

SENSITIVE

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SITUATION(S) MESSAGE(S) LISTING

DATE 09/23/73//266

SITUATION: HAK TRIP
SUBJECT CATEGORY: TOHAK

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

State Dept, DIA, NSA review(s)
completed

MESSAGE:

IMMEDIATE

O 210627Z OCT 73

FM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK 47

TO PETER ROOMAN FOR DR, KISSINGER

T O P S E C R E T CONTAINS CODEWORD WH52578 TOHAK 47

MORI/CDF
C03223229

HM-CIA MIDDLE EAST SITREP NO, 61, 2230 EDT, 20 OCT 73
THE MILITARY SITUATION

GENERAL

1. ISRAELI SPOKESMEN EXPRESSED GROWING CONFIDENCE TODAY AS THE ISRAELI FORCE ON THE WEST BANK OF THE CANAL EXPANDED ITS BRIDGEHEAD. LATE TODAY THE ISRAELIS APPARENTLY STAGED A RAID AGAINST THE EGYPTIAN NAVAL BASE AT HURGHADA ON THE RED SEA ABOUT 200 MILES SOUTH OF THE SUEZ CANAL. EGYPT HAS DENIED THAT THE RAID TOOK PLACE. THERE IS NO INFORMATION CONCERNING ACTION ON THE EAST BANK OF THE CANAL.

2. THE SYRIAN FRONT WAS RELATIVELY QUIET TODAY. THE ISRAELIS SLIGHTLY EXPANDED THEIR SALIENT IN THE AREA BETWEEN SASA AND TELL AANTAR. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT ADDITIONAL ARAB FORCES MAY BE SENT TO SOUTHERN SYRIA.

THE EGYPTIAN FRONT

3. ISRAELI FORCES ON THE WEST BANK OF THE CANAL CONTINUED TO EXPAND THEIR BRIDGEHEAD. TEL AVIV SHOWED GROWING CONFIDENCE DURING THE DAY AND SPOKESMEN TALKED OF BEING ON THE WAY TO "DESTROYING THE EGYPTIAN ARMY." TEL AVIV REPORTS THAT ITS FORCES ON THE WEST BANK CAPTURED 50 SAM SITES TODAY. THERE IS NO INFORMATION CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTS ON THE EAST BANK OF THE CANAL.

4. ON THE BASIS OF ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE EGYPTIANS HAVE EITHER SUFFICIENT FORCES ON THE WEST BANK OR THE THREE OR FOUR DAYS NECESSARY TO PREPARE A MAJOR OPERATION

***** WHSR COMMENTS *****

SEC

PSN:012884

DTG:210627

TOR:2940713

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AGAINST THE ISRAELI FORCE, THE ISRAELIS HAVE THE INITIATIVE AT THE MOMENT AND THE EGYPTIANS ARE RESPONDING TO ISRAELI MOVES.

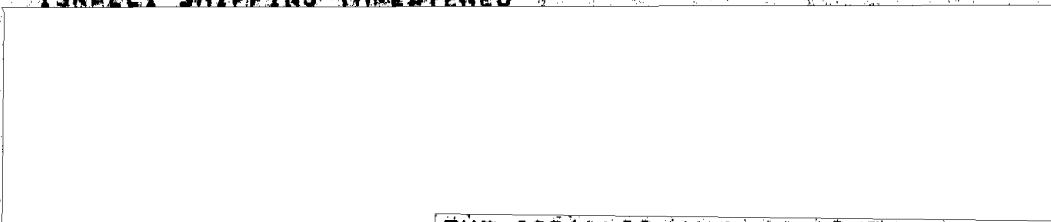


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THE SYRIAN FRONT

6. ACTION WAS COMPARATIVELY LIGHT ON THE SYRIAN FRONT TODAY AS THE SYRIANS AND THEIR ARAB ALLIES APPARENTLY CONTINUED TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE ISRAELI SALIENT, BUT DID NOT MOUNT A MAJOR COORDINATED COUNTER-ATTACK. THE ISRAELIS EXPANDED THE SALIENT SLIGHTLY IN THE AREA BETWEEN SASA AND TELL AANTAR. ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER DAYAN'S STATEMENT TODAY THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE SYRIAN ARMY HAD NOT BEEN PUT OUT OF ACTION INDICATES THAT SIGNIFICANT FORCES--RE-EQUIPPED BY THE SOVIET AIR AND SEA LIFT AND REINFORCED BY NON-SYRIAN UNITS--STILL FACE THE ISRAELIS IN THE NORTH.

7. THE LEBANESE MILITARY ATTACHE IN BAGHDAD SAID THAT THE IRAQIS PLAN EVENTUALLY TO COMMIT FOUR DIVISIONS TO THE SYRIAN FRONT AND THAT THE BAGHDAD-DAMASCUS ROAD WAS PACKED WITH TROOPS, TANKS, AND TRUCKS ON 19 OCTOBER.
ISRAELI SHIPPING THREATENED



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THE ISRAELIS HAVE ASKED THE US NAVAL ATTACHE IF THERE WERE ANY US SHIPS IN THE VICINITY OF THE HANNA. ISRAELI NAVAL ACTION ON THE EGYPTIAN COAST MAY BE INTENDED TO PREVENT EGYPTIAN MISSILE BOATS FROM INTERCEPTING THE HANNA.



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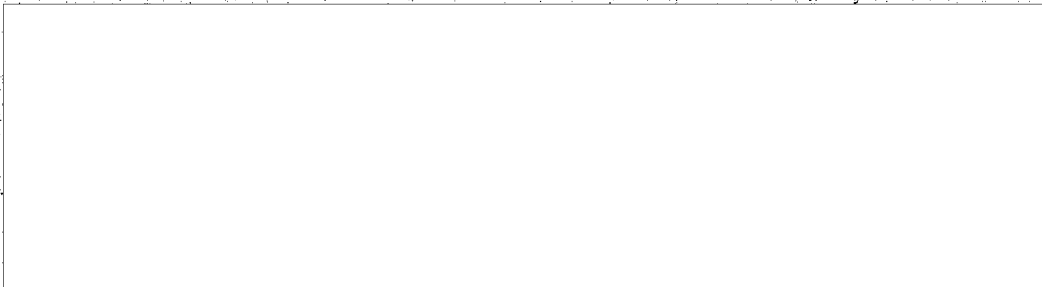
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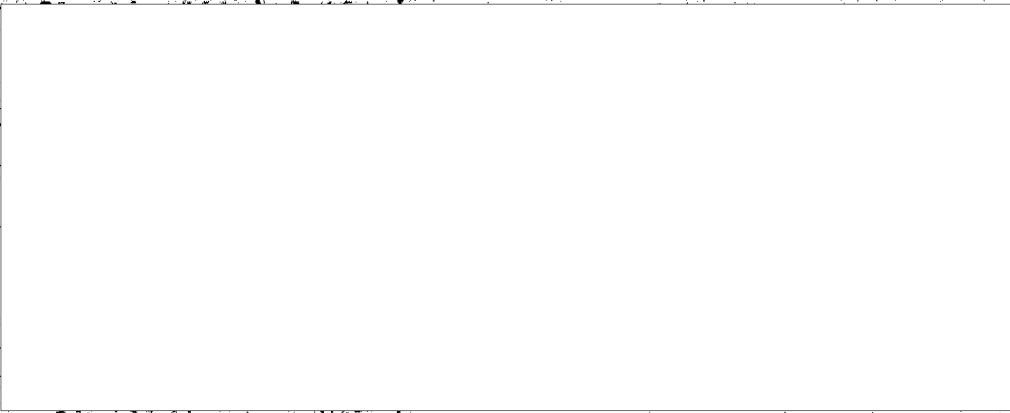
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ARAB OIL
10. ALGIERS RADIO ANNOUNCED LATE TONIGHT THAT ALGERIA HAS SUSPENDED ALL OIL SHIPMENTS TO THE US, AND IS REDUCING ITS OIL PRODUCTION BY 10 PERCENT. ALGERIAN OIL EXPORTS TO THE US HAVE BEEN RUNNING ABOUT 150,000 BARRELS PER DAY, OR LESS THAN ONE PERCENT OF DAILY US OIL CONSUMPTION. SAUDI ARABIA, LIBYA, ABU DHABI, AND BAHRAIN HAVE PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED A TOTAL EMBARGO ON US OIL SHIPMENTS AND OTHER ARAB PRODUCERS ARE ALMOST CERTAIN TO FOLLOW.
ARAB REACTIONS

11. ALTHOUGH THE RADIOS OF THE ARAB STATES HAVE BROADCAST REPORTS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S TRIP TO MOSCOW, THE ONLY COMMENTARY YET RECEIVED COMES FROM LIBYA. RADIO TRIPOLI SAID THAT IT WAS SURPRISED BY THE US-SOVIET DISCUSSIONS, AND SUGGESTED THAT THE AIM OF THE TALKS WAS "TO MAKE US DESIST FROM LIBERATING OUR LANDS." TRIPOLI ADDED THAT "THE SUPER POWERS MUST NOT IMPOSE ON US STEPS THAT ARE NOT IN THE BENEFIT OF OUR (ARAB) NATION."



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