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

(covering its work during 1967)

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CHAPTER XI

SWAZILAND

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* This document contains chapter XI of the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly. Parts I and II were previously reproduced under the symbol A/AC.109/L.371/Rev.1. The general introductory chapter will be issued subsequently under the symbol A/6700 (Part I). Other chapters of the report are being reproduced as addenda.

I. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. Until Botswana and Lesotho attained independence towards the end of 1966, it was the practice of the Special Committee and the General Assembly to consider Swaziland together with the two other former High Commission Territories, then known respectively as Bechuanaland and Basutoland. Among the various reasons for so doing were the administrative links formerly existing between them and the fact that certain problems, including problems arising from their land-locked position in southern Africa, were common to all three. Chief among the problems with which the Special Committee and the General Assembly were concerned were their great need for external assistance in the development of their economies and social services, their economic dependence on South Africa and the threat to their territorial integrity and sovereignty resulting from this dependence and from the racial policies of South Africa. In regard to the third problem, the General Assembly, in resolutions adopted in 1962, 1963 and 1965^{1/} solemnly warned that any attempt by South Africa to annex or encroach upon the territorial integrity of the Territories would be considered as an act of aggression. In the same resolutions, the General Assembly also drew attention to the unsatisfactory economic and social situation in the Territories and requested that additional economic, financial and technical assistance commensurate with their needs should be furnished to them through United Nations programmes of technical co-operation and the specialized agencies. In 1965, following the receipt of a report of an economic mission to the Territories, the General Assembly, in resolution 2063 (XX) decided to establish a Fund for the Economic Development of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, to be made up of voluntary contributions. It also requested the Special Committee to consider what measures were necessary for securing the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the three Territories and, in addition, requested the administering Power to return to the indigenous inhabitants all land taken from them.

2. At its meetings in 1966, the Special Committee again considered the three Territories together, bearing in mind the forthcoming independence of Basutoland and Bechuanaland, which attained independence on 30 September and 4 October respectively. On 9 June 1966, the Special Committee adopted a resolution^{2/} by

^{1/} General Assembly resolutions 1817 (XVII) of 18 December 1962, 1954 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963 and 2063 (XX) of 16 December 1965.

^{2/} A/6300/Add.5, paragraph 237.