FRIDAY, JULY 22, 1977

ADMINISTRATION STATEMENT JEOPARDIZES PEACE. STEP TOWARDS ESCALATING

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes (R-Ariz.) has warned that the Carter Administration statement calling upon Israel to withdraw from all captured territories as part of a Middle East peace agreement is jeopardizing chances for peace in that area. Rhodes termed the State Department an-nouncement "an astonishing example of diplo-macy by publicity in which the Administration took still another steptoward escalating tensions in one of the world's most dangerous places." In a joint news conference with Senate Republican Leader Howard Baker, Rhoses charg-ed that the Carter policy is endangering "the carefully structured plans of President Ford and Dr. Kissinger to arrange a basis for peace megotiations between the parties themselves." "The Administration has escalated the rhetoric in a way that can only serve further to harden the lines." the House Republican Leader said in a statement that he read to newsmen. In response to a question later, Rhodes said, Israel to withdraw from all captured territories

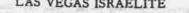
In response to a question later, Rhodes said, "I don't think that Israel is going to relinquish to the Syrians direct control of the Golan Heights. I would not. I think that Israel is going to be reluctant, and I would support their reluctance, to relinquish control of the Christian and Jewish Hely Places in Old Jerusalem."

Holy Places in Old Jerusalem." Rhodes observed that, before the Carter Ad-ministration statements, the United States "had never given a formula for a settlement in the Middle East" but rather had sought to have the parties make the settlement themselves.

"I'm afraid that the statements which have been made represent a very wide departure from that. We are actually telling the people of the Middle East the shape of the settlement. I think that's not likely to be successful." NEVADA SENATOR JACK SCHOFIELD, LEFT, GREETS WORLD WAR II ACE GREGORY (PAPPY) BOYINGTON AT THE HOTEL SA-HARA DURING BOYINGTON'S RECENT VISIT TO ADDRESS THE UNLV WORKSHOP IN AERO-SPACE EDUCATION, SCHOFIELD, DIRECTOR OF THE WORKSHOP FOR NINE YEARS, ALSO WAS A WW II COMBAT PILOT. BOYINGTON'S EXPLOITS AS A FIGHTER PILOT IN THE PACIFIC GAVE RISE TO THE CURRENT TELE-VISION SERIES "BAA BAA BLACK SHEEP."

In the prepared statement, Rhodes said: "We have no desire to make the search for seace in the Middle East a matter for partisan

debate. But recent events require comment. The carefully structured plans of President Ford and Dr. Kissinger to arrange a basis for peace nego-tiations between the parties themselves achieved



a considerable degree of success. Because the

results of that patient negotiation are now en-

dangered, we feel obliged to speak out." "On Monday (June 27) the State Department publicly defined the Carter Administration's view of the proper elements of a Middle Eastern settlement. It was an astonishing example of diplomacy by publicity, in which the Administration diplomacy by publicity, in which the Administra-tion took still another step toward escalating tensions in one of the world's most dangerous

places. "We do not question the President's commit-ment to peace, but it is our duty as Minority Leaders in Congress to take note that the Administration's position is in sharp contrast to a foreign policy in which the United States assisted the Arab and Israeli governments in a calm and rational negotiating process that brought about a fragile peace." "We believe that the President's statement

has raised the expectations of one of the parties to the dispute and has placed the other in a position in which it may no longer repose its full confidence in the United States as an im-partial and objective arbiter. We believe the Administration has escalated the rhetoric in way that can only serve further to harden the

'We have to remember three things because you can be sure that the Arabs and Israelis understand them. One, no country will negotiate its own destruction. Two, no country will negotiate

own destruction. Two, no country will negotiate seriously if it can get what it wants outside of the negotiations. Three, any effective media-tor must preserve a posture of impartiality. "As Leaders of the Republican Party in Congress, we wish to express the view that open covenants arrived at between the parties quietly and with adequate preparation are the best and the only way to bring real peace to the Middle East. When the question of peace and war is at stake, the issue must be approached with the care it deserves."

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said the "were Joseph companies being used as innocent pawns in an Arab propaganda effort to

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