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ARAB STATES - ISRAEL: The cease-fire appears to be working on the Syrian front, but fighting continued through most of yesterday on the Egyptian front south of the Great Bitter Lake on both banks of the Suez Canal.

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[redacted] units of the Egyptian Third Army on the east bank of the canal launched a two-pronged, tank-supported attack east toward the Gidi and Mitla passes, and reportedly made some significant gains before being halted by Israeli forces. [redacted]

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[redacted]  
There is no clear indication, however, as to what positions the forces involved in the Egyptian thrust now hold.

Other elements of the Third Army reportedly attacked north along the east bank of the Great Bitter Lake in an attempt to link up with the Egyptian Second Army. [redacted]

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Israeli forces yesterday morning captured the Egyptian naval base at Adabiyah, south of Suez city. Fighting continued in and around Suez city yesterday, with the Israelis claiming to have thwarted an attempt by Egyptian forces there to break out. Earlier in the day, Egyptian armored forces on the west bank launched an unsuccessful operation to reopen the road from Cairo to Suez, apparently in an attempt to relieve the Egyptian troops at Suez and open a bridgehead to the Third Army on the east bank. According to an Israeli spokesman, some 28 Egyptian aircraft attacked Israeli positions an hour before the ground attacks. Tel Aviv claims to have shot down 14 of the attackers. By nightfall, fighting had died down to sporadic artillery fire.

Large Egyptian forces apparently remain within the Israeli enclave on the west bank of the canal. [redacted]

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[Redacted]

Else-

where along the Egyptian front, the cease-fire appears to be in effect.

Calm generally prevailed along the Syrian front yesterday, with only sporadic artillery fire reported.

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[Redacted]

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Israelis have been shelling fedayeen positions in Lebanon, however, and have warned Beirut that it will have to bear the consequences of any further terrorist activity against Israel by the fedayeen in Lebanon.

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[Redacted]

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The Jordanians report that 28 of their troops have been killed and 50 wounded in action so far. Eighteen Centurion tanks have been totally destroyed; 15 are damaged but reparable. The Jordanians claim to have captured four Israeli Centurions--two in excellent condition.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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At last night's Security Council session, eight nonaligned states presented a resolution which would create a UN emergency peacekeeping force for the Middle East. Their resolution would also enlarge the existing UN observer force and repeat earlier calls for an immediate cease-fire and withdrawal to positions held at 1750 GMT Monday.

Earlier in the meeting Egypt had requested Soviet and US troops to enforce the cease-fire. The Soviet Union argued that the request was justified by continued Israeli violations of the truce, but the Soviets made no promise to provide supervisory forces. The nonaligned states, which have been resentful of US-Soviet dominance of Security Council actions, then weighed in with their proposal. The council is scheduled to reconvene at 1030 this morning to debate the draft. If approved, it may strengthen the policing of the much-violated cease-fire, which has no enforcement provisions, and is supervised only by UN observers in the area under the 1967 mandate.

All seven UN observation teams presently planned for the Egyptian side of the cease-fire line have been dispatched and are reporting. The situation is confused, however, because most teams are not certain where the opposing front lines are, and three teams on the southern sector have been held up by an armored battle northwest of Suez city. Israel is delaying efforts to establish stations on the east bank; no observer patrols have reached that area.

On the Syrian front, Damascus has pushed hard to have observation teams installed along the Israeli bulge into Syrian territory, and the initial UN plan is to have three posts on each side of the salient. The new posts will be manned from those previously closed and will not require additional personnel.

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Despite China's harsh description of the UN cease-fire resolution as a ploy to bolster superpower hegemony in the Middle East, the Chinese have not tried to block either cease-fire call, undoubtedly out of deference to Arab wishes. Throughout the fighting the Chinese have kept a low profile, limiting themselves to strong verbal support for the Arabs and pledges of additional economic aid to Egypt. From the beginning the Chinese ruled out donating any but token military assistance. Fully conscious of its limited ability to influence events in the Middle East, Peking has had to be content with positioning itself to profit from any Arab dissatisfaction with the policies of the superpowers, particularly the USSR.

The US Embassy in Beirut has noted indecision on the part of fedayeen spokesmen as to how to reconcile their public rejection of the cease-fire resolution with maintenance of good relations with their Arab supporters who accepted it. Pro-fedayeen press commentators are not directly attacking the cease-fire, but are glorifying those who have rejected it. In calling for a continuation of the "struggle" rather than "war," the fedayeen may now be moderating their position--or at least disguising it--to guarantee continued support from Arab benefactors such as Egypt and Syria.

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