

United Nations GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SIXTEENTH SESSION

Official Records



FOURTH COMMITTEE, 1206th
MEETING

Monday, 13 November 1961,
at 11 a.m.

NEW YORK

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Chairman: Miss Angie BROOKS (Liberia).

Tribute to the memory of Mr. Thomas Weeks

1. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee of the sudden death, on 11 November, of Mr. Thomas Weeks, the representative of Liberia. As a compatriot of his and a member of the same delegation, she could testify to his fine character, his zeal for work and his devotion to the causes which he believed to be right. The Committee had come to know him well during the last few weeks and had heard him, overcoming a natural shyness, speak with vigour and passion where he thought it appropriate. He had been flawlessly honest and sincere in his convictions. She had little doubt that both those who had shared his views and those who had opposed them would equally mourn his death.

2. She proposed, with the Committee's permission, to convey to the Government of Liberia, the delegation of Liberia and the family of Mr. Weeks the heartfelt condolences of the Committee as a whole, its officers and its secretariat. She asked the members of the Committee to observe a minute of silence as a tribute to the memory of their friend and colleague.

The members of the Committee observed a minute's silence in tribute to the memory of Mr. Weeks.

3. Mr. DIALLO (Mali), speaking also on behalf of Guinea and Ghana, proposed that, as a mark of respect for the memory of a young colleague who had earned the esteem of all members, the meeting should be adjourned.

4. Mr. MESTIRI (Tunisia), Mr. SAHNI (India), speaking also on behalf of Afghanistan, Indonesia and Iran, Mr. HU NIM (Cambodia), speaking also on behalf of Burma, Mr. TAYHARDAT (Venezuela), speaking on behalf of all the Latin-American countries, Mr. BRYKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking also on behalf of Albania, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czecho-

slovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Mr. RIFAI (Syria), speaking also on behalf of Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen, Mr. EREBIH (Mauritania), Mr. de PINIES (Spain), Miss TENZER (Belgium), speaking also on behalf of France, the Netherlands, Italy, Austria, Greece, Ireland and the Scandinavian countries, and Mr. DADET (Congo, Brazzaville), speaking also on behalf of Senegal, the Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Upper Volta, the Niger, Cameroun, Gabon, the Central African Republic, Chad and Madagascar, supported the motion and expressed their deep sorrow at Mr. Weeks' untimely death.

5. Mr. KIANG (China), Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America), Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand), speaking also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Ceylon and the United Kingdom, Mr. SIDI BABA (Morocco), speaking also on behalf of Nepal, Mr. BAHTA (Ethiopia), speaking also on behalf of the Federation of Malaya, Mr. CARPIO (Philippines), Mr. BOZOVIC (Yugoslavia), Mr. MAURICE-JONES (Sierra Leone), speaking also on behalf of Somalia, Mr. MAKKAWI (Lebanon), Mr. ATIDEPE (Togo), Mr. IBE (Nigeria), Mr. SAWETAMAL (Thailand), Mr. LEMA (Congo, Leopoldville), and Mr. EL-MASRI (Libya) associated themselves with the sincere condolences which had been expressed.

6. Mr. FRAGOSO (Portugal) said that, although he and Mr. Weeks had had to disagree on more than one occasion during recent meetings, their personal relations, both in the Committee and outside, had not been affected and that he had respected his colleague's youthful enthusiasm and competence. He asked the Chairman to convey to her Government and to the Liberian delegation the condolences of his delegation.

7. Mr. Nathaniel EASTMAN (Liberia) thanked the Committee members for their kind words and the tribute they had paid to the memory of Mr. Weeks.

8. The CHAIRMAN endorsed the thanks expressed by the representative of Liberia. She would convey the Committee's tributes to Mr. Weeks' family and to the Liberian Government.

The meeting rose at 11.50 a.m.