Ocean Engineering Professor Jerome Milgram repeated Murphy's criticism of dummy corporations and flags of convenience. Observing also that the current $35 million liability limit would not begin to cover the $83 million in direct costs calculated to date as due to the Amoco Cadiz spill, he questioned whether those responsible would even pay the lower figure. Milgram noted the human loss due to tanker accidents, quoting a figure of 226 such deaths for the year 1976 alone.

American Petroleum Institute lobbyist James Cole defended the "flags of convenience" by citing an accident which occurred in broad daylight, involving a tanker of US registry. Cole also asserted that the multiplicity of regulations — both state and federal — increase the cost of oil to the consumer, and be proposed a recodification of federal law that would preempt the jurisdiction of the states. Both Naess and Rear Admiral William Benkert agreed that progress in these areas was not as rapid as it could be, though none agreed as to who was at fault. However, under the threat of unilateral action by the Coast Guard and his responsibility for merchant marine safety, Benkert felt, however, that the problem is a truly international one. Benkert, recently retired from the Coast Guard, also noted that there was no way to regulate excellence; the motivation of tanker owners and crews is the most important factor in preventing tanker accidents.

All the panelists agreed on the need for safety regulation, the elimination of unsafe vessels, and a comprehensive liability insurance for major accidents. They also agreed that progress in these areas was not as rapid as it could be, though none agreed as to who was at fault. However, under the threat of unilateral action by federal and state officials, tanker owners and oil companies appear intent on preventing the recurrence of such well-publicized spills and the 1976 Argo Merchant or the 1967 Torrey Canyon, while at the same time backing the less spectacular problem of operational discharges.

Middle East

Israelis approve peace draft — After three days and 17 hours of debate, the cabinet of Israel approved a slightly revised version of the proposed peace treaty with Egypt Wednesday. The proposal was passed with no opposition, after several amendments by Prime Minister Menahem Begin were inserted.

Campus

Leo Harten wins UMOC — This year's UMOC contest raised $2,402.73 for the Community Service Fund. Leo Harten led the field with $1,399.08. The other candidates combined raised almost the same amount. Mighty Bovine Hunter $310.03
Maguire 258.43
Apingking 190.18
Wolfman 117.12
Beanie 86.93
Steve "The Freak" Feldman 53.35
Pro-Musica Ugly 51.81
Unknown Preppie 25.18
Tony Carpenter 12.75
Jared Shepperd 11.30
Write-offs (total) 117.17

Bagels & Lox Brunch

October 29, 11:00 am; Bush Room, 10-105.

Speaker: Dr. Dov Friedlander
Noted Israeli Clinical Psychologist, Hebrew University

Topic: Aliyah and its Psychological Pitfalls

$1.50 Hillel members $2.00 non-members