

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**NSC BRIEFING**

**17 October 1957**

**TURKISH-SYRIAN SITUATION**

**I. Turkish forces continue to maintain high state of readiness.**



**II. On the Syrian side, no military buildup at the frontier but the propaganda campaign is mounting.**

**A. On 16 October Syria formally requested consideration by the UN General Assembly of "military threats" from Turkey. Soviet representatives had strongly urged Syria to take the issue to the UN.**

**B. Possibly to support the bid for UN action, Damascus radio has described the Syrian-Egyptian joint command as in "continuous session;" and an unconfirmed Cairo radio broadcast on the night of 16 October the Syrian army has been placed in a state of emergency, all leaves have been cancelled, and arms are being distributed to leftist-**

**infiltrated popular resistance groups in northern Syrian cities.**

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

1. This not so far confirmed by Damascus radio.
- C. There are still no firm figures on the size of the Egyptian force sent to Syria--best information  is <sup>25X1</sup> about a battalion (under 1,000 men) of infantry plus a few tanks and armored personnel carriers.
  1. Small numbers Egyptian technicians have been moved separately to Syria during past month.

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