SPECIAL REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION SUPPLEMENT No. 22A (A/38/22/Add.1)



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[31 October 1983]

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

12 September 1983

Sir,

I have the honour to send you herewith a special report of the Special Committee against Apartheid on recent developments concerning relations between Israel and South Africa, adopted unanimously by the Special Committee against Apartheid on 12 September 1983.

This special report is submitted to the General Assembly and the Security Council in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 2671 (XXV) of 8 December 1970 and 37/69 F of 9 December 1982.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(<u>Signed</u>) Uddhav Deo BHATT
Acting Chairman of the
Special Committee against <u>Apartheid</u>

His Excellency Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar Secretary-General of the United Nations New York

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. Ignoring repeated appeals and demands by the General Assembly, the Government of Israel has steadily increased its collaboration with the <u>apartheid</u> régime in South Africa. The Special Committee, in its report to the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, felt obliged to draw particular attention to the development and significance of this collaboration, which it described as a "virtual alliance" and a "serious challenge to the United Nations". 1/
- 2. The General Assembly, in resolution 37/69 F of 9 December 1982, again strongly condemned the continuing and increasing collaboration of Israel with the racist régime of South Africa, especially in the military and nuclear fields. It requested the Special Committee to publicize, as widely as possible, information on the relations between Israel and South Africa, to keep the matter under constant review and to report to the General Assembly and the Security Council as appropriate.
- 3. The Special Committee gave particular attention to this matter during the past year. It organized in co-operation with the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO), the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) and the World Peace Council (WPC) the International Conference on the Alliance between South Africa and Israel, held at Vienna from 11 to 13 July 1983. 2/ The Conference attended by representatives of United Nations organs, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts helped in pooling and analysing available information on the collaboration between Israel and South Africa, especially in the military and nuclear fields, and in formulating proposals for more effective action to secure an end to such collaboration. It adopted a declaration which the Special Committee transmitted to the attention of the eneral Assembly and the Security Council (A/38/311-S/15883, annex; see also A/AC.115/L.595).
- 4. Meanwhile, the international community continued to call on Israel to end its collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa. The Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983, expressed grave concern over the collaboration of Western States and Israel with the <u>apartheid</u> régime in the nuclear field (see A/38/132-5/15675 and Corr.1 and 2, annex, sect. 1, para. 53).
- 5. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, meeting at its nineteenth ordinary session at Addis Ababa, from 6 to 11 June 1983, condemned "the policies of certain Western countries and Israel as well as the transnational corporations that continue to maintain or strengthen collaboration in the economic, military and nuclear fields with the Pretoria régime" (A/38/312, annex, AHG/Res. 112, para. 10). It also condemned the aggressive collusion between the régimes in Israel and South Africa "directed against African and Arab peoples" (Ibid., AHG/Res. 108, para. 9).
- 6. The Second world Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held at Geneva from 1 to 12 August 1983, stated in its Declaration:

"The Conference condemns any form of co-operation with South Africa, notably the existing and increasing relations between Israel and the racist

régime of South Africa, in particular those in the economic and military fields, and deplores and warns against co-operation between them in the nuclear field; it particularly deplores the expansion and intensification of those relations at the time when the international community is exerting all its efforts towards the objective of completely isolating the racist régime of South Africa; the Conterence views this co-operation as an act of deliberate choice and a hostile act against the oppressed people of South Africa, as well as a defiance of the resolutions of the United Nations and the efforts of the society of nations to ensure freedom and peace in southern Africa; the Conference also notes with concern the insidious propaganda by Israel against the United Nations and against Governments which are firmly opposed to apartheid." 3/

7. The Government of Israel, however, persisted in its policies. It carried on a virulent and defamatory campaign against the International Conference at Vienna and continued to increase its collaboration with the <u>apartheid</u> régime.

II. MILITARY AND NUCLEAR CO-OPERATION

- 8. Despite repeated denials by the Government of Israel, there is increasing evidence of extensive collaboration between Israel and South Africa in the military and nuclear fields. Western, Israeli and South African media have continued to report on such collaboration.
- 9. The Star Johannesburg, quoting Jane's Weapons Systems, reported on 9 November 1982 that South Africa and Taiwan were among major importers of Israeli armaments. In addition to the three MOD class fast-attack craft serving in the South African Navy, which were imported from Israel in 1978, four more were built in South Africa and it was expected that 10 more would be built there. These boats are armed with skorpieon missiles as well as two 76 mm guns and a number of machine guns. They have full electronic fire control.
- 10. The report added that the skorpieon anti-ship missile, which South Africa claimed to have developed, was a version of the Israeli Gabriel-2 and that the 127 mm artillery rocket system, which was also developed in South Africa, was similar to the Taiwanese Hsiung-Feng. There were indications that, despite South African claims about indigenous development and production of arms, the arms were the result of a co-operative project involving Israel, South Africa and Taiwan.
- 11. <u>Interfocus</u> (New York), quoting <u>The Nation</u>, reported on 21 January 1983 that between 1970 and 1979 South Africa received 35 per cent of Israel's arms exports. Citing the International Institute of Strategic Studies, it stated that Israeli military sales to South Africa included fast-attack boats armed with missiles, jet fighters (with General Electric engines), tanks, anti-tank helicopters and electronic fences used against Namibian freedom fighters.
- 12. Merip Reports (New York), pointed out on 21 February 1983 that Israeli collaboration with South Africa included not only military sales, but also the exchange of Israeli technology and scientific expertise for South African raw materials, including coal, steel and uranium. Israel's Tadiran and South Africa's Consolidated Power formed a large electronic combine specializing in military electronics and computers.
- 13. The New York Times stated on 28 January 1983 that: "There is in fact substantial technical co-operation between South Africa and Israel in military and intelligence matters".
- 14. Middle East (London), reported in May 1983 that Israel had assisted in the development of the South African Arms Corporation (ARMSCOR). Co-operation between the two countries extended to the sphere of exports of arms.
- 15. Naomi Chazan, senior research fellow at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, wrote in African Affairs (London), in June 1983, that the most interesting aspect of the relations between Israel and South Africa was the military strategic link. She referred to the co-operation in the areas of counter-insurgency and joint training.
- 16. The latest evidence pointing to an Israeli-South African connection was the remote controlled spy plane or "drone" shot down by Mozambique on 23 May 1983. According to military analysts, the "drone" was either designed or produced by

- Israel. The drone's capability was considered valuable to the racist régime of South Africa in its campaign against the national liberation movement of South Africa as well as in its acts of aggression against independent African States. The Christian Science Monitor quoted "a knowledgeable observer" as stating that "there is no doubt there is an exchange of technology" between Israel and South Africa. 4/
- 17. Israeli involvement in the campaign of the racist régime of South Africa against independent African States became a matter of concern to Africa, the United Nations and even some Israelis. Professor Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi of Haifa University (Israel) wrote in The New York Times that Israeli military advisers were training forces of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) in Namibia. He said:

"In South Africa, for example, Israel is actively involved in defending what Washington sees as a 'strategic outpost' - with the complicity and encouragement of the United States. In this case, Israel's help is particularly important because, although the United States is committed to the survival of the South African régime, Washington feels that the overt support it can give to South Africa is severely limited by world public opinion." 5/

- 18. Luanda Radio said on 21 February 1983 that Israel and South Africa were involved in training armed bandits to infiltrate the territory of Angola. Israelis were reported side by side with the forces of the <u>apartheid</u> régime in northern Namibia.
- 19. Ten members of the South African Paratroopers Association, led by Major General M. J. du Plessis, were invited to attend the international congress of paratroopers held in Israel in March 1983. Among the South African delegates were Colonel Anton Van Graan, the Commanding Officer of First Parachute Battalion, Colonel Henry Fraser and Commandant Gerry Steyn, Commanding Officer of Third Parachute Battalion. 6/
- 20. <u>Middle East</u> (London), reported in May 1983 that Israeli engineers had arrived in South Africa at the beginning of 1981 to start work on South Africa's first nuclear submarine.
- 21. In the report of the International Conference on the Alliance between South Africa and Israel, it was pointed out that, since August 1977, when it was discovered that South Africa was planning to detonate a nuclear weapon in the Kalahari Desert in Namibia, there had been extensive evidence, including statements by prominent officials in Israel and the United States of America, of close collaboration between Israel and South Africa in the nuclear field (A/AC.115/L.595, para. 20).

III. ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

- 22. The regular exchanges of visits between the finance and economic ministers of Israel and South Africa have expanded economic links between the countries. Yoram Aridor, Israeli Minister for Finance, visited South Africa early in 1983. It was reported that he was seeking an increase in South African credit for imports of manufactured products and coal from South Africa and a reduction in customs duties on Israeli products.
- 23. As a result of that visit, the Israeli and South African finance ministers signed an agreement on 3 March 1983 designed to strengthen trade and investment ties between the two countries. According to the Minister of Finance of South Africa, the agreement covered previous projects as well as those to be undertaken in the future. It made provision for a freer flow of currency between the two countries, open commercial credit lines and co-operation in agricultural and technological research.
- 24. While Israeli exports to South Africa increased from \$80.75 million in 1980 to \$102.93 million in 1981, Israeli imports from South Africa decreased from \$134.43 million in 1980 to \$103.17 million in 1981. These figures do not include military sales, oil, gold and diamonds.
- 25. It was reported that a consortium of three Israeli and South African companies had been established to manufacture filters for the South African motor industry: Kaapvall Industries, HAC Technologies and A. L. Filter of Israel, the latter to provide technical expertise to South Africa. 7/

IV. SPORTING, CULTURAL AND OTHER RELATIONS

- 26. Collaboration between Israel and South Africa in cultural, academic, scientific, sport and other fields has continued.
- 27. The South African Society of the Weizmann Institute of Science is active in promoting cultural and scientific co-operation between the two countries. The Society arranged a trip for nine South African senior science students from four universities to serve as vacation assistants to scientists at the Weizmann Institute in Israel. 8/
- 28. Professor David Danon, chief scientist of the Israeli Ministry of Health, visited South Africa, as a guest of the South African Medical Research Council to investigate the possibility of launching joint medical research projects. 9/
- 29. In March 1983, Israeli musician Yehoram Gaon toured South Africa. 10/
- 30. The Register of Sports Contacts with South Africa, published in April 1983 by the Special Committee, contained the names of the following Israeli athletes who competed in South Africa in the second half of 1982: Limor Friedman, T. Frisher, Johnny Moyal, Shahar Perkiss and E. Sinai.

V. COLLABORATION WITH BANTUSTANS

- 31. Lennox Sebe, "President" of the so-called independent State of Ciskei, visited Israel in March 1983. Press reports indicated that he had concluded a series of military agreements with Israel and that, as a gesture of goodwill, Israel had sold an aircraft to Ciskei for a nominal sum. 11/ Israel radio quoted "political sources" in Israel as saying that Israel had signed an agreement to sell arms to Ciskei. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel denied that report. 12/
- 32. The "Education and Manpower Minister" for the bantustan of Bophuthatswana visited Israel in May 1983 and met Zevulum Hammer, Israeli Minister for Education. A large advertisement appeared in the Israeli press offering a wide range of jobs including that of director of a new television service to be started in Bophuthatswana in 1985. It was reported that Israeli personnel would draw up a master plan for the service, train personnel, prepare programmes and provide technical assistance. Israeli educational television would play a significant role in developing and running the educational television service of Bophuthatswana. In charge of the Israeli side of the project is Israeli educational television general manager, Ya'acov Loberbaum, who is also Professor of Communications at Bar Ilan University which has very close links with the University of Bophuthatswana. 13/

VI. OTHER RELEVANT DEVELOPMENTS

- 33. Former Israeli Prime Minister Yitshak Rabin visited South Africa in October 1982 and paid a goodwill visit to R. F. Botha, South African Minister for Foreign Affairs. He was a guest of the United Israel Appeal of South Africa. 14/
- 34. General Shlomo Gazit, former head of Israeli military intelligence and currently the President of Ben Gurion University, visited South Africa in June 1983 and made statements about Israeli methods in fighting against the Palestinians. 15/
- 35. Eliyahu Lankin, Israeli Ambassador to South Africa, stated at the opening of the seventh South Africa-Israel Binational Symposium, held at Pretoria on 1 November 1982, that Israel welcomed any constructive co-operation with South Africa. He criticized the calls for a boycott of South Africa. The symposium was held under a bilateral scientific agreement entered into seven years ago between the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research of South Africa and the National Council for Research and Development of Israel. 16/

VII. CONCLUSIONS

36. The Special Committee considers that the continued collaboration by Israel with the racist régime of South Africa, especially in the military and nuclear fields, poses grave dangers to international peace and security. As the Special Committee pointed out in its report to the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly:

"The virtual alliance between South Africa and Israel, as the Special Committee has pointed out since 1976, is part of an effort by the <u>apartheid</u> régime to build an alliance of unpopular régimes defiant of world public opinion as a second line of defence for <u>apartheid</u>. In the context of this developing alliance, the acquisition of nuclear capability by South Africa poses a particularly grave menace." 17/

- 37. The Special Committee recalls that one of the main goals and objectives of the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, launched by the United Nations on 10 December 1973, was "to counteract the emergence of alliances based on mutual espousal of racism and racial discrimination". 18/ The alliance between Israel and South Africa has emerged during this Decade and represents an inescapable challenge to the United Nations.
- 38. It recommends that the General Assembly endorse the Declaration of the International Conference on the Alliance between South Africa and Israel (A/38/311-S/15883, annex) and urge all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take all appropriate action to secure an immediate end to the collaboration between Israel and South Africa.
- 39. The Special Committee notes with regret that a number of Western countries have continued to oppose any condemnation of the collaboration by Israel with the apartheid régime. The Government of the United States of America has, in particular, provided encouragement to the Government of Israel in its defiance of the United Nations.
- 40. The Special Committee hopes that these Governments will reassess their positions and persuade Israel to disengage forthwith from racist oppression in South Africa.
- 41. Finally, the Special Committee recommends maximum publicity of the collaboration between Israel and South Africa in support of efforts to end such collaboration.

Notes

- 1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session,
 Supplement No. 22 (A/37/22), paras. 336 and 341.
 - 2/ For the report of the Conference, see document A/AC.115/L.595.
- 3/ Report of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 1-12 August 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.4 and corrigendum), Declaration, chap. II, para. 19.

Notes (continued)

- 4/ The Christian Science Monitor (Boston), 6 June 1983.
- 5/ The New York Times, 6 January 1983.
- 6/ The Citizen (Johannesburg), 17 March 1983.
- Sunday Times, Business Times (Johannesburg), 5 December 1982.
- 8/ The Citizen (Johannesburg), 23 September 1983.
- 9/ Johannesburg Radio, 24 May 1983.
- 10/ Rand Daily Mail (Johannesburg), 16 March 1983.
- 11/ Middle East (London), May 1983.
- 12/ The Guardian (London), 5 March 1983.
- 13/ Rand Daily Mail (Johannesburg), 27 May 1983.
- 14/ South African Digest (Pretoria), 22 October 1982.
- 15/ The Citizen (Johannesburg), 10 June 1983.
- 16/ Rand Daily Mail (Johannesburg), 2 November 1982.
- 17/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 22 (A/37/22), para. 341.
- 18/ General Assembly resolution 3057 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973, annex, para. 8.

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