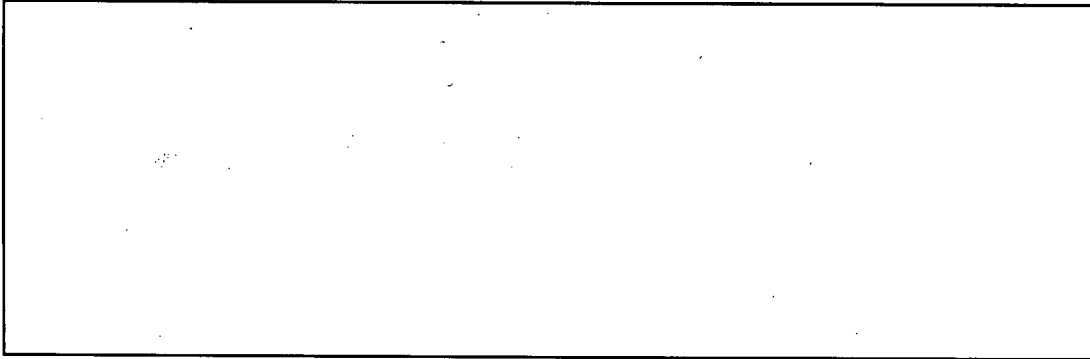


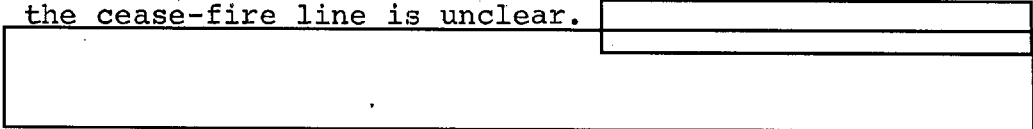
ARAB STATES - ISRAEL: Diplomatic efforts evidently are under way to resolve the dispute which arose Monday between Israel and the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) concerning the establishment of UN checkpoints on the Cairo-Suez road.



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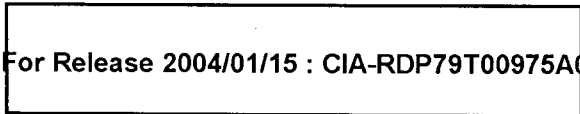
According to press accounts, the disputed UN checkpoint at Kilometer 101--at the western edge of the Israeli line along the Cairo-Suez road--was in operation yesterday, although an Israeli post was also nearby and Israeli soldiers were clearly in control of the highway. Egyptian and Israeli representatives are scheduled to meet today to continue their discussions about the implementation of the six-point cease-fire agreement.

Minor cease-fire violations were reported yesterday on both sides of the Suez Canal, but they were generally limited to small-arms fire. The level and intensity of these violations was lower than those reported on Monday. Some Egyptian small-arms fire was reportedly directed at two Israeli units engaged in fortifications work along the canal. Israel claims that the incidents are different from earlier ones, because the Egyptians apparently opened fire in an attempt to prevent the Israelis from working within their own area of control; previous clashes had involved firing between troops where the cease-fire line is unclear.



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[REDACTED]

There were no reports of cease-fire violations [REDACTED] on the Syrian front yesterday.

Prime Minister Meir addressed the Knesset yesterday and declared that the 22 October cease-fire lines were nonexistent. Israel was engaged that day in a running battle with Egyptian forces, she said, and since there were no UN observers in the area, no one can determine the positions of the opposing forces. She accused Egypt of continuing the fighting beyond 22 October, and derided both attempts to place the blame for cease-fire violations solely on Israel and efforts to divide the responsibility equally between the two sides. On the subject of the six-point agreement signed between Egypt and Israel, Mrs. Meir noted that it is conditioned on reciprocal observance of all its provisions, and stated that Israel has been "apprehensive from the beginning." She emphasized that without the return of Israeli prisoners there can be no cease-fire and the flow of food both to Suez city and the Egyptian Third Army will stop. Despite her hard line on these issues, Mrs. Meir noted that Israel has no intention of holding onto the territory it occupies on the Suez Canal west bank, and she reminded her listeners that she has proposed a mutual pullback of both Egyptian and Israeli forces to opposite sides of the canal. Mrs. Meir also responded to critics of Israel's "unpreparedness" for the war. She asserted that the government will soon launch an investigation to examine the events preceding the conflict and pledged that it will be conducted "without fear or favor."

An unconfirmed Western press source in Moscow claims that Yasir Arafat and a high-level delegation from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) arrived in the Soviet Union on Tuesday. Earlier press

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Accounts which had Arafat and the fedayeen leaders going directly from Cairo to Moscow on 12 November proved erroneous. After conferring with President Sadat, Fatah leader Arafat apparently went to Baghdad, perhaps to get Iraqi backing for PLO participation in postwar negotiations and to persuade Iraq to send a representative of the Baghdad-supported Arab Liberation Front to Moscow with the delegation. The Arab press also now indicates that it is uncertain whether George Habbash, head of the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, will participate in the talks in Moscow.

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