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**FOURTH COMMITTEE, 1243rd  
MEETING**

Monday, 11 December 1961,  
at 11 a.m.

**NEW YORK**

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Chairman: Miss Angie BROOKS (Liberia).

AGENDA ITEM 47

Question of South West Africa (continued):

- (a) Report of the Committee on South West Africa (A/4926, A/4957; A/AC.73/4; A/AC.73/L.15; A/C.4/509, 510, 512; A/C.4/L.711/Rev.1, L.712, L.713/Rev.3, L.714/Rev.2, L.716/Rev.1);  
(b) Assistance of the specialized agencies and of the United Nations Children's Fund in the economic, social and educational development of South West Africa: reports of the agencies and of the Fund (A/4956 and Add.1)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.4/L.711/Rev.1, L.712, L.713/Rev.3, L.714/Rev.2, L.716/Rev.1) (continued)

1. Mr. ACHKAR (Guinea), introducing the revised draft resolution A/C.4/L.714/Rev.2, explained that the new text incorporated the amendments submitted by a number of Latin-American countries (A/C.4/L.717), by the Philippines (A/C.4/L.718) and by Mali (A/C.4/L.719) and accepted by the sponsors at the previous meeting.

2. Since then, the sponsors had given serious consideration to the United States amendments (A/C.4/L.720). Although they could not accept the first of those amendments as it stood, they had decided in a spirit of constructive understanding, to add a new third preambular paragraph and to amend the present third preambular paragraph. They hoped that the changes would satisfy the majority in the Committee. The new third preambular paragraph, the wording of which was similar to that of previous General Assembly resolutions approving reports submitted by the Committee on South West Africa, would read: "Noting with approval the special report of the Committee on South West Africa,". The third preambular paragraph of the present text, which would become the fourth preambular paragraph, would be amended to read: "Bearing in mind the findings, conclusions and recommendations...". The sponsors hoped that those changes would meet the point raised in the first United States amendment.

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3. The sponsors could not accept the second United States amendment, for they felt that the proposed wording would cast doubts on the findings of the Committee on South West Africa, which were based on the testimony of petitioners who had lived in the Territory and were therefore conversant with the facts of the situation. The sponsors had no doubts concerning their truthfulness and good faith.

4. Being unable to accept the second United States amendment, the sponsors could not accept the third United States amendment, since the two were inter-related.

5. The fourth United States amendment was not acceptable because the sponsors felt that its adoption would substantially alter the terms of reference of the proposed special committee.

6. With reference to the fifth United States amendment, they wished to make it clear that in calling for the withdrawal of all military forces of the Republic of South Africa from South West Africa they were not envisaging the police forces responsible for the maintenance of law and order. Consequently, the idea expressed in that amendment was already implicit in the text of the draft resolution. The military forces of the Republic of South Africa were in the Territory in violation of the Mandate; acceptance of the amendment might provide the South African Government with a pretext for stationing large military forces in the Territory, not for the purpose of maintaining law and order in the generally accepted meaning of the term, but for enforcing its policy of apartheid. For the foregoing reasons the sponsors were unable to accept the fifth United States amendment.

7. They accepted the sixth and seventh United States amendments and thanked the United States delegation for having drawn their attention to those important considerations.

8. The sponsors had also taken into account the United States representative's request for clarification concerning the nature of the general elections mentioned in operative paragraph 2 (e) and (f) and were consequently amending paragraph 2 (e) to read "Preparations for general elections to the Legislative Assembly based on universal adult suffrage...". Thus the special committee was being asked to make preparations for elections to a truly representative legislative assembly, since the present body included the representatives of the white population only.

9. He hoped that the draft resolution as thus revised would be adopted unanimously.

10. Mr. SIDI BABA (Morocco) associated himself with the Guinean representative's remarks. The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.714/Rev.2 had examined the United States amendments (A/C.4/L.720)

<sup>1/</sup> Subsequently circulated as document A/C.4/L.714/Rev.3.

in a spirit of sincere co-operation and had noted with satisfaction the serious efforts of the United States delegation to improve the draft resolution. While the sponsors had been unable to accept some of those amendments, since they appreciably affected the substance of their text, he wished to pay a tribute to the United States delegation for its sixth and seventh amendments.

11. Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America) thanked the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.714/Rev.2 for their careful and sympathetic consideration of the

amendments submitted by his delegation and for having accepted two of them and made counter-suggestions with regard to a third. The purpose of some of the amendments might not have been fully understood by the sponsors of the draft resolution and he felt that additional discussions might narrow the areas of disagreement still further. With that end in view he suggested that the meeting should be adjourned.

*It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 11.30 p.m.