Mideast peace chances slim

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should they, now of all times, be wiling to settle for less than everything?"

He also stated that resolution of the Arab-Israeli crisis would not really mean peace in the Middle East. He categorized the Middle East conflict as "not merely a war between Israel and the Arabs but a conscious decision on the part of the Soviet Union to seek its own gains by confrontation with the West."

"There never has been a detente with the Soviets. Of the four articles signed by Brezhnev on detente, there have been long since broken, and the fourth is commitment not to send troops to troubled areas such as the Middle East."

"The reason for this, according to Frankel, is that the boycott is an economic policy of the West to force the Arab countries to deal with us.

"The boycott is an economic, political tool and as justification for this embargo."

However, he believed the energy crisis to be over-estimated.

"For years the big seven international oil companies have been telling us that US supplies are dwindling rapidly whereas the Middle East has a super abundance. They hope to do this to justify their tremendous outlay in Mideast oil drilling," Frankel said.

"Ten years ago they told us we had only about 40 billion barrels and yet without any major expansions or discoveries (Alaska and offshore oil are not included in these figures) we still have those same 40 billion barrels," he added.

If one looks on the back of the geologist reports, according to Frankel, over 80 billion barrels of recoverable oil would be available if the American public were willing to pay the added price.

"The whole of this includes Alaska. With the initial estimates of 10 billion barrels on the North Slope, it wouldn't be economically feasible for the oil companies to sink more than 54 billion in outlays. Since then, however, they've spent $4.8 billion on basic costs and are now prepared to spend another $4.5 billion for the Alaskan pipeline and $1.5 billion for tankers. The only reason, that can do it, is because conservative estimates of the oil now run from 40 to 60 billion barrels."

Frankel then pictured the effects of the Arab boycott on the US as being of short-term character, "The ones who are really hurting the developing countries like Bangladesh."

As for its effectiveness against the Soviets, Frankel stated, that he believed the energy crisis...