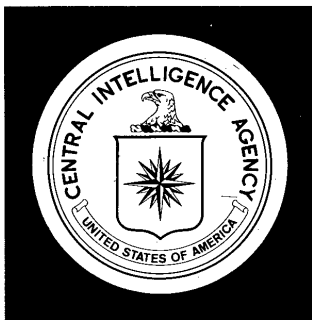


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The President's Daily Brief

December 13, 1975

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~~Top Secret 25X1~~

[Redacted]

Exempt from general
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exemption category 5B(1)(2)(3)
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the Director of Central Intelligence

December 13, 1975

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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LEBANON

Fighting continued in Beirut this morning, despite the announcement yesterday of yet another cease-fire and the beginning of a four-day Muslim holiday.

A Lebanese security official said that radical leftist Ibrahim Qulaylat has agreed to allow government security forces to patrol the hotel district and adjoining commercial areas. We have no evidence, however, that Qulaylat's followers have withdrawn from any of the territory they seized this week.

The Phalangists have respected the cease-fire at least to the extent of postponing a widely expected counterattack on leftist positions.

Unidentified forces did fire four mortar rounds into a large Palestinian camp Thursday, thereby raising again the possibility of wider Palestinian involvement in the fighting.

[Redacted]

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According to one press report, Palestinians in at least one camp have started firing on Christian neighborhoods.

Palestine Liberation Army units in Lebanon have gone on high alert, and the Saiqa unit in Beirut has sought additional arms and ammunition on an urgent basis.

Leaders of the major commando groups probably still want to stay out of the fighting, but feel they must make a display of military preparations both as a precaution and as a means of quieting radicals within their organizations.

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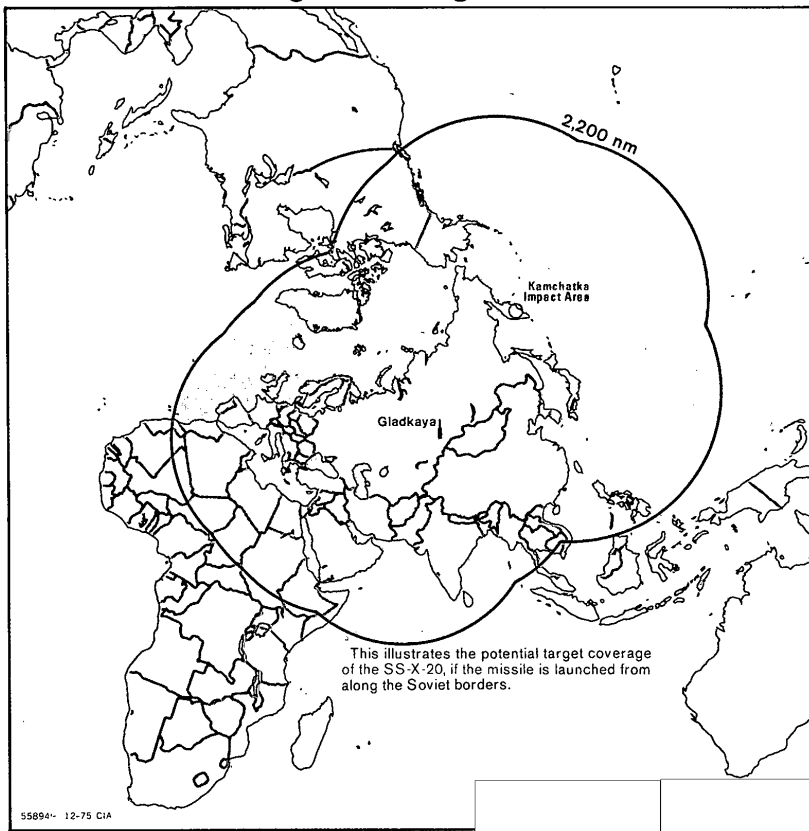
Prime Minister Karami still has been unable to elicit agreement from the politicians on how to enforce the cease-fire or on the composition of an enlarged cabinet that might be more able to deal with the crisis. Karami told Ambassador Godley on Thursday that he is meeting resistance from Socialist leader Jumblatt, Christian leader Shamun, and Beirut Muslim leader Salam.

The Prime Minister added that he may turn again to the other Arabs to find a political solution. He said he is considering inviting the foreign ministers of Algeria, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait--"two leftists and two rightists"--to mediate the Lebanese dispute.

In Cairo, Arab League Secretary General Riad has announced that he is contacting member states on the Lebanese situation.

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Potential Target Coverage of the SS-X-20

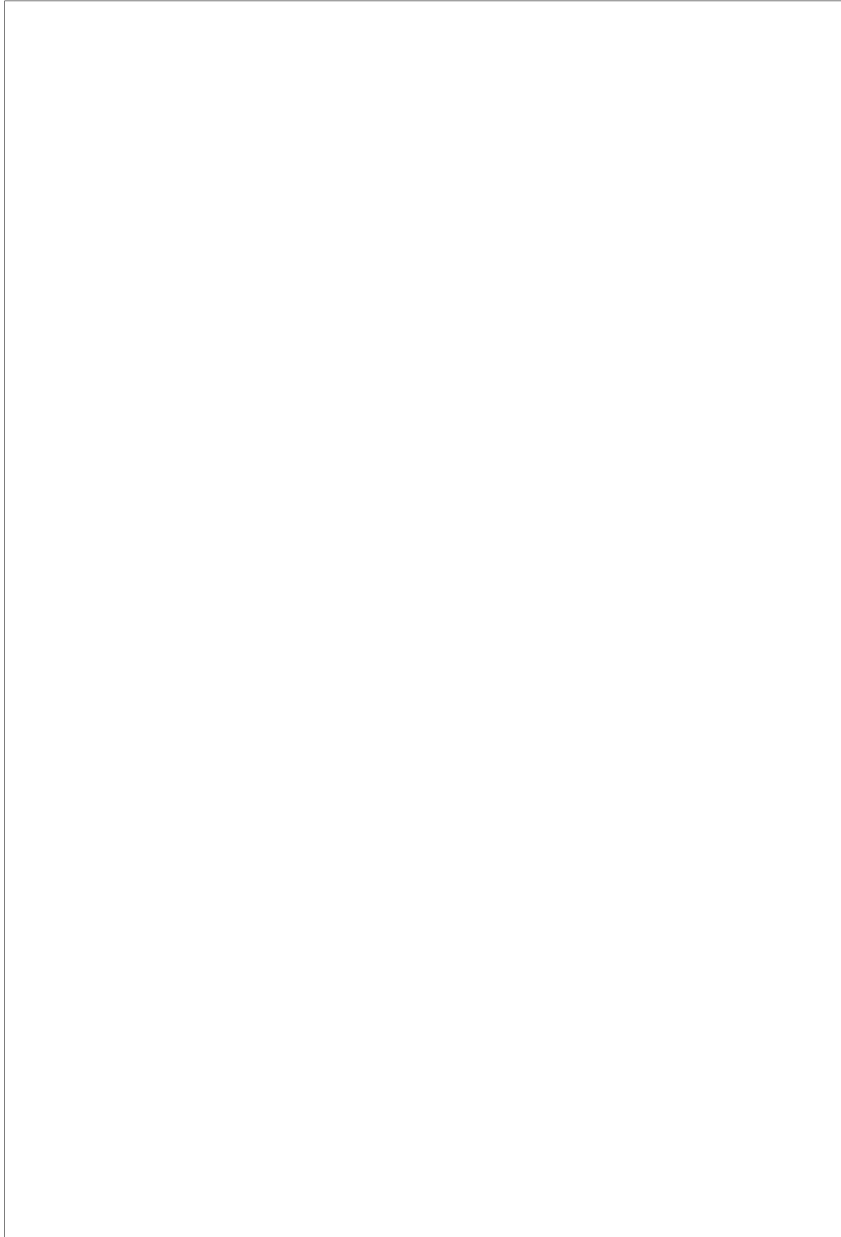


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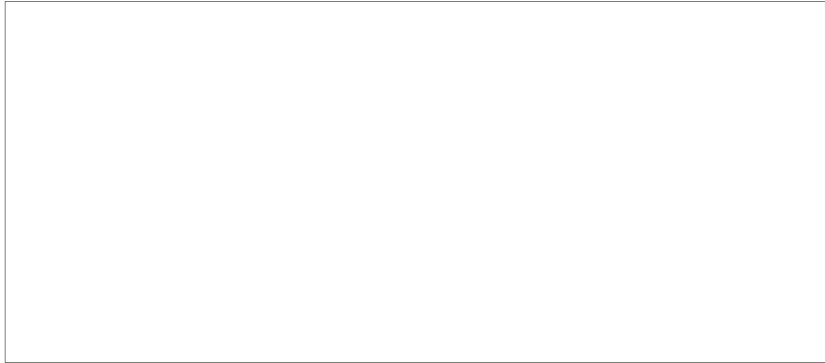
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NOTES

[redacted] three of the largest ships in the Soviet navy were all docked at the Nikolayev shipyard on the Black Sea and were photographed from a satellite. [redacted]

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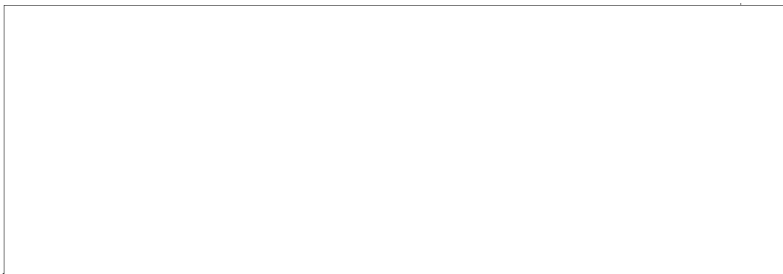
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The Soviets' second anti-submarine cruiser, the Leningrad, was in port at Sevastopol when the picture was taken. A third carrier, the Kharkhov, is being built elsewhere in the Nikolayev yards.

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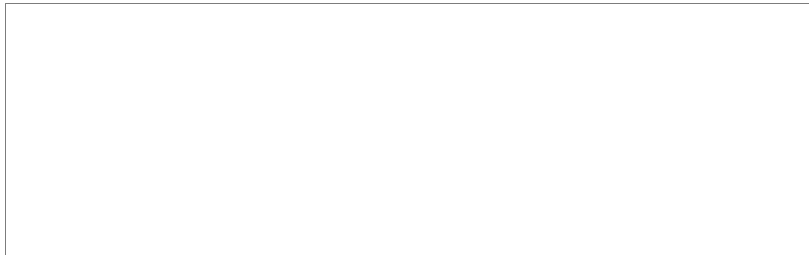


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The latest round of Soviet-Egyptian talks on debt repayment has ended apparently in a stalemate.

The authoritative Egyptian newspaper *Al-Ahram* reported yesterday that the Soviet delegation that was in Cairo negotiating over the past three weeks had returned to Moscow. The Egyptians said no date has been set for further talks.



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Jordan and Syria



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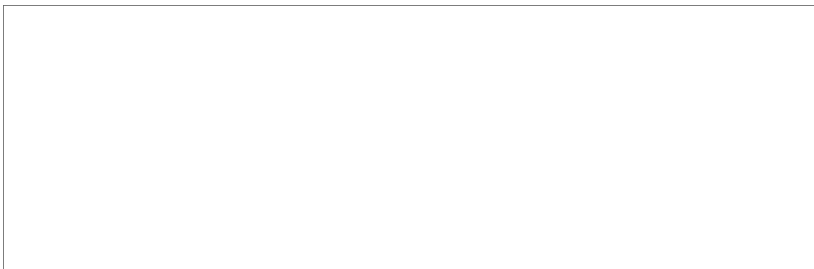


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* * *

A draft constitution which provides for a marked degree of self-government for the people of the Azores has been completed.

The document--which the Portuguese government seems likely to approve--will give the islanders control of their own political, administrative, and economic life, as well as a voice in foreign affairs. Recent victories over the Communists and the far left on the mainland have robbed the Azorean Liberation Front's independence movement of most of its momentum.

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