

25X1

*eps*

25X1



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
17 November 1973

~~HA~~  
~~BO~~  
~~HS~~  
~~AA~~

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

MIDDLE EAST

Situation Report Number 123  
(as of 1100 EST)

THE MILITARY SITUATION

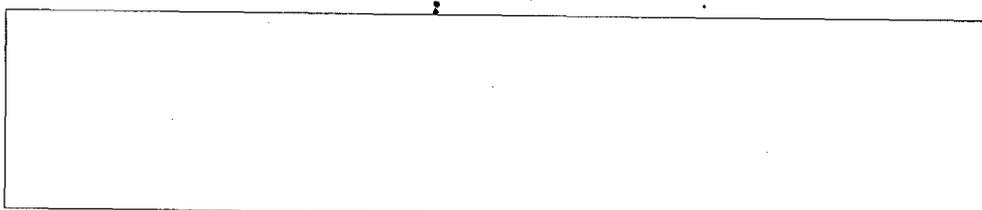
(All times cited in military paragraphs are Cairo/Tel Aviv time, unless otherwise specified.)

SYRIA ON NEGOTIATIONS

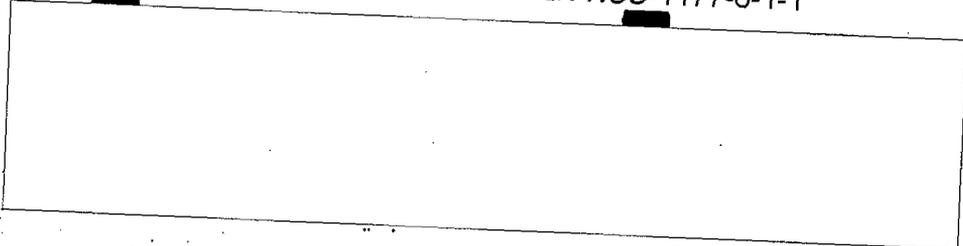
*or cf: lines?*

1. Syria's deputy permanent UN representative yesterday told a USUN Mission officer that Damascus is prepared to exchange POWs and enter into negotiations with Israel if Tel Aviv agrees to withdraw its forces either to the 22 October cease-fire lines and vacate all its outposts on Mount Hermon, or withdraw to the 1967 borders and be allowed to retain its "outermost" posts on the mountain. He referred to the latter as a "major" concession by Damascus, but one which still allows Syria to claim it had regained territory as a result of the last war.

2. According to a sensitive State Department cable, the Syrian also said that it was important that his country now become involved in the current "movement" going on between Cairo and Tel Aviv. He claimed "all" Arab states were angry with Cairo for making agreements with Secretary Kissinger without consulting



25X1



25X1

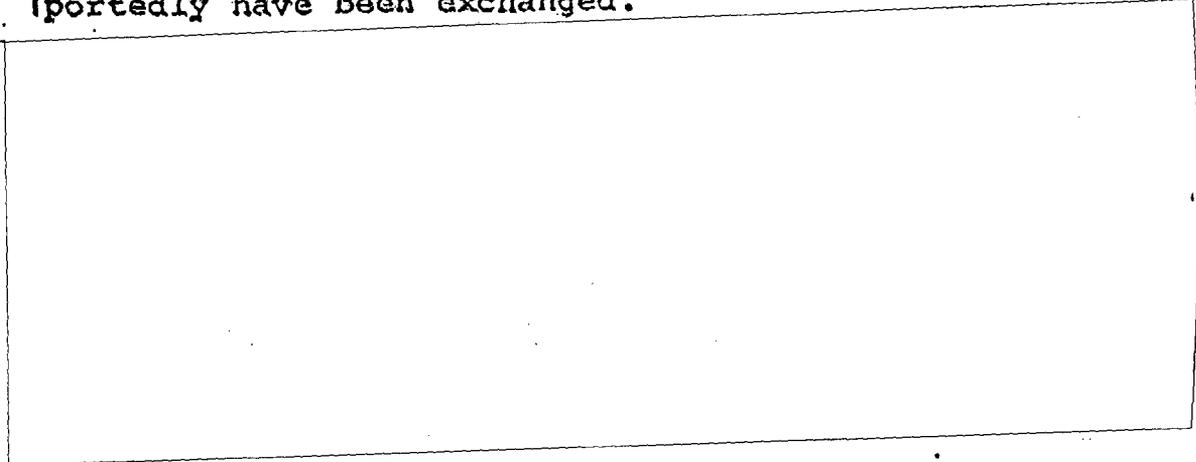
anyone, and that this growing Egyptian self-isolation was strengthening the position of Arab radicals. Syria's entrance into the "action," he asserted, would tip the balance in the Arab world away from radical positions.

3. Syrian President Asad had earlier outlined a plan to the UN Secretary-General's special envoy indicating Syria's willingness to reach agreement on a POW exchange if Israel would declare its readiness to return to the lines occupied just before the outbreak of hostilities on 6 October.

POW EXCHANGE

4. Another 20 Israeli POWs arrived in Tel Aviv early this morning, bringing the number of released to 76. Jerusalem Domestic Service reported that 522 Egyptian prisoners were also repatriated at the same time. By tonight about 100 of the 247 Israeli prisoners and more than 3,000 of the 8,000 Egyptian POWs will reportedly have been exchanged.

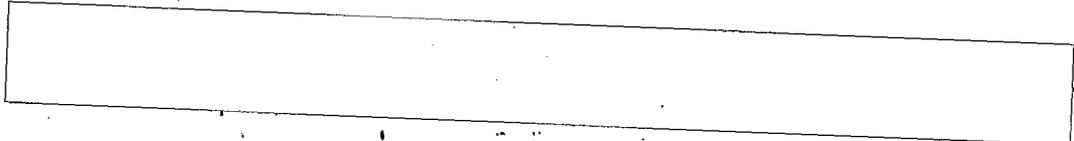
25X1



ARAB LEADERS TO MOSCOW?

6. Egyptian President Sadat will meet with Soviet General Secretary Brezhnev "very soon," according to a 17 November article appearing in a Beirut newspaper with

25X1



**Page Denied**

**Page Denied**