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PACS-CONTRIBUTE

WASHINGTON (UPI) – A SURVEY OF FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGNS BY PRO-ISRAEL AND PRO-ARAB POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES SHOWED MONDAY THE PRO-ISRAELI GROUPS HAVE AN OVERWHELMING LEAD.

A SURVEY BY THE MIDEAST OBSERVER, A WASHINGTON-BASED NEWSLETTER ON U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY SHOWED THAT 33 PRO-ISRAEL PACS CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN \$1.8 MILLION TO 268 DIFFERENT CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGNS IN THE 1981-82 REPORTING PERIOD.

BY CONTRAST, THE SURVEY IDENTIFIED ONLY TWO PRO-ARAB PACS THAT CONTRIBUTED A TOTAL OF \$5,500 TO SIX CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGNS.

THE SURVEY IS BASED ON INFORMATION GIVEN TO THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION.

THE LARGEST AMOUNT OF PRO-ISRAEL PAC MONEY WENT TO THE 1982 CAMPAIGN OF RICHARD DURBIN, D-ILL., WHO UNSEATED INCUMBENT REPUBLICAN PAUL FINDLEY, THE RANKING MINORITY MEMBER ON THE HOUSE MIDEAST SUBCOMMITTEE AND AN OUTSPOKEN PROPONENT OF MORE PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN MIDEAST NEGOTIATIONS.

ACCORDING TO THE MIDEAST OBSERVER SURVEY, 31 OF THE EXISTING 33 PRO-ISRAEL PACS CONTRIBUTED A TOTAL OF \$103,325 TO DURBIN'S SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN.

THE TOTAL PRO-ISRAEL PAC CONTRIBUTION OF \$1,873,623 WOULD MAKE THE GROUP LARGER THAN ANY OF THE BIGGEST 30 PAC CONTRIBUTORS IDENTIFIED IN ANOTHER STUDY BY COMMON CAUSE.

ACCORDING TO THE [COMMON CAUSE] STUDY, THE LEADING 30 PACS GAVE \$4.46 MILLION TO CANDIDATES FOR FEDERAL OFFICE IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1983.

THE SINGLE LARGEST PRO-ISRAEL PAC IN 1982 WAS IDENTIFIED AS THE NATIONAL PAC, WHICH GAVE A TOTAL OF \$542,500 TO 109 CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES.

THE LARGEST SINGLE PAC IDENTIFIED BY COMMON CAUSE IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1983 WAS THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS WITH \$311,863.

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