

~~TOP SECRET~~ [redacted]

6 October 1973  
1000 EDT

SCOWC 2012-7  
LL

MEMORANDUM FROM CIA MIDDLE EAST TASK FORCE

Subject: Initiation of Middle East Hostilities

The earliest confirmed military activity [redacted] so far was a high-speed Israeli aerial reconnaissance mission at 0654Z (0254 EDT, 0854 Cairo time) along the Suez Canal. The flight terminated at 0732Z.

A Jerusalem radio report citing <sup>an</sup> Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) spokesman said Egyptian and Syrian attacks began "about 1400" (1200Z); this is the time Damascus radio says Israeli attacks began. According to UPI, Cairo radio said ~~that~~ Israeli attacks began at 1330 in the Gulf of Suez.

Subsequent [redacted] reports and briefings place the beginning of Arab hostilities at about 1415.

The Egyptian naval command center at Alexandria ordered a "first state of readiness" at 1351 (1151Z),

[redacted]

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