



Mission permanente d'Israël
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies
et des Organisations Internationales à Genève

משלחת ישראל
ליד משרד האומות המאוחדות
והארגונים הבינלאומיים בג'נבה

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Statement by
H.E. Ambassador Itzhak Levanon
Permanent Representative

Before the vote on Resolution L.5
3rd Regular Session of the Human Rights Council
8 December 2006

Mr. President,

Too much ink has been spilled on the hostilities perpetrated by the terrorist organization Hizbullah in Lebanon, and too many distorted accounts were published in this regard. The culmination of these proceedings was the unbalanced and one-sided report presented to us last week by the so-called "Commission of Inquiry." The resolution in front of us is the continuation of this farce.

Mr. President,

Two facts are undeniable and regardless of whatever resolution is adopted by this Council, these facts do not change. The first is that the premeditated military build-up of Hizbullah within Lebanon, using sophisticated weapons and with the intention to harm civilians, violates all international norms and laws. The second is that Lebanon cannot be exonerated from responsibility.

New intelligence material we recently divulged permits us to have a clear and accurate picture of Hizbullah's intentions and behavior. I would like to give you a schematic overview of this material—not with the intention of influencing the vote, but rather to demonstrate just how anachronistic this vote actually is. The intelligence is based on:

- Films taken by Israeli jets during the hostilities
- Photos and films taken by ground forces
- TV sequences
- Testimonies of apprehended terrorists of Hizbullah, and
- Confiscated official Hizbullah documents

Using all of the above sources, we can determine that Hizbullah established three distinctive military dispositions in Lebanon. The first was an offensive disposition with 20,000 rockets of differing range, all spread within civilian buildings and public institutions in most villages in south Lebanon. The objective of this disposition was to constitute a deterrent balance to Israel.

The second was a defensive disposition with a military infrastructure south of the Litani river and Nabatieh area with the purpose of conducting guerilla warfare using anti-tank missiles, infantry and engineering corps. This force was dispersed among civilian populations in the Shiite villages.

The third was a logistic disposition with weapons and ammunition stored in private homes, public institutions, and religious sites, with sufficient stockpiles to support a sustained confrontation.

Mr. President,

There is a saying in Arabic that translates as: "he kills his neighbor and takes part in his funeral," meaning, "you show the summum of the hypocrisy." Hizbullah is a criminal terrorist organization whose commission of war crimes has been well-documented and categorically proven. And what about Lebanon? It knew nothing, saw nothing and heard nothing of this Hizbullah activity. What a Kafkaesque story, Mr. President.

Thank you.