UNITED NATIONS

G E N E R A L A S S E M B L Y



Distr. GENERAL

A/4832/Add.1 5 September 1961 ENGLISH ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Sixteenth session

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: ITEM PROPOSED BY CUBA

THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY ARISING FROM NEW PLANS OF AGGRESSION AND ACTS OF INTERVENTION BEING EXECUTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGAINST THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF CUBA

Letter dated 28 August 1961 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you herewith the explanatory memorandum, referred to in our letter No. 198 of 8 August, in connexion with the request submitted by me on behalf of the Revolutionary Government of Cuba, and as its representative, for the inclusion of the following item in the agenda of the sixteenth regular session of the General Assembly of the United Nations:

"Threats to international peace and security arising from new plans of aggression and acts of intervention being executed by the Government of the United States of America against the Revolutionary Government of Cuba."

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

- 1. The acts of military aggression, prepared and executed with the financial and military support of the Government of the United States, which led to the unsuccessful expedition of Playa Girón, were the climax of a whole series of violations of human rights by the United States authorities.
- 2. The machine-gunning of our cities and the burning of our sugar-cane plantations by aircraft based in the State of Florida; the special hearings accorded by Government organs to notorious criminals and associates of the cruel dictator Batista and to deserters from our armed forces; the economic and military assistance given to counter-revolutionary groups of saboteurs; the bombardment of the island with large quantities of weapons intended for the counter-revolutionary groups; the acts of sabotage that have taken their toll of Cuban lives and property; the acts of economic aggression and boycott committed against our homeland; the greatest slander campaign ever carried out against any country; the recruiting and training in the territory of the United States and its Caribbean dependencies of counter-revolutionary elements by United States officers, with United States weapons, financed with United States funds, and with monthly payments which converted them into mercenaries in the service of a foreign power; and, lastly, the sending of those mercenary forces against the land of their birth, escorted by vessels and aircraft of the Government of the United States, have been repeatedly denounced in the United Nations by the Revolutionary Government of Cuba and these denunciations have been repeatedly rejected by the representatives of the Government of the United States.
- 3. What Cuba denounced was, however, borne out by the sad facts, and the military aggression launched by one of the world's great military Powers was thrown back, thanks to the heroic resistance of our countrymen in defence of their homeland and of its Revolutionary Government, with a tragic toll of human life and material damage. When various political sectors and government organs of the United States accused each other publicly for the failure of the punitive expedition organized against our homeland, it was the President of the United States himself, Mr. John F. Kennedy, who personally assumed full responsibility for the criminal aggression which violated every principle of international law. When

the course of events made more sensible people reflect that these acts of aggression were doomed to failure when confronted with the formidable and insurmountable bulwark of the Cuban working people, who have proclaimed and demonstrated to the world their will to fight to the death for their Revolution, it was with anxiety that our Government observed that the Government of the United States, far from forsaking its acts of aggression and intervention, was encouraging and promoting them.

- Even the newspapers in the United States have collected information on the training of armed bands in United States territory and on the allocation of sums of money from United States taxpayers for acts of aggression against a small country. At this very moment, these bands are ready to launch a further aggression from their bases on the island of Vieques, in Puerto Rico, Finca Helvetia, in Guatemala, and even from the United States military bases of Guantánamo and Panama. The same counter-revolutionary bands affirm, in statements which identify them and also reveal the power of our people, that it is impossible to overthrow the Revolutionary Government without direct intervention by the military forces of the United States. At the Guantánamo military base, an enclave on Cuban territory, acts of provocation are being carried out and prepared, like the plan of 28 July 1961 which was frustrated by the energetic intervention of our security authorities and the discovery of which prevented a conflagration whose consequences would have been incalculable. This demonstrates to the world once again that foreign military bases in the territory of small countries are not bases for the defence of the great powers but bases directed against the independence and selfdetermination of the countries in which they are situated.
- 5. These very incidents, as we have charged in this world organization, have been used by senior officials of the Government of the United States as pretexts for promoting warmongering hysteria against our homeland and have not been used for launching aggression because of the timely denunciations by our Government in this world organization.
- 6. In conformity with the United Nations Charter, the Revolutionary Government of Cuba has decided to submit for the consideration of the General Assembly the question of "Threats to international peace and security arising from new plans of aggression and acts of intervention being executed by the Government of the United States of America against the Revolutionary Government of Cuba".

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7. The Revolutionary Government of Cuba is confident that the General Assembly of the United Nations will examine with the greatest attention and objectivity the extremely serious situation which it denounces, that it will consequently adopt the measures it deems most appropriate to prevent the imperialist plans from coming to fruition, and that it will thereby once again prevent the tensions threatening to jeopardize international peace and security from becoming more acute. Lastly, it must be borne in mind that any military aggression, direct or indirect, by the Government of the United States against the Revolutionary Government and people of Cuba may set off a conflagration of unforeseeable proportions and with incalculable consequences for mankind.
