

The United Nations representative in the Congo, in a recent report, went further than this and indicated two sources of legal power in the country. In addition to President Kasavubu, he recognized the legality of the Congolese Parliament. This too, in the Canadian view, must be accepted - and the resolution before us, in Document A/L.331, does recognize this to the extent of urging the immediate convening of parliament. However, there are, in addition, a number of other political forces in the Congo. In fact, Colonel Mobutu obviously wields certain powers. In fact, Mr. Gizenga commands a political following. So indeed do Mr. Tshombe and Mr. Kalondji. There may be others.

My Government believes that it would be a waste of the Assembly's time (and potentially dangerous) to attempt to put forward a solution which did not take due account of the hard facts of the prevailing political situation in the Congo. A policy which is not based on a recognition of these facts is simply not likely to be viable. Whatever resolution the Assembly decides to adopt must take account of the need for either a clearer definition of the United Nations mandate, or recognition of the limits imposed by the mandate as now defined; it must also take account of the facts of the present internal situation. From this point of view my Delegation finds the draft resolution contained in Document A/L.331 disappointingly vague. The Secretary-General is not even mentioned, nor is there any specific reference to those authorities and political forces in the Congo who, in fact, will have responsibility for implementing the measures which the resolution urges.

For these reasons, and because the resolution is capable of interpretation in a sense implying interference in Congolese affairs in a way which is clearly contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and which would have very grave implications for the future of the organization and for international peace and security, my Delegation is compelled to vote against it.