

25 October 1973

DCI BRIEFING FOR
25 OCTOBER WSAG MEETING

THE MIDDLE EAST

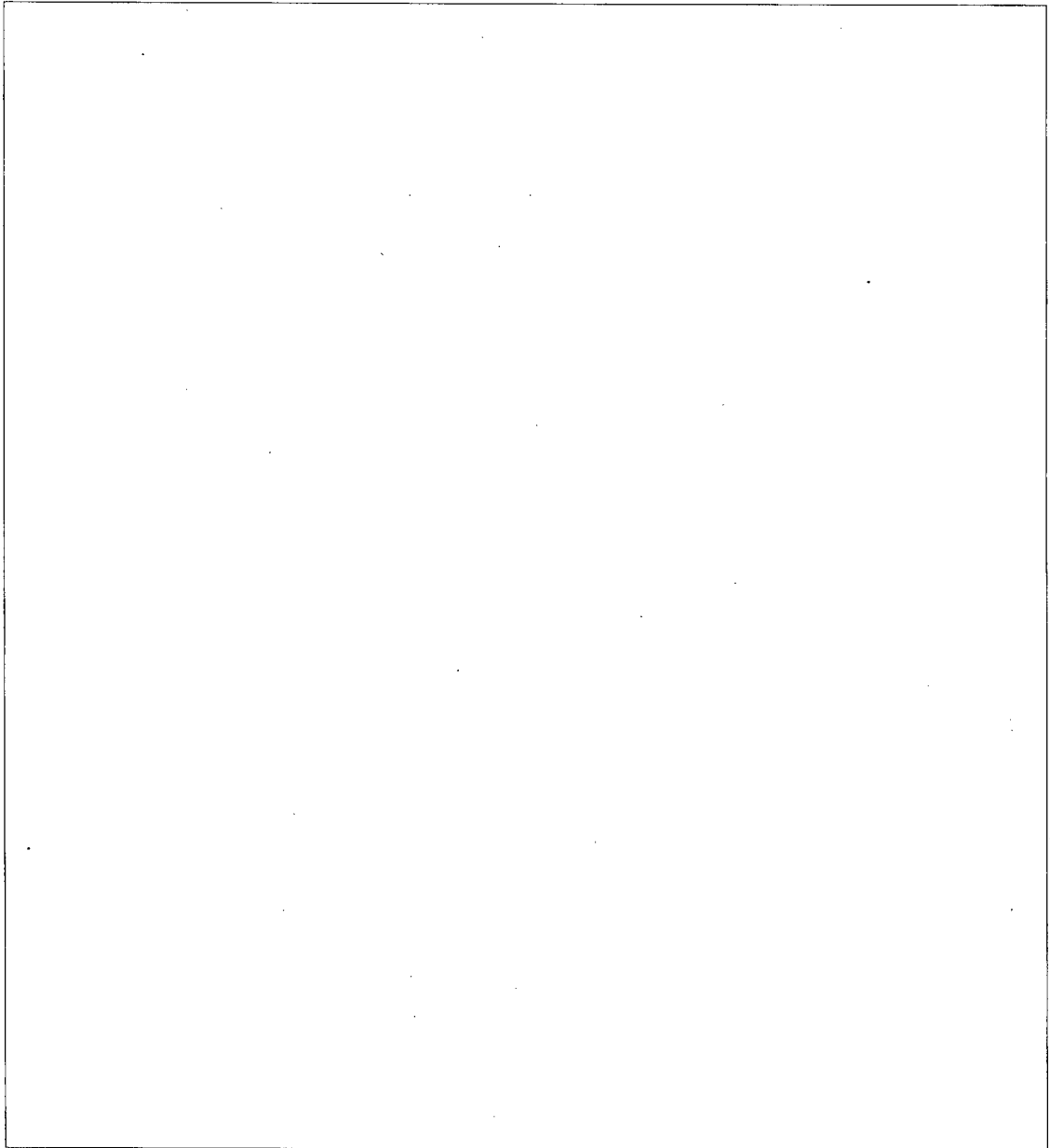
I. There was little activity on either front during the night. Israeli spokesmen say the situation was "quiet," except for sporadic artillery fire. Israeli air action was light. No ground activity was reported on the Syrian front.

A. The fighting along the southern sector of the Suez Canal--the area of the principal cease-fire violations--has apparently died down. There was, however, an artillery exchange around Suez City during the night.

25X1

NAVY review(s)
completed.

MORI/CDF
C02382356



SOVIET TROOP CARRYING CAPABILITIES

III. For a maximum-effort lift of airborne troops, we estimate that the Soviet Union could marshal some 750 AN-12s and 35 AN-22s.

A. The AN-12 carries about 100 lightly-armed men; the AN-22 in its normal configuration carries 175, but this capacity can be raised to 400

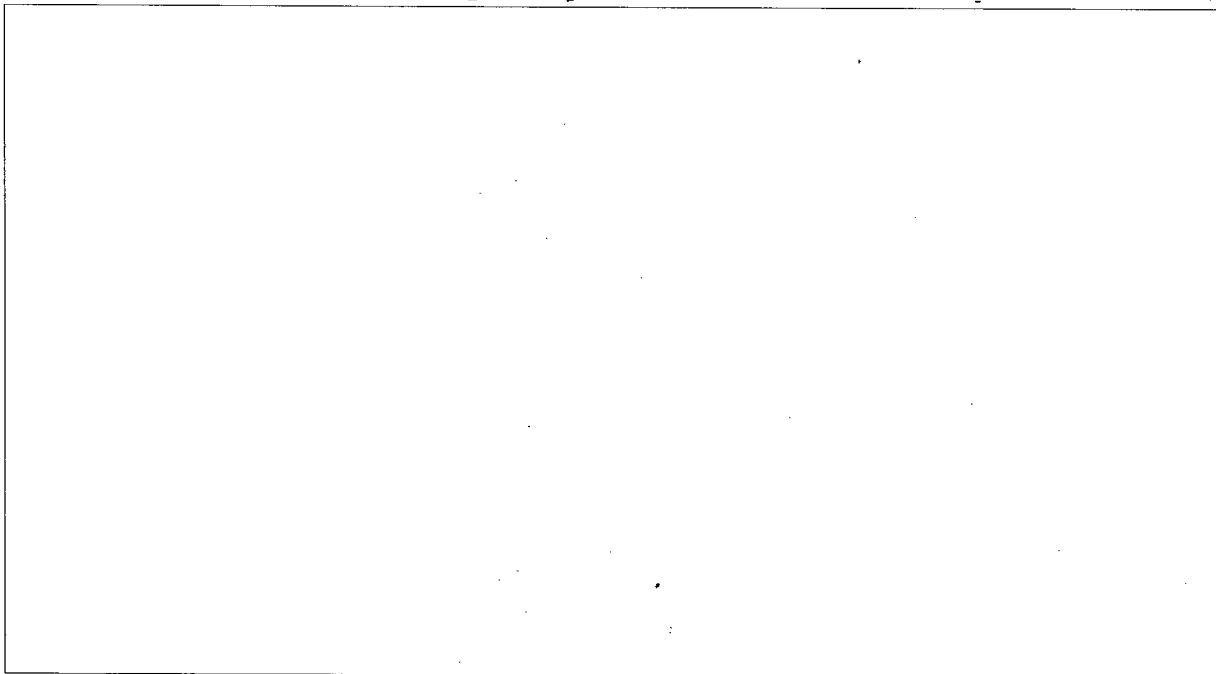
when the aircraft is double-decked.

Thus the USSR has a theoretical capability to transport from as many as 87,000 troops in one lift.

B. Realistically, however, no more than a quarter of the total AN-12 inventory, or about 250 aircraft, are likely to be involved in an airlift for an emergency that did not involve the Soviet homeland.

1. So, we are talking about a general figure of about 25,000 to 35,000 troops without their divisional equipment.

2. Moving a single airborne division with all its equipment normally requires 300 AN-12s, or a smaller number making a total of 300 25X1 round-trip flights.



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