

ability to call upon reserves if needed. This he did in his Explanatory Statement (S/20457) to the Security Council on February 9th.

The Canadian delegation was actively involved in drafting the enabling resolution, which was adopted unanimously by the Security Council on February 16th. Resolution 632 approved the report of the Secretary General and affirmed the full support and cooperation of the Council in implementing UNSC 435, set to commence on April 1, 1989. To help meet the immediate need for cash to launch the operation, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Joe Clark, on February 24th presented a cheque for \$11.9 dollars Canadian (representing approximately 80 percent of Canada's assessed share of the budget) to the Secretary General's Special Representative to Namibia, Mr. Martti Ahtisaari. Canada was the first country to provide an advance contribution to UNTAG. We will also be providing 262 logistical personnel to support both the military and civilian components of UNTAG. The General Assembly finally approved the budget for UNTAG on March 3, 1989 (A/RES/43/232).

The Secretary General had indicated earlier that he would require a minimum lead time of 6-8 weeks to deploy UNTAG. As the composition of UNTAG could not be confirmed until the budget had been approved, this lead time was compressed to four weeks. Consequently, UNTAG forces were not deployed as originally planned by April 1, 1989. There have been allegations that the delay in the deployment of UNTAG seriously undermined its ability to respond swiftly and effectively when the ceasefire between South Africa and SWAPO was broken on the first day of implementation. The UN is currently actively involved in efforts to reestablish the ceasefire and have accelerated deployment of UNTAG forces. The Secretary General has provided status reports on the situation in Namibia on several occasions to the Security Council which has supported his efforts and reaffirmed their continued commitment to the full implementation of UNSC 435.

On February 8th, Tunisia, as Chairman of the Arab group, with the support of the PLO, requested a Security Council debate on the continued violence in the occupied territories. In its intervention in the debate, Canada reiterated that we are "a determined supporter of Israel's right to security and recognition... Indeed it is the shared values upon which Canada's historic bond of friendship with the State of Israel is established that compels my Government to express its deep concern over the continued violations of the human rights of the Palestinian people of the occupied territories." After a series of lengthy negotiations, much of the strongly condemnatory language of the Arab group draft resolution was moderated in an effort to obtain consensus. Although the resolution received 14 votes in favour (including Canada's), it was vetoed by the United States.