



25X1



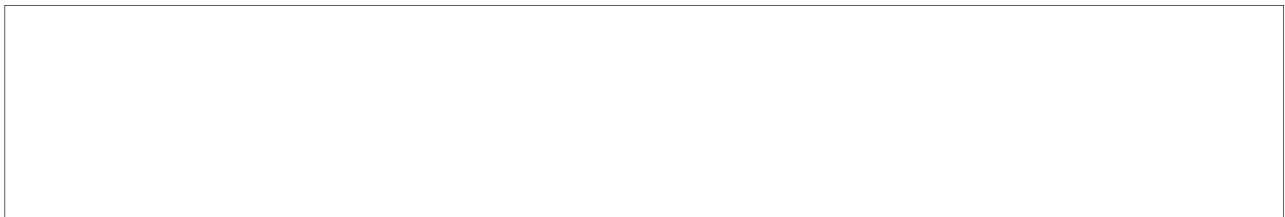
25X1

Talking Points for the DDI's Meeting at HPSCI

4 October 1988

Lebanese Situation: Continuing Tension, but No Major Fighting Yet

Damascus and pro-Syrian Lebanese leaders continue to denounce Christian Army leader Michel Awn's regime in East Beirut but have not taken any major steps yet to move against the Christians.



25X1

The cohesiveness of the Christian leadership is untested and may erode. Awn is weak and overly ambitious in seeking to become President. The Embassy believes--and we agree--that he has no plan of action. Ja'Ja is more clever and better organized but is a fanatic opposed to compromise with Syria.

-- Ja'Ja has been recruiting supporters within Christian Army units for years, giving him enough influence to prevent Awn from making concessions on his own to the Muslims or Syrians.



225X1

25X1