which continue to threaten the peace and security of central and southern Africa. An enduring

peace can be established in this area only when all vestiges of colonialism are eliminated from the territory of Africa.

74. My Government's approach to the question of the preservation of the territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has been clear and consistent ever since that country achieved independence. In 1960, the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, in a statement made in the Indian Parliament, said:

"We look upon the Congo as a single entity, not to be split up. Our approach to the question is that the integrity and the sovereignty of the Congo should be maintained. We shall adhere to this approach."

75. My Government has maintained and developed the closest relations with the Democratic Republic of the Congo ever since 1960. During those early and difficult days Indian troops and logistical units which were part of the United Nations force in the Congo played a vital role in maintaining the political independence and territorial sovereignty of the Congo. We in India take legitimate pride in the fact that ours was the largest contingent serving with the United Nations force in the Congo. Fourteen thousand Indian soldiers strove valiantly over a long period of time to help re-establish peace and order in that country in very difficult circumstances. We are proud to have been able to contribute to the international effort made at that time for the establishment of conditions in which the people of the Congo could progress and develop their country in orderly and peaceful conditions and without any external interference.

76. My Government continues to attach the greatest importance to the preservation of the territorial integrity of all States, and more particularly of the newly independent States of Africa. At its twentieth session the General Assembly adopted the historic Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the protection of Their Independence and Sovereignty [resolution 2131 (XX)]. The principle of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of States is an article of faith for the non-aligned countries and has been specifically endorsed by the declaration adopted by the Second Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries held at Cairo in 1964.

77. My Government maintains the most friendly relations with the newly independent States of Africa and we share with them their cherished aspiration to develop and stabilize themselves in conditions of peace without any external interference whatsoever. My colleague, Mr. Keita of Mali, told the Council last week [1363rd meeting] in moving terms that all that the newly independent African States wanted was to be left alone and to be able to deal with the many problems with which they are faced without threats of intervention by outside Powers. The strict observance of the basic principle of non-intervention is of particular significance in so far as it applies to the newly independent States of Africa. They are fully entitled to receive every encouragement in their efforts to develop in order and peace without having to fritter away their energies in dealing with external threats. It is in the light of these vital principles that the Council should determine the



course of action it should take to deal with the situation it is now considering. In the view of my delegation the Council has the solemn duty to call on all States to refrain from any action which would threaten the territorial integrity of any State and of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in particular.

78. Mr. MATSUI (Japan): Mr. President, allow me, first of all, to extend my delegation's warm congratulations on your assumption of the Presidency of the Security Council for this month. Your competence and integrity are well known to all delegations at the United Nations, and my delegation is quite confident that under your able guidance, the Council will be able to perform its duties in this particularly difficult time.

79. I should also like to take this opportunity of paying my delegation's highest tribute to Ambassador Tabor of Denmark, who presided so ably over the Council meetings in June and won the admiration and respect of all the members.

80. The situation brought to our attention in the letter dated 5 July 1967 [S/8031] presented to the Council three days ago and again today by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, must be taken very seriously by the international community.

81. We are called upon to deal here with a grave charge of intervention in the domestic affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Such intervention, of course, would clearly contravene the principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of sovereign States, which, as we know, is firmly established in international law and in the Charter. It would also contravene, more specifically, paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 226 (1966), adopted by the Council on 14 October 1966, which

*"Calls upon all States to refrain or desist from intervening in the domestic affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo."*

Furthermore, not only the internal tranquillity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo but also the maintenance of international peace and security in the area would be involved.

82. It is clear to my delegation that all States have the inescapable and solemn duty to refrain or desist from any intervention of any kind in the domestic affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I would interpret this duty as including the taking by States of such measures as might be necessary to prevent, on their territories or territories under their jurisdiction, any activities that might lead to such intervention. If a resolution more or less on the lines I have tried to present to the Council is submitted, my delegation will be prepared to support it.

83. Finally, I should like to express the deep sympathy that my delegation feels for the Government and people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as they move forward in their important and urgent tasks of nation-building. We earnestly hope that it will be possible for them to pursue those tasks in an atmosphere of peace, tranquillity and security.

84. Mr. LIU (China): Mr. President, may I first of all associate myself with those who spoke before me in welcoming you to the Presidency of the Security Council. Confronted as it is with problems of momentous and far-reaching ramifications, the Council is fortunate in having a President whose statesmanlike qualities have been amply demonstrated in the past few days.

85. The Congo has been the special concern of the United Nations ever since it achieved independence seven years ago. The Democratic Republic, almost from the very moment of its birth, was beset with economic, political and social problems of unparalleled complexity. Secession and civil strife threatened political unity and territorial integrity. For a time the very existence of the Congo as an independent sovereign State was in doubt.

86. It was at this critical juncture that the Government of the Congo asked the United Nations for assistance. In the next four years the United Nations rendered massive economic and military aid to the Government of the Congo. The Congo operations constitute a chapter of which the United Nations may well be proud.

87. The Democratic Republic of the Congo has in the last few years achieved notable progress, politically, economically and socially. This clearly shows that, left to themselves and free from outside interference, the Congolese people are quite capable of solving their own problems. But unfortunately, the Congolese people are not being left alone. In the face of a dangerous situation such as the one that has developed since 5 July, the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has quite rightly brought the matter to the attention of the Security Council.

88. In his statements before this Council, the representative of the Congo charged that forces from outside, jointly with former Katangese *gendarmes*, have fomented disturbances in the towns of Bukavu and Kisangani. Such interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State, a Member of the United Nations, cannot be looked upon with indifference by the Council. What the Council can and should do in the circumstances is to reaffirm its resolution 226 (1966) of 14 October 1966, urging all Member States of the United Nations not to allow foreign mercenaries to use their territory as a base of operation for interfering in the domestic affairs of the Congo and calling upon them to refrain or desist from any activity inimical to the security of that area.

89. My delegation supports the efforts of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in its efforts to preserve the political unity and territorial integrity of the country. This potentially rich country in the heart of Africa must be free from outside interference and must not again be the battleground of rival ambitions. A stable and prosperous Democratic Republic of the Congo will contribute much to the peace and development of the entire African continent.

90. Mr. TABOR (Denmark): The Security Council is continuing its discussion concerning the complaint from the Democratic Republic of the Congo about the activities of

mercenaries and interference from abroad in the internal affairs of the Congo. I should like very briefly to set out the position of my Government.

91. We consider this interference and activity most serious, since it is contrary to the provisions of the Charter and to resolutions previously adopted by this Council. We thus find it a challenge to the international community and a violation of the principles for which this community stands.

92. The Danish Government condemns any outside interference which might undermine the territorial integrity of the Congo and which might endanger the peaceful development of the Congo or the full authority of the country's legal Government. It is my impression that all members are in agreement on those principles.

93. We therefore hope that it will not be necessary to have prolonged discussions, and that the Council can prove that it is able to act efficiently and quickly, by promptly taking the action asked for by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

94. Mr. IYALLA (Nigeria): Mr. President, I believe it would be right to say that it is the intention of all the delegations around this table, and your own intention also, that we should, if possible, conclude our work on this matter today. That being the case, I was wondering, Mr. President, if you would consider a suspension of the meeting for about thirty minutes to enable us to agree finally on certain points so as to facilitate discussion of this matter.

95. I make this request formally under rule 33 (1) of the provisional rules of procedure.

96. The PRESIDENT: Under rule 33, any motion for the suspension of a meeting shall be decided without debate. I therefore put this motion to the Council for its consideration. If I do not hear any objection, I shall take it that the Council accepts the proposal that we suspend the meeting for thirty minutes. Since there is no objection, the meeting is suspended for thirty minutes.

*The meeting was suspended at 5.35 p.m. and resumed at 7.10 p.m.*

97. Mr. IYALLA (Nigeria): The complaints which the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has brought to the Council's attention concerning the employment of foreign mercenaries by outside interests to threaten the stability and peace of the Congo are extremely serious. It is intolerable that any country should have its security harassed by the adventures of external soldiers of fortune.

98. The situation becomes even more deplorable when there is apparent evidence that these mercenaries are the agents and instruments of more powerful foreign interests and groups. My Government cannot condone the use of mercenaries for this purpose in any condition or circumstance, and we have no hesitation whatsoever in condemning activities when such mercenaries are employed by stronger and more affluent communities to harass and

terrorize a comparatively weaker country, especially in Africa.

99. When last this Council's attention was engaged upon the problems of external threats to the independence of the Congo, in October 1966, equally serious complaints were made by the Congolese Government about the aggressive encroachments of foreign interests and administrations from which that country had suffered.

100. The evidence available to the Council on that occasion was such that the Council was able in its wisdom to reach the authoritative decision recorded in its resolution 226 (1966). But what is perhaps more pertinent to recall on this occasion is the deeply moving appeal which the Foreign Minister of the Congo addressed to this Council on that occasion. It will be recalled that at the 1302nd meeting in 1966, Mr. Bomboko pleaded eloquently here for the independence of his country. He reminded us all that the Congo had suffered too much interference and seen too little peace since the day it had achieved its sovereignty. He assured us, and especially those who would not leave that young but sorely tried African country alone, that all the Congo sought and desired was the peace and freedom to pursue its progress and fulfil its national destinies. The Congo has for too long been the persistent victim of external pressure and intimidation. We therefore ask again today that the Congolese appeal for freedom and a respite from external harassment be heeded now by all Governments and all interests. This request has been made in the past, and we hope that we are not asking too much in emphasizing it again at this time.

101. We in Nigeria can, I hope, be permitted to claim a certain uninterrupted record of close co-operation with the Congo since our two countries achieved independence. These happy relations have been marked by our determination that the complexion, composition, or policies of the Congolese Government, or indeed of the Government of any other independent country in the world, must remain, and rightly remain, a matter for the people of that country. We believe this policy to be right, and we therefore unreservedly condemn any attempt to interfere in this process by the employment of mercenaries or other instruments of confusion for the purpose of disturbing the peaceful progress of the Congo.

102. For those reasons, I beg to introduce the following draft resolution [S/8050] on behalf of the delegations of Ethiopia, India, Mali and Nigeria:

*"The Security Council,*

*"Having taken cognizance of the message of the Congolese Government contained in document S/8031,*

*"Having discussed the serious developments in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,*

*"Concerned by the threat posed by foreign interference to the independence and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,*

*"1. Reaffirms in particular paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 226 (1966) of 14 October 1966;*

"2. *Condemns* any State which persists in permitting or tolerating the recruitment of mercenaries, and the provision of facilities to them, with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations;

"3. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure that their territory and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the planning of subversion, and the recruitment, training and transit of mercenaries designed to overthrow the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

"4. *Decides* that the Security Council shall remain seized of the question;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow closely the implementation of the present resolution."

103. The draft resolution which I have had the honour to introduce merely embodies the basic principles which have been stated so clearly, and to us Africans so encouragingly, by practically all the representatives who have taken the floor here today. It is the fervent hope of my delegation, and I believe of all the co-sponsors, that the draft resolution will commend itself to this Council and will receive the Council's unanimous support.

104. The PRESIDENT: I understand that the Council would be agreeable to taking a decision on the draft resolution introduced by the representative of Nigeria. Before I put the draft resolution to the vote, however, I have on my list the names of a number of representatives who have expressed a wish to speak before the vote is taken and I now call on the first of these, the representative of Brazil.

105. Mr. DE CARVALHO SILOS (Brazil): Mr. President, first of all, allow me to associate my delegation with those who have praised Mr. Tabor of Denmark for his remarkable performance as President of the Security Council during one of the most crucial series of meetings which it has held in recent years. We are meeting now under your wise guidance, and my delegation is sure that you, a skilled diplomat and experienced negotiator, will live up to the high standard set by your predecessor.

106. My delegation has studied with the utmost care the letter dated 5 July 1967 addressed to you, Mr. President, by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo [S/8031]. We have also examined the statements made before this Council by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo concerning the matter before us. The documents and statements, in the opinion of my delegation, have supplied us with information and facts which justify the convening of the Security Council and which require prompt action by this organ. It has been clearly demonstrated that foreign elements have been engaged in subversive activities in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo against the Government and legal authorities of that country. This fact cannot be overlooked by the Council and must be condemned as a violation of the Charter of the United Nations, of the general principles of international law and, in particular, of

resolution 2131 (XX) adopted by the General Assembly on non-intervention in the domestic affairs of States.

107. I now come to the draft resolution before us [S/8050]. In our view, this draft should go further and deal with all the aspects of the problem instead of confining itself to the recruitment, training and transit of mercenaries. The breach of the United Nations Charter and of international law does not depend upon whether the persons involved in such subversive activities are mercenaries or not. Even if these persons are not mercenaries, even if they are, for instance, volunteers—and I mean by that actual volunteers whose motivations are ideological—their action could constitute a clear violation of the principles of our Charter as an intervention by a foreign Power or foreign Powers in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

108. At any rate, we all know that the Democratic Republic of the Congo, ever since its emergence as a sovereign State, has unfortunately been plagued and harassed by a continuous influx into its territory of mercenaries of many nationalities; and this perhaps has been the main instrument employed for intervention in the internal affairs of that country.

109. I have another observation concerning the draft resolution before us. In paragraph 3 it speaks of "recruitment, training and transit of mercenaries designed to overthrow the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo". Here, too, the principle contained in the draft should be much broader since, in our view, even if the recruitment, training and transit of mercenaries are not intended to overthrow the Congolese Government, but are limited merely to subversion, terrorism, or sabotage to be carried out in the territory of that State, these objectives should be prohibited and condemned by the Security Council in the same way.

110. In spite of those observations, and having in mind the principles of the Charter and of the resolution on non-intervention, my delegation will vote in favour of the draft resolution before us.

111. Mr. BEAULIEU (Canada) (*translated from French*): Speaking for the first time in this Council, I should like first of all to offer to the Danish representative, Mr. Tabor, our most sincere congratulations for the admirable manner in which, during a particularly arduous month, he has discharged his duties as President of the Security Council. His tenacity and his impartiality have earned him the admiration of all those who have been associated with his efforts during our debates.

112. You, Mr. President, are assuming responsibilities of paramount importance in circumstances still full of uncertainty as far as peace and the prestige of the United Nations are concerned. I should like to assure you of our full confidence and our desire to work under your wise guidance in formulating constructive ideas with a view to finding solutions to the distressing problems now facing us.

113. With regard to the allegation made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in its letter

of 5 July 1967 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the representative of that country [S/8031], I should like to make the following comment. Taking into account Canada's association with the efforts of the United Nations to ensure the independence, territorial integrity and stability of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, my delegation has no difficulty in reaffirming its continued support for this policy. We deplore all intervention, whether by recourse to violence or by other means, which might tend to jeopardize the attainment of these objectives.

114. Since these objectives have been clearly restated in the draft resolution submitted to the Council by the delegations of Ethiopia, India, Mali and Nigeria [S/8050], my delegation will support that text.

115. Mr. TARABANOV (Bulgaria) (*translated from French*): I should like first of all to congratulate you on behalf of my delegation, Mr. President, on the high position which you are now occupying with becoming dignity. You have undertaken the duties of President in difficult circumstances; you have already presided at a number of meetings and have achieved a great deal, and up to now you have discharged your duties like an accomplished diplomat. My delegation wishes to take the opportunity of offering you its sincere congratulations.

116. We have before us a draft resolution submitted jointly by the delegations of Ethiopia, India, Mali and Nigeria [S/8050]. It represents the outcome of persistent effort on the part of the President of the Council, the sponsors and all the other members of the Council and I am sure that there will be no difficulty when it comes to the vote. In fact, it is couched in terms too broad to cause any problems when it is put to the vote. For example, in paragraph 2 the Security Council condemns "any State", without saying which States are being condemned, and in paragraph 3 calls upon "Governments", without specifying which are meant. My delegation naturally has no difficulty in voting for a draft resolution worded in this general way.

117. However, I should like to say to the President and the members of the Council that although we find no difficulty in voting for this text because it is so broadly worded, we are embarrassed because we find it too general and because it makes no mention of those who are responsible for the situation in Central Africa. In his statements before the Council, the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo cited a number of facts, gave names and specific information. But these facts and this information have not been mentioned in the text of the draft resolution before us. No representative of any of the countries implicated in the information given by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has taken the floor to deny his charges. We are shocked that such a situation should arise in the Security Council. If we continue to behave this way in future, the delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria considers that we shall run the risk of seeing less and less attention paid to what is done in the United Nations and in its principal organ, the Security Council.

118. However we should like to draw particular attention to the specific charges made by the Congolese repre-

sentative most recently. What is more, facts which are equally self-evident but more general have been submitted in letters sent to us by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo—and I am referring in particular to a cable from the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo [see S/8031] which preceded the Congolese request that the Security Council should consider the question. The Council was informed that the Democratic Republic of the Congo was the victim of aggression committed by Western colonialist imperialists. The Congolese Chief of State stressed that he was relying on vigorous intervention by the Security Council to put an immediate end to those acts of banditry.

119. Ever since July 1960, the year in which the independence of the Congo was proclaimed, the problem of colonialist aggression in this country is brought before the United Nations with frightening regularity in one guise or another, and specifically before the Security Council. This is not an accident, as the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has pointed out in his statements. It happens because the Congo is situated in the heart of Africa and offers the imperialist and capitalist circles of the world tremendous opportunities for exploitation.

120. Before the Congo was liberated from colonial rule, this immense territory was coveted by various imperialist circles which at times fought over the booty, while at others they joined forces the more effectively to subjugate and exploit the Congolese people. Immediately following the declaration of independence the situation changed and the methods used to impose imperialist policies on the Congo likewise changed. But the intentions and objectives of international financial circles remained the same: the continued colonialist exploitation of the Congolese people, the plunder of its natural resources and the exploitation of its territory.

121. Forced by the rise of the national liberation movement to abandon their position as out-and-out colonizers in Africa, the international monopolies sought and found, as they still do today, paid agents from among the local leaders willing to help them achieve their aims. Through these agents and their services, they are attempting to continue colonial exploitation of the Congolese territory and people, as they have done elsewhere in Africa and Asia.

122. The attempts on the part of imperialist and colonialist circles to preserve and restore their privileges in the newly-independent former colonies are meeting increasing resistance from the people of Africa and Asia. These people, in spite of the enormous difficulties inherited from the colonial régimes which they now have to face, are struggling with all their might to rebuild their shattered economies and consolidate the political and administrative institutions essential to the political and economic life of the new States.

123. However, whenever there is the slightest trend towards economic recovery and political stability in these States and whenever a popularly-based Government begins to take root, international monopolies and high finance have sought and found means of interfering and undermining the activities of those Governments. In speaking of

those groups the Congolese representative expressed the hope that the Security Council would never allow international imperialist circles to make and unmake the institutions of small States. The members of the Security Council must have the impression that this is exactly what happened in the Congo where the mercenaries who have occupied two of its principal towns acted as the emissaries of this international Power which operates by the grace and with the support of certain States.

124. The Security Council, the principal organ of the United Nations on which the Member States have placed the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, cannot and must not remain passive. It can and must take action in this situation and, in our opinion, it should go farther than the measures set forth in the draft resolution before us [S/8050].

125. We realize however that no draft resolution will be accepted by the Council unless it is couched in very general terms, and since we recognize that this draft resolution may be of some help to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in combating the activities of certain gangs of mercenaries and their leaders, the delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has decided to vote for it in order to co-operate in the most effective manner now possible in the eradication of this type of activity in the Congo and in Africa as a whole.

126. Mr. BUFFUM (United States of America): Although the draft resolution which has just been introduced by the representative of Nigeria [S/8050] does not coincide with our preferences in every respect, the United States will vote affirmatively. We will do so because we fully support the efforts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to exercise its legitimate authority throughout the country and to restore order wherever order is disrupted.

127. In our view, if any foreign Government aids or abets any elements in the Congo, whether these be mercenaries or irregular forces seeking to overthrow the Government or to gain control of any part of the country, such action would be in clear violation of the United Nations Charter and deserving of our condemnation.

128. This was our policy three years ago, when secessionist elements in the eastern Congo were engaged in large-scale conflict, with substantial support from the Chinese Communists, to wrest control from the Central Government, and this remains our policy today.

129. We will vote for the draft resolution this evening because we support the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of the Congo. In doing so, we do not consider that by this draft resolution the Council is making any specific finding with regard to any specific Government.

130. The United States has not been content to give merely moral support to the principles endorsed in this draft resolution this evening. On the contrary, we have sought to provide the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo with some of the tools which it needs to do the job of protecting its integrity and its

political independence. It was in this connexion that over the past week-end the United States, in response to a request from President Mobutu and consistent with previous United Nations resolutions dealing with the Congo problem and calling for assistance in helping that Government to maintain its independence and territorial integrity, dispatched three C-130 aircraft and crews to Kinshasa. These aircraft, I should like to make it clear to the Council, are designed to provide long-range logistic support for the Congolese Government in meeting the mercenary-led rebellion, and they will be there in a non-combatant status.

131. This action reflects our long-standing policy of supporting the Central Government and the unity of the Congo, and it is in this spirit that we will support the draft resolution sponsored by Ethiopia, India, Mali and Nigeria.

132. Mr. SEYDOUX (France) (*translated from French*): Even if the most recent news indicates that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has just about regained control of the situation, my delegation still attaches great importance to this debate. The conclusions we reach should be fully consonant with the task of the Security Council, which is the United Nations organ responsible under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security.

133. The problem for which the Council has been convened concerns the French delegation for two reasons. First, the Congo more than most other countries has for seven years been the victim of foreign intervention and I have only to recall the events of last autumn to show that unfortunately, those interferences have not diminished with the passage of time. Secondly, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, to which France attaches great value, is at stake.

134. At the last session of the General Assembly my delegation pointed out the various ways and means which could be used to frustrate such interference. I would merely like to emphasize that all foreign intervention should be condemned, not only, of course, when it is aimed at changing the system of government, but also when its purpose is to jeopardize public order and the prosperity of the country in a more insidious but no less dangerous way.

135. The independence of a State is indivisible and we believe that the United Nations should be vigilant with regard to all outside interference, whatever form it may take.

136. In this spirit the French delegation will vote for the draft resolution submitted by the Nigerian representative [S/8050]. It has the basic merit of calling upon States to prevent the recruitment of foreign mercenaries on their territory for the purpose of supporting subversive activities directed against another State.

137. In conclusion, I should like to say how concerned we are to hear the statement of the Congolese representative describing the recent activities of mercenaries who held as hostages a number of professors and journalists visiting or living in his country. This is an odious procedure which the international community should not tolerate and which the

Security Council must condemn. We want this Council to support the action of the Kinshasa Government so that everything will be done to spare the lives of those innocent civilians.

138. The PRESIDENT: I am sure that we all share the preoccupations which have been reiterated by the representative of France, and which have already been brought to the attention of the Council by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I should like to join my voice to those who have appealed for the safety of those held as hostages and for their speedy release from conditions which must be very difficult for them and which indeed must be unbearable, when we consider that these people, owing to circumstances beyond their control, now find themselves in a cruel position.

139. With the agreement of the Council, I shall now put to the vote the draft resolution which was introduced earlier this afternoon by the representative of Nigeria, and which is co-sponsored by the delegations of Ethiopia, India and Mali [S/8050].

*A vote was taken by show of hands.*

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

140. The PRESIDENT: Since no one wishes to speak after the vote, I now give the floor to the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who has asked to speak.

141. Mr. IDZUMBUIR (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (*translated from French*): I wish to apologize to the members of the Council for taking the floor at a time when everyone probably wants to go home, but I can assure the Council that I shall be extremely brief.

142. First of all, for the record, I should like to say with respect to the mercenaries still in the National Army, that the Government inherited 1,800 mercenaries when Tshombe was booted out, reduced this number to 600 in January 1967 and to 200 at present, and is determined to reduce the number to zero by the date of the African summit meeting next September. As a result of this decision affecting them, the few hundred remaining mercenaries decided to make a deal with the only camp which was capable of offering permanent jobs as mercenaries in the Congo. This is the origin of the collaboration between these elements and other outside elements which were

responsible for the disturbances in Kisangani and the disorders in Bukavu.

143. The Council has just adopted a resolution submitted by the Nigerian representative and co-sponsored by the representatives of Ethiopia, India and Mali. I should like to say that while it is not entirely satisfactory to our delegation in that it does not mention by name certain countries whose complicity is obvious to us, this resolution is, in our opinion, a sharp warning to all those who allow such activities to take place on their territory, and if it is respected by those countries, it may form a basis for more permanently peaceful relations between those States and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

144. But I should like to stress the need for the Security Council, when it takes up the questions of Angola and Rhodesia, to bear in mind that the existence of this anachronistic situation on the very borders of our country will continue to be a threat to the Congo. Since all the members have shown today that they favour peace in the Congo and uphold its territorial integrity, they will no doubt find a practical way to put an end to the colonial situation that exists in southern Africa.

145. The PRESIDENT: I feel sure that I am stating the views of all members of the Council when I express gratification that in the course of two successive days of meetings the Security Council has acted promptly and with united purpose to deal with two urgent problems brought before it by Member States. By acting in this effective manner we have, I believe, lived up to the expectation of the entire international community which naturally looks to the Security Council for the primary responsibility of preserving international peace and security now and at all times.

146. The achievements, albeit modest, of the last two days encourage me to express the confidence that the Council will keep up its vigilant effort to tackle and resolve the challenging problem that the United Nations faces in the Middle East. I base my confidence on the sure and proven experience that where there is the will, there is the way.

147. I wish to thank my colleagues, members of the Council, for their tireless efforts and for all the co-operation they have given me.

*The meeting rose at 8 p.m.*

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