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ARAB STATES - ISRAEL: Israeli forces encountered stiff resistance yesterday on the Golan Heights, but advanced past the 1967 cease-fire line. Fighting on the Egyptian front was more sporadic with neither side committing enough manpower to seriously challenge the other's position.

Israeli ground forces pushed about 11 kilometers beyond the 1967 cease-fire line, along a narrow front between Mount Hermon and Qunaytirah in the northern Golan Heights, yesterday afternoon. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the likely Israeli target in Syria will be Qatana, [REDACTED] about 20 kilometers southwest of Damascus. Israeli aircraft continued to pound Syrian positions last night and this morning, especially on the flanks of the most advanced Israeli units. Israeli aircraft attacked Damascus international airport and seven other nearby Syrian airfields yesterday. Five Israeli planes were lost as a result of ground fire--probably SA-6 missiles. Syria reported Israeli naval units and helicopters attacked the port of Tartus shortly before midnight last night. Damascus claimed to have destroyed three Israeli boats and a helicopter in this engagement. A Soviet merchant vessel was struck by two missiles, but no casualties were reported.

The situation in the Sinai remains relatively unchanged. The Egyptians have not made a serious attempt to expand their positions on the east bank of the canal nor have they launched a major drive eastward toward the Sinai passes. The Israeli Air Force continues to attack Egyptian positions along the canal; over 120 sorties were flown yesterday and several aircraft were lost to ground fire. Only a few Egyptian fighters were [REDACTED] flying--none were seen over the east bank. A small Egyptian thrust to move away from the canal was made south of Suez City, but apparently was turned back by the Israelis.

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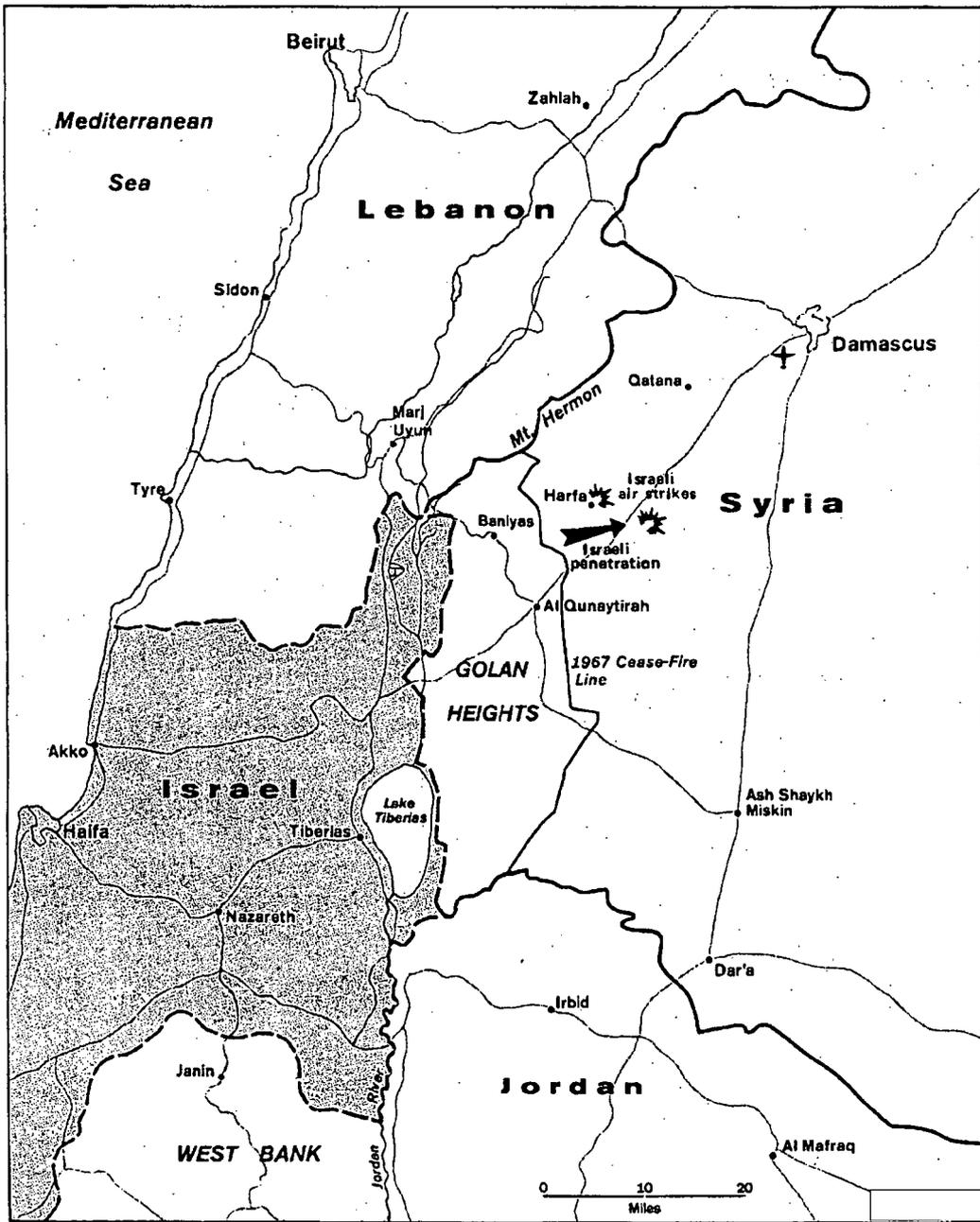
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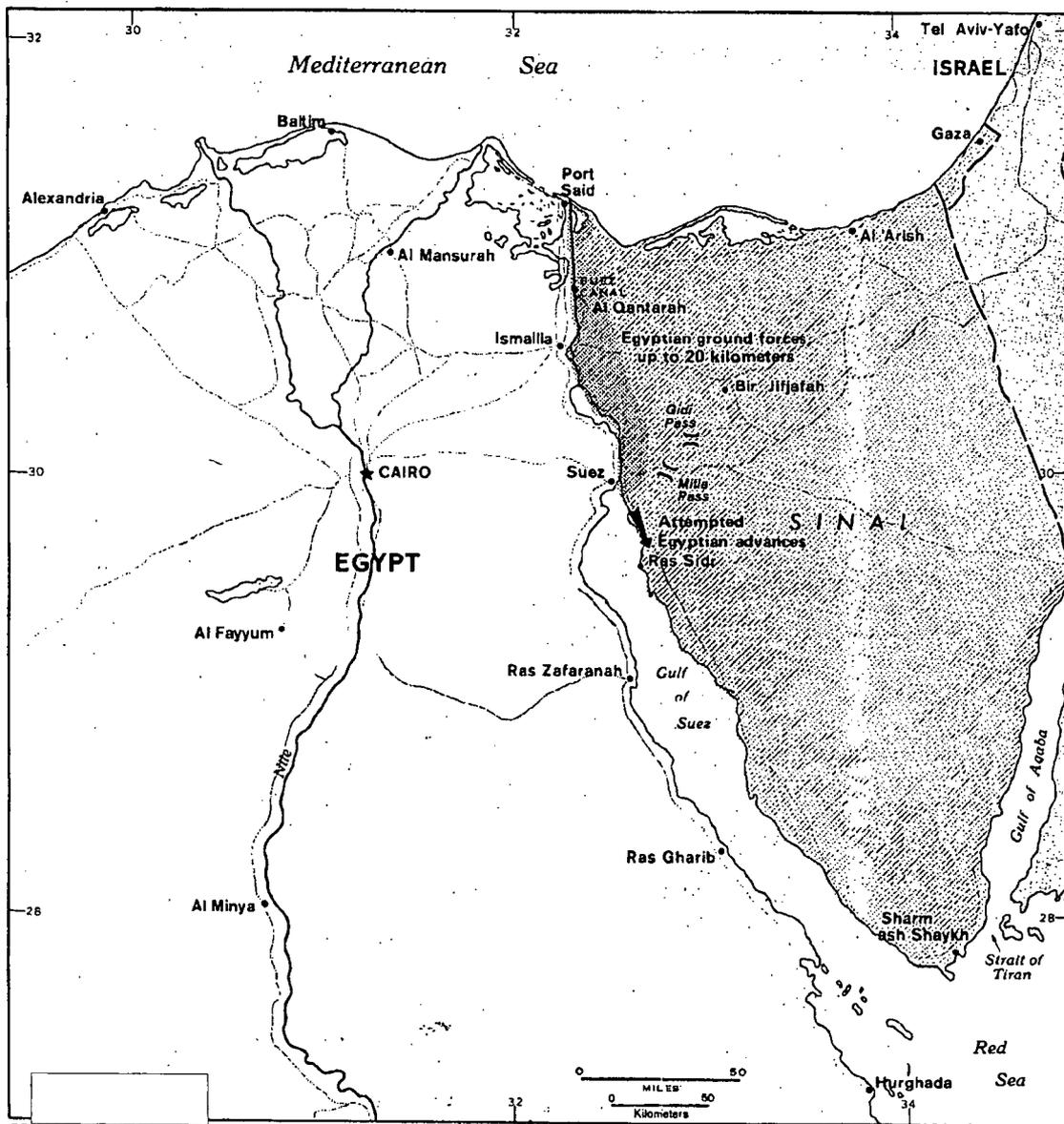


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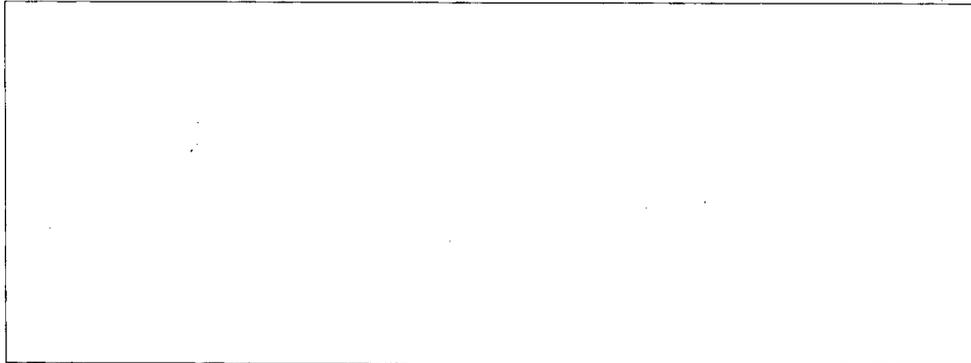
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Moscow is keeping in close diplomatic touch with the Arab states and probably is receiving pressure for additional assistance. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko met with several Arab ambassadors in Moscow yesterday and accepted their thanks for Soviet support. Gromyko told the envoys that the USSR "will exert all efforts" on behalf of a Middle East peace that safeguards the security of all countries in the region. The Iraqi Foreign Minister was in Moscow on 9-10 October. He said the visit was for consultations on "important joint matters" in accordance with the Iraqi-Soviet friendship treaty. The discussions probably centered on Soviet logistic support for the Iraqi war effort.



The deployment of Arab troops from countries other than Syria and Egypt appears to be increasing. Some countries such as Kuwait and the Sudan have announced token contributions, but as many as 16,000 Iraqi troops and more than 100 tanks were reported to have crossed into Syria yesterday. These numbers cannot be confirmed but it is apparent that Baghdad is becoming increasingly involved in the fighting. Iraqi Armed Forces Headquarters announced yesterday that Iraqi planes and tanks have joined other Arab forces on the battlefield. The statement also admits the loss of 12 planes and lists the names of Iraqi pilots killed in action.

A Saudi brigade was reported moving into Jordan last night. It will augment the Saudi brigade already

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stationed in southern Jordan. King Hassan has announced that a contingent of Moroccan troops is en route to Egypt. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Morocco already had 2,000-3,000 troops in Syria before the outbreak of hostilities. According to a Moroccan Foreign Ministry spokesman, this contingent has taken heavy casualties on the Golan Heights. The willingness of other Arab states to make these sacrifices will place increased pressure on Jordan's King Husayn to take a more active role in the hostilities.

Lebanon, however, continues to show no interest in getting involved in the fighting. In a statement to the press today, the Defense Minister stressed Lebanon's defensive posture. He avoided any suggestion that the Lebanese might initiate a diversionary action against Israel, but emphasized that the army is ready to "frustrate any aggression." With regard to Lebanon's relations with the Palestinian guerrillas, the Defense Minister asserted that fedayeen leaders had shown "understanding" toward the government, an apparent allusion to the limited involvement in the war of Lebanon-based guerrillas. Some of the fedayeen have engaged in minor cross-border operations into Israel.

Although pleasantly surprised about Egyptian military success, Yasir Arafat and some fedayeen leaders are less happy about the possible political implications of the war, [REDACTED]. Arafat is said to fear that a likely outcome of the fighting--in which the fedayeen role has been minimal--will be the eclipse of Fatah and the PFLP. Arafat is also critical of what he believes to be Sadat's strategy, that is, that Cairo will be content to occupy only a limited amount of territory in the Sinai while anticipating great power intervention. Arafat hopes to crank up the fedayeen propaganda machine to urge the Arab states not to accept a cease-fire and to fight a war of "total liberation."

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The UN Security Council convened last night after a two-day recess, but the proceedings were largely confined to Egyptian and Israeli charges as to which side initiated hostilities. In their statements, Foreign Ministers Eban and Zayyat went no further than to agree to "study" an appeal to end the fighting made by Secretary General Waldheim. [redacted]

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FOR THE RECORD*

USSR: Soviet satellite reconnaissance of the Middle East has increased since early October. Two high resolution photoreconnaissance satellites currently are in orbit. One of these, Cosmos 597, which is in an orbit that will provide optimum coverage of the Middle East, may be brought down this morning after only six days. Cosmos 596, a low resolution photoreconnaissance satellite, was brought down early on 9 October after completing one half of the normal 12-day mission. Similarly, Soviet Elint satellite monitoring of the Middle East has been at a high level since 4 October.

**This item was prepared by CIA without consultation with the Departments of State and Defense.*

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