DIA SPOT REPORT

DATE: 7 October 1973
TIME: 0200 EDT

SUBJECT: Middle East Hostilities

REFERENCE: DIA Analysis

GENERAL

(G/NDP) Hostilities have slowed on the Suez and Syrian fronts with fighting expected to intensify at dawn (2300 EDT). Israeli Minister of Defense Dayan stated that although Egyptian forces had been able to push men and equipment across the canal during the night and had taken a few Israeli positions, the IDF expects to be in full control of the situation shortly.

EGYPTIAN FRONT

(G/NDP) An Egyptian force in 15 MI-8/HIPS landed at Ras Sudr (40 Kms south of Suez) and eight of the aircraft were shot down after landing their troops.

(G/NDP) Two Egyptian infantry brigades with about 11 PT-76 tanks forced their way across the canal and along the Giddi road (east of Little Bitter Lake). All tanks were destroyed by Israeli armor, and the status of the balance of the force is unknown. Also on Giddi Road, 5 Egyptian helicopters were downed 20 Km east of Little Bitter Lake. Fighting continues at Qantara and at Fuad, the most northerly strag
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point on the Canal. Egypt has erected a bridge north of Ismailia which can be used by armor.

(SAND) An Israeli aircraft intercepted and destroyed an AS-5 (Kelt) missile fired toward Tel Aviv from one of two Egyptian TU-16/Badgers.

(SAND) Israeli losses in the Sinai total 30 KIA, 91 WIA and 2 A-4/Skyhawk aircraft. Egyptian losses total 10 U/I fighter aircraft, 14 helicopters, and 11 PT-76 tanks.

SYRIAN FRONT

(SAND) Activity was highlighted by three Syrian Guided Missile Patrol boats and one PT boat destroyed in Latakia harbor by Israeli Saar class PTFGs. In other activity, Syrian forces attempted to cross the cease fire line along its entire length with tanks, APCs, and infantry. A heliborne force took an Israeli strongpoint on Mt. Hermon, but it was regained by Israeli forces. A Syrian armored brigade south of the Rapid crossroads attacked to the northwest and heavy fighting was still going on after nightfall. At 1745Z, the Syrian's fired several FROG-7 missile which impacted near Nazareth. Further FROG-7 firings are likely.

(SAND) Israeli losses on the Syrian front total 5 or 6 dead, 25 wounded, and 3 A-4/Skyhawks destroyed. Syrian losses are about 20 fighter aircraft and an unknown, but substantial, number of personnel.

SOVIET NAVAL AND AIR ACTIVITY