

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable

• ROUTINE 380

IN -30059

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GROUP 1
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EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)-25
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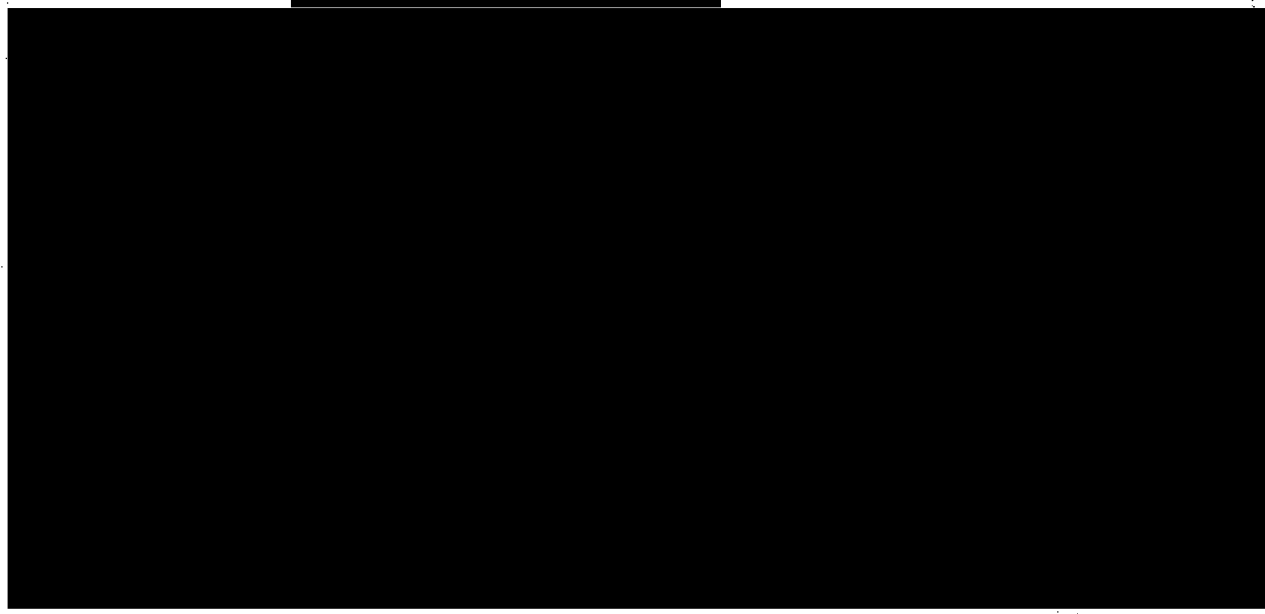
COUNTRY : ISRAEL
DOI : 
SUBJECT : SITUATION REPORT ON TERRITORY ACQUIRED BY ISRAEL
DURING RECENT MILITARY ACTION

Final evaluation

ACQ : 

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1. JERUSALEM: THE CITY OF JERUSALEM IS CONSIDERED AN INTEGRAL

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2001

*ie Day
IDF view, not necessarily joint.*

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PART OF ISRAEL AND WILL NOT BE OPEN TO NEGOTIATION. THE SECURITY SITUATION IS ANNOYING BUT WILL BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL BY WHATEVER MEASURES MAY BE REQUIRED AND WILL NOT BE A MATTER OF MAJOR CONCERN. THE CURRENT PROBLEM IN THE "OLD CITY" IS MORE ECONOMIC IN NATURE. WHILE HOTELS ARE FILLED IN THE ISRAELI SECTION, THEY REMAIN ONLY 30 PERCENT OCCUPIED IN THE OLD CITY. THE MIDNIGHT CURFEW ALSO HAS DISCOURAGED TOURISTS FROM STAYING THERE. A MAJOR EFFORT IS BEING UNDERTAKEN TO ENCOURAGE USE OF THESE FACILITIES.

2. GOLAN HEIGHTS, SYRIA: NO CONCESSIONS CAN BE MADE WHICH WILL IN ANY WAY RESTORE THE SITUATION WHEREBY SYRIA WILL REGAIN HER FORMER STRATEGIC POSITIONS. THE MILITARY FORTIFICATIONS EVACUATED BY THE SYRIANS RE-EMPHASIZE THE NEED FOR ISRAEL TO GUARANTEE HER SECURITY IN THIS AREA. NO U.N. PRESENCE WILL BE CONSIDERED EFFECTIVE IN THIS RESPECT.

3. THE SUEZ CANAL: ANY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT MUST GRANT ISRAELI SHIPS FREE ACCESS TO THE SUEZ CANAL. GRANTING ACCESS TO ISRAELI SHIPS UNDER "FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE" WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE. ISRAEL'S CASE REGARDING THE CANAL IS STRONGER THAN ITS POSITION ON OTHER ISSUES. ISRAEL BELIEVES THAT PRESSURES ON EGYPT ARE MOUNTING TO REACH A SOLUTION AND THAT ANY PROPOSAL LESS THAN FULL ACCESS

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SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED. ISRAEL WILL ACCEP. GUARANTEES OF FREE ACCESS BUT WILL MAKE IT CLEAR THAT ANY EFFORTS TO DELAY, SABOTAGE, OR OTHERWISE HAMPER ISRAELI SHIPPING IN THE CANAL WILL BE REGARDED AS SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR ANY ACTION, INCLUDING MILITARY, THAT MAY BE NECESSARY. THE POSSIBILITY OF SABOTAGE TO ISRAELI SHIPPING, IF ACCESS PERMITTED, IS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE SERIOUS. IF SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE UNDERTAKEN, THE ISRAELIS ARE CAPABLE OF RETALIATION TO A MUCH MORE SERIOUS DEGREE.

4. THE SINAI, AND GAZA: IF THE ISSUE OF THE CANAL IS RESOLVED, THE SINAI AND GAZA ITSELF CAN BE THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATION.. NO STRONG FEELING EXISTS REGARDING THE SINAI. WITH THE CANAL OPEN, THE PORT OF ASHDOD ASSUMES ITS TRUE ROLE AND THE WHOLE SINAI AREA BECOMES ONE OF LESSER IMPORTANCE.

5. THE WEST BANK: THE GREAT APPEAL OF THOSE WHO WISH TO HOLD THE WEST BANK LIES IN THE ELIMINATION OF THE NARROW CORRIDOR BETWEEN ISRAEL'S EASTERN BORDER AND THE SEA. KEEPING THE WEST BANK REPRESENTS SECURITY AND APPEALS TO THOSE WHO REGARD THE JORDAN RIVER AS A NATURAL BOUNDARY. ON THE OTHER HAND, WITH THE RETURN OF THE ARAB POPULATION, THE ISRAELIS WILL FIND THEMSELVES EVENTUALLY OUT-NUMBERED BY THE ARAB POPULATION. THE ECONOMIC COST OF

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REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT WILL BE TREMENDOUS. ISRAELI
MERCHANTS ARE ALREADY COMPLAINING ABOUT THE INFLUX OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTS AND THE RESULTING EFFECT ON THEIR MARKETS.
THESE FACTORS ARE CAUSING "SECOND THOUGHTS" CONCERNING THE
WEST BANK; AND , WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LATRUN SALIENT AND
JERUSALEM, THERE IS GROWING OPINION THAT THE REST OF THE AREA COULD
BE RETURNED TO JORDAN IN A PEACE SETTLEMENT.

DISSEM : STATE CINCFSA CINCUSNAVEUR CINCSOUTH (PERSONAL).

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