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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE
CONTAINS CODEWORDWASHINGTON
State Dept. review
completed

October 7, 1973

2000 EDT

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

FROM: The Situation Room

SUBJECT: Sunday Cable Summary

MORI/CDF
C03355329

Middle East Hostilities: Fighting was renewed on both fronts this morning. On the Sinai front heavy engagements were reported between IDF and numerous Egyptian infantry and a small number of tanks that crossed the canal overnight. Tel Aviv Command said Israeli warplanes sank an Egyptian naval vessel northeast of Port Said, and naval forces sank three Egyptian troop carrying craft in the Red Sea. An IDF spokesman announced that Israeli planes have been attacking military targets in both Egypt and Syria as part of a "massive counter-offensive." Cairo radio reported 5 Israeli planes were shot down in attacks on Egyptian airports. A captured Egyptian SU-7 pilot admitted under interrogation that he was briefed at 1100 local yesterday on his bombing mission to commence at 1400. A Syrian communique claims the Israelis began hostilities at 0515 (2315 EDT last night) over the Golan Heights and that the Syrians shot down ten Israeli planes but had no Syrian losses. Over sixty Israeli aircraft were initially reported active over the Golan Heights this morning. The Israelis announced that the Syrians were continuing to attack on the entire Golan Heights defense line as of 0325 EDT and had succeeded in penetrating several kilometers in three areas. They were being counter attacked by IDF armor. Jerusalem Domestic Radio announced shortly after 0400 EDT that advances by the Syrians and the Egyptians had been stopped by the coordinated efforts of the Israeli air and armored forces.

Bagdad radio reported this morning that Iraq has nationalized the shares of Standard Oil and Mobil in the Basra Petroleum Company, in response to the current "Imperialist-Zionist aggression." The Lebanese Army was placed on alert with instructions to repulse any Israeli aggression, following yesterday's cabinet meeting. The U. S. Interests Section in Egypt reports Cairo is calm this morning with only slightly less activity than usual. The American community remains unaffected. Iranian ground forces have been put on alert by the Shah, and all leaves have been cancelled. An Italian passenger liner with some 200 Americans aboard has been detained in the port of Tartous, Syria, because some passengers are Jewish.

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Makarios Assassination Attempt: The American Embassy in Nicosia reports that Archbishop Makarios escaped an assassination attempt there this morning when a Grivas terrorist blew up a small bridge on the Presidential motorcade route shortly before it was due. No one was injured as Makarios continued on a alternate route, and an individual who admitted the act was apprehended. There is no apparent connection with Middle East hostilities.

Situation in Indochina: In Vietnam, 75 cease-fire violations were reported, and major violations decreased markedly in Military Region 1. Two ICCS helicopters were fired on by enemy gunners near Pleiku City but were not hit. Combat activity was light throughout Cambodia as communist forces continued their attacks by fire and ground probes on government defenders. Increased pressure and additional attacks on friendly positions on Route 5 attest to the enemy's determination to keep that highway closed. 25X1

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