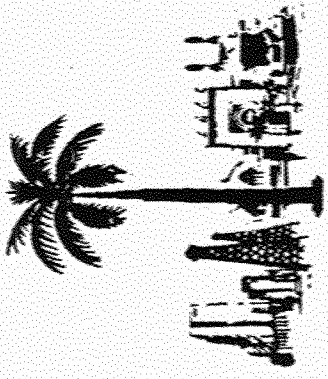


Saudi Gazette



No. 832—SATURDAY January 13, 1979 ● Safar 15, 1399 A.H.

American opinion swings to Egypt

By Mark Bruzonsky

AMERICAN public opinion is shifting towards the Arab viewpoint according to an ABC News — Harris survey.

One question put to the poll was: Talks between Egypt and Israel are now stalemated. Egypt says Israel must give some guarantee about Palestinian self-rule. Israel says that this demand changes the agreement for a separate Egypt-Israel peace made at Camp David. Now, who do you think is more in the right in this latest breakdown in Mid-east peace talks — Egypt or Israel?

Nationwide, 37 per cent said Egypt, 30 said Israel, four per cent said neither and 29 per cent said not sure or both. Broken down into religious groupings the figures for white Catholics were: 39, p.c.; 28 p.c., 5 p.c. and 28 p.c.; for white Protestants: 35 p.c.; 30 p.c.; 4 p.c. and 31 p.c.; for Jews: 10 p.c. 77 p.c. 3 p.c. and 10 p.c.

A second question asked: President Carter took the side of Egypt in this latest Mid-east disagreement. Do you think he was right to back Egypt or should he have backed Israel, or should he not have backed either side?

Twenty two per cent said he was right to back Egypt; six per cent said he should have backed Israel; 59 per cent said he shouldn't have backed either country and 13 per cent were not sure.