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UNCLAS JERUSALEM 01913

USIA FOR P/R, P/P, P/FW, P/FN, BXN/VOA, NEA,
USCENTCOM/USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: ASEC, PROG, PREL, SCUL, SHUM, IS, JO, KPAL
SUBJECT: JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK PRESS SUMMARY FOR
FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1986.

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1. SUMMARY:

-- LEAD/FRONT-PAGE STORIES:

HEAVY CASUALTIES IN BEIRUT FIGHTING; PLO TO INCREASE ARMED OPERATIONS INSIDE ISRAEL; SHULTZ VISIT CANCELLED; EGYPT TO ANNUL CAMP DAVID PROVISIONS ON PALESTINIANS?; EC TO ENCOURAGE A MORE ACTIVE U.S. ROLE IN REGION.

-- JERUSALEM/WEST BANK NEWS:

LIFE SENTENCE GIVEN TO WEST BANKER FOR MURDER OF FIVE ISRAELIS AND WOUNDING OF SIXTEEN OTHERS IN SERIES OF TERRORIST ATTACKS.

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION INTERESTED IN PUSHING FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN WEST BANK ACCORDING TO INFORMED U.S. SOURCES.

STUDENTS BREAK INTO UNRWA HEADQUARTERS, PROTEST AGAINST DECREASED LEVEL OF SERVICES TO CAMPS.

TWO ARABS ARRESTED IN ATTEMPTED STABBING OF YESHIVA STUDENT; OTHER INCIDENTS.

GROUP OF PALESTINIANS ASKS EGYPT TO "ADOPT" WEST BANK AND GAZA AND TO OPEN CONSULATE IN EAST JERUSALEM.

FARMERS ASK ARAB STATES TO ACCEPT MORE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM THE WEST BANK.

-- EDITORIALS:

"THE CURSE OF THE STINGER"; A VICTORY FOR KAHANE; "A STAGE OF REFLECTION"; "REAGAN'S PARTNER"; THATCHER'S VISIT; LAUDING KING HUSSEIN.

END SUMMARY.

2. LEAD/FRONT-PAGE STORIES:

-- ALL PAPERS:

RADICAL ASHAAB'S LEAD, FEATURED PROMINENTLY BY ALL OTHER PAPERS, REPORTED THE KILLING OF 37 PEOPLE AND THE WOUNDING OF 151 OTHERS IN FIGHTING BETWEEN CHRISTIAN AND MOSLEM GROUPS IN BEIRUT YESTERDAY.

-- SELECTED PAPERS:

THE JERUSALEM POST ALONE RAN A FRONT PAGE STORY QUOTING THE PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN CAIRO THAT THE ORGANIZATION IS PLANNING TO INCREASE ITS MILITARY OPERATIONS IN ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THE PDST ADDED THAT THE PLO MAY BE CONSIDERING A MOVE OF ITS OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS FROM AMMAN TO BAGHDAD.

THE POST, PRO-PLO AL QUDS AND PRO-DISSIDENTS AL MITHAQ

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QUOTED U.S. AMBASSADOR PICKERING THAT SECRETARY SHULTZ WILL NOT VISIT THE REGION IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

QUOTING A FORMER EGYPTIAN MINISTER, ASHAAB AND AL QUDS UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 JERUSALEM 01913

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REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT MUBARAK MAY CANCEL THOSE PROVISIONS IN THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS DEALING WITH PALESTINIANS AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

AL QUDS LEAD STORY, ALSO REPORTED ON AN NAHAR'S FRONT PAGE, REPORTED THAT THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY FAVORS AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO RESOLVE THE AREA'S PROBLEMS AND WILL ENCOURAGE THE U.S. TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE.

ISRAELI JUSTICE MINISTER YITZHAK MODA'I WAS QUOTED IN THE POST'S LEAD STORY: "THERE IS A BASIS FOR PUTTING **KURT WALDHEIM** ON TRIAL, IF HE WERE IN ISRAEL, FOR INVOLEMENT IN WAR CRIMES."

3. JERUSALEM/WEST BANK NEWS:

ALL ARABIC PAPERS REPORTED THAT A RESIDENT OF JABBA VILLAGE NEAR BETHLEHEM WAS SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR LEADING THE SO-CALLED HEBRDN HILLS GANG IN THE MURDER OF FIVE ISRAELIS AND THE WOUNDING OF SIXTEEN OTHERS IN A SERIES OF TERRORIST ATTACKS. THE FOUR OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WERE KILLED IN A SHOOTOUT WITH POLICE SIX MONTHS AGO.

AL QUDS AND ASHAAB QUOTED INFORMED SOURCES IN WASHINGTON THAT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS THE HOLDING OF MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA IN ORDER TO EFFECT A TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY TO LOCAL LEADERS.

AL QUDS AND ASHAAB REPORTED THAT SEVERAL PALESTINIAN STUDENTS BROKE INTO THE JERUSALEM HEADQUARTERS OF UNRWA TO PROTEST AGAINST THE DECREASED LEVEL OF SERVICES BEING OFFERED TO REFUGEE CAMP RESIDENTS.

AL MITHAQ, ASHAAB AND AL QUDS REPORTED THAT TWO ARABS WERE ARRESTED FOR ATTEMPTING TO STAB A YESHIVA STUDENT IN EAST JERUSALEM. IN OTHER INCIDENTS:

-- AL FAJR, AL QUDS AND AL MITHAQ REPORTED THAT FARA PRISON INMATES WENT ON A HUNGER STRIKE RECENTLY TO PROTEST POOR LIVING CONDITIONS.

-- AL FAJR ONLY REPORTED THAT ANTI-ARAB SLOGANS WERE PAINTED ON THE DOORS OF A SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS IN WEST

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JERUSALEM WHERE TWO ARABS ARE STUDYING.

AL MITHAQ ALONE, QUOTING THE ISRAELI PAPER HAMISHMAR, REPORTED THAT A GROUP OF WEST BANKERS HAS ASKED EGYPT TO "ADOPT" THE WEST BANK AND GAZA IN ORDER TO REDUCE JORDANIAN INFLUENCE. THE GROUP FAVORS THE RESUMPTION OF AUTONOMY DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAEL, WANTS BRANCHES OF EGYPTIAN BANKS TO OPEN IN GAZA AND HAS CALLED FOR THE OPENING OF AN EGYPTIAN CONSULATE IN EAST JERUSALEM. THE IDENTITY OF THE GROUP MEMBERS WAS NOT REVEALED.

AL FAJR AND ASHAAB NOTED THAT A GROUP OF FARMERS WROTE AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HEADS OF SEVERAL ARAB STATES CALLING ON THEM TO PERMIT INCREASED LEVELS OF WEST BANK PRODUCE INTO THEIR COUNTRIES. NO ADDITIONAL DETAILS WERE GIVEN.

4. EDITORIALS:

IN ITS EDITORIAL TITLED "THE CURSE OF THE STINGER," AL UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 JERUSALEM 01913

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QUDS CALLED THE SAUDI COMPROMISE IN THE ARMS DEAL WITH THE U.S. "A SLAP TO THE INTEGRITY OF ALL ARABS....WE TELL ALL WHO PANT AFTER THE AMERICAN MIRAGE THAT THE U.S. HAS NO INTENTION TO BEFRIEND YOU. IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THE U.S. SEES, HEARS AND TALKS THROUGH ISRAEL."

THE JERUSALEM POST MOURNED THE DEATH OF THE ANTI-RACISM BILL IN THE KNESSET WHICH IT TERMED A VICTORY FOR RABBI MEIR KAHANE. "THE MIND REBELS AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE KACH LEADER, THOUGH ALREADY EFFECTIVELY BARRED FROM RUNNING FOR THE KNESSET AGAIN, SHOULD REMAIN FREE TO SPREAD HIS NOXIOUS DOCTRINE THROUGHOUT THE LAND."

COMMENTING ON THE VISIT OF "REAGAN'S PARTNER," PM THATCHER, TO ISRAEL, ASHAAB CALLED THE U.K. "A HUMILIATED FOLLOWER WHO IMPLEMENTS ORDERS FROM THE WHITE HOUSE IN WASHINGTON." AL MITHAQ SUGGESTED DARKLY THAT THE VISITS TO ISRAEL OF WESTERN LEADERS, SUCH AS THATCHER, ARE USUALLY FOLLOWED BY "CONSPIRACIES AND AGGRESSIONS" AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS.

AN NAHAR LAUDED KING HUSSEIN'S RECENT EFFORTS TO PLAY THE ROLE OF CONCILIATOR BETWEEN SYRIA AND EGYPT AND SYRIA AND IRAQ.

AL FAJR BELIEVES THAT THE U.S. "STAGE OF REFLECTION" IN THE AREA GIVES TIME TO THE PALESTINIANS TO SETTLE THEIR

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INTERNAL DIFFERENCES IN A RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE.
DRAPER

END OF MESSAGE

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