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CONTROL NO. Z-14439/83

NPIC/IEG (12/83)

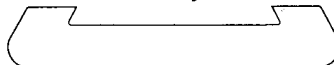
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NPIC/IEG (12/83)

14 DECEMBER 1983

MILITARY ACTIVITYTRIPOLI, LEBANON (SWN/

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: GIANT REACH IMAGERY OFFERED A
SYNOPTIC VIEW OF THE ENTIRE TRIPOLI (TARABULUS) AREA IN
NORTHERN LEBANON (GRAPHIC 1). IT HAS ALLOWED AN ANALYSIS OF
PRO-ARAFAT PLO FORCES, ANTI-ARAFAT PLO FORCES, SYRIAN FORCES,
AND DAMAGE TO THE CITY AND ITS ENVIRONS. (SECRET)

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2. REMARKS: PRO-ARAFAT FORCES OCCUPIED TRIPOLI AND AL BADDAWI
REFUGEE CAMP ON THE NORTHEAST EDGE OF THE CITY; ANTI-ARAFAT
FORCES, SUPPORTED BY SYRIAN ARTILLERY, SURROUNDED THE CITY;
AND EXTENSIVE DAMAGE WAS OBSERVED IN AND AROUND THE CITY.
(SECRET)

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PRO-ARAFAT PLO FORCES

 PRO-ARAFAT INFANTRY FORCES OCCUPIED NUMEROUS
DEFENSIVE POSITIONS ALONG A DEFENSIVE PERIMETER WHICH RAN
AROUND THE EDGE OF TRIPOLI AND AL BADDAWI REFUGEE CAMP. THESE
POSITIONS CONSISTED OF TRENCHES, BERMS, BUNKERS, AND REVETTED
MORTAR POSITIONS. SEVERAL OF THE POSITIONS WERE CONCENTRATED
IN AL BADDAWI REFUGEE CAMP (GRAPHIC 2). THESE FORCES ALSO
CONTROLLED SEVERAL CHECKPOINTS ON THE MAJOR ROADS INTO THE
CITY. IN ADDITION, AN APPROXIMATELY 1,200-METER, DIRT
AIRSTRIIP HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTED ON THE NORTHEAST EDGE OF AL
BADDAWI REFUGEE CAMP SINCE 4 OCTOBER. (SWN/)

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ANTI-ARAFAT PLO FORCES

ANTI-ARAFAT FORCES OCCUPIED POSITIONS WITHIN 500 METERS OF THE
PRO-ARAFAT DEFENSIVE PERIMETER, AND HAD CONSTRUCTED SEVERAL
STRONG POINTS ALONG THE HEIGHTS OVERLOOKING TRIPOLI ON AN
ARCHED LINE FROM 34-25-00N 035-49-00E ON THE SOUTHWEST EDGE OF
THE CITY, TO TARABULUS PETROLEUM REFINERY TRIPOLI IPC
 ON THE NORTHEAST EDGE OF THE CITY. ONE SUCH
STRONG POINT, APPROXIMATELY 650 METERS SOUTHEAST OF THE
DEFENSIVE PERIMETER, CONSISTED OF AT LEAST SIX CANVAS-COVERED,

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REVERTED, PROBABLE MORTAR POSITIONS (GRAPHIC 3). IN ADDITION, AT LEAST TWO TANK PLATOONS (SIX PROBABLE T-54/55 MEDIUM TANKS) WERE IN POSITIONS OVERLOOKING TRIPOLI (NOT ON GRAPHIC). (SECRET/ [REDACTED])

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SYRIAN FORCES

ONE SYRIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (EIGHTEEN 130MM FIELD GUNS M-46) AND ONE SYRIAN MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHER (MRL) BATTALION (EIGHTEEN 122MM MRL BM-21) WERE DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF ANTI-ARAFAT FORCES IN POSITIONS 3 TO 6 NM SOUTH OF TRIPOLI. THESE BATTALIONS HAD REORIENTED THEIR FIRING DIRECTION FROM THE SOUTH TO THE NORTH [REDACTED] THE ARTILLERY HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN ORIENTED SOUTH, TOWARD LEBANESE CHRISTIAN POSITIONS NORTH OF BEIRUT. ONE FIELD GUN BATTERY WAS 6 NM SOUTH OF TRIPOLI AT 34-19-00N 035-45-50E (GRAPHIC 4); AND ONE MRL SECTION WAS 5.8 NM SOUTH OF TRIPOLI AT 34-19-20N 035-47-10E (GRAPHIC 5). (SECRET/ [REDACTED])

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DAMAGE IN THE TRIPOLI AREA

WITHIN THE CITY, EXTENSIVE DAMAGE WAS OBSERVED AT TARABULUS PORT FACILITIES [REDACTED] AND TARABULUS PETROLEUM REFINERY TRIPOLI IPC. AT THE PORT, TWO WAREHOUSES HAD BEEN DESTROYED, SEVERAL WAREHOUSES DAMAGED, AND A FREIGHTER SUNK [REDACTED] (GRAPHIC 6). AT THE REFINERY, ONE POL STORAGE TANK WAS BURNING AND AT LEAST 21 OF THE APPROXIMATELY 33 POL STORAGE TANKS HAD BEEN DESTROYED (GRAPHIC 7). (SWN/ [REDACTED])

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3. BE NONE, COORDINATES 34-26-00N 035-51-00E (S)

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