

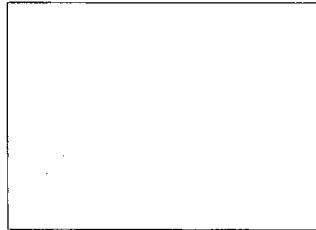
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Saturday 14 October 1978

CG NIDC 78/240



**NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION**

Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

State Dept. review completed

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[redacted]

[redacted] The Syrians seem amenable to a political settlement with the Maronites and perhaps to some modification of the Syrian presence in Beirut. Assad apparently is willing to see relatively moderate leaders such as Dany Shamun and Amin Jumayyil participate in a new government under Sarkis, although Assad will also want Muslim leftists represented. Assad is probably skeptical that hardline Maronite leader Camille Shamun will accept a compromise.

[redacted] The Lebanese Army on Thursday sent about 500 men into the Maronite-controlled suburb of Hadath. Prime Minister Huss said the deployment was aimed at securing the road through Hadath to the presidential palace. His statement apparently was intended to forestall speculation that the move was related to a plan by Sarkis to have the Army replace ADF units along the confrontation line with the Maronites.

[redacted] The Army units took over positions that National Liberal militiamen had agreed to vacate; ADF positions were not changed. [redacted]

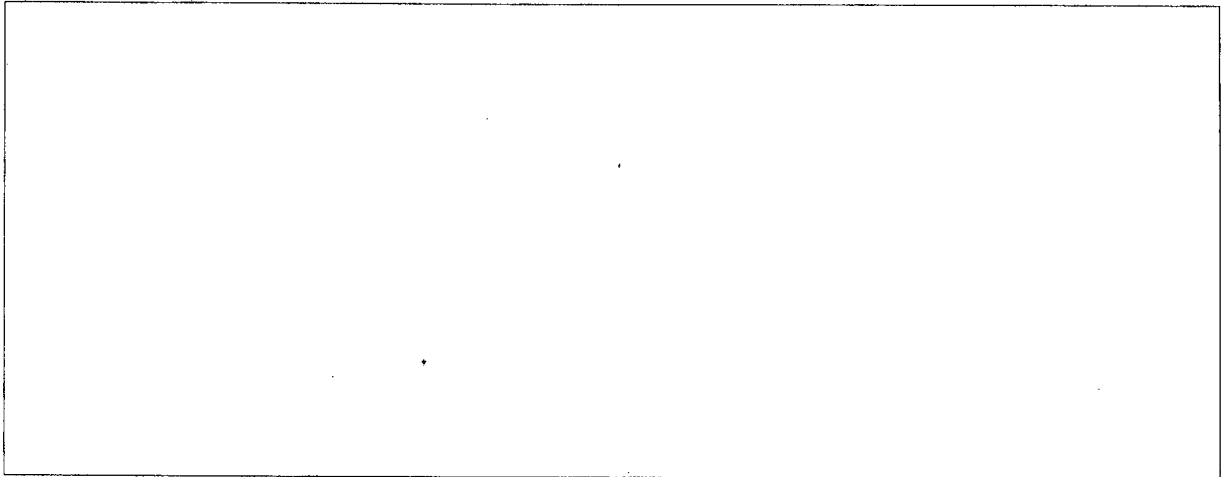
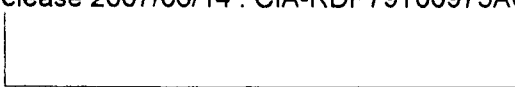
#### PALESTINIANS: Camp David Accords

[redacted] *Official statements by the Palestine Liberation Organization continue to contain harsh criticism of the Camp David accords. //Some PLO leaders, however, are closely watching post - Camp David developments and ultimately may be willing to exploit quietly the opportunities the agreements offer the Palestinians.//*

[redacted] The Fatah Central Committee on 4 October issued a tough statement reiterating the organization's "absolute rejection" of the Camp David accords. The communique called on all Palestinians, including those in the occupied territories, to reject the idea of a self-governing authority on the West Bank and in Gaza and to boycott any elections held to establish such a body. Fatah warned that anyone who becomes involved will "pay the price for his betrayal."

[redacted] We believe Arafat and his moderate colleagues are engaging in a certain amount of posturing for the benefit of Palestinian extremists and their radical Arab allies. He may also hope to discourage non-PLO supporters in the occupied territories from openly backing the agreements reached at Camp David.

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