

U.S. DISAPPOINTED BY PLO 242 REFUSAL

WASH. (WNS) -- The United States has admitted that it is "disappointed" that the Palestine Liberation Organization National Council has rejected approval of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242.

State Department spokesman Hodding Carter expressed this view when he came under repeated questioning over why the Department had criticized Israel for its position while not making any comments on the Arabs, especially the PLO. "We counted on all parties" in the Middle East to work for a peaceful solution to the conflict," Carter said. "Clearly we are disappointed" that the PLO action "makes it less possible." Carter said the U.S. was "hopeful"

the PLO would change its mind.

Meanwhile, the State Department dismissed PLO chieftan Yasir Arafat's statement that he had enlisted the services of the Soviet Union to oppose U.S. efforts in the Mideast. The Department issued a terse statement saying: "We are continuing contacts with the Soviet Union regarding the Middle East. The United States and the Soviet Union are co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference. We have nothing to say about comments by third parties about our mutual role."

Arafat's statement came after he visited Moscow and met with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

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BEGIN GOVT. TO STRESS FREE ENTERPRISE

ATLANTA (WNS) -- Israeli Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich declared here that Israel will place a greater emphasis on free enterprise and less on government participation in the economy.

Speaking to the opening session of the 1977 International Fall Leadership Conference of the Israel Bond Organization, Ehrlich said one of the principles of the new Likud government is to phase out government control and ownership of certain leading economic enterprises and to expand "government participation in building up the infrastructure for our economy." He said his government plans "to adapt our economic structure to the pattern of the American economy in keeping with the special circumstance prevailing in Israel."

The three-day conference was attended by more than 700 Jewish leaders from the United States and Canada. Sam Rothberg, general

chairman of the Israel Bond Organization, said that between the High Holidays and December 31 intensive activities will be conducted in Jewish communities to sell Bonds.

ISRAEL'S MILITARY STRENGTH IMPROVED

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Israel is militarily strong enough to have almost complete political freedom in the upcoming year, Chief of Staff Gen. Mordechai Gur said in an interview on the Army Broadcasting Service.

He warned that if there were further cuts in the military budgets this would limit both Israel's defense and political capabilities. Gur said that during the last 12 months Israel's army has been strengthened greatly. He said there is a steady increase in the number of volunteers.

Gur said that there is an attempt to place women soldiers in army jobs previously held ex-

clusively by men to free men for combat units. He revealed that the Israeli air force will allow women to become pilots and one female officer is now taking a pilot's training course. "She may not be a Phantom pilot," he said, "but she should be able to fly

a Hercules (transport plane) or a helicopter. That would not be too bad."

He noted that the Israeli navy has already trained women officers for such important on-shore positions as manning electronics equipment.

HUSSEIN WARNS OF NEW MIDEAST WAR

PARIS (WNS) -- A new Middle East war may breakout and this time could turn into a world conflict, King Hussein of Jordan warned here. "This is not a matter of optimism or pessimism," Hussein said. "It is a question of realism and the danger of war is

real." The Jordanian king is in France to seek West European backing for his plan for a Palestinian-Jordanian federation with himself as head of state.

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PEACE PLAN

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Israeli officials noted that the Cairo conference pointed out the differences between Egypt and Syria with Egypt seeking more moderate platforms.

In Washington the State Department had no comment on Saudi Arabia's renewed declaration that regaining Jerusalem from Israel is "the prime cause of Islam." In a radio broadcast monitored in Cyprus, the Saudian Minister of Information said Saudi Arabia would support the Palestinians against Israel until they had returned to their homeland.

Happy New Year



Howard W. Cannon
U.S. Senator



May you be inscribed
in the Book of Life
For a good
and prosperous year--
And may all these blessings
come as well
To those whom you hold dear.

JOYCE AND ALVIN KORNGOLD
KLAVradio1230



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Friends

A Very Happy
and Healthy
New Year