

03/05/50

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

SECRET

ORIG: DEPARTMENT

UNIT:

EXT:

FILE:

TO: LONG MESSAGE AS BELOW

FROM:

CONF:

INFO: [unclear]

ADDRESSEE: [unclear]

TO: [unclear]

17 28

ROUTINE:

BRIAN	ARABIA	ADDA	HEMN	[]	AMBA	ALGI	MOEN	WUEN	EMMA	EMMA	EMMA
CABA	COPE	NASO	BEIP	LEOP	HEVI	PROB	DARE	DARE	RARA	REAR	REAR
VIEN	KASH	TPLI	SAGO	HEID	ATHE	NEWD	THIS	CYRU	TENS	OSTO	OSTO
CAIR	MOGA	PACT	GNVA	ROME	JIDD	FRAN	LESA				

PERBAND

NEAR EAST - APRICA BRIEF (FOR [] (REPORT IN STANTEN)

1. LEBANON-SYRIA: THE INCURSION INTO LEBANON BY A SYRIAN PATROL ON 19 OCTOBER AND THE RESULTING CLASH WITH LEBANESE SECURITY FORCES ARE INDICATIVE OF SYRIAN REASPERATION WITH LEBANON'S POLICY TOWARD SYRIA. THE LEBANESE FOR SOME TIME HAVE ALLOWED EGYPTIAN INTELLIGENCE TO USE LEBANON AS A BASE FOR SUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS AGAINST SYRIA. LEBANESE INTERNAL POLITICS HAVE LED THE SHINAB REGIME TO CLOSE ITS EYES TO THESE ACTIVITIES. (CONF)

2. MOROCCO-ALGERIA: THE MOROCCAN-ALGERIAN BORDER CONFLICT SEEMS ON THE VERGE OF ESCALATING AS BOTH COUNTRIES REINFORCE THEIR TROOPS ALONG THE ENTIRE BORDER AREA.

THE ALGERIAN CAPTURE ON 16 OCT OF A SMALL MOROCCAN FRONTIER POST NORTHEAST OF COLAS-BEGHAR AND THE BUILD-UP OF ALGERIAN FORCES NORTHWEST OF THAT CITY INDICATE THAT THE ALGERIANS ARE POISED TO

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BEHIND THE FRONT AREA OF MOROCCO IN RETALIATION FOR THE LOSS OF
EAGLE BUNDA AND TINJOUH.

SHOULD THE ALGERIANS MOVE TO SEIZE FIGHTING MOROCCO COULD BE
EMPLOYED TO PRESS ITS CASE IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL BODIES AS
WELL AS TO INTENSIFY ITS REQUESTS FOR WESTERN SUPPORT. AS LONG
AS THE KING IS CONCERNED OVER THE LEGALITY OF HIS CASE BEFORE IN-
TERNATIONAL BODIES, A MOROCCAN STRIKE ON TINJOUH SEEMS UNLIKELY.

THE REPORTED CAPTURE ON 20 OCT OF SEVERAL EGYPTIANS AMONG ALGERIANS
ABOARD A HELICOPTER FORCED DOWN IN EASTERN MOROCCO WILL REINFORCE
MOROCCAN CHARGES OF EGYPTIAN INVOLVEMENT. MOROCCO CLAIMED *TO HAVE*
CAPTURED ONE EGYPTIAN OFFICER AND FOUND AN EGYPTIAN BODY AMONG
ALGERIAN CASUALTIES. NASIR WOULD SEEM TOO ENGROSSSED WITH THEM
AND HIS INTERNAL PROBLEMS TO GIVE ALGERIA MUCH EFFECTIVE SUPPORT,
AND HAS HITHERTO SHOWN A PREFERENCE FOR LIMITED AND NONATTRIBUTABLE
AID.

KING HASSAN HAS SENT EMISSARIES TO MOROCCO AND PARIS TO RE-
QUEST MORAL, DIPLOMATIC AND MATERIAL SUPPORT. THE SPANISH GOVERN-
MENT WOULD PREFER TO ACT IN CONCERT WITH FRANCE AND OTHER WESTERN
COUNTRIES. PRESIDENT NERCE GRADES, HOWEVER, HAS *INTIMATED* TO

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A US OFFICER THAT SPAIN WOULD BE FORCED TO INTERVENE IF THE USSR AND EGYPT ENTERED THE CONFLICT ON THE ALGERIAN SIDE BY SUPPLYING ARMS OR "OTHER MEANS." SPAIN'S POSITION IS COMPLICATED BY THE FACT THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO BEGIN EARLY SOON ON MOROCCO'S CLAIMS TO VARIOUS SPANISH-HELD TERRITORIES. THE SPANISH RESPONSE IS NOT YET KNOWN.

SEN BELLA, HAVING AGAIN POSTPONED HIS VISIT TO THE UN, HAS SENT MOHAMED YAZID, HIS REPRESENTATIVE IN RECENT FRUITLESS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MOROCCANS, TO LINE UP SUPPORT AMONG AFRICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK. BOTH MOROCCO AND ALGERIA HAVE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT THEY DO NOT WANT UN INTERVENTION AT THIS TIME.

BOTH ALGERIA AND MOROCCO ARE ENCOURAGING THE CONTINUATION OF MEDIATION EFFORTS (ALTHOUGH REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH HAVE TOLD THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL THAT THERE IS NO CHANCE OF A SETTLE-MENT SO LONG AS THE OTHER OCCUPIES THE DISPUTED AREA). THE ALGERIANS SEEM TO FAVOR THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY BECAUSE OF ITS OPPOSITION TO BORDER CHANGES. MOROCCO STILL STRESSSES THAT IT REGARDS DISCUSSIONS OF THE WESTERN SAHARA TERRITORY AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF ANY AGREEMENT.

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MOSCOW HAS GIVEN ~~INDIFFERENT~~ ~~INDIFFERENT~~ BUT CLEAR PROPAGANDA SUPPORT TO ALGERIA. AN AUTHORITY ~~TRAVEL~~ COMMENTATOR OBSERVED ON 17 OCT THAT IT WAS THE MOROCCANS WHO HAD ~~REMOVED~~ TO ARMY AND THAT WHILE IT IS NECESSARY TO PROMOTE "THE EARLIEST FRAGRANT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT," IT IS NECESSARY TO "HELP THE ALGERIAN PEOPLE TO STRENGTHEN THEIR REVOLUTIONARY GAINS."

KING HASSAN'S INTERNAL POSITION HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT STRENGTHENED BY THE CRISIS. HIS POSITION MIGHT WELL BECOME VULNERABLE, HOWEVER, SHOULD THE CURRENT WITH ALGERIA DEGENERATE INTO A PROLONGED CONFLICT IN WHICH THE KING RELIED HEAVILY ON THE WEST WHILE ALGERIA WAS SUPPORTED BY CERTAIN ARAB STATES AND THE BLOC.

THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT IS SPENDING NO EFFORT TO WHIP UP NATIONAL FEELING AGAINST MOROCCO AND HASSAN'S "OUTDATED REGIME" AT THE SAME TIME, THE DISSIDENTS IN THE KABYLIE ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ALGERIA'S PREOCCUPATION WITH MOROCCO TO ENGAGE IN GUERRILLA OPERATIONS. ON 16 OCT THREE GUERRILLAS WERE KILLED AND THREE INJURED IN A CLASH SOME 30 MILES EAST OF ALGIERS. (CONT)

END OF MESSAGE

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CONTINUING FILES
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