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TEHRAN

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~HE~~ EGYPT'S PLIGHT EVEN THOUGH HE REALIZES THAT IF EGYPT CAN EVER REASSERT HERSELF, SHE WILL GO RIGHT BACK TO TRYING TO ORGANIZE THE LEADERSHIP OF ARAB WORLD. HE MUSED ABOUT THE UTILITY OF RECREATING THE FOUR-POWER APPROACH TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI QUESTION, THEN OPINED THAT IF THIS WERE NOT VIABLE, PERHAPS A FEW OTHER COUNTRIES MIGHT BE ADDED TO PROVIDE LESS OF THE GREAT-POWER SYNDROME. HE QUICKLY SHRUGGED OFF THE DESIRE OF IRAN TO BECOME INVOLVED IN SUCH MEDIATION, BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT QUOTE IF DRAFTED, HE WOULD RUN UNQUOTE.

2. SHAH STATED THAT HE SENSED IN ZAYYAT'S ATTITUDE ALMOST IRRESISTIBLE DOMESTIC PRESSURE IN EGYPT TO RESUME SOME TYPE OF HOSTILITIES AGAINST ISRAEL. WITH LARGE ARMY ON ACTIVE DUTY PLUS CONCOMITANT COSTS OF MAINTAINING IT, EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP FEELING INCREASINGLY IMPELLED QUOTE TO DO SOMETHING UNQUOTE. SHAH SAID THAT HE HAD TOLD ZAYYAT MOST EMPHATICALLY THAT EGYPT SHOULD NOT FRONTALLY ATTACK ISRAEL ACROSS THE CANAL UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. QUOTE FIRE YOUR GUNS IF YOU WANT UNQUOTE THE SHAH STATES HE TOLD HIM, BUT AN ATTACK INTO SINAI QUOTE WOULD BE SUICIDAL FOR EGYPT UNQUOTE.