

FBIS 63 (SEE 58)

AFP: USSR WOULD APPROVE OF PLO-JORDAN CONFEDERATION

NC131212 PARIS AFP IN ENGLISH 1139 GMT 13 JAN 83

(TEXT) MOSCOW, JAN 13 (AFP) -- THE SOVIET UNION WOULD APPROVE THE CREATION OF A CONFEDERATION BETWEEN AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE AND JORDAN, VISITING PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) CHIEF YASIR 'ARAFAT SAID TODAY.

MR 'ARAFAT TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE THAT SOVIET LEADER YURIY ANDROPOV HAD SAID MOSCOW WOULD "APPROVE ANYTHING THAT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE." THIS INCLUDED POSSIBLE "RELATIONS OF CONFEDERATION" BETWEEN AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE AND JORDAN.

MR 'ARAFAT SAID HE TOLD THE SOVIET LEADER AT A MEETING HERE YESTERDAY THAT BOTH HE AND JORDAN'S KING HUSAYN FAVORED SUCH A CONFEDERATION, TO BE ESTABLISHED AFTER A SIMULTANEOUS REFERENDUM IN JORDAN AND THE FUTURE PALESTINIAN STATE.

13 JAN 1356Z NCH/CAJ