

REASSESSMENT OF MAJOR CONCERN TO JEWISH LEADERS, WHO RAP GULF

NEW YORK (WNS) -- A two day national leadership conference of 300 Jewish leaders ended with the adoption of resolutions voicing "concern" about the Administration's reassessment of American policy in the Mideast and endorsed "acts of conscience" against the Gulf Oil Company.

The resolution on reassessment at the assembly convened by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, expressed "concern" that while new military aid commitments to Israel had been barred during the reassessment period the U.S. has agreed to provide Jordan with \$100 million worth of "Hawk" anti-aircraft missiles. "We call on the Administration to strengthen American and military support of Israel, not only for Israel's security but for America's as well," the resolution said.

The resolution on Gulf Oil said that the member organizations of the Presidents Conference "advised their membership that their organizations approve and endorse acts of conscience taken by individual members reacting to the Gulf Oil Corporation's gift to Arab sources in Beirut, Lebanon for propaganda purposes in the U.S." A Presidents Conference spokesman said there was no definition given of the term "acts of conscience" but agreed it could be interpreted by some to mean turning in Gulf credit cards and refusing to buy the company's oil.

Yosef Tekoah, who is leaving the post of Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, urged American Jewry to demonstrate "an un-

remitting display of Jewish strength on the side of Israel" even though in her struggle for peace, Israel may find the "need to adopt positions or take steps which do not find favor with others." Tekoah stressed to the assembly that the future of American Jewry and Israel "are irrevocably interlocked." He said that "Israel's survival is not in doubt...the problem is whether Israel's strength will be maintained at a level that will give it security, deter Arab aggression and enable Israel to attain peace with its neighbors, including the establishment of defensible boundaries, a prerequisite for durable peace." Tekoah reiterated his government's readiness to exchange territory for concrete political commitments to peace.

Sen. Birch Bayh (D. Ind.) told the Assembly that the letter by 76 Senators to President Ford "put the Administration on notice that Congressional support for Israel is undiminished." He said that Israel had nothing to fear from the reassessment of policy because "If it is nothing more than a high-handed scare tactic...then it will surely backfire" but if it "is truly a review of our options then I am convinced that...our commitment to Israeli independence, will emerge strengthened."

John Scali, U.S. Ambassador to the UN, and Arthur Goldberg, former UN Ambassador, told the Assembly that they believed peace in the Mideast could be achieved through the framework of Security Council Resolution 242 adopted after the Six Day War in 1967 and Resolution 338 adoption following the Yom Kippur War in 1973.

GULF OIL'S "DEEP CONCERN"

NEW YORK (WNS) -- The Gulf Oil Corporation has expressed "deep concern" about a resolution adopted by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations endorsing "acts of conscience" by members in response to Gulf's support of Arab propaganda efforts.

The resolution "approves and endorses acts of conscience taken by individual members reacting to the Gulf Oil gift to Arab sources in Beirut, Lebanon, for propaganda purposes in the United States." A Presidents Conference spokesman reiterated an earlier statement that the resolution "speaks for itself." But the company in a statement issued at its Pittsburgh headquarters, urged the

Presidents Conference to await the outcome of the investigation of the apparently illegal payment Gulf chairman, Bob R. Dorsey, told a Senate subcommittee that his company had paid for a public relations campaign for the Arab position in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"We are deeply concerned about this resolution," the company statement said. "It is based upon incomplete information about a contribution which is one part of an on-going investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission. We would hope that when this investigation reveals all the circumstances surrounding the contribution that the American Jewish leaders will reconsider their action."

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MINI WAR NEW ARAB STRATEGY

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- The new strategy of the Arabs is for a piecemeal draining of Israel's military strength in a series of mini-wars along the borders rather than a full-scale final assault. Defense Minister Shimon Peres warned in an address at the annual convention of the Israel Journalists Association.

He said the Arabs were conducting their strategy on the basis of massive arms acquisitions from the Soviet Union and the West and their overwhelming numerical strength in manpower. "The Arabs have reached the

conclusion that it would be best for them to exploit their one indisputable advantage -- their numerical superiority -- by increasing the number of countries involved directly against Israel, by mobilizing large numbers of soldiers and accumulating vast quantities of arms in the hope that their quantitative superiority would eventually overcome Israel's qualitative edge," Peres said.

However, he predicted that Israel would be able to maintain a reasonable balance of power in the Middle East.

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- "Soviet Jewry and its needs should be made part of the agenda of every meeting between Administration officials and their Soviet counterparts," Stanley H. Lowell, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, told more than 250 Jewish leaders from the U.S. and abroad who were gathered here for a National Leadership Assembly to discuss the crisis facing Soviet Jews.



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