

# Arabs explain reasons for U.S. oil embargo

By Minister George 4X  
(Special to Muhammad Speaks)

NEW ORLEANS, La. — When your information is from the American press concerning the oil embargo imposed upon the United States and other Western nations that support Israel in her expansionist occupation of Palestinian and Arab land, one sees the Arabs as gangsters blackmailing innocent people, depriving them of fuel and energy.

**BUT AN ENTIRELY** different view is obtained when the position of the Arabs is presented by Arab representatives.

The correctness of, and the justification for their position is made even clearer when those Arab representatives are confronted and questioned by American businessmen and government officials.

An Arab delegation headed by two Arab oil ministers has been in the U.S. explaining the Arab oil embargo, the reasons for it, and how long it will last. They are, Sheik Ahmed Zaki al-Yamani of Saudi Arabia and Belaid Abdesalam, Algerian Minister of Industry and Energy and the president of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

**AFTER MEETINGS** in Washington, Minister Abdesalam visited New Orleans to explain the Arab policy to businessmen, especially oil businessmen of Louisiana. At a press conference, the minister explained the handicap Arabs suffer in the U.S.

"When we come to this country, in order to try to inform, we are in fact on a very uneven footing in comparison to the Israelis, because if we come here as foreigners to inform your public opinion and they come here as foreigners to inform your public opinion it would be one thing—

"But when we come here we are foreigners, but as they are in fact informing your public opinion through American citizens who are Jews and support their views."

**THE ALGERIAN** minister pointed out that the main problem in the Middle East is the plight of the Arab Palestinians whose homes, businesses and lands were taken from them upon the establishment of the state of Israel.

He stated that the state of Israel solved the problem of immigrating American and

European Jews but/caused a more severe problem for the displaced Arabs.

He further showed that the embargo is not a weapon or blackmail, as the American press refers to it, to force support for an unjust Arab position but he said, "As you know, the embargo is bound to the fact that the Israeli forces have been, since 1967, occupying Arab territories.

"Now the Arab countries have stated that the embargo would be lifted the moment the Israelis enter into a commitment to withdraw to its pre-1967 position and the United States government guarantees that commitment.

**THE ARABS** are asking that U.S., Israel and other Western countries observe the U.N. resolutions calling for Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories.

While in New Orleans, Minister Abdesalam participated in an hour long televised roundtable discussion of the Arab position with several New Orleans businessmen; included were some Jews and oil businessmen.

He answered all the questions  
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ALGERIAN MINISTER of Industry and Energy Belaid Abdesalam in New Orleans as he explained Arab oil embargo. (Photo by Min. George 4X)

## OAU debates using oil against South Africa

By Calvin Williams  
(Special to Muhammad Speaks)

ADDIS ABABA — The ministerial council of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) debated a plan to investigate the use of Middle East Oil as a weapon against white regimes in Africa. The ministers attending the council's extraordinary session discussed a five-point plan which included the creation of a ministerial committee to examine ways of employing oil as a weapon in southern Africa.

**THE DRAFT** program was aimed at linking African support for the Arab cause against Israel, with the Black struggle against South Africa, Rhodesia and Portugal. Most of the OAU's 42 member-states have broken off relations with Israel since the outbreak of the Middle East War, and some Black African states south of the Sahara feel that they have a right to ask their Arab members for reciprocal support against the white regimes.

In an opening statement, Mr. Nzo Ekangaki, the OAU Secretary General said: "It would be reasonable to think that the time has come for our Arab brothers to use the oil embargo as a weapon against the white regimes."

His call was echoed by Mr. John Malacela, the foreign minister of Tanzania, who said the oil weapon has proven to be a very powerful one and "we can certainly use it against South Africa and Portugal." But he gave warning that it would be necessary to insure in the process that African States that got their oil from Western oil companies did not suffer.

**THE REPRESENTATIVE** from Zambia said that an embargo should take into account the difficulties of landlocked countries such as Tunisia, Lesotho, Botswana, Swaziland, and stated that such embargoes should be done

intelligently, otherwise the embargo would become a double edged weapon.

The African foreign ministers' call for the use of oil as a weapon against their enemies of the south came at the end of an emergency meeting of the OAU. This meeting had been sponsored by Algeria to confirm and to trumpet the solidarity of Black Africa against Israel which had been demonstrated by the severance of diplomatic relations.

When Arab leaders think the matter over, they may find that the meeting was a welcome development. Their objective is Israel, and the oil weapon, though promisingly powerful, has not yet obtained all the results they had hoped for. To open up a new front with it might actually reduce its effectiveness.

It is hardly probable, when the diplomats from oil producing countries were working so hard and so openly to persuade the Black states of Africa to sever their previously half fruitful relations with Israel, that they promised to place the potent weapon oil at the disposal of the African states.

The Arab diplomats were successful in presenting Israel as a white colonialist power, and every military victory that the Arab Armies had over Israel struck an emotional chord in all of Black Africa.

**THE AFRICAN** states however, are dazzled by the magical efficacy of the oil weapon in changing the attitudes and inflicting visible losses in the western countries.

Africans have long and vainly called for total sanctions by the West—especially Britain and the United States—against South Africa. It is not surprising that they should dream of turning the tables by an oil embargo organized by the "Gulf nations."

## South hails Young for endorsing Ford

By Harold 4X  
M.S. Atlanta Bureau

ATLANTA, Ga.—Former civil rights leader and now U.S. Congressman Andrew Young is being applauded by southern whites for breaking ranks with the Congressional Black Caucus and becoming its only member to approve Gerald Ford's nomination as vice president.

**THE ATLANTA JOURNAL** hails Young as winning himself a footnote in the pages of American history by cracking the unity of the Congressional Black Caucus.

It was noted by the *Journal* that Young delivered a stirring floor speech in Washington that won sustained applause before casting in what was described as a "dramatic vote."

The *Journal* went on to describe the scene as being late in the day when Young's turn came to address the house.

"Weary congressmen, having listened to more than six hours of debate on the Ford nomination and eager to

dispense with the matter, were beginning to shout 'vote, vote' at the end of each speech. But the chamber became noticeably quieter as the mild-mannered Georgian approached the rostrum," the *Journal* stated.

**ANDREW YOUNG**, who said he is placing his hopes and faith in the conservative Ford, that he will be a uniting and stabilizing force in America, is congressman of the predominantly Black fifth district in Atlanta which still contains a sizable number of white voters.

Gerald Ford, the conservative Republican from Michigan, has voted consistently against civil rights, social legislation, labor and civil liberties since 1950. He is a die-hard supporter of Republican President Nixon. Young is a Democrat.

Ford also opposed the Voting Rights Bill that enabled Young and other Blacks to reach Congress. He attempted to push through a weaker bill, one that would have taken the

effect out of the successful measure.

If Ford's weaker version had prevailed, the Voting Rights Act could not have enfranchised Black voters who eventually enabled Young to become the first Black congressman from the South in modern times.

**BLACK OBSERVERS** credit the march from Selma to Montgomery, for the pressure which pushed the voting bill through Congress.

The march was first attempted on March 7, 1965 at which time some 200 Alabama State Troopers and policemen of the Dallas County Sheriff's office halted the march and charged into the Black group—using tear gas, nightsticks and whips—to beat Blacks. Seventeen Blacks were hospitalized and 67 others treated for injuries of varying severity.

The white South is applauding Young as an example of stature, with political common sense and Christian forgiveness.