

(b)(3)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY [CIA Seal] DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

[redacted] Middle East-North Africa: Situation Update as of 24 July 2012 [redacted]

(b)(3)

24 July 2012

[redacted]

[redacted] Syria Fighting: The regime claimed yesterday it had retaken control of Damascus by overwhelming rebel strongholds in the city's suburbs [redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights yesterday claimed at least 116 people were killed across the country, including 81 civilians and rebel fighters and 35 regime soldiers. [redacted]

[redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

Heavy fighting continued in Aleppo yesterday [redacted]

(b)(3)

Oppositionists claimed to control several Aleppo neighborhoods, [redacted]

[redacted]

- [redacted] Jordanian residents near Ar Ramtha yesterday said that two Syrian mortar shells hit inside the Jordanian border [redacted]

(b)(3)

[redacted]

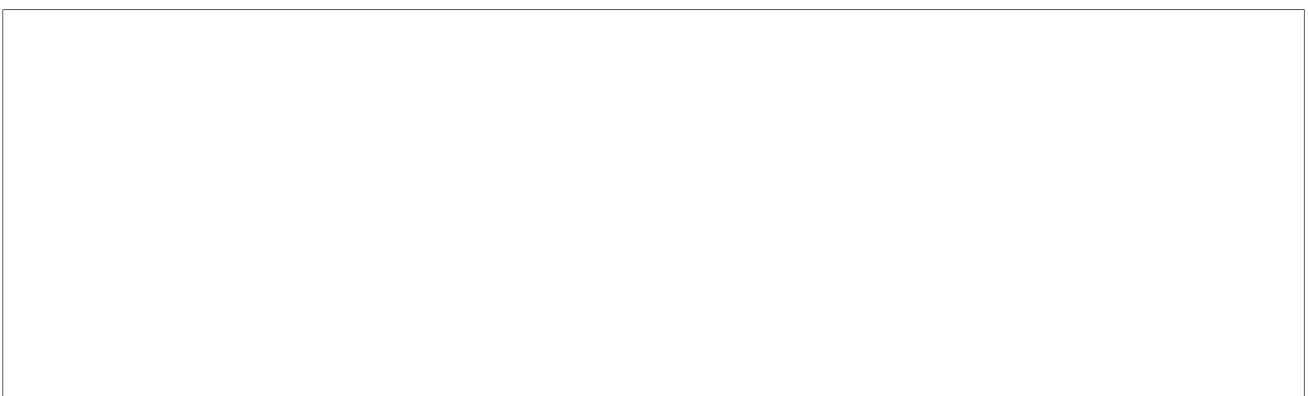
(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(U) This report was prepared by the CIA Middle East Task Force. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Task Force [redacted]

(b)(3)

NR



(b)(3)

Syria International: President Putin said yesterday that the Syrian crisis must be resolved through negotiations and that toppling the regime would cause a civil war.

- Russian airline Aeroflot said yesterday that it will end its biweekly flights between Moscow and Damascus as of 6 August.

(b)(3)



(b)(1)
(b)(3)

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki as of yesterday formally authorized the entry of Syrian refugees into Iraq signaling a change from last week in which a government spokesman on 20 July said that Baghdad would be unable to provide help for Syrian refugees because of the poor security situation in Iraq. No details were released following the announcement.

(b)(3)



(b)(1)
(b)(3)

[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(3)

- [Redacted] Iranian Majlis Speaker Ali Larijani [Redacted] [Redacted] proposed presidential elections in Syria as a way to end the unrest.

(b)(3)

[Redacted] Lebanese President Sulayman tasked Foreign Affairs Minister Mansur yesterday with delivering a letter of protest to Syria's envoy to Lebanon over recurrent violations of Lebanon's border [Redacted] Sulayman deplored an incident over the weekend which he said included the bombing of a house in Masharikh al-Qa'a and the frequent shelling of Lebanese villages particularly in the north [Redacted]

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

- [Redacted] In the incident, thirty Syrian Army soldiers over the weekend crossed the border and raided homes in the Masharikh al-Qa'a village of Al-Jura, approximately 500 meters inside Lebanese territory, [Redacted]

(b)(3)

[Redacted] Yemeni activists as of 21 July launched a Facebook and Twitter campaign to expel the Syrian Ambassador to Yemen and on 28 July plan to protest at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) in Sanaa, [Redacted] An MFA official stated that since 2011 there has not been a Syrian ambassador in the embassy, only an acting person responsible for routine procedures.

NR Record

[Large Redacted Area]

NR Record

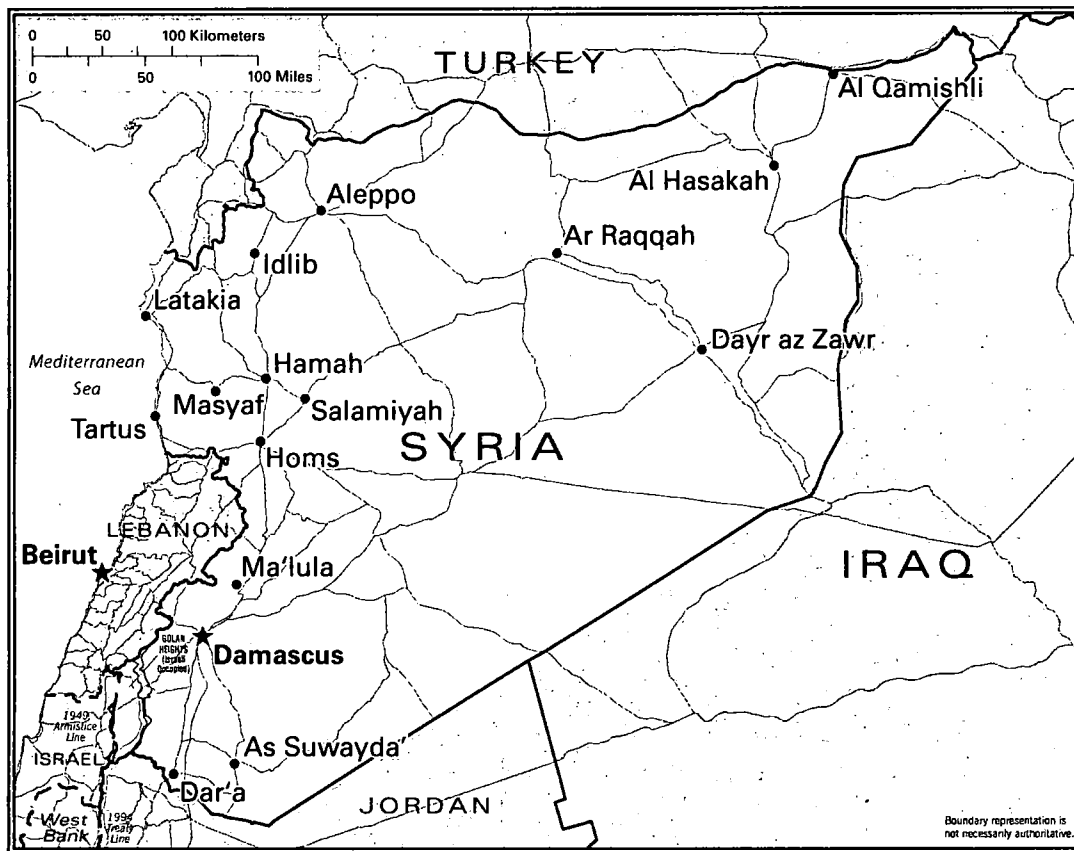


~~TOP SECRET~~

(b)(3)

UNCLASSIFIED

(U) North Africa and Middle East Situation Report



NR Record

~~TOP SECRET~~

(b)(3)