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Addis Ababa * * * * *
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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

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CM/881 (XXXI)

REPORT BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM



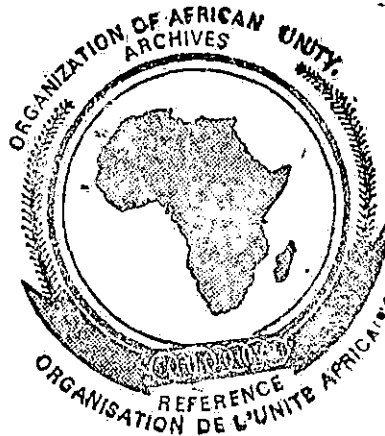
REPORT BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM

- I. In implementing the resolutions of the OAU Council of Ministers stipulating ~~to~~ follow up the developments of the Palestinian Problem and submit a report thereon, and as explained by the Administrative Secretary-General in his previous reports, the Palestinian problem is considered the core of the Middle East conflict. The just solution for this problem constitutes the basis for an overall settlement to the situation in the region. No doubt that the restoration of the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, return, independence and sovereignty as well as Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since June 1967, constitute the complete and sole foundation for a final and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

2. Despite all the international endeavours and efforts exerted to establish peace in the Middle East, the Palestinian people were subjected to repeated Israeli acts of aggression in the period which followed the Secretary-General's report to the 29th Session of the Council of Ministers (Libreville-Gabon on 23-29 June 1977).

 These acts of aggression were extended to Palestinian camps and centres populated by unarmed and peaceful civilian Palestinians in South Lebanon. They were climaxed by the recent Israeli aggression against Southern Lebanon in March 1978 in an obvious attempt to liquidate the Palestinian people and create a new defacto situation at the expense of their own rights.

3. The United Nations General Assembly resolution 3236 (XXIX) on the national rights of the Palestinian people still provides the foundation stone for the realization of these rights and their international recognition.



4. The Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People which stemmed from the United Nations General Assembly continues to follow-up the implementation of the General Assembly resolutions on the Palestinian problem in accordance with resolution 3236 under which the Committee was set up.

5. The Administrative Secretary-General notes that while the Israeli authorities continue to take increasingly repressive and terrorist measures against the Arab inhabitants in the occupied Arab territories, in flagrant violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in times of war, and also while Israeli policy continues to deny the Palestinian People inalienable rights which include:-
 - their right to return to their homeland,
 - their right to self-determination including the establishment of their own State.

There is a growing international tendency to recognize the right of the Palestinian People to a national homeland. This represents a positive progress which would undoubtedly help in reaching a peaceful, just and lasting settlement in the region.

6. The Administrative Secretary-General stresses the importance of the Council of Ministers' Resolution CM/Res.580 (XXIX) on the Palestine issue, and in particular operative paragraphs 2,3,4,5,6 and 7.

7. The Administrative Secretary-General will follow up the developments of this problem and will inform the OAU Council of Ministers accordingly.

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