

Reid Seeks Tighter Procurement Procedures In Defense Department

WASHINGTON — Following up on his Campaign '84 pledge to tighten or restrict abusive military procurement procedures in the Defense Department, Rep. Harry Reid recently supported several amendments to the Defense Department Authorization for Fiscal Year 1986.

"These provisions would help to curtail decades of waste in defense spending," said Reid, a member of the House Military Reform Caucus, "without hurting, in any way, our high level of national defense."

Amendments Reid supported would:

- authorize the Inspector General of the Defense Department to stop payment to defense contractors in cases involving waste, fraud, abuse or excessive charges;
- provide criminal penalties when defense contractors have repeatedly submitted claims for disallowed costs;
- prohibit any person with significant procurement responsibility from becoming an employee of any defense contractor with whom he or she dealt for a period of two years after he or she leaves government service;
- require that only competitive award procedures be used by the Defense Department in awarding contracts for major weapons systems (dual source); and
- perform a study of General Accounting Office and Congressional Budget Office experts to report on how to establish a civilian military procurement agency.

Israel Calls For International Conference On Terrorism

TEL AVIV (WNS) — Transport Minister Haim Corfu urged the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to convene a special conference on terrorism and aerial hijacking.

He proposed that the conference should discuss means to tighten security at airports and aboard aircraft. He urged member countries of the ICAO and their airlines to rise above politics and boycott countries that fail to take adequate measures against hijackers or refused to prosecute them when they are caught.

The ICAO is headquartered in Montreal. Its current president, Assad Kotaite, is a Lebanese.

Government Bars Office For PLO In Argentina

BUENOS AIRES — The Argentine government has declared that "there is not and will not be a PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) office" in Argentina.

According to Alfredo Neuberger, B'nai B'rith International assistant director for Latin America, "this is the first time the government has made such a definitive statement regarding the PLO's status in Argentina."

Addressing a monthly public affairs forum of B'nai B'rith Argentina, Jorge Sabato, undersecretary for foreign relations of this Latin American government, indicated that the regime of President Raul Alfonsin strongly supports the rights of the Palestinian people. At the same time, the government also supports Israel's right to exist as an independent state, he pointed out.

Sabato emphasized Argentina's position condemning violence as a means of attempting to resolve international disputes and called for diplomatic solutions instead.

Asked about Argentina's votes against Israel in the United Nations, the undersecretary said that his country opposed such Israeli actions as the bombing of Iraq's nuclear facility several years ago.



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