

Page Denied

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied



25X1

Middle East Situation Report #26
(as of 1100 EST, 31 January 1984)

LEBANON/SYRIA



25X1

Apart from continued reinforcements of Lebanese Army positions along the ridgeline, there are no new developments regarding the Army's planned offensive.

25X1



25X1

The Lebanese Army now has approximately 9,000 men in four brigades--the 4th, 5th, 8th, and 10th (formerly the airmobile brigade)--available to conduct offensive operations. Four additional brigades the 3rd, 6th, 7th, and 9th, totalling perhaps 6,500 men are committed to security operations in Beirut.

If the offensive occurs it is likely to include the following operations:

- An attack by the 8th brigade and the 4th brigade to close the gap in LAF lines at Qabr Shamun.
- A sweep by the 5th brigade through Druze-held positions at Kafr Shima and Ash Shuwayfat to seize control of the entire area between Beirut and the Alayh ridgeline.

25X1



25X1

Following the death of a US Marine yesterday, Shia leaders now say the shelling of Marine positions was a "misunderstanding," and have ordered their militiamen not to engage the Marines. So far today the situation in and around Beirut has remained relatively quiet.

25X1

25X1

In six hours of talks yesterday with Ambassador Rumsfeld, Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam denied Syrian involvement in terrorist acts in Lebanon, maintained a hardline on Lebanese security and political issues, and engaged in blunt discussion of superpower involvement in the region.

- Khaddam charged that the US claimed Israel's invasion and occupation of Lebanon was legitimate while characterizing Lebanese resistance as terrorism. He added that Syria supports attacks on Israelis committed by southern Lebanese, but condemns terrorist attacks on the MNF.
- Khaddam reiterated Syria's position that abrogation of the 17 May Agreement and internal political reform were prerequisites to the formation of a government of national unity.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

NESA M#84-10053CX



[Redacted]

25X1

-- He concluded with a refutation of the existence of a Syrian/Soviet axis in the region and claimed there was widespread bitterness among Arab states over the US strategic alliance with Israel.

25X1

[Redacted]

25X1

[Redacted] a summit will be held between Syrian President Assad and Lebanese President Gemayel "very soon."

25X1

25X1

[Redacted]

Yesterday in Damascus Junblatt said that he is working for the downfall of Gemayel. He stated that Lebanon's crisis could be solved by a "white coup" similar to the one in 1952 when President Bishara Khoury was forced to step down.

25X1

-- Junblatt noted that the Lebanese Army is preparing for "a large-scale operation" against the Druze and added that a military move would undermine any hope for negotiations over the security plan.

25X1

[Redacted]

25X1

According to the US Embassy in Beirut, a Druze official has warned that they are considering stepping up their information campaign against the US presence in Lebanon. Plans include a press conference in Europe featuring pictures of alleged casualties and damage caused by Marine fire.

-- The Embassy notes that Junblatt's call for an international investigation of the Marine role and his apparent appeal to US public opinion may be part of this plan.

25X1

IRAN-IRAQ WAR

Baghdad press reports that Iraqi naval forces, supported by fighter planes, destroyed five "naval targets" and a Phantom jet fighter in actions in the northern section of the Persian Gulf. We cannot confirm.

25X1

[Redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

25X1

[Redacted]

25X1

25X1

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

King Hussein reported to Ambassador Rumsfeld that Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz told him that Iraq is considering resuming diplomatic relations with the US after Aziz's spring visit to Washington.

25X1

25X1

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

25X1

25X1

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

25X1

25X1



25X1




SUBJECT: Middle East Situation Report #26
(As of 1100 EST, 31 Jan 84)

NESA M#84-10053CX



25X1

DISTRIBUTION:

- Cy 1 - DCI
- Cy 2 - DDCI
- Cy 3 - DCI/SA/IA 
- Cy 4 - DDI
- Cy 5 - DDO/NE 
- Cy 6 - DDO/NE
- Cy 7 - DDO/NE
- Cy 8 - C/PES
- Cy 9 - NIO/NESA
- Cy 10, 11, 12, 13 - CPAS/IMD/CB
- Cy 14 - CPAS/PDB (NID)
- Cy 15 - CPAS/PDB-WATCH OFFICE
- Cy 16 - OGI/IIC/TAB
- Cy 17 - D/NESA
- Cy 18, 19 - NESA/PPS
- Cy 20 - NESA/AI
- Cy 21, 22 - NESA/AI/L
- Cy 23 - NESA/PG
- Cy 24, 25 - NESA/PG/I
- DDI/NESA/AI&PG  (31Jan84)

25X1

25X1

25X1



25X1