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Governor's Meeting with Conference of President's Jewish Organizations

POINTS FOR RVA

- Session to be taped by us
- Gene Rostow present
- Governor to be briefed on:
 - (1) His B'nai B'rith position (Attachment 1)
 - (2) Carter's session with Jewish leaders -- his false claims (Attachment 2)
 - (3) Likely questions from Jewish leaders not covered in Governor's B'nai B'rith positions (Attachment 3) *eliminated*
 - (4) Governor's long support for Israel dating back to 1946 ought to be touched on (by Rostow?) to counter Mondale argument that George Bush, for past 16 years, had not come out in support of Israel, and more importantly, to contrast with lack of Carter's pro-Israel positions prior to 1976.

Israel is not only a nation -- it is a symbol. During my campaign I have spoken of the values of family, work, neighborhood, peace and freedom. I made a commitment to see to it that those values would be at the heart of policy-making in a Reagan Administration. Israel symbolizes those values.

The long agony of Jews in the Soviet Union is, of course, never far from our minds and hearts. All these suffering people ask is that their families get the chance to live where they choose, in freedom and peace. They will not be forgotten by a Reagan Administration.

Neither the survival of Israel nor the ability of the United States to bring pressure to bear on the situation of dissidents against tyranny can become realistic policy choices if our American economy continues to deteriorate under the Carter policies of high unemployment, taxes and inflation.

The touchstone of our relationship with Israel is that a secure, strong Israel is in America's self-interest. Israel is a major strategic asset to America.

Israel is not a client, but a very reliable friend, which is not something that can always be said of the United States today under the Carter Administration.

As an ally of the United States, Israel must have the means to remain strong and secure. Over the years, the United States has provided economic and defense assistance, and a Reagan Administration will maintain this traditional commitment.

Because of the weak and confused leadership of Jimmy Carter, we are approaching a flashpoint in this tragic process, with Soviet power now deployed in a manner which directly threatens Iran, the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea; with Soviet forces and proxy forces building up again in the region; with Soviet fleets and air bases emplaced along the sea lanes on which we and our Allies and the entire free world depend.

Most important, we must rebuild our lost reputation for trustworthiness. We must again become a nation that can be relied upon to live up to its commitments.

I was appalled to see the Carter Administration abstain from voting on, rather than veto, the Resolution passed by the United Nations Security Council two weeks ago, totally disregarding the Democratic Platform promises of 1976 and 1980. As I stated then, that Resolution not only undermines progress toward peace by putting the United Nations on record against Israel and on one side of the sensitive issue of the status of Jerusalem; it also presumes to order other nations -- including our Dutch ally -- to move their embassies from Jerusalem.

Clear away the debris of the past four years, and the following issues remain to test the good faith of the Arab nations and of Israel, and to challenge our national will and diplomatic skill in helping them to shape a peace.

There is the unresolved question of territorial rights resulting from the 1967 war.

There is the status of Jerusalem which is part of the first question.

There is the matter of refugees.

There is the matter of the P.L.O, which I consider distinct from the matter of the refugees.

The question of territory, putting aside Jerusalem for the moment, must still be decided in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. We will tolerate no effort to supersede those Resolutions. We must weigh the future utility of the Camp David accords against that position.

Negotiations between Israel and Jordan could result in long and creative steps toward resolving these problems. Israel and Jordan are the two Palestinian states envisioned and authorized by the United Nations. Jordan is now recognized as sovereign in some 80 percent of the old territory of Palestine. Israel and Jordan are the parties primarily authorized to settle the future of the unallocated territories, in accordance with the principles of the Mandate and the provisions of Resolutions 242 and 338.

Jerusalem has been a source of man's spiritual inspiration since King David founded it. Its centrality to Jewish life is known to all.

Jerusalem is now and will continue to be one city, undivided, with continuing free access for all.

President Carter refuses to brand the P.L.O. as a terrorist organization. I have no hesitation in doing so.

The P.L.O. is said to represent the Palestinian refugees. It represents no one but the leaders who established it as a means of organizing aggression against Israel.

This nation made an agreement with Israel in 1975 concerning its relations with the P.L.O. This Administration has violated that agreement.

One solution to this refugee problem could be assimilation in Jordan, designated by the U.N. as the Arab Palestinian state. In the final analysis, this or some other solution must be found as part of a peace settlement.

Jimmy Carter's Session with Jewish Leaders

Mr. Carter met on September 8th with the Conference of President's Jewish Organizations.

-- Some of the invitees refused to attend.

Some of Carter's arguments were:

- (1) Republican tax cuts would result in loss of aid to cities.
- (2) Aid to Israel now at highest level in history.

Counter argument: Israel had to give up Sinai oil field and bases in Sinai. Hence, large part of increased U. S. aid is quid pro quo for Sinai withdrawal.

Carter also said he had to persuade Congress to increase aid to Israel.

Comment: Not true.

- (3) A Reagan Administration would have John Connally in charge of (or influencing) foreign policy and energy policy.
- (4) Governor Reagan does not have a policy to cope with OPEC.
- (5) Saudi Arabia is a strong moderating force. It is not a major military threat.

Comment: Carter is right in saying that Saudi Arabia is not strong militarily. But to claim that it is a strong moderating force is optimistic.

- (6) Saudis did not really ask for extra equipment (fuel tanks) for F-15; and Harold Brown did not say a decision on extra equipment would be held in abeyance until after the election.

Comment: According to many good sources, these assertions of Carter are plainly untrue. Thus, the Governor's point in his B'nai B'rith speech holds up. RR said "...it was Mr. Carter who agreed to sell sixty F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia. To get Congress to go along, he assured that these aircraft would not have certain offensive capabilities. Now, the Secretary of Defense tells us he cannot say whether this commitment to Congress will be honored."

- (7) Iraq has moved away from the Soviet Union, might now play a more constructive role. (By implication: Carter's arms assistance to Iraq was a good move.)