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Chairman: Mr. Guillermo FLORES AVENDAÑO
 (Guatemala).

Requests for hearings (continued)

REQUESTS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEM 56 (QUESTION OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA) (continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that he had received a telegram from Mr. Paul Mushonga, President of the Pan-African Socialist Union of Zimbabwe, requesting a hearing. Since it was important for the Committee to decide at once whether to grant the hearing, he suggested that the Committee should dispense with the usual procedure of having the request circulated as a document before taking a decision on it.

It was so decided.

It was further decided to grant the request for a hearing.^{1/}

AGENDA ITEM 56

Question of Southern Rhodesia: report of the Special Committee established under General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) (A/C.4/560, A/C.4/L.747, A/C.4/L.748) (continued)

2. At the request of the CHAIRMAN, Mr. COTTRELL (Secretary of the Committee) read out a cable from Mr. Butler and Mr. Gondo—whose request for a hearing had been granted by the Committee at its previous meeting—Mr. Dumbura, Mr. Burdett-Coutts and Mr. Hlazo informing the Committee that they would arrive in New York on 10 October; they were prevented from arriving earlier by the need to obtain the necessary travel documents. In another cable, Mr. Butler and Mr. Gondo requested the Committee not to proceed to a vote on the question of Southern Rhodesia before hearing their evidence.

^{1/} The request was subsequently circulated as document A/C.4/557/Add.3.

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.4/L.748 (continued)

3. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to resume consideration of draft resolution A/C.4/L.748.

4. U TIN MAUNG (Burma) said that, after hearing the evidence given by Mr. Dumbutshena at the two previous meetings, he was convinced that responsibility for the present crisis in Southern Rhodesia could not be laid at the door of the United Nations. The ridiculous charge against the international Organization should therefore be dropped. It was the United Kingdom Government which, by failing to discharge its obligations and to bring pressure to bear on Sir Edgar Whitehead's racist Government to rescind the 1961 Constitution and restore civil liberties, had created the present atmosphere of crisis. The United Kingdom had not been fair to the indigenous inhabitants but had favoured the white settlers. In due course the Committee would give consideration to the realistic and effective measures which it would recommend to the General Assembly and which would be designed to make the United Kingdom Government heed the voice of sober reason and logic and yield gracefully to the pressure of world public opinion.

5. No one could deny that Southern Rhodesia was a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter. The United Kingdom was morally and constitutionally responsible for the situation in Southern Rhodesia and could not be absolved of blame for it. No one could pretend that a Power such as the United Kingdom was politically impotent to resolve a crisis which would not have arisen had it used its influence in time. The United Nations could not afford to wait until March 1963. The time for action had come.

6. Draft resolution A/C.4/L.748 was an interim measure designed to aid the freedom movement of Southern Rhodesia until such time as steps were taken to ensure more lasting relief. The two requests in the draft resolution represented the basic minimum the United Nations could do at that juncture. If Sir Edgar Whitehead and his followers succumbed to their delusion, ignored the hurricane of the people's awakening and stooped to mean tricks in their endeavour to maintain their administration, the future of the white settlers in Southern Rhodesia would be very bleak and beset with dangers.

7. His delegation wished to join the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.748.

8. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) said that, listening to the statement by Mr. Dumbutshena, he had been reminded of the situation in Tanganyika when Mr. Julius Nyerere had appeared as a petitioner in the Trusteeship Council in 1955.^{2/} On that occasion the Haitian delegation had

^{2/} See Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Fifteenth Session, 592nd meeting.

espoused his cause and, two years later, had sponsored in the Fourth Committee the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.477 and Rev.1) which had eventually become General Assembly resolution 1065 (XI). Despite the harassment to which Mr. Nyerere's Tanganyika African National Union had been subjected by the Administering Authority, it had won the 1959 legislative elections at which the United Tanganyika Party, which the United Federal Party in Southern Rhodesia closely resembled, had disintegrated.

9. Whereas in 1957 his delegation had been alone in sponsoring the draft resolution on the future of the Trust Territory of Tanganyika, draft resolution A/C.4/L.748 was being sponsored by over thirty countries. His delegation, which felt that the United Kingdom had a moral responsibility towards the United Nations for the disastrous situation in South West Africa, although South Africa was an independent State, held that the argument was even more valid with regard to Southern Rhodesia, a Non-Self-Governing Territory. It would therefore vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.4/L.748, which requested the United Kingdom Government to secure the release of the nationalist leaders in Southern Rhodesia and the lifting

of the ban on their party while there was still time. Procrastination would be calamitous.

10. Mr. FOURIE (Southern Africa) said that his delegation's attitude towards draft resolution A/C.4/L.748 was dictated by the fundamental principle of the Charter regarding non-interference in the affairs of other States. That principle would not be affected by the amendment or even deletion of any part of the text. Consequently, if any part of the text was put to the vote separately, his delegation would not participate in the vote. When the draft resolution as a whole was put to the vote, his delegation, in accordance with its attitude to Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter, would vote against it.

11. Mr. EOUAGNIGNON (Dahomey) said that his delegation wished to join the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.748.

12. Mr. ATTIDEPE (Togo) informed the Committee that the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.748 had accepted Mongolia as a sponsor.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.