



## General Assembly

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/36/518  
18 September 1981  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH

Thirty-sixth session  
Item 118 of the provisional agenda\*

### PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES

Letter dated 16 September 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of  
the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to  
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a note issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iraq regarding the armament collaboration between the Iranian régime and the Zionist entity. I would appreciate it if the enclosed note would be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 118 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Saib A. BAFI  
Chargé d'Affaires

---

\* A/36/150.

ANNEX

Arms co-operation between the ruling régime in Iran and  
the Zionist entity

On Saturday, 18 June, an Argentine commercial transport aircraft crashed in Soviet territory near Yerevan in Armenia, on the third of twelve flights scheduled from Tel Aviv to Teheran for the transportation from the Zionist entity to Iran of consignments of arms, ammunition, spare parts and other items manufactured in the United States.

On Thursday, 20 August 1981, the American television network ABC broadcast a programme entitled "Nightline" in which the guest was former Iranian President Abul Hassan Bani Sadr. Bani Sadr stressed that the Israelis had been selling arms and military equipment to Iran for a long time. He said that he personally had opposed dealing with Israel and that he had maintained in Cabinet meetings that the Iranians should make peace with Iraq and not become involved in such a trade. The former Iranian President said that his efforts in this area were also frustrated in view of the ruling religious leaders' fear that the army may turn against them and overthrow them if peace were made with Iraq. Abul Hassan Bani Sadr said: "The strange thing was the purchase of arms from Israel, which shows that the mullah's lust for power was very powerful. When I was President, the issue was one of indirect purchase, and I opposed it. I said that if we had to purchase arms from the Israelis why do we not make peace with the Iraqis. This is preferable by far."

On Friday, August 28, 1981, an official spokesman of the Cypriot Government in Nicosia stated that "the Argentinian aircraft, type CL 44 flight 224 YR, had used Larnaca International Airport to refuel, on 17 July 1981. In reply to a question asked to clarify the issue of the Argentinian aircraft, the official Cypriot spokesman said the following:

1. On 11 July 1981, the above-mentioned plane landed in Larnaca, coming from Tel Aviv, and left for Teheran the same day carrying 50 cases weighing 6,750 kgs. It was under the command of Captain McFarrity.
2. On 12 July 1981, the same aircraft landed at Larnaca airport, coming from Teheran, and took off the same day to Tel Aviv. It was under the command of Captain Cordero.
3. On 13 July 1981, the aircraft landed once again in Larnaca coming from Tel Aviv, and took off early the next morning to Teheran. It returned to Larnaca at noon, on 14 July 1981, and took off for Tel Aviv. It was under the command of Captain Cordero.

The arms co-operation between Iran and the Zionist entity was not such a secret as needed disclosure or affirmation from former Iranian President Abul Hassan Bani Sadr. Yet the importance of what Bani Sadr brought to light was admission by an Iranian official whose information, by virtue of his former position of power in Iran, cannot be subject to error or deficiency. It is thus irrefutable evidence, and indubitable proof, unless any person claims to be more knowledgeable on Iranian matters than the Iranians themselves, or the former President of Iran and the Commander-in-Chief of its armed forces.

The well-known incident of the Argentinian aircraft, and the statement of the official Cypriot spokesman on its three flights between Tel Aviv and Teheran, then the admission of former Iranian President Bani Sadr who affirmed the existence of an arms deal between Iran and the Zionist entity were not the first or last pieces of evidence revealing the magnitude of the arms co-operation between these two parties. Since the first month of the war started by Iran against Iraq, information flowed in on the occurrence of clandestine direct and indirect contacts between Iranian and Israeli officials for the conclusion of arms deals between the Zionist entity and Iran, and that Tel Aviv had actually supplied Teheran with its needs of certain types of armament, equipment and spare parts.

The news that leaked to the press and the other media in various nations of the world left no room for doubt on the existence of arms co-operation between Iran and the Zionist entity. On 21 October 1980, "Afrique-Asie" the periodical published in Paris, affirmed in a report from its correspondent in Teheran that Israeli military and civilian experts arrived in Iran three days after the start of war to assist the Iranian staff command, some of whose leaders entertained amicable relations with the Israeli intelligence, MOSSAD.

On 2 November 1980, the London weekly Observer stated that Israel had sent several shipments of military equipment to Iran, and that shipments of spare parts had been delivered by ships flying the flags of other nations during their passage to the three Iranian ports (Bandar Abbas, Shah Behar and Bushahr).

On 3 November 1980, the West German Die Welt stated that Israel had supplied Iran with spare parts for United States weapons, and in particular for F-4 fighters. This military equipment was sent by sea on ships flying the flags of other nations and sailing on other than the usual routes prior to their arrival to Iran from Israel.

The periodicals "Al Watan Al Arabi" published in Paris, of 5 November 1980, the French "V.C.D." of 11 November 1980 and "Jeune Afrique" of 14 November 1980 referred to the military co-operation between Iran and Israel. "Al Watan Al Arabi" stated that an Israeli ship carrying arms and spare parts had docked at the Belgian port of Antwerp before sailing for other European ports to unload its cargo, which was then shipped to Iran. "V.C.D." affirmed that Israel had supplied Iran with arms and spare parts for several months, in a clandestine manner. This had been preceded by contacts between Israeli delegates and Iranian officials.

"Jeune Afrique" mentioned that trade negotiations between the Israelis and Iranians on the supply of Iran with arms, military equipment and spare parts had taken place in Holland.

On 31 March 1981, the Kuwaiti daily "Al Siyassa" stated, on the basis of reports from informed sources in Paris, that Israel had returned to Iran six engines for F-15 aircraft, which had previously been sent to Tel Aviv for repair and maintenance work. It added that the process had been completed through a European nation which had close relations with Israel.

On 15 July 1981, the American television network ABC reported that Israel had for a long time, been supplying Iran with equipment and weapons to be used in its war against Iran and that a deal had been concluded in this connexion during the first week of July through European brokers, for the value of \$10 million. Most of the deal consisted of 106 mm guns and their ammunition. An air bridge was established between Israel and Iran of the Bristol Britannia type.

On 21 July 1981, the Israeli daily "Maariv" stated that Teheran had resorted to a number of arms dealers and European brokers to obtain arms, military equipment and spare parts from Israel. It also said that Iran had requested the purchase of these arms from Israel prior to the release of the United States hostages.

On 24 July 1981, the two Argentinian dailies, Cronica and La Prensa affirmed that the Argentinian aircraft which had crashed over Soviet territory was carrying arms and military equipment from Israel to Iran.

In London, the Sunday Times revealed in its issue of 26 July 1981 details of the Argentinian aircraft accident, affirming that the person appointed to deliver the arms from Tel Aviv to Teheran was the British arms dealer Stuart Allen McFarrity. The paper also stated that three shipments had been delivered to Iran on 12, 14 and 17 July 1981, before the plane crashed on 18 July.

The paper reported that Israeli officials insisted that all arms, equipment and spare parts should have proper official documentation showing details of the goods involved, but not determining its final destination.

At the same time, the Iranians insisted on using the Larnaca base in Cyprus as a preliminary station. They stated that this method was used before and proved to be safe.

The newspaper quoted Jily as saying: "He was sure that elements of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Larnaca were the ones who exposed the operation and informed the Soviets about it. The Soviets were waiting for the plane at the frontier."

On 27 July 1981, the Le Figaro French newspaper published a report on the Argentine plane incident and the military co-operation between Iran and the Zionist entity. It said: "The representative of Khomeini a while ago established a very secret contact in London with representatives of an Israeli company which works in secret for the benefit of the Government of Israel." On 27 July 1981, Der Spiegel magazine of West Germany also stated: "The Islamic Republic of Iran found in Israel a new source of arms. For some time, arms purchasers have been trying to find a source to supply arms to Ayatollah Khomeini. Now Khomeini received, not because of his efforts, but with the consent of Israel, supplies of arms and spare parts through intermediaries in Europe."

On 29 July 1981, the Swiss "Tribune of Lausanne" stated under the title "Israeli weapons to Iran": "The carrier of the weapons is a Swiss businessman from the Canton of Zurich, who declared that he was organizing the transportation of a large quantity of military equipment by plane from Israel to Iran. He did not do anything illegal. This is what is mentioned in Berne where the information revealed on this subject did not affect the federal Swiss authorities. This, however, does not belittle the fact that the name of Switzerland is once more linked to the "damaging arms trade activities which Swiss law seeks to prevent".

With effect from Thursday, 20 August 1981, and for three days, the American television network ABC focused on the close link between the Zionist entity and Iran in the field of arms. This network announced the results of the investigations which it conducted in a number of world capitals a few months before. These investigations affirmed that the arms deals between the Zionist entity and Iran used to take place through a third party, after which they developed to become direct deals. The ABC television network gathered all relevant documents, names of persons and charter planes for transport of the deals, copies of the money orders received by the Government of Israel through its mission in Zurich, Switzerland.

The details revealed by ABC do not cover all the military deals between the Zionist entity and Iran. It, however, gives evidence, supported by documents, regarding co-operation between the two sides. In addition, there is the confession made by the former Iranian President Abul Al-Hassan Bani Sadr who is mentioned in the beginning of the note.

The documents published by ABC show that in July 1980 two French businessmen arrived in Teheran, at the invitation of the Iranian Government. After the outbreak of war with Iraq, the Iranian Ministry of War invited the two Frenchmen to meet the Commanders of the Army, Air Force and Navy who prepared lists of their military needs, including an urgent request for tyres for F-4 planes of which Iran has a large number. The two Frenchmen promptly submitted this request through the Israeli Embassy in Paris. In October 1980 a plane arrived from Tel Aviv at Niems in the south-west of France on board of which there were 250 rubber tyres for the wheels of the F-4 planes. Other consignments also arrived in that city, including a motor for "Scorpion" tank out of 50 motors which reached later. Spare parts for tanks "M-60" also arrived at Niems from a seaport in Italy. All this equipment was

put on board of another plane chartered from a Luxembourgian company known as "Bargolux", which headed toward Teheran. The Israeli military mission in Zurich received the sum of \$300,000 (American dollars) at the side of the plane as the price of plane tyres. Israel also supplied Iran at that time with tommy guns, the first consignment of which arrived in Portugal and were shipped later to Iran.

ABC inquired from its correspondent in Tel Aviv about that. He explained that censorship prevented him from saying anything. He stated that Begin's secretary told him the following:

"Custom in Israel prevents the disclosure of any information on arms sales."

Hence the correspondent said that Israel neither denied nor confirmed these reports. Bani Sadr, however, confirmed to the ABC correspondent in Paris that this relationship with Israel started before the war with Iraq and that he - Bani Sadr - was personally opposed to it. He informed Khomeini that it was better to seek a reconciliation with Iraq rather than to continue a military relationship with Israel.

ABC also asked Jody Powell, the Press Secretary of the former American President Jimmy Carter, in whose day these transactions took place. He was very cautious, but said: "We are aware that Iran was in great need of arms." He also said: "We also know that Iran received arms from Israel" and that the Carter Administration broached this question with Israel. Israel, however, did not admit the transactions having taken place, but stated that it took that into consideration.

The responsible Iranian officials kept silent. They did their best to keep their military co-operation with the Israeli entity a secret, thinking that this would be possible, in spite of a lot of information having been revealed and its infiltration into the press and other news media in various countries of the world. However, after the Argentinian plane incident and the exposure of the pact regarding arms co-operation between the Zionist entity and Iran, with facts, figures and dates, and through the Swiss arms merchant who contracted to transport large quantities of arms, equipment and spare parts from Tel Aviv to Iran, and after Bani Sadr admitted this and affirmed that his Government co-operated with the Zionist entity in this field, some confusion took place in Teheran which was reflected in statements of responsible Iranians.

On 26 July 1981, the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued an official statement under the title "M. Plot of the Associated Press Against the Islamic Revolution in Iran" in which it categorically rejected the news of the downfall of the Argentinian plane which it described as a disgraceful lie.

The statement of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs contained a paragraph on the downfall of the plane which stated: "The matter relates, as the USSR claims, to the downfall of an Argentinian plane in this country and the 'allegation' that no trace was left of this plane, and that the Associated Press conveyed to the world a 'fable' which claimed that the plane which fell was active between Tel Aviv and Teheran and that it was carrying arms from Israel to Iran."

We put forth the following question: How is it possible to reconcile the "claim" of the USSR that the Argentinian plane was destroyed leaving no traces behind and that sending a delegation to investigate the incident is not possible with the allegation of the Associated Press? How can the world believe that a plane is exposed to an air accident and falls without leaving any trace behind it? If such an air accident took place, in fact, then what happened to the Soviet plane?

Having thus categorically denied the news about the downing of the Argentinian plane as had been announced by the Soviet Union and transmitted by the news agencies, the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs "communiqué" went on to say: "Our great people knows the motives behind the news agencies' hostility towards the Islamic Revolution and understands them very well, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs declares that this shameful lie is not true."

On Monday 27 July 1981 Bahzad Nabawi, the Iranian Minister of Executive Affairs and the Government's spokesman, admitted that the plane had been shot down but categorically denied in a press conference held in Teheran that the plane that had disappeared over the Soviet Union was carrying armaments purchased from the Zionist entity.

Nabawi declined to refer to the nature of the shipment that the plane had carried to Iran before it collided on its way back with a Soviet plane over Soviet territory.

As for Hashimi Rafsangani, the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, he, in a statement to the newspaper Kihan and the Iranian Broadcasting Service on 28 July 1981; admitted that the Argentinian plane had been carrying armaments to Teheran. He said that the plane was destroyed on its way back after its cargo of armaments had been discharged.

On 19 August 1981, the Chargé d'Affaires of the Iranian Embassy in Beirut (Mohsen Al-Mussawi) stated that Iran had purchased armaments in the international market that were shipped by sea from Iceland to Cyprus and from there by the Argentinian plane before it was shot down.

On 23 August 1981, the official Iranian news agency, Pars, announced the following: "Hussain Mussawi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, said that if the Iranian Government had purchased armaments from Israel such deal must have been negotiated by Bani Sadr, the deposed President who, while in office, was Chief Commander of the Iranian armed forces."

While the rulers of Iran and their spokesmen were contradicting themselves in their attempt to camouflage and hide the real task of the Argentinian plane, a statement by the spokesman of the Cypriot Government on 28 August 1981 put the points on the letters and thwarted attempts by the Khomeini régime to camouflage, to lie about and to cover up its co-operation in armament with the Zionist entity.

This co-operation in armament between Iran and the Zionist entity did not start from nothing and does not only reflect a bilateral relationship but reflects new facts that make clear the role played by the Khomeini régime in the area, a role whose nature has been confirmed by Jody Powell, the press secretary of the former American President Carter, when he admitted that Washington had foreknowledge of the export of American arms and spare parts to Iran across Israel.

The Government of the Iraqi Republic confirms that the military co-operation between Iran and the Zionist entity was not a secret deeply hidden from being monitored and followed by several parties within and without our region. However, the Iraqi Government believes that the significance of uncovering such co-operation lies in its being a decisive evidence showing the wide difference between the Iranian régime's claims and the reality of its conduct divorced from principles. Another aspect of the significance of uncovering and unveiling this co-operation lies in that it sheds light on the United States eagerness and attempt to keep under cover the Iranian-Zionist co-operation and its disclaiming foreknowledge of it. Now that Jody Powell has admitted that Washington had such knowledge of the export of American arms and spare parts to Iran across Israel, the position of the United States has become clear - it undoubtedly is party to that co-operation.

Since the early days of the conflict with Iran, Iraq has declared that it was fully willing to negotiate a peaceful, honourable and just settlement that would ensure the legitimate rights of both sides, and that it was willing to establish normal relations with Iran based on the principles of denouncing aggression and hegemonistic policies, the safeguarding of independence, non-interference in the internal affairs and the implementation of the principle of the non-permissibility of capturing territory of other States. Iran, however, persisted in refusing all peaceful overtures on the part of Iraq and declined to co-operate with any of the international bodies and organizations concerned with reaching a peaceful settlement of the conflict that would ensure the rights of the two sides in conformity with the aforementioned principles. Instead, Iran has pursued the policy of perpetuating the war, prompted by its co-operation with the imperialist and Zionist circles on which we have dwelt above.

-----