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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

(in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 42/160 F)

Addendum

CONTENTS

	Page
REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS	
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	2
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	3

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[12 September 1988]

1. The Byelorussian SSR unswervingly supports the United Nations resolutions that strongly condemn the illegal actions taken by Israel concerning the population of the occupied Arab territories. These actions are blatant violations of the generally recognized principles of international law and numerous General Assembly and Security Council resolutions.
2. Israel's expansionist policy and illegal practices in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, including acts of repression and terror, torture, collective punishment, the demolition of houses, and the mass displacement and deportation of the population, are in flagrant violation of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and a serious obstacle to achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, a situation to which, in particular, attention is drawn in Security Council resolution 605 (1987).
3. In accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 42/160, the Byelorussian SSR does not recognize any of the changes made by Israel in the occupied Arab territories and has taken no actions which might be used by Israel to carry out its policy of annexation and colonization or other illegal actions concerning these territories.
4. Expressing its solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people to implement its inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination, the Byelorussian SSR supports the appeals by the General Assembly and the Security Council to put an end to the acts of terror and repression against the Palestinian population in the occupied territories and to ensure Israel's unconditional respect for basic human rights and its unswerving compliance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1949.
5. The Byelorussian SSR considers that the renewed vigour of the Palestinian national movement - the uprising of the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip - has created a qualitatively new situation. Bringing about a Middle East settlement requires the immediate solution of the core problem - the Palestinian question - by putting an end to Israel's occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab lands and enabling the Palestinians to determine freely their future and choose the form of their State system.
6. A comprehensive and just settlement of the Middle East problem must be founded on principles, taking into account the balance of interests of all parties, and can be achieved only through honest collective efforts within the framework of an international conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices and with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the permanent members of the Security Council.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[20 September 1988]

1. The Ukrainian SSR categorically condemns Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian and other Arab territories in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and numerous United Nations resolutions, and its illegal practices affecting the peaceful population living in those territories.
2. The occupation régime's violence against the inhabitants of the Palestinian lands is a gross violation of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. The Ukrainian SSR fully shares the General Assembly's conclusion that Israel's practices in the occupied territories are "war crimes and an affront to humanity". In practice, the régime established in the territories entails flagrant violations of basic human rights, discrimination and the wounding of the national pride of the Palestinians and contempt for their religious beliefs.
3. The arbitrary rule imposed by Israel in the occupied Arab territories is inevitably causing increased tension in the region. The tragic events which have taken place in the Palestinian lands of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are convincing proof of the danger of relying on the use of force in contempt of the basic norms of international law and of attempting to hold on, at all costs, to other people's lands seized by force of arms.
4. The Ukrainian SSR strongly condemns the criminal practices of the Israeli occupying Power and demands that they be halted. It expresses its solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people against the occupation and for its inalienable national rights, including the right to self-determination as laid down in the relevant United Nations resolutions.
5. The mass demonstrations by the Palestinians in the occupied territories confirm the urgent need for a speedy settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The events taking place are further proof that lasting peace and stability cannot be established in the Middle East without a just solution of the question of Palestine and without guarantees of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.
6. The courageous resistance of the Palestinians to their occupiers, which developed into a national uprising, has become a major stimulus to the search for practical solutions favouring a comprehensive settlement. The renunciation of armed force in favour of negotiation and of diktat in favour of a business-like dialogue on equal terms must form the basis of a just solution of the Middle East problem. The principal means of achieving those goals is an international conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices with the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council and of all interested parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. What is important now is concerted action

to achieve a broad international consensus on the preparation and holding of the conference on the basis of correct political approaches and the conscientious search for constructive and mutually acceptable solutions to all aspects of the Middle East conflict.

7. Such are the positions of principle which guide the delegations and representatives of the Ukrainian SSR in their consideration of Israeli practices affecting human rights in the occupied territories, at sessions of the General Assembly, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and other United Nations bodies.
