CONTRLED DISSEMA

COUNTRY Israel

SUBJECT Prospects for Political Ambitions of Moshe Dayan/Attack on USS Liberty Ordered by Dayan

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Discussions included the future political role of Moshe Dayan. It was said that the longer Israel waited for elections, the less chance Dayan has of becoming Prime Minister. They recognize that Dayan's appointment as Minister of Defense provided impetus to the Israeli war effort. Since the war, responsible Israelis have given and continue to give less credit to Dayan and more credit to General Rabin. They are emphatic in saying that there will never be a negotiated peace with the Arabs so long as Dayan is Defense Minister.

2. Commented on the sinking of the US communications ship, Liberty. They said that Dayan personally ordered the attack on the ship and that one of his generals adamantly opposed the action and said, "This is pure murder." One of the admirals who was present also disapproved the action, and it was he who ordered it stopped and not Dayan. It is believed that the attack against the US vessel was also detrimental to any political ambition Dayan may have.

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