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COMMISSION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME
Cinquante-huitième session
Point 8 de l'ordre du jour provisoire

QUESTION DE LA VIOLATION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME DANS LES TERRITOIRES ARABES OCCUPÉS, Y COMPRIS LA PALESTINE

Note verbale datée du 12 juin 2001, adressée au secrétariat de la Commission des droits de l'homme par la Mission permanente d'Israël auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève

La Mission permanente d'Israël auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres organisations internationales à Genève présente ses compliments au secrétariat de la cinquante-septième session de la Commission des droits de l'homme et a l'honneur de lui communiquer les informations ci-après concernant l'incident du 12 novembre au cours duquel une balle traçante a été tirée sur un véhicule escortant la Haut-Commissaire des Nations Unies aux droits de l'homme, Mme Mary Robinson, pendant sa visite dans la région l'année dernière.

Depuis lors, à plusieurs occasions, y compris à la cinquante-septième session de la Commission des droits de l'homme, ont été portées contre Israël des accusations très dures selon lesquelles ce seraient des colons juifs qui auraient ouvert le feu sur le convoi de la Haut-Commissaire, d'aucuns allant même jusqu'à prétendre qu'Israël avait essayé de tuer Mme Robinson.

À ce jour, il n'a encore été possible d'établir clairement ce qui s'était effectivement passé ce jour-là. Toutefois, les autorités israéliennes ont reçu récemment les résultats officiels de l'expertise balistique effectuée par la police danoise. Ils indiquent que la balle visant le véhicule de la Haut-Commissaire provenait d'une kalachnikov AK-47 (arme qui ne fait pas partie de l'équipement standard du soldat israélien) et que le coup avait été tiré depuis une maison située dans la zone H1 au nord de Bab Al-Zawiya (zone relevant de l'Autorité palestinienne). Cette information figure dans le quinzième rapport périodique de la Présence internationale temporaire à Hébron (TIPH), une mission d'observation internationale.

Veuillez trouver ci-joint la page en question du rapport de la TIPH concernant les résultats de l'expertise balistique ainsi qu'une copie de la lettre que le chef de la Mission de la TIPH a adressée au Ministre des collectivités locales de l'Autorité palestinienne et au Directeur général du Ministère israélien des affaires étrangères et dans laquelle la tenue d'une réunion du Comité directeur de suivi est prévue afin d'examiner le rapport susmentionné.

La Mission permanente d'Israël demande que le texte de la présente note et les documents* figurant en annexe soient distribués à tous les membres de la Commission des droits de l'homme.

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* Reproduits tels qu'ils ont été reçus, dans la langue d'origine seulement.

Annex

Excerpts from the 15th periodic report of the Temporary International Presence in the City of Hebron (TIPH):

... deliberate way, turned the long headlights on when a TIPH member got off the patrol vehicle. Blinded by the lights, the patrol members eventually had to drive in reverse, in order to leave the spot.

o *2.2.3. Shooting against TIPH*

On 16 February, shooting erupted close to the TIPH Headquarters. Even though the TIPH Headquarters were never a target, tracer shots were observed passing close by, indicating that the premises were in the line of fire. Bullets injured two Palestinians in their home, next to TIPH Base 2. The incident appeared to have been caused by an IDF operation against a Palestinian farm across the border of the TIPH AOR. The night before this incident, a tracer bullet was observed passing 10-15 meters in front of a TIPH patrol vehicle that was virtually alone on the road. No exchange of fire was reported in the area.

Regarding an incident on 12 November 2000, when a tracer bullet was fired at a TIPH vehicle escorting the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Mrs. Robinson on a visit to Tel Rumeida, TIPH received the results of a ballistic expertise carried out by the Danish Police. The expertise showed that the shot was fired from a Kalashnikov AK-47 rifle. Moreover, a reconstruction conducted by TIPH personnel in co-operation with the Danish experts clearly designated the origin of the shot: a house in the H1 area, north of Bab Al-Zawiya.

2.3. Working relations with the Israeli side

TIPH and the IDF have in the current period had a good co-operation. IDF and TIPH Liaison Officers had contacts on a daily basis, and made efforts to solve incidents directly. In most cases, an effective co-operation was established. However, in one case when a TIPH patrol was denied access to the area of Tel Rumeida, contacts between the TIPH and IDF Liaisons enabled the patrol to enter the area after more than two and a half hours. Moreover twice in the period under review, TIPH patrols experienced difficulties with soldiers refusing to remove barriers for TIPH vehicles.

The co-ordination in cases concerning the safety of TIPH observers was good. Unfortunately there has been only one JHC meeting in this period, but there have been several bilateral meetings between TIPH and the IDF.

TIPH presented a total of 470 cases to the IDF. The reports were presented to the IDF under the following categories: 275 cases were presented for clarification and 195 for information. It must be stressed that not all of the reports presented for information were related to IDF activities, but nevertheless sent to the IDF since the incidents reported took ...

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Our ref. Date 4 June 2001

Dr. Saeb Erakat, Minister of Local Government, Palestinian Authorities

Mr. Avi Gil, Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry

MEETING IN THE TIPH MONITORING AND STEERING COMMITTEE

Sirs,

I would like to take the initiative to schedule the next Monitoring and Steering Committee meeting.

The Periodical Report no 15 for the period 1 February – 30 April is delivered by hand to your office today.

I suggest the report to be discussed in the MSC meeting.

At the same time it is possible to discuss former Periodical Reports covering the period from the last meeting in the MSC (reports no XI, XII, XIII and XIV).

I would also like to discuss the situation for the children in Hebron, and the security for the TIPH observers.

I suggest the following dates: Sunday 10 June, Monday 11 June or Tuesday 12 June.

I further propose the meeting to be held at the Inbar Hotel (former Laromme Hotel) in Jerusalem. If you prefer a different venue please let me know.

Yours truly,

Karl-Henrik Sjursen
Head of Mission

TIPH is an international observer mission. The mandate of TIPH is to assist in monitoring and reporting the efforts to maintain normal life in the City of Hebron thus creating a feeling of security among the Palestinians in the City of Hebron.