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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Report of the Secretary-General

- 1. At its thirty-third session, the General Assembly adopted resolutions 33/113 A, B and C of 18 December 1978, concerning the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories. In paragraph 11 of resolution 33/113 C, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General:
- (a) To render all necessary facilities to the Special Committee, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, with a view to investigating the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the resolution;
- (b) To continue to make available additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;
- (c) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee, and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee which are no longer available;
- (d) To report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present paragraph.
- 2. The present report is submitted in accordance with paragraph 11 (d) of resolution 33/113 C.
- 3. The Secretary-General continued, as in previous years, to provide the facilities required by the Special Committee. In response to the request addressed to him by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 (b) of resolution 33/113 C, the services of an additional staff member and of staff on temporary assistance were made available to assist the Special Committee.

- 4. In response to paragraph 11 (c) of General Assembly resolution 33/113 C, the Department of Public Information undertook the action outlined in the following paragraphs to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the report of the Special Committee.
- 5. The Visual Service continued to give full coverage to the meetings of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories. This material was distributed to news syndicators and to Governments upon request.
- 6. The Radio Service covered the report and the proceedings of the Special Committee in its Weekly News Summary; this coverage was broadcast in 16 languages. In addition, the radio news magazine The Week at the United Nations covered the subject extensively. Special emphasis was placed on this subject in programmes for broadcast in the Middle East and North Africa.
- 7. The Information Centres Service drew the attention of the Directors of the 60 Information Centres to the report of the Special Committee and requested that this report be given the widest possible publicity. Also, the Information Centres distributed to Governments, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, the information media and the general public information materials produced by the Department of Public Information.
- 8. All relevant documentation of the Special Committee was made available to representatives of non-governmental organizations at Headquarters.
- 9. The Public Inquiries Unit continued to answer requests for information on this subject.
- 10. The Press Service gave full coverage in press releases to the proceedings of the Special Committee, as well as the discussions on its report in the General Assembly, and the decisions taken. The documents were made available to the information media.
- 11. The December 1978 issue of the <u>UN Chronicle</u> carried an article detailing the report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly. A photograph of Committee members with the Secretary-General accompanied the articles.