



Sixteenth session
Agenda item 88

THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION
ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

Letter dated 27 November 1961 from the Chairman of the Polish delegation to the sixteenth session of the General Assembly addressed to the President of the General Assembly

It was with great surprise that my delegation acquainted itself with the letter of the Permanent Representative of the United States and the attached statement of his delegation, distributed on 25 November 1961 as General Assembly document A/4985.

It is obvious to the Polish delegation that this material, containing unscrupulous attacks against the socialist States, my country among them, was prepared in the classical cold-war vein for the purpose of diverting the attention of the General Assembly from one of the most important questions facing the United Nations today - the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples.

It is ironic, indeed, that the United States delegation has found it possible to make this obstructive move, designed to undermine the very substance of the anti-colonial Declaration, after the United States representative, Mr. J.B. Bingham, speaking on 22 November from the rostrum of the General Assembly, associated his delegation, to use his own words, with "the principles of that historic Declaration".

The obvious truth is that the United States delegation made a last-minute effort to undermine the increasing role and prestige of the socialist countries which are recognized all over the world as the most consistent opponents of colonialism, in whatever form it still appears. Thus, the purpose of this move is to drive a wedge in the mighty front of anti-colonial struggle.

The document, distributed at the request of the United States delegation, contains malicious references also to my country. These truthless utterances are offensive to the Polish nation and are an insult to the sovereign State of Poland. The Polish delegation expresses its strongest reservations against this document.

It would be, indeed, below the dignity of the General Assembly as well as of my delegation to enter into polemics with such attacks. The Polish delegation considers that nothing should be done which would amount to complicity with the efforts of those who, having such a light regard for facts, are striving to undermine the historic decisions of the United Nations on the liquidation of colonialism.

I should be most grateful to you, Sir, for arranging this letter to be distributed without any delay as a United Nations document.

(Signed) Jozef Winiewicz
Chairman
of the Polish delegation to the
sixteenth session of the General
Assembly
