

# AFTERMATH OF AWACS SALE

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- After 10 hours of heated debate, opponents of President Reagan's \$8.5 billion arms sale to Saudi Arabia lost Oct. 28 when the Senate rejected a resolution of disapproval by a 52 - 48 vote. Although the House rejected the sale by a 3 - 1 margin earlier in October, the Senate also had to vote against it in order to veto the sale of five AWACS reconnaissance planes and enhancement equipment for 6 American made F-15 fighters the Saudis previously purchased from the United States.

Only two days before foes of the transaction had counted on 54 sure votes against it. But intensive lobbying and persuasion by President Reagan directly to wavering and uncommitted Senators turned the tide. In the end, many if not most of the Senators who decided to back the President did so despite widely expressed feelings that the deal was a bad one, to support the President's prestige.

Others agreed with Israel that the strengthening of Saudi Arabia carried threats to Israel's military security. Expressing fears of many such Senators, William Cohen (R, Maine) said he voted for the sale because he was afraid Israel would become the scapegoat if the sale was rejected and that anti-Semitic backlash might occur in the U.S. Cohen called the Saudi government about as "moderate" as Yasir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization. But he stressed the view as did others in the Senate that the decision was a "no win" situation for Israel.

The President sent assurances to Senators in which he promised that before the start of the transfer of the AWACS to the Saudis, starting in 1985, he would "certify" to the Senate he had received an agreement from the Saudis aimed at preventing the use of the aircraft -- presumably the beefed up F-15s -- against Israel. The Administration's process of diluting the presumed Saudi commitment to aid in the Mideast peace process was underway within a few hours after that low key commitment was made.

Meanwhile, just a day after the vote in the Senate, a State Department expert, Peter Constable said that while he did not expect the approval of the arms sale to result in Saudi participation in the peace process "directly," still he said, the Saudis had been demonstrating evidence of support for Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his stated intentions to continue the Camp David peace process.

Constable, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs, made the statement in responding to questions at a day-long National Foreign Policy Conference in Washington. His view was based on an editorial in the official Saudi newspaper, Al-Madina.

Constable quoted the editorial as saying "we do not and must not expect President Mubarak to abrogate the Camp David agreements at this time for a number of reasons. This non-starter was nevertheless described by Constable as a "significant and supportive statement." Constable also reiterated the Reagan Administration assurances about sustaining Israel's military strength but declined to say whether any additional weapons sales to Israel were being planned.

The formal reaction in Israel was the same after the Senate vote as before. After a special Cabinet session, Premier Begin said "a new and grave danger faces Israel." He said the government regretted the agreement with Saudi Arabia "which is in a state of war with Israel, opposed to the Camp David accords and finances

terrorism in our region." He said that, before the Senate vote, he had received a letter from President Reagan, which pledged the U.S. would help maintain Israel's military edge.

Begin read the Reagan letter to newsmen and commented "Let us hope these assurances will be implemented." He praised the 48 Senators who voted to block the sale, saying they had led the "just campaign" against the sale "with courage and dignity."

American Jewish leaders responded promptly to the news with renewed expressions of fears that it represented a potential threat to Israel's security. They called on the Reagan Administration to repair the damage done by some Administration power brokers who appeared to challenge the loyalty of foes of the arms transaction.

## "LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL"



SAHARA CLASSIC -- THIS AWARD-WINNING, CLASSIC 1957 CHEVROLET WILL BE THE GRAND PRIZE IN THE SAHARA HOTEL'S GIANT "LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL" CELEBRATION HONORING THE RESORT'S NEW LOOK -- FRONT ENTRANCE AND CASINO -- AND THE BEGINNING OF THE HOTEL'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR. THE CELEBRATION FEATURES FABULOUS FOOD, BEVERAGE AND GAMING SPECIALS RECALLING THE DAYS WHEN THE HOTEL OPENED AND SUNDAY THROUGH FRIDAY DRAWINGS FOR CASH AND SILVER BULLION.

## PALESTINIAN ARRESTED

VIENNA (WNS) --- Abu Nidal. Austrian police arrested a Palestinian who they believe planned and organized the killing of Vienna City Councilman Heinz Nittel and the attack on the synagogue in the Austrian capital. According to the Interior Ministry, police in Salzburg arrested Bahij Younis, 28, who was carrying a Jordanian passport. A search in his home produced a number of handguns, hand grenades, and several Arab passports. Police believe he is one of the top organizers of the extremist Palestinian group, Al Asifa, headed by

Abu Nidal. After the attack

on the Vienna synagogue August 29 where two persons were killed and 18 injured, two terrorists were apprehended. They claimed to be members of Al Asifa.

During their interrogation one of them, Muhammed Radjai, confessed to having killed Nittel, president of the Israeli - Austrian Friendship Society, on May 1. In both terrorist acts, Radjai said he received instructions and guns from a Palestinian officer in Vienna, whose name he would not give.

## How to Honor Roy Wilkins

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

The late Roy Wilkins served not only the American black community with rare tact and effectiveness for half a century but brought a great sector of the entire populace together in understanding during the long, often bitter civil rights struggle.

Along the way, the heroic leader of the NAACP mastered both strategy and tactics leading to legislation guaranteeing equality of opportunity.

Also, along the way, he demonstrated the value of a sense of humor. When the right-to-vote issue was on the top burner, I remember hearing him tell a number of us toiling in the community relations field about an Alabama happening when a black citizen, longing to exercise his newly-minted right to vote, faced the small town election commissioner. "Let me hear you recite the Declaration of Independence," the commissioner demanded of the applicant. And the latter began: "Four score and seven years ago, this nation---" The master of the ballot box turned to a fellow Yahoo in amazement and shouted "By gum, he knows it!"

That election board ignoramus may be long gone, but if he's alive and following the news, he must be astounded now to note that President Reagan ordered American flags to be flown at half-staff on all government buildings in honor of Roy Wilkins while the nation mourned.

This was a pathfinder who received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1969. Great institutions of learning including Columbia, Swarthmore, Fordham, Oberlin, Notre Dame, gave him honorary degrees.

So did Hebrew Union College in 1971. And the following year, he was named an Honorary Fellow of Hebrew University. When he died in September, leader of key Jewish organizations took paid newspaper space to extol him. Arnold Aronson, distinguished Jewish community relations professional, touched the hearts of all at the Wilkins funeral when he recalled that Mr. Wilkins was the living embodiment of "that human dignity that is the birthright of every man and woman."

**Printing While-U-Wait!**  
**FAST & INEXPENSIVE**  
 "WE WILL WORK OVERTIME FOR YOU!"  
**VEGAS instant PRINTING**  
**732-3966**  
 555 E. SAHARA AVE. • LAS VEGAS • "IN BUTTERFLY SQUARE"

SINCE 1962  
**dazey travel service inc.**  
 5408 Paradise Rd. 736-2909  
 4601 W. Sahara "Y" 876-8470  
 4545 E. Trop. No. 9 456-6717  
 Las Vegas, Nevada  
 Completely Computerized  
 Airline Reservations  
**"be lazy - call dazey"**

**TYREE CARR, M.D.**  
 is pleased to announce the opening of his practice in  
**OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OPHTHALMIC SURGERY**  
 at the Red Rock Medical Center,  
 5701 W. Charleston Blvd. Suite 208  
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102  
**877-6226** By Appointment

**Nevada's Largest Selection**  
 • Cigars • Lighters • Pipes  
 Engraving on Premises  Unique Gifts Open 7 Days  
 Fashion Show on the Strip 731-2555  
 BLVD. MALL 3536 Maryland Pkwy. 734-2044

**AMERICAN Tax Accounting**  
 Larry L. Voight  
 1806 South Main  
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101  
 (702) 384-9887