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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Report of the Special Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Parviz MOHAJER (Iran)

1. On 11 September 1971, in accordance with the request made by the General Assembly in paragraph 21 of resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and paragraph 8 of resolution 1315 (XIII) of 12 December 1958, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East submitted to the General Assembly his report for the year ending 30 June 1971.^{1/}
2. Previously, on 27 August 1971, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 2672 D (XXV) of 8 December 1970, the Secretary-General had submitted to the General Assembly a report on the question of the displaced persons who had fled the Israel-occupied areas since the outbreak of hostilities of June 1967 (A/8366).
3. By a note dated 17 September 1971, the Secretary-General transmitted to the members of the General Assembly a special report of the Commissioner-General on the "effect on the Palestine refugees of operations carried out in July and August 1971 by the Israeli military authorities in the Gaza Strip" (A/8383). On 23 November, the Secretary-General transmitted an addendum (A/8383/Add.1) to the special report.
4. By a letter dated 28 September (A/8432) the representative of Israel transmitted the text of a statement issued on 18 September 1971 by the Permanent Mission of Israel regarding recent developments in the Gaza area.

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/8413).

5. On 20 October, in compliance with General Assembly resolutions 2656 (XXV) and 2728 (XXV) of 7 and 15 December 1970, the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East submitted its report (A/8476) to the President of the General Assembly.

6. At its 1939th plenary meeting, on 25 September, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to allocate to the Special Political Committee the following item:

"United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East:

(a) report of the Commissioner-General;

(b) report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

(c) report of the Secretary-General;

(d) report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter XVIII, section D)".

7. The Committee considered this item at its 781st to 793rd^{2/} meetings, from 17 November to 2 December. At the 781st meeting, the Commissioner-General made a statement and submitted his report. At the same meeting, the Rapporteur of the Working Group also made a statement and submitted the report of the Group (A/8476). At the same meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs made a statement in the course of which he read the text of a joint appeal made by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General (A/8526) to the States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies, as well as to non-governmental organizations and private individuals, to join in a collective humanitarian effort to ensure the continuity of UNRWA's operations.

8. In a letter dated 22 October (A/SPC/147) addressed to the Chairman of the Special Political Committee, the representatives of Afghanistan, Indonesia, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia requested that the Palestine Arab delegation be heard by the Committee during its consideration of the report of the Commissioner-General

^{2/} At the 793rd meeting, on 2 December, the Chairman stated that the Special Political Committee had concluded its consideration of the item, except that the Commissioner-General of UNRWA would make a statement at a subsequent meeting in connexion with the financing of the Agency.

of UNRWA. In a letter dated 23 November (A/SPC/148), the representatives of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bahrain, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, the Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yemen and Yugoslavia requested that the delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization, representing the Arab people of Palestine, the principal party to the Palestine question, be heard by the Committee during its consideration of item 38.

9. With regard to the requests, the Committee decided, at its 782nd and 786th meetings on 18 and 24 November, to authorize, in accordance with the practice established at the six previous sessions, the persons constituting the said delegations to address the Committee, without such authorization implying recognition of the organization or delegation in question. Pursuant to this decision, the Committee heard statements on behalf of those delegations at its 786th and 789th meetings respectively.

10. At the 784th meeting, on 22 November, the representative of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization made a statement on that organization's efforts to safeguard the programme of education for the Palestine refugees.

11. At the 782nd meeting, on 18 November, the representative of the United States of America submitted a draft resolution (A/SPC/L.225), whereby the General Assembly would: (1) note with deep regret that repatriation or compensation of the refugees as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III) had not been effected, that no substantial progress had been made in the programme endorsed in paragraph 2 of Assembly resolution 513 (VI) for the reintegration of refugees either by repatriation or resettlement and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continued to be a matter of serious concern; (2) express its thanks to the Commissioner-General and the staff of UNRWA for their continued faithful efforts to provide essential services for the Palestine refugees, and to the specialized agencies and private organizations for their valuable work in assisting the refugees; (3) direct the Commissioner-General of UNRWA to continue

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his efforts in taking such measures, including rectification of the relief rolls, as to assure, in co-operation with the Governments concerned, the most equitable distribution of relief based on need; (4) note with regret that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine had been unable to find a means to achieve progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and request the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation thereof; (5) direct attention to the continuing critical financial position of UNRWA, as outlined in the Commissioner-General's report; (6) note with concern that, despite the commendable and successful efforts of the Commissioner-General to collect additional contributions to help relieve the serious budgetary deficit of the past year, contributions to UNRWA continued to fall short of the funds needed to cover essential budget requirements; (7) call upon all Governments as a matter of urgency to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of UNRWA, particularly in the light of the budgetary deficit projected in the Commissioner-General's report and therefore urge non-contributing Governments to contribute and contributing Governments to consider increasing their contributions; (8) decide to extend until 30 June 1975, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), the mandate of the Agency.

11. On 22 November, Denmark submitted an amendment (A/SPC/L.227) to the United States draft resolution (A/SPC/L.225) under which the General Assembly would express its appreciation to Mr. Lawrence Michelmore, former Commissioner-General of UNRWA, for his dedicated service to the welfare of the refugees. This amendment was subsequently incorporated in a revised text of the United States draft resolution as paragraph 2 (A/SPC/L.225/Rev.1).

12. At the 784th meeting, on 22 November, the representative of Sweden submitted a draft resolution on behalf of Afghanistan, Austria, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Ghana, Greece, India, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden, Turkey and Yugoslavia (A/SPC/L.226). Subsequently, Belgium and Japan became co-sponsors. The text of this draft resolution appears in paragraph 22 (draft resolution II B).

13. At the 785th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Belgium submitted a draft resolution on behalf of Belgium, Denmark and Sweden (A/SPC/L.228),

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entitled "Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East". Under the operative paragraphs of the draft resolutions, the General Assembly would: (1) approve the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (A.8476); (2) endorse the conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group contained in part V of its report; (3) request the Working Group to continue its work in accordance with the provisions of its previous mandate and to pursue urgently with Governments, both bilaterally and on a regional basis, with specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, and with other organizations and individuals concerned, the implementation of the recommendations endorsed by the present resolution, as well as the implementation of other relevant resolutions; (4) endorse resolution 1565 (L) of 3 May 1971 of the Economic and Social Council and, in particular, urge serious consideration and early implementation of its operative paragraph 5; (5) renew its urgent appeal to Governments to join in the collective effort to solve the financial crisis of the Agency; (6) request the Working Group, after consultation with all concerned, to prepare and present a comprehensive report on all aspects of the financing of the Agency to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session; (7) request the Secretary-General to provide necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

14. At the 787th meeting, on 26 November, the representative of Belgium introduced a revised draft resolution on behalf of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Iran and Sweden (A/SPC/L.228/Rev.1). Subsequently Greece became a co-sponsor. A statement was submitted by the Secretary-General on the financial implications of this draft resolution (A/SPC/L.229).

15. At the 791st meeting, on 1 December, the United States of America proposed an amendment (A/SPC/L.233) to the six-Power draft resolution (A/SPC/L.228/Rev.1). Under the amendment, the words "relevant to the mandate of the Working Group" would be inserted in paragraph 5 after the words "... sessions of the General Assembly". At the same meeting, the Committee adopted, without objection, the six-Power draft resolution, as amended (see paragraph 22, draft resolution I).

16. At the 790th meeting, on 29 November, the Committee received a revised text of the United States draft resolution (A/SPC/L.225/Rev.1 and Corr.1). The text appears in paragraph 22 (draft resolution II A).

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17. At the same meeting, the Committee received three additional draft resolutions: one sponsored by Afghanistan, Indonesia, Pakistan and Somalia (A/SPC/L.230), and two sponsored by Afghanistan, Indonesia, Pakistan, Somalia and Yugoslavia (A/SPC/L.231 and A/SPC/L.232). Malaysia, Mali and Senegal became later co-sponsors of all three draft resolutions, while Guinea joined as co-sponsor of draft resolution A/SPC/L.231. Under the operative part of the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/L.230, the General Assembly would: (1) declare that the destruction of refugee shelters and the forcible removal of their occupants to other places, including places outside the Gaza Strip, constitute grave breaches of articles 49 and 53 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949, as well as a violation of paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2674 (XXV) of 9 December 1970, entitled "Basic principles for the protection of civilian populations in armed conflicts"; (2) deplore these actions by Israel; (3) call upon Israel to desist from further destruction of refugee shelters and from further removal of refugees from their present places of residence; (4) call upon Israel to take immediate and effective steps for the return of the refugees concerned to the camps from which they were removed and to rebuild their shelters which Israel has demolished; (5) request the Commissioner-General to report as soon as possible, and whenever appropriate thereafter, but in any case no later than the opening date of the twenty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly, on Israel's compliance with the provisions of operative paragraph 3 and the implementation of the provisions of operative paragraph 4 of the present resolution.
18. The text of the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/L.231 appears in paragraph 22 below (draft resolution II D).
19. The draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/L.232 read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

"Recalling also its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2452 A (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, document A/8366 of 27 August 1971, 2535 B (XXIV) of 10 December 1969, and 2672 D (XXV) of 8 December 1970, calling upon the Government of Israel to take effective and immediate steps for the return without delay of those inhabitants who had fled the areas since the outbreak of hostilities,

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"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 2672 D (XXV) of 8 December 1970,

"Gravely concerned about the plight of the displaced persons,

"Convinced that the plight of the displaced persons could be relieved by their speedy return to their homes and to the camps which they formerly occupied,

"Emphasizing the imperative of giving effect to its resolutions for relieving the plight of the displaced persons,

"1. Considers that the plight of the displaced persons continues since they have not yet returned to their homes and camps;

"2. Deplores Israel's refusal to permit the return of those inhabitants in accordance with the above-mentioned resolutions;

"3. Calls once more upon the Government of Israel to take immediately and without any further delay effective steps for the return of the displaced persons;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly."

20. At the 792nd meeting, on 1 December, the representative of Somalia introduced the three draft resolutions mentioned in paragraph 17 above, and revised orally paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 of draft resolution A/SPC/L.230 as well as the second, fourth and sixth preambular paragraphs and paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of draft resolution A/SPC/L.232.

21. At the same meeting the Committee voted on the five draft resolutions still before it, as follows:

(a) The United States draft resolution (A/SPC/L.225/Rev.1 and Corr.1) was adopted without objection (see paragraph 22, draft resolution II A);

(b) The nineteen-Power draft resolution (A/SPC/L.226) was adopted without objection (see paragraph 22, draft resolution II B);

(c) The seven-Power draft resolution (A/SPC/L.230/Rev.1), as revised by Somalia, was adopted by a roll-call vote of 66 to 4, with 32 abstentions (see paragraph 22, draft resolution II C). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Ceylon, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark,

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Egypt, Finland, France, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Israel.

Abstaining: Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Swaziland, Uganda, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela.

(d) The eight-Power draft resolution (A/SPC/L.231) was adopted by a roll-call vote of 46 to 20, with 36 abstentions (see paragraph 22, draft resolution II D).

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Ceylon, Chile, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Israel, Italy, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, United States of America, Uruguay.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Brazil, Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Guyana, Iceland, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Singapore, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Upper Volta, Venezuela.

(e) The seven-Power draft resolution (A/SPC/L.232/Rev.1), as revised by Somalia, was adopted by a roll-call vote of 75 to 2, with 25 abstentions (see paragraph 22, draft resolution II E). The result of the voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: Israel, Malawi.

Abstaining: Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chad, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal, Swaziland, Uganda, Uruguay.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

22. The Special Political Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2656 (XXV) of 7 December 1970 and 2728 (XXV) of 15 December 1970,

Having considered the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,^{2/}

^{2/} A/8476.

Taking into account the annual report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1970 to 30 June 1971,^{3/}

Taking note of the joint appeal of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations,^{4/}

Recognizing with grave concern that the financial situation of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East continues to be acute, thereby imminently endangering the already minimum services being provided to Palestine refugees,

Emphasizing the urgent need for extraordinary efforts and exceptional measures in order to maintain the activities at least at their present level, of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

1. Commends the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its work and approves its report, drawing special attention to the conclusions and recommendations contained in part V of the report;

2. Requests the Working Group to continue its work for one year in accordance with the provisions of its previous mandate and, as appropriate, to pursue urgently with Governments, both bilaterally and on a regional basis, with specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, and with other organizations and individuals concerned the implementation of the recommendations approved by the General Assembly in the present resolution, as well as the implementation of other resolutions relating to the mandate of the Working Group;

3. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1565 (L) of 3 May 1971, and in particular urges serious consideration and early implementation of paragraph 5 of that resolution;

4. Supports the joint appeal made by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to Governments to join in the collective effort to solve the financial crisis of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

^{3/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/8413).

^{4/} A/8526.

5. Requests the Working Group, after consultation with all concerned, in particular the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and taking into account the views expressed in the course of the debate during the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth sessions of the General Assembly, to prepare and present a comprehensive report on all aspects of the financing of the Agency to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to provide necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees
in the Near East

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2672 A of 8 December 1970 and all previous resolutions mentioned therein, including resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948,

Noting the annual report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1970 to 30 June 1971,^{5/}

Noting further the joint appeal by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations of 17 November 1971,^{6/}

1. Notes with deep regret that repatriation or compensation of the refugees as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III) has not been effected, that no substantial progress has been made in the programme endorsed in paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 513 (VI) for the reintegration of refugees either by repatriation or resettlement and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of serious concern;

2. Expresses its sincere appreciation to Mr. Laurence Michelmore, on the occasion of his resignation as Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief

^{5/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/8413).

^{6/} A/8526.

and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, for his efficient administration of the Agency during the past seven years and for his dedicated service to the welfare of the refugees;

3. Expresses its thanks to the Commissioner-General and to the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for their continued faithful efforts to provide essential services for the Palestine refugees, and to the specialized agencies and private organizations for their valuable work in assisting the refugees;

4. Notes with regret that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine was unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation thereof and to report thereon as appropriate, but not later than 1 October 1972;

5. Directs attention to the continuing critical financial position of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as outlined in the Commissioner-General's report;

6. Notes with concern that, despite the commendable and successful efforts of the Commissioner-General to collect additional contributions to help relieve the serious budget deficit of the past year, contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East continue to fall short of the funds needed to cover essential budget requirements;

7. Calls upon all Governments as a matter of urgency to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, particularly in the light of the budgetary deficit projected in the Commissioner-General's report, and therefore urges non-contributing Governments to contribute and contributing Governments to consider increasing their contributions;

8. Decides to extend until 30 June 1975, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2452 C (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, 2535 C (XXIV) of 10 December 1969 and 2672 B (XXV) of 8 December 1970,

Taking note of the annual report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1970 to 30 June 1971,^{7/}

Taking note also of the joint appeal by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General,^{8/}

Concerned about the continued human suffering resulting from the June 1967 hostilities in the Middle East;

1. Reaffirms its resolutions 2252 (ES-V), 2341 B (XXII), 2452 C (XXIII), 2535 C (XXIV) and 2672 B (XXV);
2. Endorses, bearing in mind the objectives of those resolutions, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to other persons in the area who are at present displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 hostilities;
3. Strongly appeals to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously for the above purposes to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned.

C

The General Assembly,

Having considered the special report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East on the effect on Palestine Refugees of recent operations carried out by the Israeli military authorities in the Gaza Strip, and the supplement thereto,^{9/}

^{7/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/8413).

^{8/} A/8526.

^{9/} A/8383 and Add.1.

Noting that both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East have expressed great concern about "the effect on Palestine refugees of these operations, in which shelters in refugee camps were demolished and about 15,000 persons displaced, some of them to places outside the Gaza Strip",

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 10 (XXVI) of 23 March 1970, in which the Commission deplored "all policies and actions aiming at the deportation of the Palestinian refugees from the occupied Gaza Strip" and called upon Israel "to desist forthwith from deporting the Palestinian civilians from the Gaza Strip",

1. Declares that the destruction of refugee shelters and the forcible removal of their occupants to other places, including places outside the Gaza Strip, contravene articles 49 and 53 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949^{10/} as well as paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2675 (XXV) of 9 December 1970 entitled "Basic principles for the protection of civilian populations in armed conflicts";

2. Deplores these actions by Israel;

3. Calls upon Israel to desist from further destruction of refugee shelters and from further removal of refugees from their present places of residence;

4. Calls upon Israel to take immediate and effective steps for the return of the refugees concerned to the camps from which they were removed and to provide adequate shelters for their accommodation;

5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, after consulting with the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, to report as soon as possible and whenever appropriate thereafter, but in any case no later than the opening date of the twenty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly, on Israel's compliance with the provisions of paragraph 3 and the implementation of the provisions of paragraph 4 of the present resolution.

^{10/} United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75 (1950), No. 973.

D

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the problem of the Palestinian Arab Refugees has arisen from the denial of their inalienable rights under the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recalling its resolutions 2535 B (XXIV) of 10 December 1969, in which it reaffirmed the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine, 2672 C (XXV) of 8 December 1971, in which it recognized that the people of Palestine are entitled to equal rights and self-determination, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and 2649 (XXV) of 30 November 1970, in which it recognized that the people of Palestine are entitled to the right of self-determination,

Bearing in mind the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter of the United Nations and more recently reaffirmed in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security,

1. Recognizes that the people of Palestine are entitled to equal rights and self-determination, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

2. Expresses its grave concern that the people of Palestine have not been permitted to enjoy their inalienable rights and to exercise their right to self-determination;

3. Declares that full respect for the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine is an indispensable element in the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

E

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Recalling also its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2452 A (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, 2535 B (XXIV) of 10 December 1969 and 2672 D (XXV) of 8 December 1970, calling upon the Government of Israel to take effective and immediate steps for the return without delay of those inhabitants who had fled the areas since the outbreak of hostilities,

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Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 27 August 1971, concerning the implementation of resolution 2672 D (XXV), 11/

Gravely concerned about the plight of the displaced inhabitants,

Convinced that the plight of the displaced persons could be relieved by their speedy return to their homes and to the camps which they formerly occupied,

Emphasizing the imperative of giving effect to its resolutions for relieving the plight of the displaced inhabitants,

1. Considers that the plight of the displaced inhabitants continues since they have not yet returned to their homes and camps;

2. Expresses grave concern that the displaced inhabitants have not been able to return in accordance with the above-mentioned resolutions;

3. Calls once more upon the Government of Israel to take immediately and without any further delay effective steps for the return of the displaced inhabitants;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly.