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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Thirty-sixth session
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED
ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE

Report of the Secretary-General

1. At its thirty-fifth session the Commission on Human Rights adopted on 21 February 1979 resolutions 1 A and B (XXXV). By paragraph 13 of resolution 1 A (XXXV) 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-sixth session. By paragraph 6 of resolution 1 B (XXXV) 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 1 A and B (XXXV) to the attention of all Governments, by note verbale dated 18 June 1979. The resolutions were also brought to the attention of the members of the General Assembly and the Security Council in document A/34/338 - S/13419. 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 11 June 1979.
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 1 A (XXXV) would receive the widest possible publicity.

5. The attention of the Information Centre Directors was drawn to the resolution. The Information Centres' Services through the sixty Information Centres which serve 140 Member States, distributed information materials on this subject to Governments, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, the information media and the general public.
6. All relevant documentation on the question of the violation of human rights in the occupied territories, including Palestine was made available to representatives of the non-governmental organizations at Headquarters.
7. The Public Inquiries Unit continued to respond to inquiries and requests for information on this subject from educational institutions and the general public.
8. The resolution adopted by the Commission on Human Rights was given full coverage in press releases and the text was made available to the information media.
9. The April issue of the UN Chronicle, carried the resolution and the Commission's decision 2 (XXXV) to send a telegram to Israel on the matter.
10. The radio news magazine The Week at The United Nations and its equivalent in other languages covered the subject extensively. Special emphasis was placed on this subject for broadcast in the Middle East and North Africa.