

HUMPHREY CHARGES
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States is to be the leader of the diverse nations it must be responsible for all nations and it cannot be in a position of forcing one side."

But Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, answering questions at the annual luncheon of the American Newspaper Publishers Association in New York denied that the U.S. has changed its policy in the Mideast and stressed that it has not lessened its commitment to the security and survival of Israel. "The President's goal in the Middle East is one of peace and stability," Rumsfeld said. "That has been our policy, that remains our policy and I guess it will in the future. President Ford has been attempting to see to the extent to which improved relationships with countries like Egypt can help the goal of peace in the Middle East and the security and survival of the State of Israel."

CARTER DENIES JEWISH BIAS

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- Charges by a former speechwriter that former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter said he does not need or care about the Jewish vote in his quest for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency have been denied by two of the candidates aides.

Robert Shrum, who quit after two weeks as a speechwriter for Carter, quoted the candidate as saying: We have to be cautious. We don't want to offend anybody...I don't want any more statements on the Middle East or Lebanon. (Sen. Henry) Jackson has all the Jews anyway. It doesn't matter how far I go. I won't get over four percent of the Jewish vote anyway, so forget it. We get the Christians.

Shrum, a former speech writer for Sen. George McGovern (D. SD), Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D. Maine) and former New York Mayor John V. Lindsay, said he did not believe that Carter intended the remark to be anti-Semitic

but rather as a concept of political pragmatism. Jody Powell, Carter's chief media spokesman, said that Carter "has expressed concern at the lack of support from Jewish voters," but "in a completely different context" from that stated by Shrum. Stuart Eizenstat, Carter's national issues coordinator and a leader of Atlanta's Jewish community, described the accusations as a "total fabrication." Powell said that if Carter spoke as Shrum claimed Eizenstat "would have walked out" of the staff meeting at which Eizenstat was chairman. Powell said that Carter, in Shrum's presence and at several different occasions, expressed concern at the lack of support from Jewish voters but his concern "was more of dismay and bewilderment." He said that Carter "has made repeated statements on the Middle East and he will continue to do so." Powell and Eizenstat are considered members of Carter's "official family" in his campaign.

Two others among the eight are also active in Atlanta's Jewish community - Robert J. Lipshutz, the campaign treasurer, and Gerald Rafshoon, the advertising director.



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