

4. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, ensure the safe and immediate return to the occupied territories of all those deported;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider dispatching a representative to the area to follow up with the Israeli Government with regard to this serious situation and to report to the Security Council;

6. *Decides* to keep the matter actively under review.

Speaking after the vote, the representative of the United States recalled that his Government had repeatedly urged Israel to cease deportations as a method of punishment and to comply fully with the Fourth Geneva Convention in all occupied territories. He regretted that Israel had gone ahead with the deportations, playing into the hands of those whose goal was to scuttle the peace process, and in the process imposing an unfair burden on Lebanon. Equally condemning Hamas for murdering Israelis as part of a deliberate strategy to undermine the peace process, he appealed to all parties to avoid unilateral actions that raised tensions. He reiterated that the United States regarded the phrase “all the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem” as being merely demographically and

geographically descriptive and not indicative of sovereignty.<sup>273</sup>

The representative of the United Kingdom said that his delegation had supported the resolution because the vital interests of all the concerned parties should be to preserve and pursue the peace process. Condemning both the acts of violence — the recent murder of an Israeli military official — and the deportation of Palestinians, he called on all parties to devote themselves to the bilateral and multilateral negotiations.<sup>274</sup>

The representative of France condemned the acts of violence and opposed the procedure of deportation, which constituted a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and was contrary to several Security Council resolutions. The current deportations were even more deplorable, because they were on a very large scale, constituted collective punishment and a violation of Lebanon’s sovereignty, to which the Government of France attached particular importance, and impeded the peace process.<sup>275</sup>

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<sup>273</sup> Ibid., pp. 48-51.

<sup>274</sup> Ibid., pp. 52-53.

<sup>275</sup> Ibid., pp. 53-55.

## General issues

### 25. Marking of plastic or sheet explosives for the purpose of detection

#### Initial proceedings

##### **Decision of 14 June 1989 (2869th meeting): resolution 635 (1989)**

At its 2869th meeting, held on 14 June 1989 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included in its agenda the item entitled “Marking of plastic or sheet explosives for the purpose of detection” and considered the question at the same meeting.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (United States) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a draft resolution that had been prepared in the course of the Council’s prior

consultations.<sup>1</sup> The draft resolution was voted upon and adopted unanimously as resolution 635 (1989), which reads:

*The Security Council,*

*Conscious* of the implications of acts of terrorism for international security,

*Deeply concerned* by all acts of unlawful interference against international civil aviation,

*Mindful* of the important role of the United Nations in supporting and encouraging efforts by all States and intergovernmental organizations in preventing and eliminating

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<sup>1</sup> S/20690.

all acts of terrorism, including those involving the use of explosives,

*Determined* to encourage the promotion of effective measures to prevent acts of terrorism,

*Concerned* about the ease with which plastic or sheet explosives can be used in acts of terrorism with little risk of detection,

*Taking note* of the International Civil Aviation Organization Council resolution of 16 February 1989, in which it urged its member States to expedite current research and development on detection of explosives and on security equipment,

1. *Condemns* all acts of unlawful interference against the security of civil aviation;

2. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate in devising and implementing measures to prevent all acts of terrorism, including those involving explosives;

3. *Welcomes* the work already undertaken by the International Civil Aviation Organization, and by other international organizations, aimed at preventing and eliminating all acts of terrorism, in particular in the field of aviation security;

4. *Urges* the International Civil Aviation Organization to intensify its work aimed at preventing all acts of terrorism against international civil aviation, and in particular its work on devising an international regime for the marking of plastic or sheet explosives for the purpose of detection;

5. *Urges* all States, and in particular the producers of plastic or sheet explosives, to intensify research into means of making such explosives more easily detectable, and to cooperate in this endeavour;

6. *Calls upon* all States to share the results of such research and cooperation with a view to devising, in the International Civil Aviation Organization and other competent international organizations, an international regime for the marking of plastic or sheet explosives for the purpose of detection.

## 26. The question of hostage-taking and abduction

### Initial proceedings

#### **Decisions of 31 July 1989 (2872nd meeting): statement by the President and resolution 638 (1989)**

At its 2872nd meeting, held on 31 July 1989, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included in its agenda the item entitled "The question of hostage-taking and abduction".

Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Yugoslavia) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a draft resolution submitted by Canada and Finland.<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the agreement reached in the Council's prior consultations, the President then made the following statement:<sup>2</sup>

As we consider the adoption of the draft resolution on hostage-taking and abduction, we meet under the shadow of recent events and the cruel reports that Lieutenant-Colonel Higgins, who served the United Nations on a peacekeeping mission in Lebanon, may have been murdered today. I wish to express the full support of the Security Council for the statement

made by the Secretary-General yesterday, 30 July, in this connection.

The Council will seek further facts on the developments of today, and urges those involved to act with reason, restraint and a proper respect for human life and dignity. The Council feels that it should proceed without delay to the adoption of the draft resolution that we have been discussing in private on the subject of hostage-taking and abduction.

There is a most tragic irony that our efforts to adopt a text on this matter should have coincided with the grave events of recent days.

This illustrates, with utmost clarity, that we need to underline the necessity for effective international action on the subject of hostage-taking and abduction. Indeed, the expression of the unanimous view of the Security Council will, I am sure, serve to deter such unlawful, criminal and cruel acts in the future.

Following his statement, the President put the draft resolution to the vote. It was adopted unanimously as resolution 638 (1989), which reads:

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<sup>1</sup> S/20757.

<sup>2</sup> See *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1989*, p. 22.