

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 923

To withhold United States contributions to the United Nations until the United Nations formally retracts the final report of the “United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 9, 2011

Mr. VITTER (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. KYL, and Mr. INHOFE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To withhold United States contributions to the United Nations until the United Nations formally retracts the final report of the “United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict”.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

5 (1) On April 3, 2009, the President of the
6 Human Rights Council established the United Na-
7 tions Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict
8 with the directive “to investigate all violations of

1 international human rights law and international hu-
2 manitarian law that might have been committed at
3 any time in the context of the military operations
4 that were conducted in Gaza during the period from
5 27 December 2008 and 18 January 2009, whether
6 before, during or after”.

7 (2) On September 29, 2009, the United Na-
8 tions Human Rights Council presented a report on
9 the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the
10 Gaza Conflict, a report most often referred to as the
11 “Goldstone Report”, that accused Israel of potential
12 war crimes under the Rome Statute of the Inter-
13 national Criminal Court.

14 (3) On April 1, 2011, Justice Richard
15 Goldstone, the author of the Goldstone Report,
16 wrote an op-ed in the Washington Post about the
17 Goldstone Report and stated that more information
18 is now available regarding the Gaza War of 2008–
19 2009 and that, “If I had known then what I know
20 now, the Goldstone Report would have been a dif-
21 ferent document.”.

22 (4) Justice Goldstone reiterated the following
23 well known fact: “That the crimes allegedly com-
24 mitted by Hamas were intentional goes without say-

1 ing—its rockets were purposefully and indiscrimi-
2 nately aimed at civilian targets.”.

3 (5) Evidence that was made available following
4 the Goldstone Report confirms that Israel as a mat-
5 ter of policy did not intentionally target civilians.

6 (6) Justice Goldstone reiterated the well known
7 fact that the United Nations Human Rights Council
8 has long held a bias against Israel.

9 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
10 gress that now that evidence is available that undoubtedly
11 nullifies the most controversial aspects of the Goldstone
12 Report, the United Nations should formally retract the
13 Goldstone Report.

14 **SEC. 2. WITHHOLDING OF UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTIONS**
15 **TO THE UNITED NATIONS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall with-
17 hold United States contributions to the regularly assessed
18 biennial budget of the United Nations until such time as
19 the United Nations formally retracts the final report of
20 the “United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza
21 Conflict” (commonly referred to as the “Goldstone Re-
22 port”) that was presented to the United Nations Humans
23 Rights Council during its 12th Session, in Geneva, on Sep-
24 tember 29, 2009. The withheld contributions shall be re-

1 turned to the general fund of the Treasury to be used for
2 debt reduction purposes.

3 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “formally
4 retracts” means a resolution adopted by the United Na-
5 tions stating that insufficient information relating to the
6 subject matter of the report referred to in subsection (a)
7 was available before the release of such report and such
8 report is annulled.

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