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ATT: TANDIE

FR: MAX MLONYENI

25.11.89

PLEASE CONTACT ABDUL MINTY AND REQUEST HIM SEND CURRENT MATERIAL ON
MILITARY CALLABORATION WITH SADF AND RELATED TO PICS ESPECIALLY
ISRAELI/SOUTH AFRICAN COLLABORATION. HE CAN FAX IT TO IRAQI EMBASSY
IN HARARE. THEIR NUMBER IS 732506.

REGARDS.

26281RONA ZW



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FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

TO: MAX MLONYENI - ANC HARARE..
% IRAQI EMBASSY - HARARE.....

RE: RELATIONS BETWEEN.....
ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA.....
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FROM: ANC - OSLO.....
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DATE: 28-11-89.....

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Extract from:

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID*

* This is a mimeographed version of the report of the Special Committee against Apartheid, which will be issued in printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 22 (A/44/22).

PART TWO

REPORT ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Special Committee, at the request of the General Assembly, has systematically monitored collaboration between Israel and South Africa, including the especially dangerous nuclear and military spheres. Despite the announcement by the Government of Israel in 1987 that it would curtail its relations with South Africa, reports about their collaboration, particularly in the military field, indicate that such collaboration continues.

2. In its resolution 43/50 E of 5 December 1988, the General Assembly called upon Israel "to abide by the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council by terminating forthwith all forms of military, nuclear, intelligence, economic and other collaboration, particularly its long-term contracts for military supplies, with South Africa".

II. MILITARY COLLABORATION

3. The co-operation between Israel and South Africa in the military and nuclear fields is difficult to detect because of strict censoring of information on these matters in both countries. However, certain media and intelligence reports have revealed such collaboration. While, in the 1970s, Israel was the major supplier of arms and ammunition to South Africa, during the present decade, the relationship turned to partnership and joint production of armaments. Israel has provided South Africa with military technology needed for its growing armaments industry. The role of Israel in helping to expand the military capability of the South African Defence Force (SADF) was highlighted in evidence presented by the World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa to the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa at their meeting at Harare in February 1989. Particular attention was drawn to the continuing programme of updating and modernizing the Mirage fighter aircraft into Cheetahs with the assistance of Israel. The Cheetahs, as will be mentioned later, are virtually identical to the Israeli Kfir aircraft. 1/

4. The most disturbing aspect of the collaboration between Israel and South Africa in the military field is the reported development and preparation for testing of an intermediate-range ballistic missile. The missile is expected to have a range of 1,440 kilometres and to be capable of carrying nuclear devices. The missile appears to be a modification of the Israeli missile, Jericho II. It was reported that satellite photographs showed the Cape range near De Hoop, where launch preparations were being made, to be identical to the Israeli launch site in the Negev desert. It should be noted that an intermediate-range ballistic missile usually carries an atomic warhead and South Africa has admitted possessing nuclear-weapons capability. According to intelligence sources of the United States of America, South Africa might soon test a more advanced Israeli missile, the Shavit (comet), which has a range of 2,000 miles. It was also reported that, as Israeli missile testing facilities are limited by geographical factors, South Africa provides a better testing area. 2/ This joint Israeli-South Africa missile project has been under development since at least 1987 in spite of a promise by Israel in March 1987 not to enter into any new defence contracts with South Africa. According to the South African media, the modified version of the Jericho II missile was "capable of carrying a nuclear warhead". It was added that "according to CIA and U.S. Defence Intelligence agents, the tests were of far more ominous nature and the joint South African/Israeli missile programme, believed to have started in 1987, was viewed 'with concern'". 3/ This was not the first time that reports concerning nuclear military collaboration between the two countries have been widely circulated in the media, based on information received from the intelligence community. It should be recalled that in 1977 and 1979 there were reports concerning the preparation of a site for a nuclear test and the detection of a possible nuclear explosion in the South Atlantic region.

5. Israel appears also to have been involved in the Blowpipe missile case, which led to the arrest of five South African agents in Paris. According to the press, Israel delivered weapons to an extremist Unionist group in Northern Ireland in exchange for missile technology stolen from the Short Brothers plant in Belfast. The Sunday Telegraph (London), of 14 May 1989, stated that, according to British Government sources, Israel, whose State-run weapons industry shares close links with ARMSCOR of South Africa, was keen to acquire details of Britain's new Starstreak high-velocity missile, based on technology pioneered in the Blowpipe

design. The ultimate goal of the Blowpipe deal, which involved South Africa and Israel, was to undertake joint development of a series of high-speed missiles for use by both ground and air forces of both of these countries. It was further reported that the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was planning to bring the matter up at a May 1989 meeting with her Israeli counterpart. 4/

6. During the consultations on the implementation of the arms embargo against South Africa by the Federal Republic of Germany, organized on 27 April 1989 by the World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa, in co-operation with the Special Committee, it was revealed that blueprints of the U-209 submarine were delivered to South Africa by two companies from the Federal Republic of Germany via Israel.

7. The role of the Israeli Company Tadiran in supplying military equipment and technology to South Africa has been a matter of concern to the Special Committee for a number of years. The United States Government was reported to be investigating the involvement of Tadiran in the sale of military equipment and technology to South Africa. 5/

8. The contribution of Israel to the development of South Africa's naval technology was also detected. Much of this technology, with the exception of the assistance of Plessey of the United Kingdom in the development of a mine hunter, had originated in Israel. 6/

9. Israeli assistance to South Africa in the development of the latter's air force is concentrated in three areas. The first area focused on research concerning the development of a twin-engine multi-role combat aircraft. The so-called CAVA would replace aging South African aircraft such as Canberras and Buccaneers. It was reported that several hundred Israeli designers and technicians recruited by ARMSCOR after the cancellation of the Israeli Lavi aircraft project would assist in the CAVA project. According to the Sunday Times (Johannesburg), of 14 May 1989, "The cancelled Lavi fighter [of Israel] was initially a joint Israeli-South Africa project, but South Africa left in the early stages so that Israel could obtain U.S. aid". The newspaper quoted the statement by Mike Gaines, the defence editor of the British weekly, Flight International, that "South Africa definitely has the expertise for the project but the power plants are still a problem". The report also stated that South Africa "maintains good relations with Israel, Taiwan and Chile". According to Mr. Gaines, there is nothing in the arsenals of the front-line States to match the CAVA. The second area concerned the co-operation between the two countries to develop the Cheetah airplane. South Africa gained experience from the project of converting its old Mirage III into Cheetah, which was also done with Israeli assistance. The World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa also informed the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa that the new single-seat Cheetah aircraft had been stationed near the Zimbabwe border at the Louis Trichard air base, that the planes were equipped with improved fuel-efficient Snecma Atar engines of French design, and that work was being carried out by Israeli technicians in South Africa. The Ministers were also informed that Israel had also assisted South Africa by providing converted in-flight-refuelling Boeing 707 aircraft, which helped to extend the range of South African aircraft as far as the United Republic of Tanzania and that those aircraft were also equipped for electronic surveillance. The third area of co-operation between Israel and South Africa involved Chile. A deal was worked out by which the latter would sell old

16 F-5 aircraft to Israel. The cost of the deal was estimated at \$US 60 million in addition to the 16 F-5 aircraft for 12 Kfir bombers to be bought by Chile. The old engines of the 16 F-5 aircraft were expected to be replaced with new ones by Israel, and the aircraft are expected to be delivered to South Africa. 7/

10. The Commonwealth Ministers were further informed that South Africa had recruited a large number of Israelis as well as other foreign nationals for its internal armaments industry and that Pretoria had embarked on a massive armaments build-up following the withdrawal of its troops from Angola. 8/

11. A British Member of Parliament, Tony Marlow, who was on a visit to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in September 1988, was reported as saying that he had been told that South African army generals dressed in civilian clothes were advising the Israelis on how to curb the Palestinian uprising. A spokesman for SADF stated that it was not SADF policy to comment on the movement of its members, either within or outside South Africa. However, Israeli military officials denied the report. 9/

III. OTHER COLLABORATION

12. The Special Committee has stated in its previous reports that economic relations between Israel and South Africa depend on diamonds, gold and other precious metals which are exported through London and Zurich. Therefore, the trade figures between the two countries do not reflect the real extent of their co-operation, taking into consideration the fact that Israel is one of the major export centres in the world for diamonds and jewellery.

13. According to figures provided by the Government of Israel concerning its trade relations with South Africa, there was a decrease in their trade in 1988. ^{10/} However, reports emanating from South Africa indicated the contrary. The Financial Mail (Johannesburg) reported that:

"In 1987 total trade between Israel and South Africa was \$247 million. In 1988, the figure rose to \$341 million. In 1988 imports of goods from South Africa to Israel exceeded exports by some \$80 million. Among the major products imported by Israel from South Africa are mineral products, petrol, coal and base metal. In 1988, exports from Israel totalled \$131 million of which the leaders were chemical products, precious stones and metals and machinery. Also included were medical and optical products, rubber, plastics and textiles." ^{11/}

14. In addition to massive imports of coal from South Africa, there have been attempts to use Israel as a conduit for South African coal going to Western Europe. Official discussions took place between representatives of the two Governments to make arrangements for the import and storage of South African coal for the purpose of re-exporting it to Western Europe. However, the Israeli Deputy Minister of Finance declared that he would stop any attempt to re-export South African coal. Taking into consideration the controversy concerning the re-export of South African coal through Israel, it is suggested that West European Governments and anti-apartheid organizations should maintain vigilance to prevent such circumvention of restrictions on the import of South African coal. ^{12/}

15. South African institutional investors were reported to be involved in rescuing the ailing Israeli Koor group. Koor was offered \$500 million in a 20-year loan at 8.5 per cent by a Johannesburg company called Central Trust. Koor played an important role in the ongoing co-operation between Israel and South Africa. Its control by South African companies would have serious implications in respect to the military co-operation between the two countries because of the major role played by Koor in Israeli military production. Koor denied that it was seeking help from South African investors and banks. However, other reports indicated that it had already borrowed \$80 million from South African banks. ^{13/} The sudden generosity of South African financial institutions, apparently with the tacit approval of the country's financial regulatory authorities, suggests that the maintenance of foreign trade links via Koor is of the utmost importance to the apartheid régime.

16. It was reported that the Israeli Kibbutz Ayelet Hashahar was planning to sell a complete tyre factory to South African investors. The latter intended not only to ship the machinery to South Africa but also to hire the Israeli workers who would be relocated to South Africa. The factory, called Eitan, builds moulds for automotive tyres using a sophisticated process to transfer the design from paper to

metal. It was also reported that the factory would be expected to provide tyres to the South African military. 14/

17. The exchange of visits between trade delegations from Israel and South Africa is an indication of continuing economic co-operation. Notwithstanding the declared policy of the Government of Israel, an Israeli trade delegation visited South Africa in August 1988 to discuss investment in Israel and Israeli fishing rights in South African waters. 15/

18. The Special Committee has reported in previous years on co-operation between Israel and the "homelands". In February 1989, a delegation from the "independent homeland" of Bophuthatswana visited Israel. The delegation included the so-called minister of economic planning and the head of a Bophuthatswana national development group and attempted to encourage Israeli investment in Bophuthatswana. 16/

19. In its reply to the Secretariat, dated 20 July 1988 (A/44/533) concerning concerted action for the elimination of apartheid (A/44/533), the Government of Israel elaborated further on the decision taken in March 1987. In that reply, Israel claims that no exchanges of official visits had taken place between the two countries. No athletes or artists identified with the apartheid régime were allowed into Israel due to a prohibition on sports exchanges with South Africa. No new agreement regarding scientific collaboration was signed between the two countries. The reply stated that Israel continued to abide by its Cabinet decision of 1987 concerning economic and trade relations with South Africa. It was also stated that Israel neither imported krugerrand nor sold oil and oil-related products to South Africa. The note claimed that "furthermore, no new investments in South Africa have been approved". It further stated that "in its endeavours to assist the black population of South Africa, Israel has offered training programmes for appropriate candidates from the black communities". No reference is made in the reply to the question of military and nuclear collaboration with South Africa.

20. Notwithstanding the above-mentioned reply, reports concerning collaboration between Israel and South Africa in military and other fields, as stated earlier, indicate that such collaboration has continued in spite of efforts to conceal it in order to avoid international criticism.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

21. The Special Committee took note of the repeated Israeli statement that its relations with South Africa had been curtailed. However many reports still point to ongoing collaboration, especially in military matters.

22. The Special Committee still considers it essential that Israel reveal its existing secret agreements and arrangements with South Africa for the supply of weapons and military technology and that all these agreements and arrangements be abrogated. The assistance provided by Israeli engineers and technicians to South Africa's armaments industry constitutes a violation of relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions.

23. Even in the economic sector, where the Israeli Government repeatedly asserted that it had curtailed its relations with South Africa, there are reports indicating continuing trade and other commercial relations.

24. The Special Committee recommends that the General Assembly call upon Israel to cease forthwith its collaboration with South Africa, particularly in the military field and authorize the Special Committee to continue to monitor the relations between Israel and South Africa and report thereupon as appropriate.

Notes

1/ The Herald (Harare), 8 February 1989.

2/ Washington Times, 20 June 1989; The Star (Johannesburg), 21 June 1989; The Guardian (London), 21 June 1989; Pretoria News, 6 June 1989.

3/ Pretoria News, 6 July 1989.

4/ The Sunday Telegraph (London), 14 May 1989; Business Day (Johannesburg), 21 May 1989.

5/ The Tallahassee Democrat (Tallahassee, Florida), 14 June 1989; Israeli Foreign Affairs (Sacramento, California), July 1989.

6/ Business Day (Johannesburg), 18 July 1989.

7/ Sunday Times (London), 14 May 1989; Israeli Foreign Affairs (Oakland, California), November 1988; Azania Combat (Dar es Salaam), Issue No. 8, August 1989; Southscan (London), 22 February 1989.

8/ The Globe and Mail (Toronto), 8 February 1989.

9/ Capital Radio, Umtata, Oboogmt, 25 September 1988; The Star (Johannesburg), 28 September 1988.

Notes (continued)

10/ See table 2 in part one of the present report.

11/ A survey, Supplement, Financial Mail (Johannesburg), 5 May 1989.

12/ The Star (Johannesburg), 19 July 1989; Business Day (Johannesburg), 14 July 1989; The Citizen (Johannesburg), 17 July 1989; Evening Post (Port Elizabeth), 17 July 1989.

13/ Southscan (London), 11 January and 22 February 1989; Israeli Foreign Affairs (Sacramento, California), April 1989.

14/ Israeli Foreign Affairs (Sacramento, California), July 1989.

15/ Southscan (London), 10 August 1988.

16/ The Jerusalem Post, 1 February 1989.