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## COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Thirty-ninth session  
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### QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE

#### Report of the Secretary-General

1. At its thirty-eighth session the Commission on Human Rights adopted on 11 February 1982 resolutions 1982/1 A and B. By paragraph 13 of resolution 1982/1 A the Commission requested the Secretary-General to bring that resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations organs, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and the international humanitarian organizations and to give it the widest possible publicity, and to report to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session. By paragraph 6 of resolution 1982/1 B the Commission requested the Secretary-General to bring that resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations organs, the specialized agencies, the regional intergovernmental organizations, the international humanitarian organizations and non-governmental organizations.
2. In accordance with the request of the Commission the Secretary-General brought resolutions 1982/1 A and B to the attention of all Governments, by note verbale dated 14 June 1982. The resolutions were also brought to the attention of the members of the General Assembly and the Security Council in document A/37/322-S/15269. They were communicated to the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories and to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People by letters dated 14 June 1982.
3. Furthermore, the resolutions were transmitted to all the specialized agencies and to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. The Council of Europe, the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of American States, and the League of Arab States were also sent copies of the resolutions.
4. In response to the request of the Commission on Human Rights the Department of Public Information took steps to ensure that resolution 1982/1 A would receive the widest possible publicity.
5. Resolution 1982/1 of the Human Rights Commission was given full coverage in press releases, both in English and French, and the text was made available to the information media. Subsequent discussions on the subject in ECOSOC and the General Assembly were also fully covered in press releases. In all 19 releases were issued on the subject.

6. The UN Chronicle in several issues reported extensively on the Palestinian problem and covered in-depth the question of the violation of Human Rights in the Occupied Arab Territories, including Palestine.

7. The 1982 booklet UN Today (suggestions for speakers) devoted a special chapter on the question of Palestine which gave coverage to the topic included in the resolution.

8. Coverage was provided on films, TV still photographs and radio newscasts and programmes of General Assembly and Security Council meetings related to the subject. The Committee on Palestinian Rights, the Commission on Human Rights, ECOSOC and the day of solidarity with the Palestinian People were also covered. The subject was also featured in the radio programmes Perspective, Perspectiva Internacional, Puntos Cardinales, Afakan Alamiya and UN calling Asia. Moreover, a special 30-minute radio programme in Arabic was produced for the observance of the day of solidarity with the Palestinian People.

9. A special photographic exhibition on the massacres in Lebanon was mounted at United Nations Headquarters for display to the public in addition to the semi-permanent exhibit on Palestine.

10. A special poster on Palestine was produced in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

11. Special screenings of films on Palestine were organized with regard to the day of solidarity.

12. All Information Centres and Services were instructed to arrange full publicity of the question of Palestine. Their attention was drawn, in particular, to the need for maximum publicity by observing International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People - 29 November; Human Rights Day - 10 December.

13. By special memoranda the attention of United Nations Information Centres was also drawn to the work of the Commission on Human Rights on the question concerning the violation of Human Rights in the Occupied Arab Territories, including Palestine, as well as to the relative resolution adopted by the Commission.

14. Press releases, as well as documents related to this subject and containing the text of the resolution, were pouched to all United Nations Information Centres for further redistribution to the press, governmental and non-governmental organizations, educational institutions. Relevant publications in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Chinese were distributed to United Nations Information Centres.

15. Sixteen hundred sixty-five information cables were sent to United Nations Information Centres concerning the consideration and decisions taken by the General Assembly or by the Security Council on questions related to the Israeli practices affecting the human rights in the occupied territories, including Palestine.

16. Special briefings on different aspects of human rights were held at Headquarters for 80 participants from 53 countries during the 1982 four-week DPI graduate student intern programme. Participants also were provided with the relevant information and publications including the resolution "Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine".

17. Two non-governmental organizations briefings were held which touched on the question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine.

On 7 October 1982, a briefing was held on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), by John A. Miles, Director, UNRWA. A film, "Born Homeless" was shown prior to the briefing which depicted a record of UNRWA's 30 years of caring for the basic needs of Palestinian refugees.

On 16 December 1982, a briefing on the international conference on the question of Palestine, was given by Don Betz, Liaison Officer, International Conference on the question of Palestine, who also mentioned the occupied territories. A film, "The Palestinian People do have rights" was shown at this time.

18. In addition, human rights materials regarding this issue were prominently displayed in the non-governmental organizations lounge.

19. Special attention was devoted to requests for information on the United Nations activities pertaining to the report of the Special Committee to investigate Israeli Practices affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories. Over 700 inquiries were received on this subject during the year.

20. The report of the Special Committee, the General Assembly resolution and relevant DPI press releases were provided to the public. The annual report of the Human Rights Division was also suggested as an additional research source.

21. In addition, materials and posters in observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (29 November) were displayed and it was a great success with the public.