

HOWARD BAKER SAYS REAGAN

(Continued from Page 1)  
 from friends of Israel who are opposed to the sale of the arms package to the Saudis. But he stressed that the "Israel lobby" is made up of "good people" who are "seriously concerned about the security and survival of Israel." However he noted Congress must adopt a package that "serves America's best interests."

Earlier in the week, the Reagan Administration continued its attempt to convince Israel and its friends in the United States that the sale of AWACS electronic reconnaissance planes would not result in a "realistic threat to Israel." The attempted reassurances came in the form of a statement read by State Department spokesman Dean Fischer. He listed the reasons why the AWACS would not threaten Israel as:

"AWACS will be used primarily to protect Saudi oil fields; essentially (it) is a flying radar platform which can detect and follow movement of airborne aircraft; it cannot detect militarily significant ground activity, and it will have no radio monitoring, photo reconnaissance or intelligence gathering capabilities; it could not be used with combat aircraft of other countries without extensive job training and U.S. supplied computer and communications equipment; Saudi AWACS operations will depend on U.S. spare parts, maintenance and support of

operations; and on AWACS aircraft flying close enough to Israel to monitor its aircraft would be vulnerable to being shot down by Israeli fighter aircraft."

The statement concluded that "obviously prudent Israeli planners would have to take Saudi AWACS into account in their calculation. But the overwhelming impact of the sale will be to enhance Saudi defensive capabilities -- not to threaten Israel."

ISRAELIS ATTACK LEBANON TERRORISTS

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Israeli aircraft raided two Palestine Liberation Organization bases recently in southern Lebanon, according to a military spokesman. The air raids were on the PLO concentrations at Al-haliya, about a mile northeast of the south Lebanese port of Sidon, through which the terrorists obtain much of their supplies and from where groups have set sail for Is-

rael in the past and near Nabatiya, north of Metulla. The army said the purpose of the raids was to prevent the terrorists organizing for raids into Is-

rael.

Meanwhile, Haim Bra - Lev, recently named by Labor Party head Shimon Peres as his Defense Minister in any future cabinet he will be called on to form, said during a tour of Galilee that Israel's policy in southern Lebanon has proved successful and justified. He said he did not think there was any need for physical intervention in Lebanon at the pre-

sent time though a careful watch should be maintained on any escalation of the situation.



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