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WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Directorate of Intelligence

22 September 1970

70 SEP 22 AM 6:35

MEMORANDUM

Jordan

(Situation as of 0630 EDT)

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MORI/CDF per C03323566

1. Fighting broke out again in Amman this morning.

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The embassy's

telephone lines are working; the embassy can receive calls and has

succeeded in making a few calls out, thus establishing that all official

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

Americans are safe and well.

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(Attached to U cover memo from Saunders/Kennedy for HAK, 22 Sept. 1970)

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7. A Red Cross representative has confirmed that earlier estimates of "very heavy casualties" in Amman. Most of the injured have been unable to obtain medical care because of the sniping and because the lack of electricity and medical facilities. The official described the general health situation as ~~IMMEDIATELY~~ "dreadful", but said the most pressing need was for food. An estimated 10,000 homeless people camped out at the Amman railroad station, 4,000 of whom are close to starvation. The Red Cross has begun relief flights from Beirut, but its efforts are hampered by sniping.

8. There is no further word on the hostages. Talks between Red Cross representatives ~~YASSER ARAFAT~~ and fedayeen leaders in Beirut have broken no new ground.

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said yesterday that they seriously doubt that the guerrilla

leaders involved in the talks, although normally influential, are now in any position to secure the release of the hostages.

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A PFLP statement issued this morning said

that the organization considers the hostages "prisoners of war," because of the joint stand the US, UK, West Germany, and Switzerland have taken with Israel on the problem.

Q. The opening of the Arab summit meeting in Cairo has been postponed eight hours, and is now scheduled to convene at 1900 hours Cairo time (Noon EDT). ~~for information~~

~~King Husayn and his delegation will be present.~~

Q. The opening of the Arab summit in Cairo has been postponed eight hours, apparently because some of the delegates did not arrive in time for the session scheduled for this morning. It will now convene at 1900 hours Cairo time (Noon EDT). It is still not clear just who will attend. Nasir conferred with Syria's Atasi late last night, but the results are unknown and there is no indication whether he will stay around for the summit. ^{o.s.f.c.} King Husayn, as expected, sent his premier, Brig. Daud.