

JANE POWELL  
OCI  
7242  
9 DECEMBER 63

SECRET

BOOK MESSAGE IN BRITAIN

ROUTINE

87787

BRIN	LORD		BERN	MADE		CONG	PARI
MUNI			LISS			BEIR	LEOP
	RABA		HAGU	VIEN		ATHE	
		TEHE	CRBR		CAIR	MOGA	PACY
					GNVA	ROHE	FRAN

PBSAND

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIEF

(INFOR RELEASABLE [ ] NO NOFORN IN THIS MESSAGE)

1. SYRIA: THE POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN THE SYRIAN REGIME APPEARS TO BE RESOLVING IN FAVOR OF THE MODERATE FACTION LED BY PREMIER HAFIZ

EFFORTS BY HAFIZ, A MILITARY MEMBER OF THE BAATH PARTY, TO ASSOCIATE THE REGIME WITH NON-BAATH POLITICAL ELEMENTS HAVE GAINED MOMENTUM, AND BAATHIST EXTREMISTS LED BY VICE PREMIER UMRAN WHO OPPOSE THIS MOVE ARE BEING ECLIPSED. GENERAL UMRAN STILL OCCUPIES HIS GOVERNMENTAL POST, HOWEVER, AND DESPERATE COUNTERACTION BY HIM AND HIS SUPPORTERS IN THE ARMY AND THE BAATH-DOMINATED NATIONAL GUARD CANNOT BE COMPLETELY DISCOUNTED.

THERE IS ALSO A POSSIBILITY THAT PRO-BASIR GROUPS WILL TRY TO EXPLOIT THE DIVISION WITHIN THE REGIME BY ATTEMPTING TO SEIZE POWER.

(COPY)

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET

J.C. GRAHAM

J.B. CASTLE

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