

HAK SCOWERFT  
LL

ZZ  
RNR80  
ALERT - EGYPT

CAIRO, OCT. 25, REUTER -- AN EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL SAID TODAY HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SOVIET TROOPS IN EGYPT TO HELP POLICE A MIDDLE EAST CEASEFIRE, BUT HE SAID THE SOVIET UNION HAD ALREADY INDICATED THAT IT WAS READY TO SEND TROOPS INTO THE WAR ZONE.

DR ASHRAF GHORBAL, PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT'S PRESS ADVISER, WAS SPEAKING AT A NEWS CONFERENCE IN CAIRO ABOUT THE STATE OF THE CEASEFIRE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WAR -- AND THE ALERT OF AMERICAN MILITARY BASES SPARKED BY REPORTS THAT THE RUSSIANS MIGHT BE MOVING TROOPS TO THE MIDDLE EAST TO POLICE A CEASEFIRE. ASKED IF THE SOVIET UNION HAD AGREED TO SEND PEACE SUPERVISION TROOPS TO THE MIDDLE EAST, GHORBAL SAID: "THE ANSWER WAS GIVEN TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL BY THE SOVIET UNION IN WHICH IT INDICATED ITS READINESS TO DO IT".

QUESTIONED WHETHER THERE WERE ANY SOVIET TROOPS IN EGYPT ALREADY, HE SAID: "I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY".

ONE REPORTER ASKED GHORBAL IF HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE REPORTED AMERICAN ALERT.

"WE ARE ONLY CONCERNED WITH THE CONTINUED MILITARY ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY THE UNITED STATES TO THE ISRAELIS," HE REPLIED.

REUTER. 015/HG 1052

88

HAK  
LL

EGYPT-SOVIET SUB INTRO (TOPS 20)

CAIRO (AP)-A SENIOR EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL SAID TODAY IT IS "AN IFFY QUESTION" WHETHER EGYPT WOULD ACCEPT SOVIET TROOPS TO HELP POLICE A MIDDLE EAST CEASE-FIRE WITHOUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF U.S. FORCES IN THE SAME CAPACITY.

ASHRAF GHORBAL, AN ADVISER TO PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT, WAS COMMENTING AT A NEWS CONFERENCE ON THE SOVIET STATEMENT AT THE UNITED NATIONS WEDNESDAY NIGHT THAT THE KREMLIN CONSIDERED CORRECT SADAT'S

CALL FOR U.S. AND SOVIET TROOPS TO HELP SECURE A CEASE-FIRE BETWEEN ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN FORCES ALONG THE SUEZ CANAL.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS ERRONEOUSLY QUOTED GHORBAL EARLIER AS SAYING

THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAD ACTUALLY OFFERED TO SEND ITS FORCES TO HELP IN THE POLICING OF A MIDDLE EAST CEASE-FIRE

THE MISINTERPRETATION RESULTED FROM GHORBAL'S REMARKS ON THE SOVIET

STATEMENT AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

GHORBAL WAS ASKED IF EGYPT WOULD ACCEPT THE SOVIET FORCE WITHOUT AN AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE.

"HTA IS AN IFFY QUESTION AND I WILL NOT ANSWER IT," HE REPLIED.

CR128P 25 -10