

Mondale's chief of staff, Richard Moe, is now meeting daily, ostensibly to map out a strategy for rounding up votes to sustain Carter's defense appropriations veto. But sources say that Mondale and national security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski will play leading roles in "selling the Administration's case" — casting the White House in as provocative a posture as possible. According to the *Washington Post*, Mondale has already gotten into the act, hosting 150 businessmen at the White House Aug. 23 to garner their support for the veto.

The chief irony of the situation is that the issues on which Carter has chosen to act aggressively are either irrelevant in the long run — like the \$2 billion aircraft carrier appropriation — or, like the energy program, completely inimical to the nation's vital interests — and wildly unpopular to boot.

### *Mondale Vs. Mideast Peace*

Mondale's attempt to disrupt Carter's already fragile relations with Capitol Hill is no mere matter of political infighting, but part of a broader attempt by London-centered forces to prevent movement by Carter in a positive policy direction. This is nowhere more clear than in the case of the Camp David summit whose failure would constitute not only a mortal blow to Carter's prestige, but would lead almost inevitably to a major new conflagration in the Mideast and probable world war. Yet Mondale is working zealously to doom the summit before it begins.

According to Burton Josephs, executive director of the Anti-Defamation League — the foremost British-run "Zionist Lobby" organization — he has been meeting with the Vice President on a frequent basis to discuss the Mideast situation. The Vice-President, Josephs enthusiastically told an interviewer (see below), has been having "a lot of input" into the Administration's Mideast policy, and is determined to achieve two goals: getting the Administration to back off from its commitment to the October 1977 U.S.-Soviet joint communiqué and its related support for an independent Palestinian state. If Mondale and his Zionist Lobby cronies are successful, the Mideast will go up in flames.

—Kathleen Murphy

## ADLER: Mondale's Role: In Mideast Policy

*The following interview with Burton Joseph, executive director of the Anti-Defamation League, was made available to the Executive Intelligence Review this week.*

*Q: I understand that you are a good friend of Vice-President Mondale. I would like to know, in that light,*

*what you think about the role he has played in shaping Administration Middle East policy?*

A: Oh yes, indeed, he is a good friend of mine, a longtime friend, it goes back to when he was Attorney General of Minnesota. As to his Middle East policy, well of course it is the government's policy. But I believe that it has been influenced in a major measure by Mondale. Mondale has better relations with the Jewish community, he handles those relations with a great deal of skill. As a protégé of Hubert Humphrey, he understands the intricacies of the problem. Jimmy Carter had few relations with the Jewish community when he got into the White House and he has limited contact with them now.

*Q: What role is Mondale playing in regard to the Camp David meeting? And to what degree is Carter going to support Sadat there?*

A: He is having an increasing role. The comments from the Jewish community warning that Carter is backing Sadat are alarmist. I think there is a far greater degree of even-handedness from the Administration. The administration made some bonefaced policy statements that they are now revoking. The joint statement with the Soviets was a bonefaced statement. The statement on a Palestinian homeland was a bonefaced statement. Now they have learned to handle themselves better.

*Q: Do you think that Mondale played a major role in changing this policy from the administration?*

A: Yes I do. He very much was a part of it. The State Department did the joint statement, there was no reason to bring the Soviets in. Mondale made himself felt forcefully. Mondale is part of the upper counseling group. For the Camp David meeting he will not have an outfront role, when the president is there he sits back and lets him have the stage. But privately . . .

*Q: What do you think about the way that Mondale has been campaigning all over the country? Do you think he will help the administration get support — and what about his own presidential ambitions?*

A: He will definitely be a campaign strength. He handles himself with graciousness. In fact he is a better campaigner than the President.

I don't expect him to run for the presidency in 1980 because the President will run. Of course if the President decides not to run . . .

*Q: How long have you known the Vice-President?*

A: I know him even from before he was campaign manager for Humphrey. His destiny was stamped . . . he is a great guy. He was at a reception I was at last week; he pulled me aside because he had several important things to discuss. The time before that that I saw him we spent much more time together, an hour and a half. He will be coming out here the weekend before Labor Day again and I will see him then.