

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP79T00975A030800010086-5

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Wednesday 20 September 1978

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
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ARAB STATES: Reservations

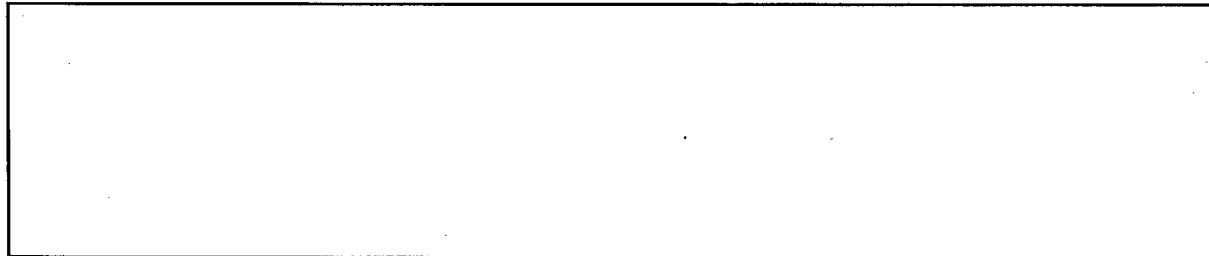
[] Both Saudi Arabia and Jordan have expressed reservations about the outcome of the Camp David talks, while official Syrian reaction continues to be cautious. Reactions from Egypt are generally positive. The Palestinians are sharply attacking the accords. A summit of Arab hardliners is convening in Damascus today to discuss the situation.

[] The Saudis, following a cabinet meeting, described the Camp David framework for a Middle Eastern settlement as an "unacceptable formula for a definitive peace." The Saudi statement noted that the accord failed to provide for Palestinian self-determination and that it ignored the role of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The Saudis also stressed their particular interest in Israeli withdrawal from Jerusalem and the need for new efforts toward Arab unity.

[] The Saudi communique's treatment of President Sadat's efforts to regain the Sinai was less clear cut. Riyadh said that as long as Arab higher interests were not "contradicted," Saudi Arabia did not believe it had the right to interfere with an Arab country's efforts to regain its lost territory through military or peaceful means.

[] King Hussein announced that Jordan would not be bound by the agreements worked out at Camp David but did not flatly rule out a Jordanian role in a West Bank - Gaza arrangement. In a statement issued following an emergency cabinet meeting, Hussein called for a comprehensive settlement involving total Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem and recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to "determine their own destiny." He warned that a separate Egyptian-Israeli deal would seriously weaken the Arab cause.

[] Hussein spoke by phone with Syrian President Assad and Saudi Crown Prince Fahd prior to the cabinet meeting, according to Amman radio.



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A statement issued by the Palestine Liberation Organization Executive Committee yesterday termed the Camp David agreements a "complete capitulation" by Sadat. It called upon Palestinians everywhere to strike and demonstrate "against the conspiracy," and urged Egyptians to "rise in defense of their national dignity."

[REDACTED] The Committee statement coupled its criticism with a warning of "fair punishment" to those who declare their support for the Camp David accords.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In a speech to Palestinian military graduates yesterday, PLO chief Yasir Arafat threatened that US interests in the Middle East will suffer because of the Camp David agreements.// [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]