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01 December 1983

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Western Sahara War [Redacted]

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1. The Polisario offensives against Messeid and Semara last summer interrupted a lull in the Western Sahara War that had existed since the Moroccans built the berm. The Polisario was unable to breach the berm in either attack, however, and was driven back under concentrated Moroccan fire. Moroccan forces departed from their longstanding strategy of maintaining a strictly defensive posture last October. A sizable Moroccan force made a brief excursion outside the berm and, with air support, overran a Polisario camp. The operation accomplished little tactical significance, but served as a real morale booster for Moroccan forces. Overall, the stalemate in the Western Sahara War remains intact. [Redacted]

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