

declared the continued presence of South African authorities in South West Africa to be a flagrant violation of its territorial integrity, appealed to member states to take effective measures to ensure South African withdrawal from the territory, and requested the Security Council to take effective steps to enable the United Nations to fulfil the responsibility it had assumed with regard to South West Africa. The Assembly also condemned the arrest and trial of 37 South West Africans under the South African Terrorism Act, and appealed to the South African Government to release the prisoners.

The Fourth Committee opened its work with a thorough debate on Rhodesia, culminating in a resolution which reflected the view of many African and Asian delegates that present sanctions would not put an end to the illegal regime and that the only effective and speedy way to put down the rebellion would be by the use of force. There followed a long discussion on the Portuguese African territories, much along the lines of the 1966 debate, concluding with a resolution which condemned Portuguese colonial policies and called on all states not to help in their implementation.

The growing tendency to consider colonial problems in general terms was illustrated by the introduction of two new items: the activities of foreign economic interests and the role of Specialized Agencies. A resolution was adopted condemning foreign economic interests for hindering the achievement of independence by non-self-governing territories in order to exploit them for gain. Another resolution called on Specialized Agencies to assist peoples seeking self-determination, in particular the national liberation movements, and to withhold assistance from Portugal and South Africa. Though their titles were general in wording, both items were discussed with Africa mainly in mind.

Non-African territories were discussed in some haste in the closing weeks of the session. Gibraltar provoked a particularly bitter debate, in which two basic principles of decolonization were squarely opposed by the leading contenders; Britain upheld self-determination while Spain advocated the maintenance of territorial integrity. A majority supported the Spanish position and voted for a resolution denouncing the referendum held in Gibraltar by Britain on September 1, 1967. In a more positive vein, the Committee recognized the independence of Aden (now the People's Republic of South Yemen), though disagreement between Britain and several Arab states over the future status of some off-shore islands marred this event. There was, however, complete harmony in welcoming the Australian announcement that the trust territory of Nauru would become independent early in 1968.

The Canadian delegation's approach resulted from its conviction that all peoples should be governed in accordance with their wishes and its desire to see the United Nations help colonial peoples achieve self-determination. The delegation felt, however, that it could not support resolutions which proposed impractical measures or contained unjustified charges against the administering powers. For these reasons the delegation abstained on the resolutions con-