



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20304

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DIA SITUATION REPORT #101

DIA, NSA reviews completed.

DATE: 4 November 1973  
TIME: 1715 EST

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST HOSTILITIES

REFERENCE: DIA Analysis

1. GENERAL

a. (S) The Arab-Israeli cease-fire lines were quiet through the daylight hours of 4 November following some indications that hostilities might be resumed on the Egyptian-Israeli line.

b. [redacted] of an increased Israeli readiness posture on the afternoon of the 3rd, with military leaves having been canceled and indications of stepped-up activity at tank-repair depots. The atmosphere in Tel Aviv reflected increased vigilance but without signs of panic.

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d. (S) The possibility of a resumption of hostilities on the Syrian front appears unlikely with the rapid onset of the winter rainy season. On the Egyptian front, however, the chances of renewed fighting on a major scale are greater. Lack of progress on the PW issue and the pressure to allow supplies to reach the Egyptian 3d Army are disturbing and irritating to the Israelis. Cairo is frustrated in its lack of success in getting Israeli forces to pull back to the 22 October "line." Such a move would open the supply corridor through Suez City and to the East Bank. The unstable nature of the long cease-fire line, no longer defined by a significant waterway, and the potential advantages each side may see in a major breakdown of the cease-fire -- Israel by achieving a military solution and Egypt by intensified diplomatic/political pressures -- suggest that cease-fire violations will probably continue.

2. UNEF/UNTSO ACTIVITIES

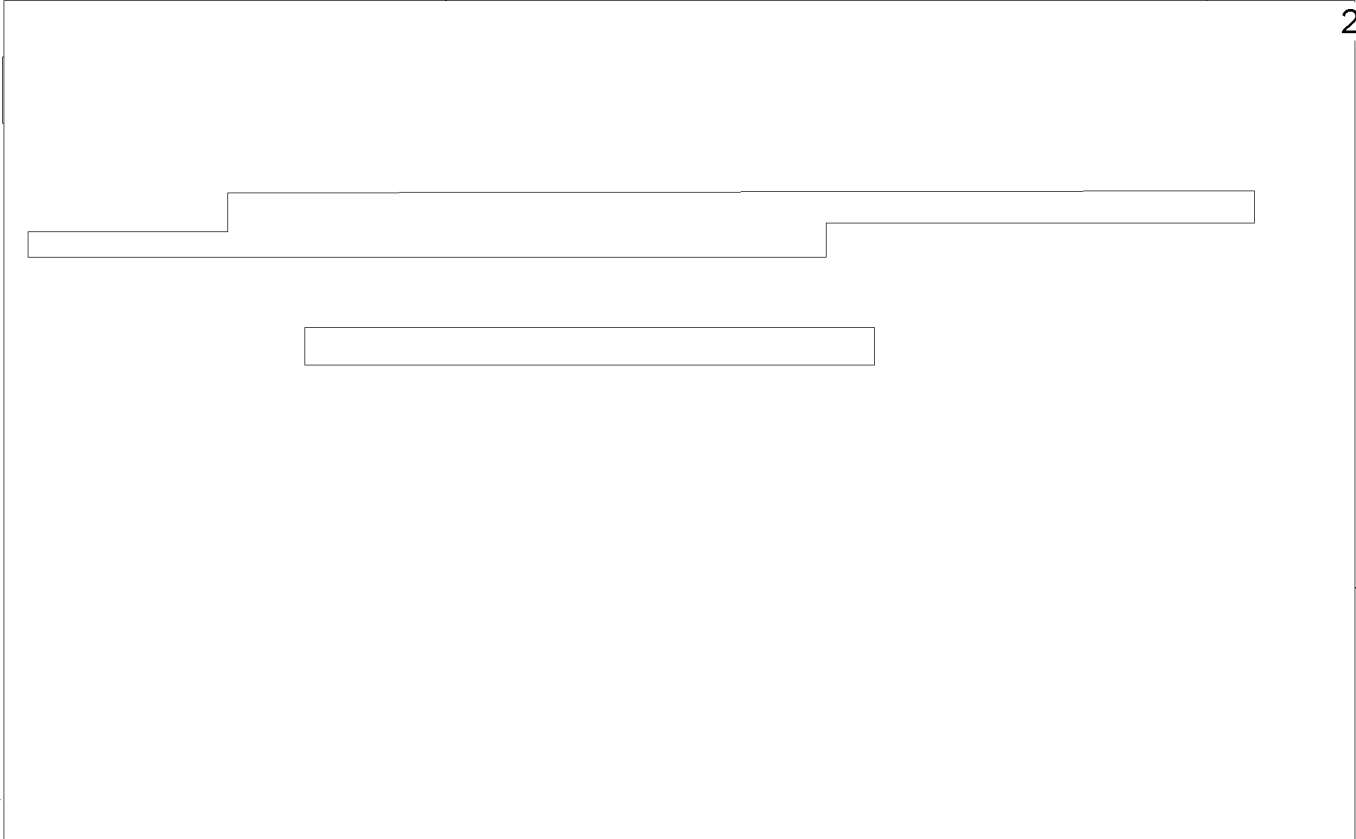
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b. (C) Two USAF C-130s were scheduled to arrive in Cairo from Pisa, Italy, by 1215Z on 4 November. These aircraft are involved in moving heavy equipment for UNEF.

TOP SECRET UMBRA

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Two USAF C-141 aircraft carrying Finnish UNEF troops were to arrive in Cairo on the 4th. USAF aircraft are to move the Irish contingent from Dublin to the Middle East today.



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4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

a. POW AFFAIRS

(C) According to an International Red Cross official in Geneva, the agreement apparently reached yesterday between Egyptian and Israeli officers on the West Bank of the Canal concerning exchange of wounded prisoners has reached a new "stumbling block." The Egyptian officer in charge at yesterday's meeting claims he has no authority to turn over PW lists to the Israelis. He reportedly said that to get these lists one would have to go to the "highest levels" in Egypt. This is a further indication that the Egyptians intend to use PWs in high-level negotiations with the Israelis. The Red Cross has two aircraft on standby in Cyprus to fly relief supplies and transport PWs once an agreement is reached.

CON

b. JORDAN

1) (C) A JAA staff officer reported the Jordanian Army has four Israeli CENTURION tanks in-country. Allegedly two of these tanks were abandoned undamaged. Also, the JAA has eight other IDF CENTURIONS in Syria that will be brought back to Jordan in the near future.

2) (S/NFD/CD) A Jordanian officer reported that on 26 October Amman received another shipment of ammunition and military clothing from Pakistan. Another shipment is scheduled to arrive tomorrow.

c. KUWAIT

(S/NFD/NDA/CD) A Kuwaiti infantry unit -- probably a battalion -- is scheduled to arrive in Syria tomorrow after transiting Iraq. Damascus has no particular need for this unit, but probably agreed to it to encourage further Kuwaiti financial support for Syria.

d. INDIAN OCEAN LITTORAL

(U) The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY-South Yemen) has publically denounced the deployment of US warships into the Indian Ocean. The PDRY has called for all peace-loving countries to score this "aggressive" action.

5. SOVIET ACTIVITY

a. GROUND

[Redacted]

There has been no change noted in other ground force activity.

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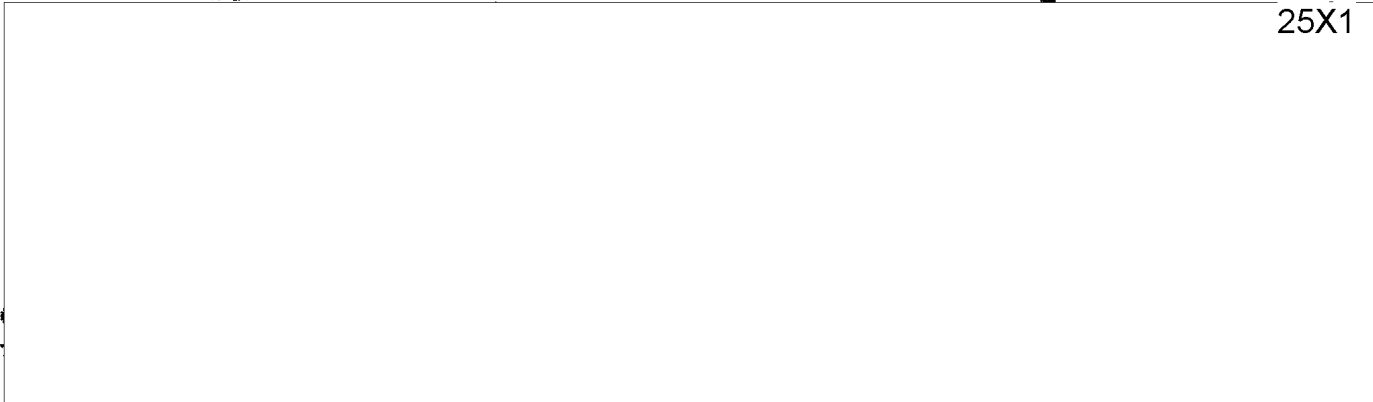
b. NAVY

[Redacted]

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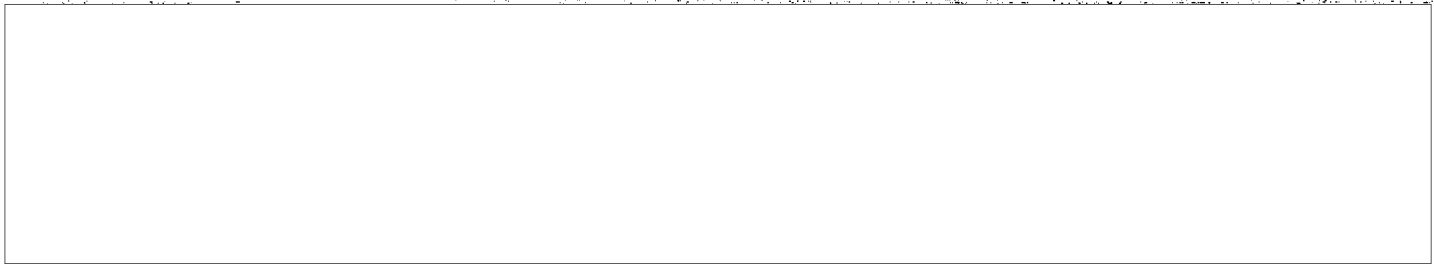
c. AIR

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d. POLITICAL

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2) (C) Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov is continuing his talks with Arab leaders, after arriving in Damascus from Cairo yesterday.

LATE DEVELOPMENT

3D ARMY RESUPPLY

(S) A total of 90 trucks have now delivered supplies to the Egyptian 3d Army since the resupply began on 28 October. At the present rate of approximately 12 trucks per day, the resupply effort of 125 trucks will be completed in another three days. Israeli spokesmen, who earlier indicated the resupply would be a one-time operation, have not indicated whether additional supply convoys will be allowed.