

ARAB STATES - ISRAEL: The Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported from Cairo yesterday that the Egyptian Army has undergone a shakeup that has removed chief of staff Shazli, the apparent mastermind behind plans for the attack on 6 October. The new chief of staff is General Gamasy, Egypt's chief negotiator at the now-stalled disengagement talks at Kilometer 101.

There have been indications that Shazli has been at odds with Egypt's political leadership and with War Minister Ismail over Egyptian strategy during the war. Shazli has recently been the target of increasing criticism for his failure to retain the military initiative for Egypt after the successful crossing of the Suez Canal. He apparently was given a dressing down by President Sadat last week. Gamasy, on the other hand, has won high marks for his performance at the disengagement talks.

Among other new appointees are General Hassan Juraydili as chief of operations, General Fuad Aziz Ghali as commander of the Second Army, and General Said Ahmad as commander of the Third Army. These changes appear to be an effort to remove those primarily responsible for the failure of Egyptian forces to halt the Israeli penetration of the west bank of the canal. Both of the new commanders were regimental commanders who led the successful Egyptian crossing of the Suez on 6 October.

The MENA dispatch notes that the replacements are designed to reinforce the army command and "to prepare for the coming stage with commands which are scientifically and practically qualified for the kind of war which these commands have witnessed recently and which the Egyptian armed forces might witness at any time."

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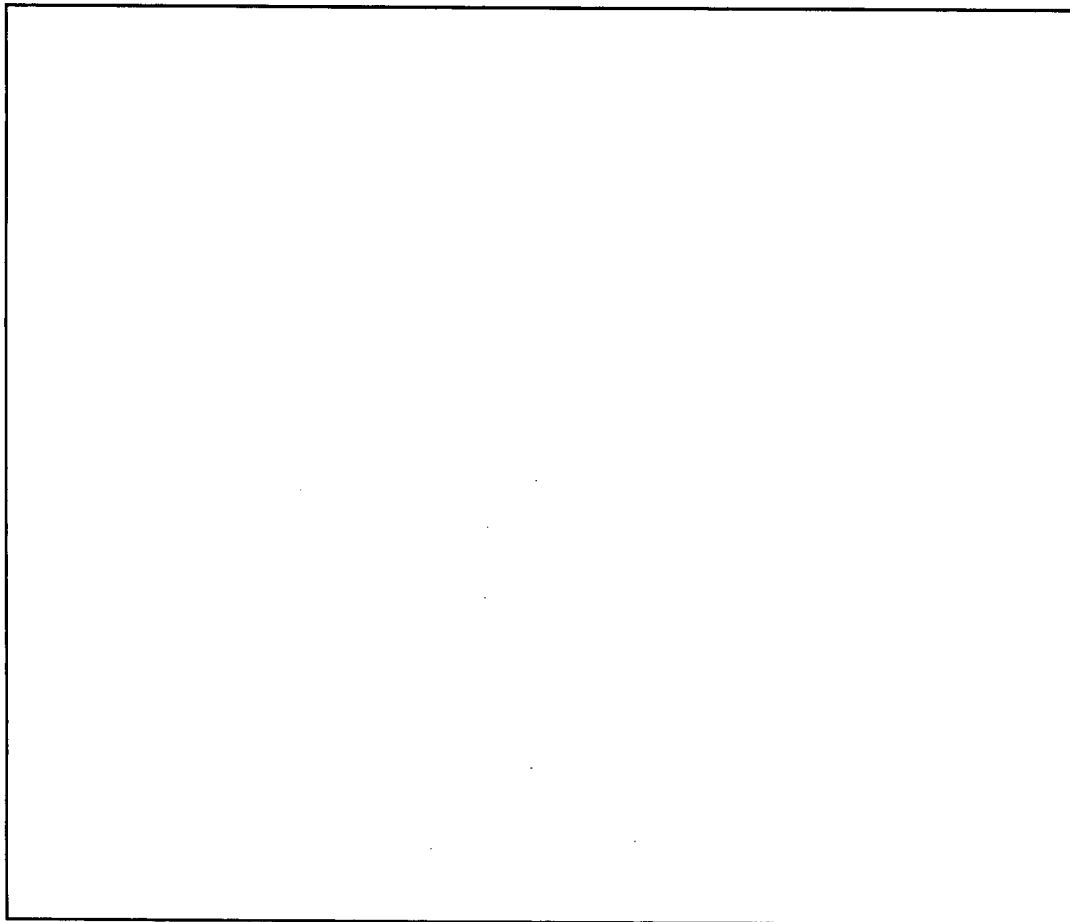
Numerous cease-fire violations were reported on both the Syrian and the Egyptian fronts yesterday. Radio Damascus claimed that at least 20 Israeli

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casualties had resulted from "fierce fighting" that included the use of artillery and tanks. Tel Aviv acknowledged that Syrian forces had shelled Israeli positions, but denied that it suffered any casualties.



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