

REAGAN MIXES ARAB GROUP IF PLO COMES

WASH. (WNS) -- The Reagan Administration has made it clear that it will not receive a PLO representative included in an Arab League delegation scheduled for a meeting with President Reagan.

The American position was laid down in statements issued by the White House and the State Department following an announcement in Rabat, Morocco that PLO foreign policy spokesman Farouk Kaddoumi would be a member of the delegation. The decision to include a PLO representative in the Arab delegation was made at a meeting of the Arab League's "special committee on Palestine" chaired by King Hassan of Mor-

occo, reports said.

The Administration stated: "Our position on the PLO is unchanged. King Hassan is aware of our position. We would not receive any member of the PLO as part of a delegation nor do we expect any member of the PLO to participate in the delegation." The U.S. position, reiterated by the State Department, is that it will have no contact with the PLO until the latter recognizes Israel's right to exist and accepts United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

The Moroccan announcement said the seven-member delegation would consist of King Hassan, representatives of Saudi Arabia, Syria,

Tunisia, Algeria, Jordan and Kaddoumi of the PLO. The PLO reportedly complained to the Arab League committee that its exclusion from a delegation whose purpose was to negotiate on the future of the Palestinian people would be unnatural and humiliating. The Arab League has never revised its 1974 Rabat summit decision affirming the PLO to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

CASUALTY FIGURES

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Israel suffered 368 men dead, and 2,383 wounded in the war. In Lebanon, an army spokesman announced. The official figures cover the period from last June 6 when Israel launched its "Peace for Galilee" operation until October 10. In addition, eight Israeli soldiers are prisoners of the Palestinians, three are prisoners of war in Syria, and five are listed as missing.

Syrian troops; the U.S. does not see this as a realistic proposal. Israel is opposed outright to any continued role for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in policing the southern border zone; the U.S. wants to keep this option open. Israel wants a special role for the Christian forces of Maj. Saad Haddad; the U.S. opposes this, although Israeli sources said Shultz did not say so specifically in his talk with Shamir.

SHAMIR - SHULTZ TALKS OPTIMISTIC

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Israeli officials are expressing optimism that the meeting between Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Washington helped restore substantive dialogue between the countries and had gone a long way to ease the tensions that arose during recent weeks over the situation in Lebanon. Officials also noted that Israeli-Lebanese contacts have been established in Beirut on the issue of Israeli security and withdrawal proposals.

Following the weekly Cabinet meeting, Israeli officials, after being briefed on these diplomatic developments, spoke of a "not unfavorable" reception by both American and Lebanese representatives for Israel's proposals for Lebanon. Washington, it was said, had seemed to accept the Israeli ideas as a "reasonable" basis for discussion. Israel, ostensibly, is seeking a full peace treaty with Lebanon, but in practice Israel's immediate goal is a formal agreement on security arrangement, and hopefully, elements of normalization which would include open borders. Israel also wants the contacts with Lebanon to be formal and official, just as it wants a formal

and official agreement at the end of the process.

While media reports in Israel following the Shamir - Shultz meeting spoke of some tough talks between the two men over President Reagan's Middle East peace proposals and the West Bank settlements, Israeli officials played down this aspect and instead stressed the "constructive" dialogue over Lebanon. However, the officials acknowledged that there are still differences between the U.S. and Israel over Lebanon as well.

Israel is calling for the PLO to be removed from Lebanon even before the simultaneous withdrawal of Israeli and

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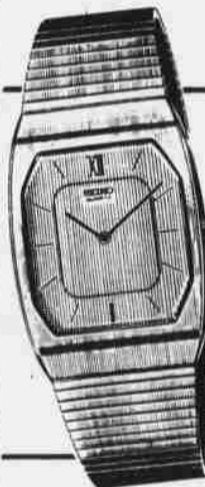
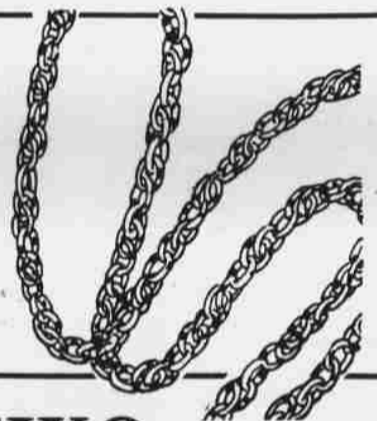
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