

the results from January 1986 in which 47 per cent of respondents had either
but very great or considerable confidence in US abilities.

Turning to regional conflict issues, 38 per cent of 1,020 respondents in a November Gallup poll supported US military action to protect shipping in the Persian Gulf. Nearly a quarter, 24 per cent, urged tougher American action against Iranian attacks, while 27 per cent believed that the US should withdraw completely.

In regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict, a February Gallup poll found that Canadian opinion in favour of Israel had decreased, as compared to a similar 1982 poll. Of 1,028 questioned, 12 per cent were sympathetic to Israel, and 14 per cent to the Palestinians. Ten per cent had sympathy for both sides, while the majority--64 per cent--chose neither, or had no opinion. In 1982, 17 per cent had been sympathetic to Israel, and 13 per cent to the Palestinians.

In April 1988 The Reid Report, published by Angus Reid Associates, asked the question: "Based on whatever you might have seen about the current situation in the Israeli-occupied territories, who do you feel deserves more of the blame for the current increased tensions--the Israeli government or Palestinian groups such as the PLO?" Of 1,517 polled, 20 per cent felt that the Israeli government deserved more blame, 21 per cent identified Palestinian groups, 24 per cent chose both, and 35 per cent were unsure. Asked whether Canada should play a role or take a firm position on the issue, 44 per cent believed that it should, 46 per cent saw no real point in taking a stand, and 10 per cent were unsure.

Concerning arms control, a Gallup poll taken in January 1988 found that Canadians welcomed the signing of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union. Of 1,033