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SPECIAL CHANNELS

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INFO: RF, FILE, DCI, D/DCI, CS/RF, (6/P)

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SPECIAL CHANNELS 012312Z [REDACTED]

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PASS TO DDCI FROM HETU

SUMMARY FROM PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

A. MEDIA PROFILE

1. WEDNESDAY'S LEADING JNEWS STORY IS THE MASS STRIKE BY OILFIELD WORKERS IN IRAN THAT HAS CUT DEEPLY INTO THE COUNTRY'S PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF OIL. TEHRAN HAS MOVED TROOPS INTO POSITION AROUND KEY OILFIELDS TO PREVENT SABOTAGE AND HAS HINTED THAT IT MAY ORDER ALL-OUT MILITARY INTERVENTION TO HALT THE WORK STOPPAGE, ACCORDING TO THE WASHINGTON STAR. THE WASHINGTON POST REPORTS THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION YESTERDAY ASSURED THE SHAH OF STRONG US SUPPORT AND URGED HIM TO CARRY ON WITH THE REFORMS THAT HAVE PROVOKED UNREST AGAINST HIS RULE.

2. OTHER FRONT-PAGE STORIES: A. THE NEW COOLNESS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND ISRAEL IS UNDERSCORED, ACCORDING TO THE STAR, BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S REFUSAL SO FAR TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BEGIN DURING HIS FOUR-DAY VISIT TO THE US BEGINNING TODAY. B. INVADING UGANDAN FORCES AND TANZANIAN DEFENDERS REPORTEDLY ARE LOCKED IN HEAVY FIGHTING NEAR A TANZANIAN BORDER TOWN.

B. SUMMARY OF SPECIAL ITEMS.

3. ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS ARE REPORTEDLY SEEKING A LAST-MINUTE COMPROMISE FOR THURSDAY'S SUMMIT MEETING IN BAGHDAD. THE MINISTERS, WHO WILL MEET AGAIN TODAY IN THE FINAL PREPARATORY SESSION BEFORE THE SUMMIT, ARE TRYING TO HEAL THE SHARP DIVISIONS AMONG THEM. IRAQ, THE HOST-STATE, IS REPORTEDLY MODERATING ITS PAST RHETORIC AND CALLING ON ALL STATES TO FIND THE "LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR" THAT WOULD ALLOW FOR UNIFIED ACTION. ACCORDING TO CONFERENCE SOURCES, HOWEVER, SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES STILL EXIST ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE CAMP DAVID AGREEMENTS. (UPI)

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4. A WAR IS RAGING BETWEEN THE ISRAELI PRESS AND THE GOVERNMENT OVER CENSORING NEWSPAPER ARTICLES DEALING WITH CURRENT MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS. TO DRAMATIZE THEIR COMPLAINTS, EDITORS HAVE BOYCOTTED CENSORSHIP APPEALS COMMITTEE HEARINGS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 28 YEARS AND ARE DISPLAYING BLOCKS OF WHITE IN THE NEWSPAPERS WHERE MATERIAL HAS BEEN DELETED. (POST)

5. THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TUESDAY NIGHT THAT UGANDAN TROOPS, UTILIZING HEAVY ARTILLERY AND TANKS, OVERCAME SHARP RESISTANCE TO ADVANCE 20 MILES INSIDE TANZANIA, REACHING THE TOWN OF KYAKA. (POST)

6. THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TRANSFERRED \$11.5 MILLION TO A FRIENDLY US BUSINESSMAN, JOHN MCGOFF, WHO THEN ATTEMPTED TO PURCHASE THE WASHINGTON STAR TWO YEARS AGO, ACCORDING TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN NEWSPAPER, THE RAND DAILY MAIL. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY SOUGHT TO CLANDESTINELY CONTROL THE STAR IN ORDER TO INFLUENCE PUBLIC OPINION TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA. THIS LATEST ALLEGATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN ATTEMPTS TO CONTROL THE PRESS FOLLOWS REVELATIONS REGARDING SECRET GOVERNMENT FINANCING OF A DOMESTIC NEWSPAPER. (NYT)

7. IN AN EDITORIAL PAGE ARTICLE, DON OBENDORFER'S THEME IS THE IMPORTANCE IN THE NEXT 20 YEARS OF THE SINO-SOVIET "EAST-EAST" CONFLICT, RATHER THAN AN EAST-WEST CONFLICT. AN INTERVIEWED SOVIET OFFICIAL REVEALS, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIETS VIEW CHINA AS A LONG-TERM MILITARY THREAT AND A MORE IMMEDIATE SHORT-TERM DIPLOMATIC IRRITANT. (POST)

8. DREW MIDDLETON, MILITARY AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT OF THE NEW YORK TIMES, ARGUES THAT THE REAL DANGER IN IRAN IS THAT THE SOVIET UNION, THROUGH INTERNAL SUBVERSION AND EXTERNAL PRESSURE, EVENTUALLY WILL WIN CONTROL OF THE COUNTRY. MIDDLETON WRITES THAT THE STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS NOW REALIZE THAT THE SITUATION IN IRAN IS "HIGHLY FLUID" AND THE SHAH MAY BE DRIVEN FROM HIS THRONE. (NYT)

9. A JAPANESE OFFICIAL STATED THAT A SUSPENSION OF IRANIAN OIL EXPORTS WOULD NOT HAVE AN IMMEDIATE, SERIOUS IMPACT ON JAPAN--WHICH MAINTAINS A 90-DAY RESERVE--BUT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON DEVELOPMENTS. JAPAN, REPORTEDLY, IMPORTS NEARLY

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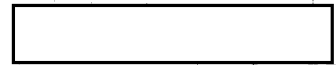
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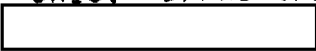
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20 PERCENT OF ITS OIL FROM IRAN. (REUTER)

10. DR. GEORGE PAUL HOLMAN, DIRECTOR OF SOVIET AFFAIRS WITH THE AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, IMPLIED YESTERDAY THAT THE US INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY WAS NOT SURE IF THE SOVIET AIRCRAFT RECENTLY DELIVERED TO CUBA WERE MIG-23S OR MIG-27S. DR. HOLMAN SAID THAT IF IT TURNS OUT THAT THE CUBANS DID RECEIVE THE MIG-27, THE US WOULD LODGE A STRONG PROTEST. THE MIG-27 IS CAPABLE OF CARRYING TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS; THE MIG-23 IS AN INTERCEPTOR. (APC)

11. NEW GAS FINDS ARE ENCOURAGING OTTAWA TO END LIMITATIONS ON GAS EXPORTS ESTABLISHED IN 1974. CANADIANS APPEAR SURE THAT PAST PREDICTIONS OF ENERGY SHORTAGES WERE MISTAKEN. (POST) E2 IMPDET. >
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