

SHULTZ SAYS U.S., ISRAEL STRONG

WASH. (WNS) -- Secretary of State George Shultz, in an appearance on the NBC-TV "Meet the Press" program, said that despite Israel's actions in Lebanon, the Jewish State continues to remain a true and trusted ally of the United States. "I believe that in all things we do, we must always be cognizant and careful about the security of Israel," he said.

At a press conference, Shultz said also that despite the apparent "strains" in the relations between the two countries, "We are completely committed to the support of the security of Israel." He said also that "there were some occasions when it seemed to us that the Israeli military actions were excessive and we said so." Shultz added: "Underneath it all, the relationship between the U.S. and Israel remains a strong one."

Speaking on a range of Middle East issues, Shultz said that continued Israeli settlements on the West Bank were "not constructive" despite whether they are legal or illegal. But throughout his interview on the televised news program, Shultz refused to be brought into criticism of Israeli policies. He said he did not want to leave a "tone" that all the problems in the region are "created by Israel."

Shultz indicated that success in the long stalled negotiations for autonomy for the Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip "involved delicate interplay between the processes that are involved and the substance you are trying to achieve." He said that the Camp David process can be interpreted in many ways and that negotiations were crucial in determining the resolution to the Palestinian problem. He said that the Palestinians should have a role in determining the conditions under which they will live, obliquely referring to some form of Palestinian participation in the negotiating process.

Shultz said at his press conference that "the prospects for peace, particularly in the light of the conflict in Lebanon... should convince people that if there is

any genuine prospect for peace it should be seized, and perhaps that would be an incentive for everyone to give and take and try to construct something that might work."

Shultz noted that for a successful outcome to emerge from the negotiations, other nations in the region must be brought into the peace process. He did not indicate how the Administration intended to involve other nations in the Camp David peace process. He said that the Camp David framework however continues to provide "ample basis and a good basis" for any ongoing negotiations.

MONDALE WANTS CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Former Vice President Walter F. Mondale expressed the view that the present Administration is "making a mistake in de-emphasizing" the Camp David agreement as the basis for

peace in the Middle East.

Addressing more than 700 American and Canadian leaders attending the 1982 International Israel Bond Leadership Conference at the Washington Hilton Hotel, the former Vice President said that no President of the U.S. should "intimidate, undermine or threaten" the security of Israel.

The U.S. should do everything possible to encourage Egypt and Israel to continue the peace process but it must not use any pressure or do anything to undermine Israel's negotiating position.

"No PLO state in the past. No PLO state now and no PLO state in the future. A Jerusalem forever united must remain the capital of Israel," he said.

Mr. Mondale paid warm tribute to Sam Rothberg, General Chairman of the Bond Organization. He described Mr. Rothberg as a "magnificent American and a most tireless and effective leader for Israel."

Mr. Mondale urged the appointment of a high level senior official in the Administration who would

speak for the President to serve as a negotiator in the Camp David autonomy talks.

"Peace, like war, must be waged," the former Vice President said, "and that's what the Israel Bond effort is all about." He said that Israel Bonds "not only build Israel but build and wage peace," praising the Israel Bond Organization for its program in building every element of Israel's infrastructure in agriculture and industry and projects in the Negev to replace those given up when Israel gave up the Sinai under the Camp David accords.

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