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SUMMIT 10-25

SCOWCROFT

(ANALYSIS)

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BEIRUT (UPI) -- THERE IS GROWING TALK OF AN ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE AS ONE OF THE NEXT STEPS TOWARDS PEACE IN THE WAKE OF THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT.

ITS AIM, ARAB DIPLOMATS SAY, WOULD BE TO TRY TO PATCH UP THE SIMMERING DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN "HARD LINE" ARAB NATIONS LIKE IRAQ AND LIBYA AND THE MORE "MODERATE" COUNTRIES LIKE EGYPT AND JORDAN.

ARAB DIPLOMATS SAY THIS WOULD ENABLE THE ARABS TO PRESENT SOMETHING LIKE A UNITED FRONT WHEN SOONER OR LATER THEY FACE ISRAEL ACROSS THE NEGOTIATING TABLE.

WITHOUT SUCH AN ADVANCE AGREEMENT, ARAB SOURCES SAY, THERE WOULD BE SERIOUS DANGER OF THEIR INTERNAL FEUDS WRECKING THEIR BARGAINING POSITION.

KING HASSAN OF MOROCCO WEDNESDAY PROPOSED A JOINT MEETING OF ARAB FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTERS TO TRY TO WORK OUT A JOINT PLAN OF ACTION.

HE OFFERED TO HOLD THE MEETING AT HIS CAPITAL, RABAT, BUT MANY ARAB DIPLOMATS SAY IF A FULL DRESS SUMMIT CONFERENCE IS HELD, IT WOULD BE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT OF EGYPT, THE COUNTRY WITH THE LARGEST ARAB FORCES IN THE WAR THAT HAS JUST ENDED.

SADAT ALREADY HAS SENT EMISSARIES TO VARIOUS ARAB CAPITALS WITH MESSAGES TO THEIR HEADS OF STATE.

OTHER HIGH LEVEL ARAB CONTACTS HAVE BEEN UNDER WAY FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

ALL OF THESE PRELIMINARY TALKS, ARAB SOURCES SAY, COULD PAVE THE WAY FOR AN ULTIMATE SUMMIT GET-TOGETHER, SIMILAR TO THE MEETING OF ARAB HEADS OF STATE AT KHARTOUM IN THE WAKE OF THE ARAB DEFEAT IN THE 1967 SIX-DAY WAR.

ALTHOUGH MORE THAN A DOZEN ARAB NATIONS RALLIED TO JOIN IN THE WAR AGAINST ISRAEL AND NINE TOOK PART IN THE ARAB OIL BOYCOTT AGAINST THE UNITED STATES, THERE STILL ARE DEEP ROOTED DISAGREEMENTS IN THE ARAB CAMP.

IT WAS ONLY AFTER A DELAY OF MORE THAN 35 HOURS THAT SYRIA FINALLY, AND APPARENTLY RELUCTANTLY, JOINED EGYPT AND JORDAN IN ACCEPTING A CEASE-FIRE.

IRAQ, LIBYA, MOROCCO AND THE PALESTINIANS HAVE REJECTED IT. ALGERIA IS KNOWN TO BE AGAINST IT.

LIBYA WENT SO FAR AS TO ATTACK THE CEASE-FIRE AS A JOINT "CONSPIRACY" BY WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW.

ON LONG-TERM AIMS THERE IS SIMILAR DISSENSION.

THE PALESTINIANS, BACKED BY SUCH "HARD LINE" COUNTRIES AS IRAQ AND LIBYA, SAY THERE CAN BE NO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS LONG AS A JEWISH STATE EXISTS IN THEIR MIDST.

SADAT AND KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN HAVE ACCEPTED THE RIGHT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL TO EXIST.

SYRIA, WHOSE OWN STAND ON THIS ISSUE IS LESS CLEARCUT, CONTINUES TO GIVE STRONG BACKING TO THE PALESTINIAN GUERRILLAS, WHO HAVE ANNOUNCED THEY WILL CONTINUE THE WAR AGAINST ISRAEL.

ON ONLY ONE LONG TERM AIM IS THERE A MORE OR LESS UNITED ARAB FRONT, THAT IS ON THE DEMAND THAT ISRAEL SHOULD HAND BACK ALL ARAB TERRITORY CONQUERED IN 1967 AND IN THE RECENT CONFLICT.

THE ARABS ALSO STILL HAVE TO AGREE ON THE TYPE OF PEACE CONFERENCE THEY WANT.

SADAT HIMSELF HAS PROPOSED AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WITHOUT, HOWEVER, SPECIFYING UNDER WHOSE AUSPICES IT WOULD BE HELD. THE SEMIOFFICIAL EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPER AL AHRAM HAS SUGGESTED IT BE HELD IN GENEVA.

BUT IN ALL OF THIS EGYPT STILL HAS TO OBTAIN THE AGREEMENT OF HER ALLIES.

UPI 10-25 07:50 AED