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FRP: . . . . .

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OUTGOING

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MESSAGE

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~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT ORCON PROPRI~~

TO: [REDACTED] MEA BRIEF.

(NOFORN IN SLANTS)

WM ATEL

OUTGOING

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MESSAGE

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA BRIEF [REDACTED] FOR 18 JUNE 1985.

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FROM: [REDACTED]

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OUTGOING

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- 1. LEBANON: NABIH BARRI AND NEGOTIATIONS
- 2. EGYPT-SUDAN: HIGH-LEVEL MEETING
- 3. AFRICA: INTEREST IN CLOUD SEEDING
- 4. IN BRIEF

MESSAGE

- 1. LEBANON: NABIH BARRI AND NEGOTIATIONS

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Approved for Release  
Date JUN 1999

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[REDACTED] SHIA **b1, b3**  
AMAL CHIEF NABIH BARRI HOPES THAT A SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION TO THE TWA HIJACKING, INCLUDING THE RELEASE OF SHIAS HELD IN ISRAEL, WILL INCREASE HIS INFLUENCE AND PRESTIGE IN THE SHIA COMMUNITY AND PLACE THE US IN HIS DEBT.// [REDACTED]

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//DESPITE BARRI'S EFFORTS TO MANIPULATE THE HIJACKING TO HIS ADVANTAGE, HE IS UNLIKELY TO FORCE THE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES WITHOUT A COMMITMENT BY ISRAEL TO FREE THE APPROXIMATELY 700 SHIA DETAINEES. BARRI'S INFLUENCE WITH THE HIJACKERS IS LIMITED, ESPECIALLY SINCE SOME OF THEM ARE HIZBALLAH SYMPATHIZERS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO BARRI'S MORE MODERATE POLICIES. SHIA RADICALS HAVE MADE MAJOR INROADS INTO AMAL'S ORGANIZATION IN THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS OF BEIRUT, AND BARRI'S SUPPORTERS MUST BE VERY CAREFUL IN OPPOSING THEIR MORE RADICAL CORELIGIONISTS OPENLY. BARRI'S RESOURCES ARE FURTHER STRAINED BY AMAL'S FOUR-WEEK-OLD CAMPAIGN AGAINST PALESTINIAN FIGHTERS BESIEGED IN BEIRUT REFUGEE CAMPS.// [REDACTED]

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2. EGYPT-SUDAN: HIGH-LEVEL MEETING

//EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT MUBARAK MADE AN UNEXPECTED ONE-DAY TRIP TO KHARTOUM YESTERDAY TO MEET WITH MILITARY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN SUWAR AL-DAHAB FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE COUP IN APRIL. THE DELEGATION ACCOMPANYING MUBARAK INCLUDED EGYPT'S DEFENSE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND INTERIOR MINISTERS.// [REDACTED]

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//MUBARAK'S TRIP IS PART OF A NEW EGYPTIAN STRATEGY TO COUNTER LIBYA'S GROWING INFLUENCE IN SUDAN. IT ALMOST CERTAINLY WAS PROMPTED BY THE VISIT TO KHARTOUM LAST WEEKEND OF LIBYAN DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF AL-HUMAYDI, QADHAFI'S PERSONAL ENVOY. SUWAR AL-DAHAB MAY HAVE ENCOURAGED THE MEETING WITH MUBARAK TO UNDERMINE DOMESTIC CRITICISM THAT HIS REGIME IS UNABLE TO CONTAIN LIBYAN INROADS IN SUDAN.// [REDACTED]

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4. IN BRIEF

MIDDLE EAST

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--//JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER RIFAI [REDACTED] PLANNING MINOR CABINET CHANGES TO CONSOLIDATE HIS CONTROL OVER POLICY LIKELY TO SHIFT FOREIGN MINISTER AND REMOVE FINANCE AND INFORMATION MINISTERS.// [REDACTED]

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--//TUNISIA HAS RAISED FUEL AND SUGAR PRICES AS MUCH AS 24 PERCENT TO TRIM BUDGET DEFICIT . . . WILL LINK FUTURE HIKE TO WAGE LEVELS . . . MEASURES FAIL TO SATISFY DEMANDS FOR REAL WAGE INCREASES, RISK UNREST . . . UNIONS AND POOR RIOTED OVER FOOD PRICES LAST YEAR.// [REDACTED]

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AFRICA

--//ZAIRIAN DISSIDENTS BASED IN TANZANIA AGAIN ATTACKED SMALL TOWN OF MOBA IN EASTERN SHABA REGION YESTERDAY . . . [REDACTED] . . . GOVERNMENT TROOPS [REDACTED] STILL CONTROL KEY FACILITIES . . . LIBYA ALMOST CERTAINLY SUPPORTED REBELS.// [REDACTED]

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OUTGOING MESSAGE

SOUTH ASIA

--SRI LANKAN INSURGENTS BLEW UP SECTION OF RAILWAY CONNECTING COLOMBO WITH NORTHERN CITY OF JAFFNA SATURDAY . . . POSSIBLE RETALIATION FOR SECURITY FORCES' KILLING OF 15 TAMIL INSURGENTS FRIDAY . . . MAY HINDER PROGRESS TOWARD NEW NEGOTIATIONS. [REDACTED]

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END OF MESSAGE

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