

~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

NSA review completed



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DATE: 2 November 1973  
TIME: 0600 EST

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST HOSTILITIES

REFERENCE:



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1. GENERAL

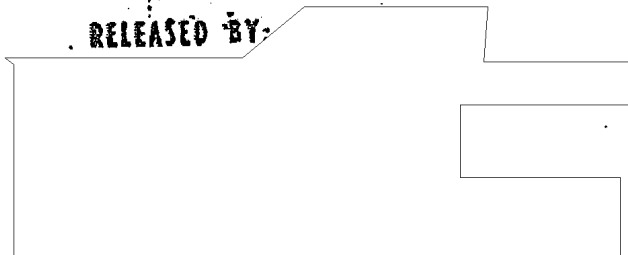
(TSU/NFD) No major violations of the cease-fire occurred during the past 24 hours and there is no confirmation of significant numbers of Soviet military personnel in Egypt other than advisors. Egypt still declines to grant overflight and landing rights to USAF aircraft supporting the UNEF.



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**TOP SECRET UMBRA****2. UNEF ACTIVITIES**

a. --(C) Egypt has declined to reverse its opposition to granting landing clearances for US Night Reach missions at Cairo. Instead, they offered as a possible solution that USAF aircraft ferry troops (in this case 79 Finns) to Cyprus and have the UK carry them to Cairo. Both the UN and the USAF are studying the problem. Continued Egyptian refusal to grant such clearance could have serious ramifications for UNEF as most of the politically acceptable candidates do not have an adequate airlift capability themselves and would have to rely heavily on Night Reach or a similar operation on the part of the USSR.

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c. (U) The Cairo press reports, and UN spokesman refuse to confirm or deny, that Colonel Aake Bendrik, a Swedish Liaison officer with UNEF has been dismissed. Apparently the Colonel's remarks at a press conference were his undoing. He is reported to have said that one of the observers' primary aims was to establish the present dividing lines between the two parties and to refrain from what he viewed as the nearly impossible task of establishing the 22 October cease-fire lines. This position is in direct contrast to that of the Egyptian Government which insists on an Israeli pullback to the 22 October lines. The Colonel also stated that he was unaware of the presence of Israeli troops in Suez City, which Israel apparently objected to in terms of its having effective control of the town. The Colonel thus becomes the first of what will likely be many casualties on the diplomatic front of the conflict.

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**3. CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS**

[Redacted]

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although the alleged Egyptian 3d Army advance on the east bank of the Suez was carried as a "major battle" in the press. This clash may have been nothing more than an incident along the cease-fire line which, due to the relative quiet of the front, was magnified out of proportion to its significance. (SEE [Redacted])

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**4. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

**a. LIBYA/EGYPT**

[Redacted]

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**b. ISRAEL**

[Redacted] mobilization fell far short of expectations. It lacked direction and was generally haphazard in nature. The Israeli Air Force had to contain the Egyptian and Syrian attacks for four days before ground forces were sufficiently reinforced to contain the Arabs. That the initial attack came on Yom Kippur may have facilitated mobilization because almost everyone was at home or at synagogue, thus making them easier to contact. Israel did not introduce any reserve units into the battle as organized, complete, organic units between 6 and 22 October. Most tanks were sent out singly as soon as a crew arrived. The [Redacted] has estimated that 2,000 Israeli troops were killed in the war.

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**c. EGYPT/SYRIA**

[Redacted]

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**d. HUNGARY**

[Redacted] that Hungary will probably send technicians to aid the arabs in the use of Soviet equipment. Technicians are needed and the Arabs may be requesting larger numbers from the Warsaw Pact countries to avoid a repetition of past difficulties with Soviet advisors. Egypt, Syria, and Iraq currently have no Hungarian military advisors in country.

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**5. SOVIET ACTIVITIES**

**a. GROUND**

[Redacted]

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No further contact has been noted since that time; however, there is no evidence to indicate that the 106th, or elements thereof, have been involved in any operational activity.

**b. NAVY**

[Redacted]

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**c. AIR**

(SS) Soviet airlift activity to the Middle East came to a near standstill on 1 November, [Redacted]

[Redacted] Poor weather at Odessa may have led to the cancellation of flights scheduled from that area. [Redacted]

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**d. POLITICAL**

Nothing significant to report.

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