

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION

Official Records

**SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE, 730th
MEETING**

Monday, 23 November 1970,
at 3.20 p.m.



NEW YORK

Chairman: Mr. Abdul Samad GHAUS
(Afghanistan).

*Tribute to the memory of Mr. Yusof bin Ishak,
President of Singapore*

1. The CHAIRMAN extended condolences on behalf of the Committee to the Government and people of Singapore upon the death of the President of Singapore.

2. Mr. NATHAN (Singapore) thanked the Chairman and the Committee for their expression of sympathy on the death of the President of Singapore, who had taken office in 1959 at a crucial stage in his country's history and had seen it proceed from internal self-government to complete independence.

AGENDA ITEM 35

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East: report of the Commissioner-General (continued) (A/8013, A/8040, A/8084 and Add.1; A/SPC/140, A/SPC/141, A/SPC/L.196)

At the Chairman's invitation, Mr. Issa Nakhleh (Palestine Arab Delegation) took a place at the Committee table.

3. Mr. MUNK (Denmark) emphasized the necessity for joint action in solving the budget crisis of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. It was gratifying that at the current session it had been recognized from the outset that priority must be given to the humanitarian aspects of the matter, a constructive approach which he hoped would continue throughout the debate. Despite the unrelenting dedication and endurance of the Commissioner-General and his staff, the obstacles to their efforts were increasing, and it had been necessary for financial reasons to reduce the programme of relief services and also health and sanitation activities. He sincerely hoped that it would not be necessary to curtail the education and training services, which, in spite of adverse conditions, had been increased during the past year and which were the Agency's most constructive operation, to which the refugees themselves attached great importance.

4. The Turkish representative (728th meeting) had rightly said that the financial crisis could be solved only through greater collective effort on the part of the international community. In view of UNRWA's financial difficulties, the Danish Government intended, subject to parliamentary approval, to increase its regular contribution to the Agency's budget for 1971 by 12.5 per cent to about

\$120,000 and to continue to contribute about \$550,000 for the education programme. During the past year, a large proportion of that aid had been made available for the operation of the Ramallah Training Centres. His delegation wished to be associated with the Turkish representative's suggestion that it might be possible to reach a consensus at the end of the debate that the Committee felt that the situation called for greater financial efforts by the international community if UNRWA was to be able to continue its humanitarian work.

5. Mr. GIMER (United States of America) said that it was mainly due to the dedication and tireless efforts of the Commissioner-General and his staff that UNRWA, in spite of major financial and other difficulties, had been able to carry out its task. The United States had been a firm supporter of UNRWA since the Agency's founding and considered its operations essential under present circumstances. In line with that continuing support, he wished to introduce draft resolution A/SPC/L.196, which was similar to those adopted in previous years and was consistent with General Assembly resolution 194 (III) and with subsequent resolutions dealing with the problem, including Security Council resolution 242 (1967). He was confident that the United States proposal would once again command overwhelming support.

6. The basic problem which had led to the Agency's establishment still remained unsolved. The United States recognized the need to seek a solution to the refugee problem and was continuing to exert its best efforts with the parties and others concerned to bring about the just and lasting peace in the Middle East called for in Security Council resolution 242 (1967). One requirement for such a peace, although by no means the only one, was a just settlement of the refugee problem. He reiterated his Government's view that a settlement which ignored the legitimate concerns and aspirations of the Palestinians would be neither just nor lasting. The Security Council resolution he had referred to clearly recognized that the problem of the Palestine refugees was inextricably linked with the other issues which divided Israel and its Arab neighbours. UNRWA could not therefore answer all the refugees' problems, despite its most vigorous efforts. To restore dignity and purpose to their lives and to rekindle their hope called for the determination of all the parties concerned.

7. However, while the search for peace continued, the basic needs of thousands of refugees must be met. For many of them only UNRWA could perform that task, and to do so it needed and deserved the support of every Government. He hoped that the attention all speakers so far had given to the grave financial situation facing the Agency would mean a substantial increase in contributions to

UNRWA. The expected deficit of \$5.1 million would reduce the Agency's working capital to less than it required even to finance its "pipeline" of supplies. The recent events in Jordan had aggravated an already critical problem, and the Commissioner-General had said that the Agency would be threatened with collapse unless its services were drastically reduced early in 1971 or significant amounts of additional funds became available in the near future. Not only would that mean hardship for the refugees; it could also increase political tensions and instability in the Middle East. He therefore supported the appeal made by the Commissioner-General and the Secretary-General for generous contributions to UNRWA, in particular from Governments which had so far failed to do their share of the work, which was a collective United Nations responsibility, and from private voluntary agencies.

8. United States assistance to the Agency over the years had amounted to approximately \$500 million, a preponderant share of the total contributed to UNRWA. The United States Government and private American groups had also responded generously to the General Assembly's appeals for emergency assistance to those made homeless by the 1967 hostilities. It had earmarked \$5 million for emergency relief in 1970 to the Government of Jordan, which was helping Palestinians resident in Jordan, including UNRWA-registered refugees, who had suffered injury or loss during the fighting in September.

9. The Commissioner-General had said (726th meeting) that substantial reductions were feasible only in the education programme, which made the greatest contribution to equipping the refugees to take their normal place in the productive life of the region. That programme, which had kept pace with the growth of the refugee population of school age, involved over half the Agency's total staff and 45 per cent of its budget. The United States Government had pledged \$1 million over and above its regular annual contribution, for the expansion of the Agency's vocational and teacher-training facilities.

10. His Government was also concerned at the Commissioner-General's statement in his report (A/8013) that host-Government responsibility for the maintenance of security and order in the refugee camps had not yet been fully reasserted. The United States supported the Commissioner-General's position that UNRWA should deal only with governmental authorities in that respect, and welcomed his assurance that except for unusual instances during periods of actual fighting, UNRWA supplies had not been diverted to improper purposes. All Members of the United Nations were committed under the Charter to work for a peaceful settlement, and there must be no misuse of a United Nations agency for activities which contravened the Charter.

11. He wished to express his Government's regret at the deaths and injuries suffered during the tragic events of September 1970, including the deaths of eleven UNRWA staff members (see A/8084/Add.1, annex, para. 1). The Agency had dealt with that emergency situation in the same efficient and speedy manner in which it had handled other comparably difficult developments in the past.

12. His Government regretted that it had not been possible for significant numbers of displaced persons,

including thousands of UNRWA-registered refugees, to return to their former places of residence in the areas occupied by Israel, and hoped that they would be able to do so in the near future. In the meantime, it supported UNRWA's efforts to help Governments to assist persons displaced since the 1967 war.

13. He once again urged all members to consider seriously the critical decisions facing UNRWA and the United Nations and to support and assist the Commissioner-General in whatever steps must be taken.

14. Mr. FUENTES (Bolivia) said that the continued inclusion of the item under discussion in the agenda of the General Assembly was evidence of its complexity. Year by year, as the Commissioner-General's report showed, the tragic problems of the refugees increased. Over and above the political implications of the question, his delegation was deeply concerned at the continuance of a situation which affected the efforts of the United Nations to assist thousands of human beings, most of them innocent victims of an evil for which they were in no way responsible. Far from decreasing their sufferings, time had multiplied them. Despite all UNRWA's endeavours, its diminishing resources were unable to keep pace with the increasing needs, and the refugees were faced with the prospect of being left totally without support.

15. The Government and people of Bolivia, expressing their profound solidarity with all suffering peoples, wished to convey a message of encouragement to the thousands of victims of the evils of war and to reaffirm their confidence that the richer nations would increase their contributions to meet the needs and to provide at least some material help to solve one of the distressing problems of modern times.

16. Mr. NAKHLEH¹ expressed his appreciation of the humanitarian services rendered to the refugees by the Commissioner-General and his staff with the meagre resources at their disposal. It was disturbing to read in the Commissioner-General's report (A/8013) that despite cuts in services, there was a deficit of \$5 million in the Agency's budget for 1970, and that unless the General Assembly took adequate action at the current session, the very existence of the Agency would be endangered. The budget estimates requested for 1971 allowed for rations and supplementary feeding at the rate of 3.6 cents per refugee per day, little more than half the allowance for previous years. The health services would cost \$4.50 per refugee per year and the education services \$16.18 per refugee per year. That budget amounted to less than 25 per cent of the annual income from the property of the Palestinians which had been illegally usurped by the Zionist invaders with the encouragement and blessing of the United Nations.

17. In 1970 alone, the United States of America had given over \$500 million in military aid to the Zionists, in addition to the \$1,000 million given by Jews and Gentiles as tax-deductible contributions to Jewish charities; yet that same country did not see fit to contribute an additional

¹ Mr. Nakhleh was invited to take the floor in accordance with the decision taken by the Committee at its 726th meeting to authorize members of the Palestine Arab Delegation to address the Committee, without such authorization implying recognition of that organization.

\$5 million to make up the deficit in the UNRWA budget. Its total contribution during the twenty years of the Agency's existence was less than the military aid provided to the Zionist aggressors in one year.

18. On the other hand, it was disappointing that the socialist countries, with the exception of Yugoslavia, had made no contribution to the UNRWA budget since 1950. The Palestinians greatly appreciated what the Soviet Union had done to bolster the defence of certain Arab States, and the socialist countries' political support for the just Arab cause in the United Nations. They hoped that they would reconsider the matter and contribute to the budget of the Agency whose work was being sabotaged by the Zionist-controlled press and by Zionist-dominated members of the United States Congress.

19. The Commissioner-General of UNRWA had drawn attention to the continuing displacement of hundreds of thousands of persons who had fled in 1967, but his report did not elaborate on the inhuman expulsion of over 500,000 Christian and Moslem Arabs from the west bank and the Gaza strip in the period 1968 to 1970. The Zionist aggressors had stopped at nothing to force thousands of families to leave the occupied areas and seek refuge in the east bank and other Arab territories, in spite of repeated calls by the General Assembly and the Security Council for the return of persons displaced in 1967. The United Nations had taken no positive action in the face of the Zionists' defiance of General Assembly and Security Council resolutions relating to Jerusalem, the repatriation of the 1948 refugees and the return of the persons displaced after the 1967 hostilities.

20. The tragedy of Palestine was a blot on the record of the United Nations; the Arabs of Palestine had warned the Organization against partition in 1947, but the great Powers had pressured the General Assembly into a course of action which had brought the Middle East nothing but tragedy, wars and bloodshed. In 1948 the General Assembly had appointed a commission to implement the immoral and unjust resolution recommending the partition of Palestine. Upon receiving an invitation to co-operate with that commission, the Arab Higher Committee for Palestine had conveyed to it a statement declaring, *inter alia*, that the Arabs of Palestine would never recognize the validity of the extorted partition recommendation or the authority of the United Nations to partition their country, and considered that any attempt by the Jews or by any Power or group of Powers to establish a "Jewish State" in Arab territory was an act of aggression which would be resisted in self-defence. On 30 March 1948 the Arab Higher Committee for Palestine had issued and communicated to the United Nations an Arab Charter for Palestine which stated, *inter alia*, that the aim of the Arabs of Palestine had always been to obtain their independence and freedom and to establish a sovereign, democratic State in which all citizens and peaceful residents of all creeds would be treated with justice and granted all civil rights and freedoms. They were not opposed to Jews as such; before the Zionist invasion, Arabic-speaking Jews had lived in Palestine with Christian and Moslem Arabs on the most cordial terms. Thus, the strife in Palestine was not based on religious grounds but was a result of the invasion of Palestine by hordes of immigrants from foreign lands. Arabs considered it their

sacred duty to defend their country and were determined that those invaders would never succeed in establishing their sovereignty on one inch of Palestine soil.

21. The position of the Palestinians remained unchanged. The young generation of Palestinians, represented by the *fedayeen*, were more determined than ever to liberate their ancestral homeland and to secure freedom, dignity and self-respect for their people.

22. The United Nations appeared to have a double standard in the Middle East: its Charter guaranteed the right of self-determination to all peoples, but the United Nations denied that right to the Palestinians. On the other hand, while proclaiming the inadmissibility of conquest, the United Nations rewarded the Zionist usurpers by granting them rights and sovereignty. It proclaimed that colonialism in all its forms and manifestations was a crime constituting a violation of the Charter, but gave the stamp of legality to the illegal, racist, colonial Zionist régime. It condemned genocide and *apartheid* and paid lip-service to the oppressed peoples of Africa, but condoned the commission of those same crimes against the Palestinians. Furthermore, in spite of its concern for the safeguard of human rights and the eradication of discrimination, the United Nations was actually assisting the Zionist aggressors in their violations of the human, civil, religious and property rights of the Palestinians. It seemed that the United Nations did not regard the Palestinians as human beings, but only as refugees with no inalienable rights, who were to be humiliated and degraded. He implored the United Nations and the major Powers, who were responsible for the tragedy of the Palestinians, to desist from supporting the Zionist usurpers and from barring Palestinians from their homes and homeland.

23. The Zionist régime was a racist, illegal and colonial régime. In his statement to the Committee at the twenty-fourth session (686th meeting) he had declared that most of the Zionist invaders were foreigners of Khazar origin who had no ethnic or historical connexion with Palestine; the overwhelming majority of their so-called Parliament and Cabinet and even of their representatives in the United Nations were transplanted aliens born in foreign lands.

24. In considering the usurpation of power by white European settlers in Southern Rhodesia, the Security Council and the General Assembly had branded the Southern Rhodesian régime as a racist and illegal régime. In Palestine, a European minority had seized power, expelled the indigenous Palestinian majority and proclaimed themselves a "State". Thus, both the white European minority in Southern Rhodesia and the European Zionist minority in Palestine had formed illegal colonial racist régimes. The United Nations should not have two scales of justice—one for Southern Rhodesia and another for Palestine.

25. In an attempt to deceive world public opinion, Mrs. Golda Meir, the counterfeit Prime Minister, had had the unmitigated gall to claim before the General Assembly that the creation of so-called Israel was "liberation". By describing the illegal and immoral usurpation of the homeland of the Palestinians as "the rebirth of the State of Israel" and the inhuman and racist Zionist colonialism in Palestine as "national liberation", Mrs. Meir had distorted

history and falsified legal and moral principles. She had even gone so far as to describe the usurpation of Palestine, the expulsion of the Palestinian majority and the robbery of the homes, lands and possessions of Palestinians as a rectification of an ancient wrong within the framework of international law and in accordance with the principles of international justice. Mrs. Meir had further stated that the whole Middle East was a dramatic demonstration of the emergence of peoples into national independence; once a domain of colonial Powers, it was now an area inhabited entirely by independent and sovereign countries. However, the Palestinians had not emerged into national independence, nor were they exercising their inalienable right to self-determination although their State had been recognized by Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations. The Zionists wanted the world to forget about Palestine and the Palestinians and to conceal the greatest crime of genocide ever committed against any people throughout history. Mrs. Meir even claimed that the Palestinians did not exist. The Zionist representatives proclaimed in the United Nations that they desired peace with their Arab neighbours, but it was peace on their own terms, whereby colonialism would triumph over the liberty of Palestinians, the usurpation of Palestine would become permanent and genocide would be glossed over.

26. Mr. Abba Eban, the counterfeit Minister for Foreign Affairs, was also guilty of fabrications and distortion. He maligned the *fedayeen* by calling them terrorists whose aim was “politicide”, and stated that the Palestine national movement was a movement not of liberation, but of enslavement. But, the Palestinians had never expelled any Jews from Palestine or usurped their homes or property. It was the Zionists who had been the terrorists in Palestine from 1939 to 1948 and had used terrorist methods to expel the Palestinians, occupy their homeland, usurp their homes and steal their worldly possessions. It was a diabolical distortion, having turned native Arabs into tragic refugees, to continue to slander and malign them.

27. The objectives of the Zionist colonial conspiracy were not confined to the occupation of the heart of the Arab world and the establishment of a Jewish empire, but extended to the eradication of Christianity and Islam and to the destruction of their Holy Places in the occupied territories. As far back as 1920 Zionists had demonstrated in Palestine, under the protection of British bayonets, demanding the destruction of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The occupation of Jerusalem in 1967 had exposed the intentions of the Zionists, and the desecration of Christian Holy Places had continued unabated. The Christian world was indifferent to the fate of the Holy City of Jerusalem and the Christian Holy Places; indeed, the Christians of America and Europe were aiding and abetting the Zionist murderers and usurpers in their conspiracy against the Holy Places.

28. As a Christian, he was ashamed of that attitude, but he stressed that Christian Arabs stood together with their Moslem brothers in opposition to Zionist policy. The world's 700 million Moslems had not been duped, and would never accept the domination of Jerusalem or any part of Palestine by the Zionist invaders. He had been authorized by Hajji Amin El Hussein, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Chairman of the Arab Higher Committee for

Palestine and President of the World Muslim Congress, to declare before the United Nations that the Moslems of the world were united in their solidarity with the people of Palestine and would never permit Almasjid Al-Aqsa to remain under Zionist occupation and domination, constantly exposed to Zionist desecration.

29. The Zionists had usurped Moslem religious properties, desecrated Moslem Holy Places and interfered with Moslem worship in the sacred Almasjid Al-Aqsa and the Al-Haram of Sayidna Ibrahim Alkhalil in Hebron. The world would not soon forget the burning of Almasjid Al-Aqsa by an Australian fanatic in the service of Zionist extremists and the mock trial held in Jerusalem to conceal the real conspiracy. The World Muslim Congress had incontestable evidence of a plan by the Zionists to destroy Almasjid Al-Aqsa and build a Jewish temple on its site. Indeed, the Zionists had prepared blueprints for constructing such a temple, had collected a secret fund for that purpose and, since 1967, had carried on excavations day and night under the very foundations of Almasjid Al-Aqsa in order to find traces of the historical Jewish temple for use as a pretext for their evil designs and at the same time to weaken the foundations of the mosque with a view to destroying it.

30. There was great confusion in the international community over the way in which peace and justice could be made to prevail in the Middle East. Many statesmen were content to repeat again and again, as the representative of the United States of America had just done, that the only basis for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East was Security Council resolution 242 (1967). Did that mean that the international community had recognized the use of force and aggression as a means of solving international disputes and establishing rights and sovereignty? Did the international community recognize a fait accompli established by force as the only basis for a just and lasting peace? The Security Council resolution he had just referred to ignored the history of the Middle East over the past fifty years, the principles of international law and justice and the United Nations Charter; it ignored the core of the Palestine problem, which had been before the Organization since 1947.

31. The Palestinian people had the greatest respect and admiration for Ambassador Jarring and for his country, but the mission with which that distinguished statesman was charged was an evil, unjust and illegal one. If Mr. Jarring had been charged with finding a solution to the Palestine problem on the basis of international law and justice, the right to self-determination, the principles of the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the principles adopted by the Organization regarding genocide, *apartheid* and the abolition of colonialism, he would have received the full co-operation of the Palestinians. However, he was acting under an illegal and immoral resolution concocted by the great Powers in order to serve their global interests and those of the Zionists, not the interests of the United Nations or the peoples of the Middle East.

32. Many representatives sincerely called for peace, understanding and coexistence between the Arabs and the Jews. But would those representatives accept the colonization of their country by a foreign invader and the banishment of

their people from their homeland for ever? Would they agree to make peace with such an invader on his own terms? If a statesman would not accept for his own country and people what he advocated for the Palestinians, he was doing a disservice to the cause of peace. Statesmen who were genuinely interested in peace and justice in the Middle East should stop preaching pious sermons of peaceful coexistence to the Palestinians and the Arab States if that meant recognizing the sovereignty of the colonial invaders and permanently depriving the Palestinians of their homeland, their sovereignty as a nation and their human rights.

33. Since 1967 the Zionist invaders had been waging a subtle propaganda campaign in the occupied areas to encourage Palestinians to establish their own State on a small piece of territory on the west bank, which would become a satellite of the racist Zionist régime. At the instigation of the Zionists, the United States of America had been working behind the scenes, using its well-known "quiet diplomacy", to encourage certain Palestinian and Jordanian elements to work for such a plan. If the United States and the Zionists believed that the Palestinians would accept such a scheme they were merely deceiving themselves. The Palestinians had not struggled for 30 years against British colonialism, and for the last 22 years against Zionist colonialism, only to surrender and betray their national interests by accepting and recognizing the sovereignty of Zionist colonialism in 90 per cent of their homeland in order to establish a sham Palestinian State in the remaining 10 per cent.

34. With all due respect, he sometimes wondered why such peace-loving nations as Denmark, Iceland, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg supported the illegal Zionist régime called Israel. If the Jews had suffered in Europe, why should the Palestinians pay the price? The Jews who claimed to be the victims of Nazi persecution had themselves committed greater crimes against the Palestinian people than the crimes of the Nazis. Their crimes were over and done with, but the crimes of the Zionists against the Palestinians had continued unabated since 1948. Indeed, they would continue to be committed until the power of the Zionists was destroyed. At that very minute, Palestinians were being massacred, made homeless, humiliated, degraded and robbed by the Zionists.

35. How could the Palestinian *fedayeen* be blamed for hijacking aircraft in order to awaken the conscience of mankind to their tragedy when many European nations, as well as the United States of America, had aided and abetted the Zionist aggressors in hijacking Palestine, an entire country, for Zionist colonialism and domination? He appealed to representatives to try to think of the Palestinians as a people like their own, a people who loved their homeland, their families, homes, cities and holy places, who cherished freedom and who aspired to live in their own country in freedom and dignity, as did other peoples. The Palestinians now numbered 2,600,000, of whom 70 per cent were Moslems, 20 per cent Christians and 10 per cent Jews. Their population was greater than that of 34 States Members of the United Nations, and 5, 10 or even 20 times greater than the population of some States which constantly voted against their rights. Why, then, were the Palestinians deprived of their seat in the United Nations by representatives of an illegal, racist, colonial Zionist régime?

36. What the Palestinians aspired to achieve was constructive, not destructive. They desired not to destroy sovereignty, but to regain sovereignty. The Zionist régime had never had sovereignty, for sovereignty had always been vested in the people of Palestine, despite their exile. The Palestinians sought not the destruction of a State, as Mr. Eban had alleged in the General Assembly, but the reconstruction of a State. The Zionist régime had never been a State in fact or in law; it was merely a régime of transplanted trespassers and invaders. The existence of a State could be based only on the history of a people and the process of law, not on invasion, conquest, trespassing and robbery. What the Palestinians wanted was the rectification of an international injustice in accordance with their inalienable rights and with international law.

37. The objective of the Palestinians was the reconstitution of Palestine as a free, democratic republic with a Government formed by its indigenous citizens of the Moslem, Christian and Jewish faiths. The democratic republic of Palestine would guarantee freedom of religion for all and would be the Holy Land for all. The Palestinians were willing to treat with magnanimity and humanity all foreign Jews who wished to live as their fellow citizens in the democratic State of Palestine and who desired to apply for Palestine citizenship in accordance with the laws of the State. While the Zionists offered the Palestinians only banishment, exile, usurpation, degradation and enslavement, the Palestinians were offering peaceful coexistence to the Jews. The Zionists wanted the Jews of the Soviet Union, the United States of America and all other countries to come to the Palestinians' country in order to supply the Zionists with more mercenaries and more funds to expel and kill more Palestinians. The Zionists wanted their existing régime to remain as an entirely "Jewish State". Such a reactionary, racist "Jewish State" was a stigma on the record of the twentieth century.

38. He wished to express his appreciation and gratitude to the freedom-loving nations of Africa and Asia for their consistent support of the rights of the people of Palestine. He also wished to extend the thanks and gratitude of the Palestinian people to Spain and Greece, the only European nations which had not recognized the Zionist régime, for their support of the rights of the Arab people. In addition, the Arab people could never forget the valuable assistance and support they had received from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in their hour of need. Now that those countries were aware of the racist and reactionary nature of Zionism and the colonial ambitions of the military and political leaders of the Zionist régime, he expressed the fervent hope that they would withdraw their *de facto* and *de jure* recognition of that racist régime.

39. The Latin American nations had always been in the vanguard in supporting the right of self-determination for all peoples. They were champions of freedom and the rule of law in international affairs. He appealed to the Latin American countries to act in accordance with their noble traditions and principles by changing their position on the Palestine problem and supporting the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. Many of the great and humanitarian countries of western Europe had supported the Zionist invaders because of their sympathy for the suffering of the Jews in Europe. But now that the racist

nature of Zionism and its colonial objectives had been exposed, and the injustice, robbery and massacre inflicted by the Zionists upon the Palestinians had become known to them, he hoped that those countries would reconsider their position and support the right of the Palestinians to freedom and liberation. Many of the European nations had suffered humiliation and bondage under Nazi occupation. That painful memory should move them to support the right of the Palestinians to liberate their country from racist Zionist occupation and enslavement.

40. The American revolution had carried the torch of freedom and independence to many nations and had inspired liberation movements throughout the world. The American people were dedicated to peace and justice, but the Middle East policy of the United States did not reflect the sentiments of the people and was contrary to the country's best interests. Indeed, it was undermining the posture of the United States of America throughout the world. He appealed to the leaders of that country to free Middle East policy from Zionist domination. The United States should be the first to support the objective of the Palestinians, namely, the reconstitution of Palestine as a democratic republic, free from racial and religious discrimination, where the indigenous citizens of Palestine of all faiths would form a constitutional democratic Government.

41. In conclusion, he appealed to the great Powers to assist in solving the Palestine problem on the basis of justice

and humanity, rather than force or a fait accompli. In bringing peace to the Middle East they would also be saving themselves and the entire world from the constant threat of a nuclear third world war.

Mr. Nakhleh withdrew.

AGENDA ITEM 34

The policies of *apartheid* of the Government of South Africa: report of the Special Committee on the Policies of *Apartheid* of the Government of the Republic of South Africa (continued) (A/8022 and Add.1, A/8109, A/8117, A/SPC/L.181, A/SPC/L.185/Rev.1, A/SPC/L.188/Rev.1, A/SPC/L.192, A/SPC/L.195)

42. Mr. CHALIKULIMA (Zambia) announced that after lengthy consultations the sponsors of draft resolution A/SPC/L.185/Rev.1 had agreed on a second revised version of the text.² On behalf of the sponsors he expressed the hope that the new text would be brought to a vote at the earliest opportunity.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.

² Subsequently circulated as document A/SPC/L.185/Rev.2.