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The President's Daily Brief

April 1, 1976

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April 1, 1976

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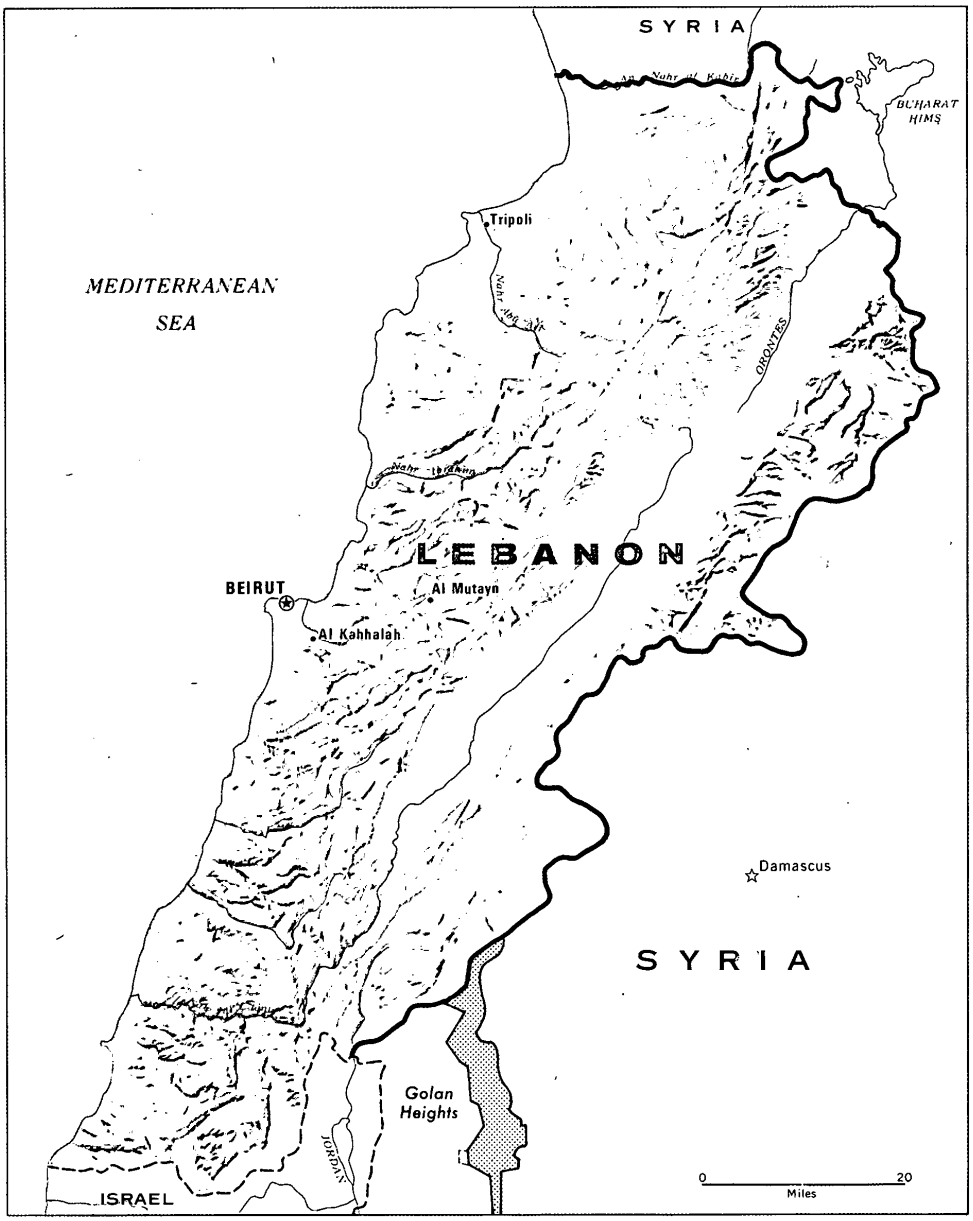

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LEBANON

Leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt is still defying Syria's demand for a cease-fire despite signs that the leftists' drive may be losing momentum. Jumblatt now seems bent as much on preventing the resumption of Syrian mediation as on securing President Franjiyah's resignation.

After meeting again yesterday with PLO chairman Yasir Arafat, Jumblatt appealed to leftist sympathizers in the Syrian government to persuade President Asad to lift the embargo on arms for the Lebanese leftists. He also rebuked Damascus for introducing regular troops into Lebanon.

Jumblatt apparently fears that the Syrians intend to thwart the leftists' efforts to obtain concessions from the Christians not contained in the political settlement worked out by Franjiyah and Asad in mid-February.

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The Syrians seem resigned to waiting a while longer to see whether Arafat can change Jumblatt's mind. There were no indications yesterday of unusual activity by Syrian forces and the likelihood

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of open Syrian intervention appears to be fading. The British and French have now weighed in along with the US in cautioning the Syrians not to intervene.

In the fighting, meanwhile, the Christians slightly improved their position yesterday, especially in the mountains east of Beirut. Their forces reportedly recaptured parts of Kahhalah and repulsed a leftist counterattack. They also retook the village of Al Mutayn. In Beirut, the battlelines are static.

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GREECE-TURKEY

The Caramanlis government seems inclined--in reacting to the new US-Turkish Defense Cooperation Agreement--to avoid any moves that might hurt Greece's chances to receive military assistance comparable to that provided for Turkey under the accord. Neither does Athens want to take any action that might backfire and lead to additional support for the agreement in the US Congress.

In an exchange with a US embassy official on Tuesday, Caramanlis described the agreement as a "big mistake." Foreign Minister Bitsios and Coordination Minister Papaligouras, who were also present, said Greece would respond by requesting additional military assistance as well as some type of US guarantee against any possible Turkish aggression.

Neither Caramanlis nor his ministers have tried to make the presence of US bases in Greece dependent on increased military aid. Caramanlis will probably refrain from raising the ante in the base negotiations--which have been going smoothly and are nearing completion--until he has a better idea of the prospects for additional US assistance and guarantees and of the likelihood of Congressional ratification of the agreement with Turkey.

The shrill criticism of the Turkish agreement by the Greek press and opposition could, however, produce another groundswell of anti-Americanism that might force Caramanlis to take a harder line in the negotiations.

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USSR-AFRICA

Moscow evidently is trying to calm apprehension in the West about future Soviet and Cuban actions in southern Africa without forgoing any of its options.

The most visible move was to act as an intermediary with Angola in arranging for the withdrawal of South African troops from Angolan territory. The arrangement provided some substance for Foreign Minister Gromyko's effort last week in London to convey the impression that the USSR was not seeking a confrontation with the West over Namibia or Rhodesia.

This tone of moderation also has characterized the Soviet media coverage of the South African withdrawal, which has been generally low key. Despite the reassuring words, however, there are few signs that the Soviets are urging the Cubans to reduce their presence in Angola any time soon. Indeed, Soviet press treatment of a recent speech by Popular Movement leader Neto highlighted Neto's rejection of suggestions that he reduce his dependence on Soviet and Cuban support.

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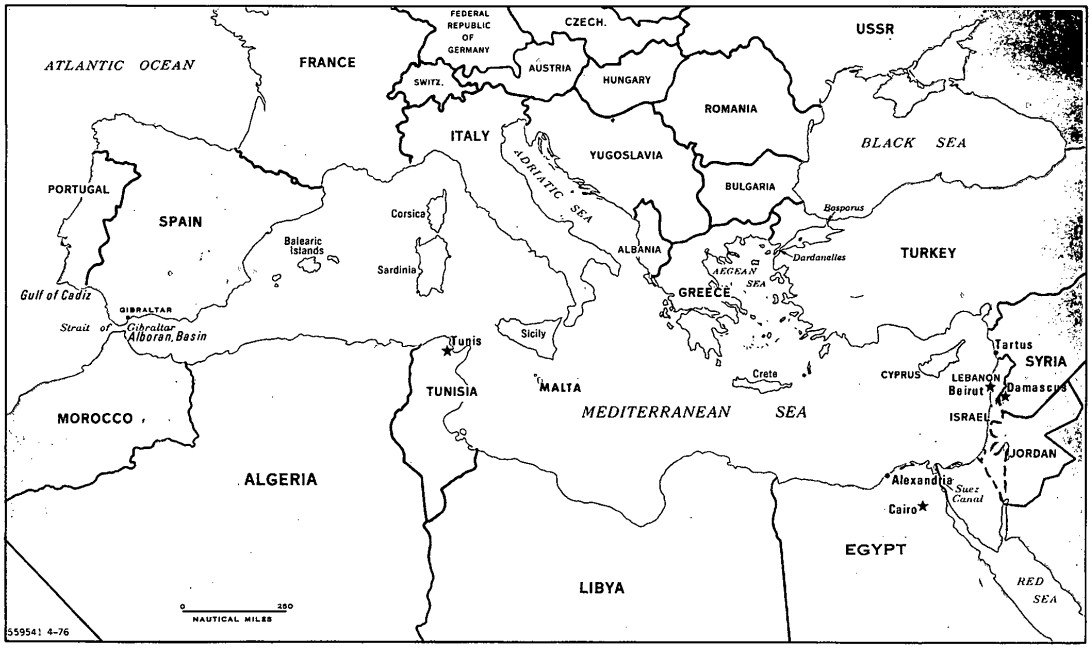

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NOTES

The Soviets *are beginning to concentrate the ships of their Mediterranean Squadron in the eastern part of the sea, but there are no indications that large-scale reinforcement of the squadron is imminent.*

The Sverdlov-class cruiser and Kashin destroyer that moved to the eastern Mediterranean last week left Tartus, Syria, late on Tuesday and yesterday afternoon began surveillance of the US naval contingency force located southeast of Crete. A Kashin destroyer, previously located off Tunis, was east of Malta yesterday afternoon, and a Kresta I cruiser passed eastward through the Strait of Sicily yesterday morning. The movement of these units leaves the Soviets with no major surface warships in the Mediterranean west of Sicily.

* * *

Thai *voters go to the polls this Sunday for the country's second general election in little over a year.*

With 39 political parties competing for 279 seats in the lower house of the National Assembly, there is a strong prospect that the next government will be another weak coalition. Thailand's senior military leaders doubt that a satisfactorily strong government will emerge from the election, but they are assuming a wait-and-see attitude before committing themselves to any course of action.

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April 2, 1976

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April 2, '76

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LEBANON

Leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt bowed to Syrian and Palestinian pressure yesterday and agreed to a ten-day truce. The cease-fire is scheduled to go into effect today.

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The ten-day limit was demanded by the leftists. During this period parliament is expected to amend the constitution and elect a new president, paving the way for President Franjiyah's resignation. Amending the constitution should be completed quickly, but there will be intense haggling over the timing of Franjiyah's departure and selection of his successor. Both Christians and leftists view Franjiyah's replacement as a key element in future negotiations for a comprehensive settlement.

Ilyas Sarkis, governor of the central bank, is one of the front-runners to replace Franjiyah. He is favored by the Syrians and the Christian Phalanges Party, but the leftists consider him too assertive. Another leading candidate is Raymond Edde, son of Lebanon's first president and leader of the third largest Christian political party. He has a broad following in parliament and among Muslim conservatives and some leftist groups. The conservative Christians and Syrians consider him an unpredictable maverick.

Jumblatt is a member of parliament but controls few of its 99 votes. If a stand-off develops between Sarkis and Edde, he might be able to deny both the required majority and force the chamber to select a weak, compromise candidate.

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In recent days the Soviets have weighed in more heavily in support of a Lebanese cease-fire.

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The Soviets are supporting the Syrian efforts because they recognize the Lebanese situation could touch off a larger Middle East conflict. Recent appeals by Damascus to the West to acquiesce in a Syrian intervention, as well as signs of deeper US involvement in the crisis, may have also stimulated the intensified Soviet activity.

In addition, Moscow does not want a setback to Syrian President Asad's prestige, particularly at a time when its problems with Sadat have intensified. It may also be concerned that a Syrian failure could lead to instability in Damascus, with uncertain consequences for the Soviet position there.

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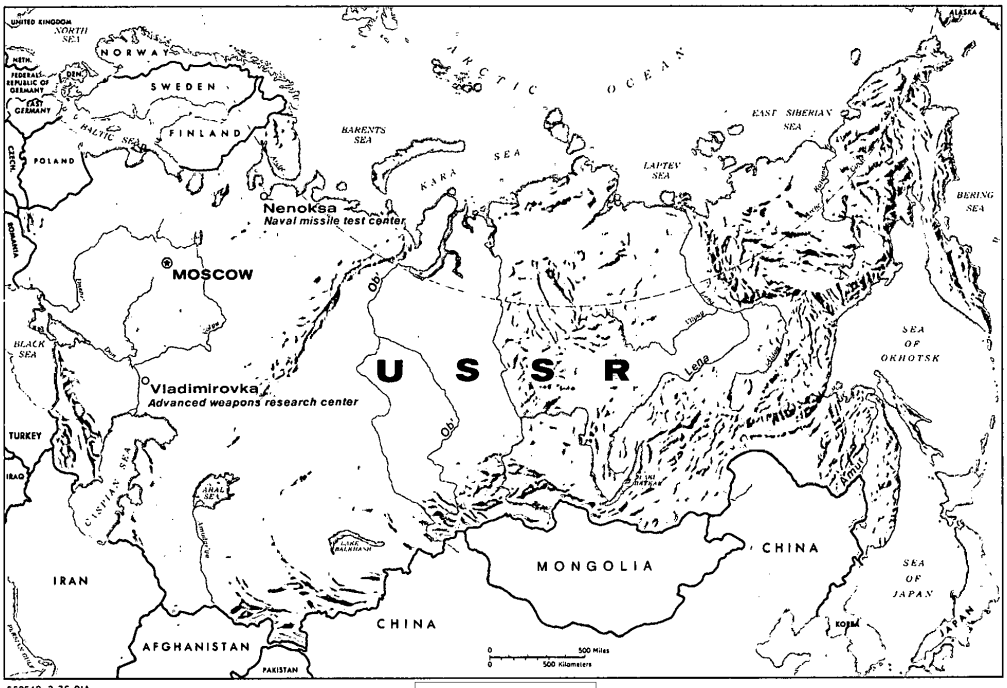

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USSR

Recent Soviet statements suggest that they may develop long-range cruise missiles if such weapons are not limited by a new strategic arms agreement.

We have no clear evidence that they have started working on long-range cruise missiles, but activity at two test centers may be related to the development of such weapons. Recent photography of the Nenoksa naval missile test center suggests that the Soviets started work on two structures that appear to be cruise missile launchers in late 1974. A separate program could be under way at the Vladimirovka advanced weapons research center where a new vehicle--apparently a cruise missile--was photographed on a launch pad in October and again in January and February.

While this vehicle could be a long-range cruise missile, it could also be a reconnaissance vehicle, a drone, or a mock-up. Until a flight test is observed, we cannot determine its character.

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EGYPT-USSR

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UK-RHODESIA

London's latest initiative to get the Rhodesian negotiations going again is not likely to get very far.

The proposal calls for expeditious negotiations on the shape of a new Rhodesian government and a transition period of no more than one or two years leading to majority rule.

The African presidents who have been backing the Rhodesian nationalists probably at least privately will welcome any new British initiative that might avert a guerrilla war. It is doubtful, however, that even they could organize the quarreling Rhodesian nationalists into a cohesive negotiating team capable of dealing with Prime Minister Smith.

Smith, for his part, is almost certain to reject the British package unless Prime Minister Vorster states publicly that further South African support for the Salisbury regime is contingent on prompt resumption of negotiations. Vorster is increasingly anxious to head off a liberation war in Rhodesia that might lead to Soviet or Cuban intervention. Nevertheless, it is doubtful that he is prepared to try to force Smith to agree to surrender on the issue of white rule in Rhodesia.

London is probably not very optimistic about the prospects for its initiative, but it feels a legal and moral obligation to try to break the deadlock while there is still time for a peaceful settlement.

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NOTES

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Chinese [redacted] Egypt 25X1
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Differences over Italy's *abortion law threaten the stability of Prime Minister Moro's Christian Democratic minority government.*

Most legislators want to compromise, but their efforts were dealt a severe blow yesterday when the Christian Democrats forced through a provision opposed by all the major parties. The parliamentary leader of the Social Democrats, whose votes Moro needs, has already recommended that his party reconsider its support for Moro; their defection would topple the government. In view of the current fragmented condition of Italian politics, another government would be very difficult to patch together. Under these circumstances President Leone would be compelled to dissolve parliament and schedule early elections.

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April 3, 1976

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Notes: Turkey; Iceland-UK; USSR; Egypt; Egypt-Libya *(Pages 6, 7, and 8)*

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LEBANON

The ten-day cease-fire that went into effect in Lebanon yesterday is generally being honored by all sides. Sporadic firing continues in some sections of Beirut and in outlying areas.

Both Muslim and Christian leaders have expressed concern that warring factions remain poised for renewed fighting and could interfere with the convocation of parliament.

The speaker of parliament has recalled an annoucement issued early yesterday that parliament would convene on Monday. The chamber will not meet until the effectiveness of the cease-fire can be assessed.

Syrian President Asad and the head of the Maronite Church reportedly have guaranteed the resignation of President Franjiyah. Leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt and his allies, however, remain skeptical. Franjiyah himself has made no public statements for some days; presumably he is awaiting action by parliament.

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[redacted] *20 miles north of Damascus, has returned to a high state of alert--possibly a precaution in the event the cease-fire breaks down.* 25X1

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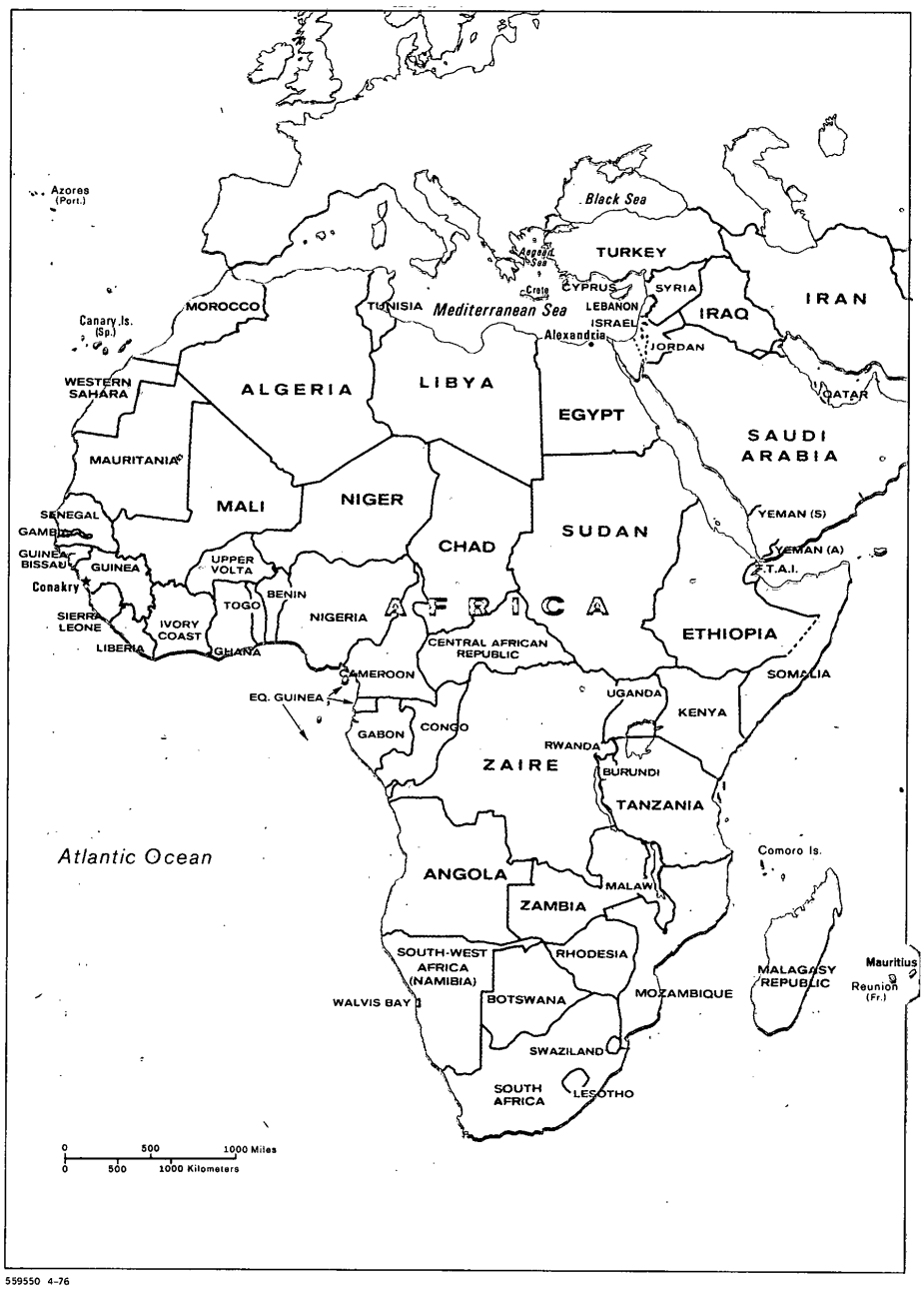

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USSR

The Soviet navy continues to shift forces into the eastern Mediterranean.

Moscow now has four major warships, a minesweeper, an intelligence ship, and probably some submarines southeast of Crete. These ships are monitoring the US naval force consisting of two destroyers, a helicopter assault ship, and four amphibious ships. The Soviets have four amphibious ships in the eastern Mediterranean; normally they keep only two in the area.

A Kresta II guided missile cruiser that had been moving north from Conakry, Guinea, entered the Mediterranean yesterday. It may remain west of Sicily, at least temporarily, since the Soviets have no other major surface warships in the western Mediterranean.

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dependents usually seen in the city has declined sharply in recent days. If the Soviets have indeed been withdrawing their dependents from Syria, it probably indicates that they have been concerned about Syrian intentions to intervene openly in Lebanon as well as about Israel's possible reaction to such intervention.

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CHINA

The Chinese leadership, including officials from the provinces, has assembled to discuss the fate of Teng Hsiao-ping. A similar meeting in January blocked Teng from the premiership and resulted in deep divisions within the leadership.

The campaign to criticize Teng has been static in recent weeks. Teng's supporters have not been able to stop criticism of him, and his detractors have been unable to push the campaign further toward ousting him.

A leadership meeting, apparently held in late February, may have decided to narrow the focus of criticism to Teng alone. Thereafter, efforts to include other officials in the attack began to decline, and propaganda began referring to an individual wrongdoer.

The campaign has consistently left open the possibility that Teng can retain a measure of power through some form of recantation. There is thus far no evidence that Teng has admitted his mistakes, but if he is prepared to accept some blame at the current meeting, it is possible that the campaign against him may begin to subside. If, on the other hand, Teng and his supporters remain adamant in their defense of current policies and of Teng's implementation of them, Teng's position is not likely to suffer any slippage. Rather, the leadership will be in for a protracted period of stalemate.

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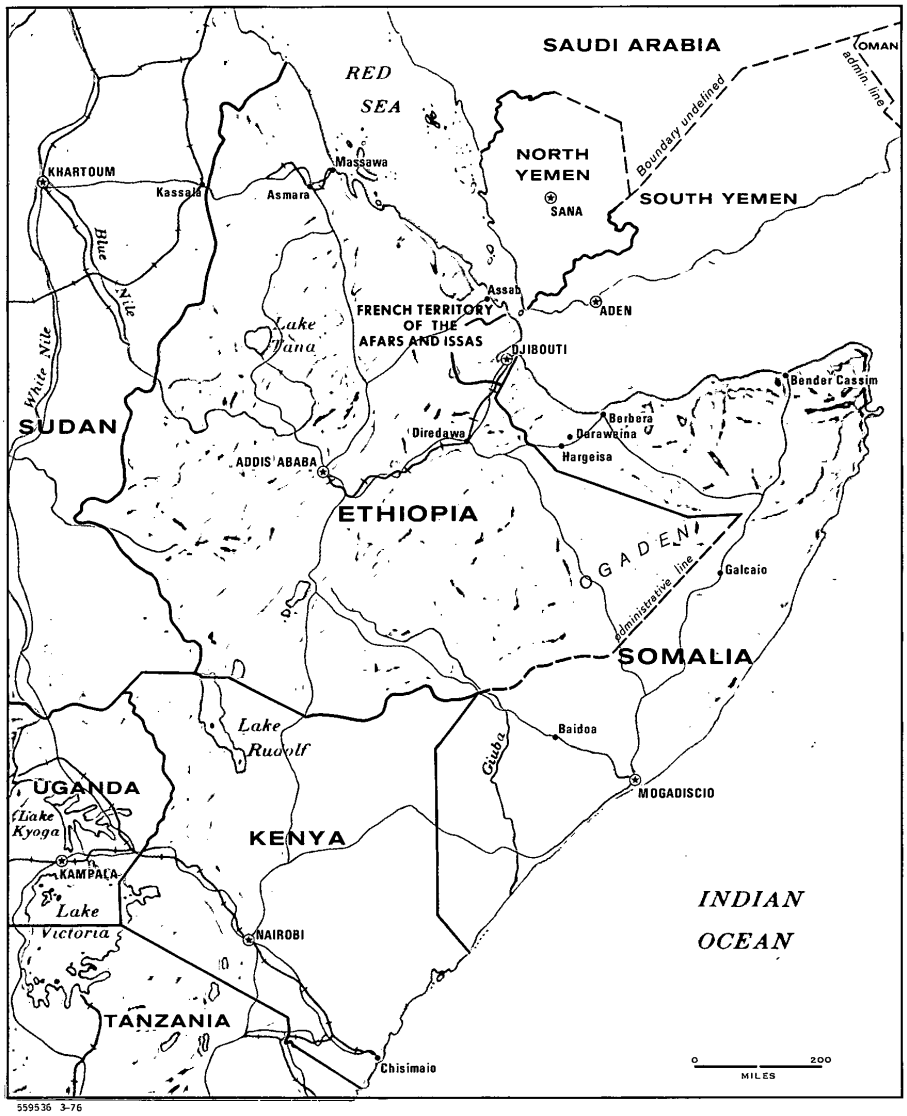

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SOMALIA-FRANCE

President Siad has declined to give formal assurances to France that Somalia will respect the sovereignty of the French Territory of the Afars and Issas (FTAI) after it becomes independent. Siad's refusal probably will not deflect France from proceeding with plans to hold an independence referendum sometime this year. It will, however, reinforce Paris' determination to obtain guarantees of the territory's sovereignty from the Organization of African Unity, the Arab League, and perhaps the UN.

During the visit of Jean Francois-Poncet, the French secretary of state for foreign affairs, to Mogadiscio on Wednesday, Siad would promise only that Somalia would not incorporate the territory. The French official was seeking written guarantees.

In an official statement on the meeting, the Somali government asserted that the French had come to the talks with proposals "which were not in the interest" of the people of the territory and did not satisfy Somali demands for "complete and unconditional" independence--Somali codewords for a French military withdrawal and transfer of power to a new government dominated by pro-Somalis. The Somali-backed group--the Front for the Liberation of the Somali Coast--has also announced a strong anti-French stand.

Before going to Mogadiscio, Francois-Poncet visited Egypt, Kenya, Uganda, and Ethiopia to sound out the Africans and Arabs on prospects for securing Arab League and OAU guarantees for the territory's independence. He also wanted to discuss the French proposal that the Arab League and OAU send observers to monitor the independence referendum. An OAU fact-finding mission will visit the territory later this month.

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At the Arab League foreign ministers' meeting last month, many of the participants--led by Egypt and Kuwait--reportedly urged Somalia to follow a cautious policy in the Horn of Africa. The resolution adopted by the Arab League, however, was strongly pro-Somali. It said any aggression against Somalia would be considered as aggression against all Arab countries.

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NOTES

Turkey's *opposition Republican People's Party will vote to ratify the US-Turkish Defense Cooperation Agreement* [redacted] *when the government submits the pact to parliament. Party leader Bulent Ecevit may, however, chide the Prime Minister in debate for not getting better terms.* 25X1

If the Republican People's Party does support the agreement, it almost certainly will pass. Prime Minister Demirel may have had some indication of Ecevit's position before announcing Thursday that he would seek legislative approval. The government is not expected to submit the agreement to parliament prior to US Congressional approval of the new pact.

* * *

Iceland, *clarifying its earlier proposal, has now signaled its willingness to compromise on certain key issues in the fishing dispute with the* UK.

Acting through a Norwegian intermediary, the Icelandic government has informed London that it will accept an agreement for six months and is willing to raise the number of British trawlers permitted to fish inside the 200-mile limit from 20 to 23. [redacted] 25X1

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Soviet Union [redacted] 25X1

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and army officers were recently arrested for two separate incidents of rioting. Another 50 have reportedly been forced into early retirement.

President Sadat's military policies, including that on arms supply, reportedly prompted the dissension. [redacted] 25X1 that surfaced at several air bases about two weeks ago. All those involved are said to have been apprehended.

The incidents are the first reported instances for some time of open dissatisfaction with Sadat's policies among the armed forces. They may explain his extended visit to military units along the Suez Canal late last month.

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Egyptian *military readiness along the* Libyan *border, raised since mid-March, is now on the decrease.*

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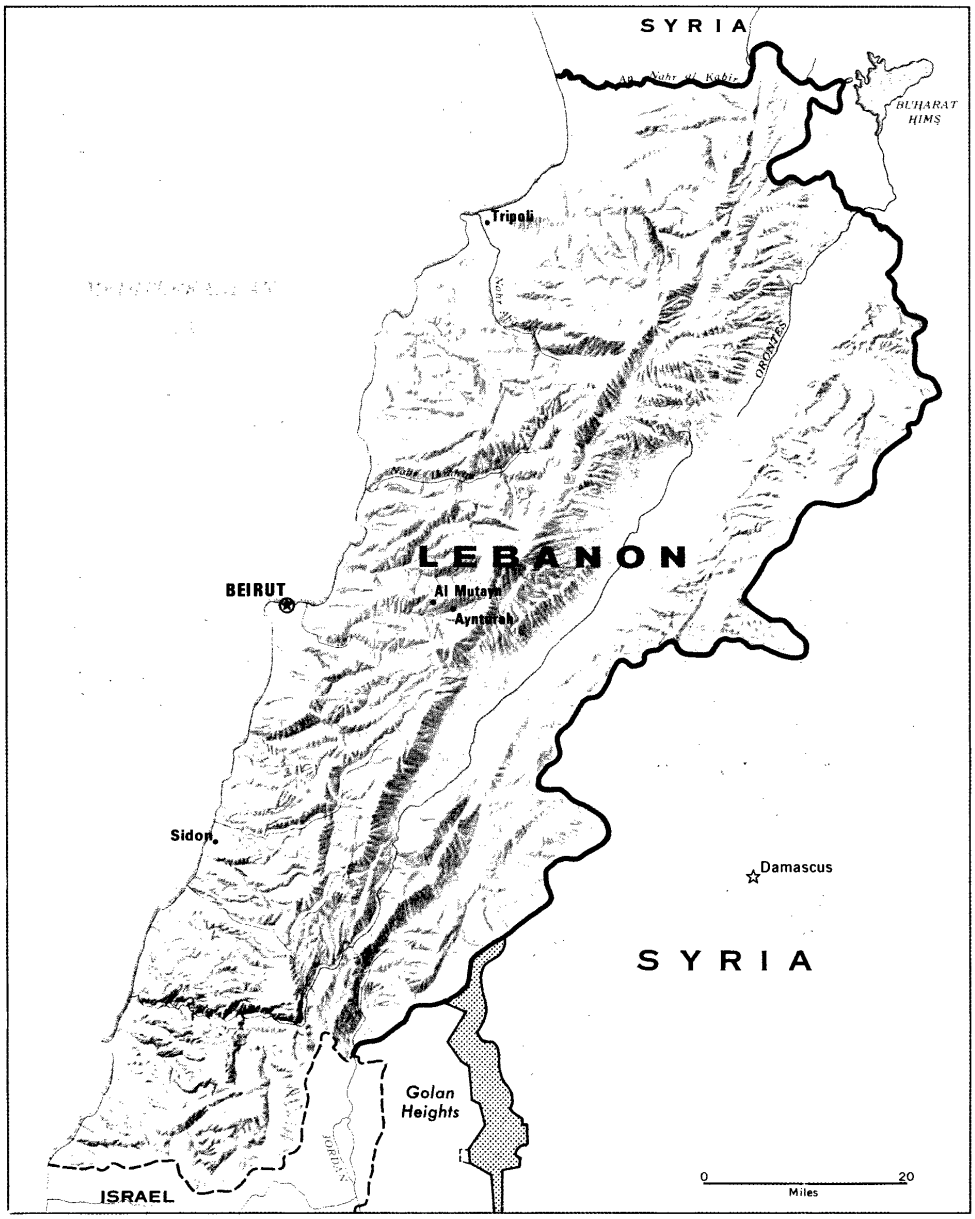

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LEBANON

Beirut remains relatively quiet, and fighting east of the city has subsided since the leftists captured the Christian villages of Aynturah and Al Mutayn on Saturday. Lebanese politicians have yet to make any progress toward carrying out the objectives of the 10-day truce.

With only seven days left before the truce expires, the politicians are wrangling over the precise wording of a constitutional amendment that is to pave the way for President Franjiyah's resignation and the election of his successor. They are also squabbling over where parliament should meet and what forces will provide security.

The bickering reflects the inability of the Lebanese and the Syrians to settle on a successor to Franjiyah. Syrian President Asad reportedly still objects to Raymond Edde, the candidate of the leftists and Yasir Arafat. Leftist leader Jumblatt, who wants the new president to be obligated to him rather than to Damascus, remains adamantly opposed to Ilyas Sarkis--favored by the Syrians and the Christian Phalanges Party.

In its efforts to prevent a breakdown in the cease-fire, Damascus is putting pressure on Jumblatt and Arafat not to resume fighting even if negotiations over Franjiyah's successor should drag on beyond the expiration date of the truce.

A Syrian naval blockade of the port of Tripoli was in effect on Friday and Saturday, apparently in an attempt to stem the flow of supplies to warring factions in northern Lebanon. [redacted] Saiqa forces reportedly have entered Sidon to prevent arms from reaching other Palestinians and leftist Lebanese in that area.

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LEBANON

Radical Muslim and leftist groups are emerging from the prolonged fighting in Lebanon with increased popular support, military strength, and political resolve. They have proved that they can virtually silence old-line Muslim leaders and, with support from independent fedayeen groups, especially Yasir Arafat's Fatah, can defeat the major Christian militias. It is conceivable that, in the coming weeks and months, the leftists will gain the upper hand.

The extreme left is a collection of fringe groups with no dominant leader or faction--a fact that greatly complicates the task of controlling or even negotiating with it. Kamal Jumblatt comes closest to being the leader of the leftist-Muslim coalition. His record of speaking out against the Christian and older Muslim establishments and his agitation for minority rights and for economic and social change have gained him stature among younger Muslim radicals in many parts of the country. Most other leftist leaders are locally based and urban.

The rapid ascendancy of the Lebanese left has triggered intense competition among outsiders for influence over individual leftist groups. Syria, its Palestinian client Saiqa, and Fatah have been the chief patrons of the left. Rivalry between Syria and Fatah as well as efforts by Libya and Iraq to supply small arms and money to certain groups have given major leftist leaders a measure of independence from any one outside sponsor.

The Egyptians do not have much influence, but they are trying to thwart Syria. Now that Muslim leftists have emerged as the principal obstacle to Syrian mediation, Egypt is increasing its efforts to assist them.

The leftists are not in a position to dictate a political settlement in Lebanon, but they will not accept a refurbished version of the Syrian-backed reform package worked out in February. They

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will insist on concessions, and their strength will ensure continued de facto partition and will complicate efforts to reconstitute an effective national security authority.

The Palestinians and Muslim leftists together now control about two thirds of Lebanon and have reduced Christian control in Beirut itself. This means that any new government in Beirut will continue to be weak and, in effect, will be operating within a confederation framework.

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USSR

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CYPRUS

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NOTE

Thai *Prime Minister Khukrit Pramot lost his seat in the national assembly in yesterday's election, presumably because of the military's dissatisfaction with the way he handled negotiations on the presence of US forces.*

The process of forming a successor government may be prolonged. A center-right coalition led by the Democrat Party, which made a strong showing in the election, appears to have the best chance. The leader of the party is Seni Pramot, Khukrit's older brother, who is backed by influential retired army commander Krit Siwara.

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Lebanon: The politicians continued to argue today over the timing, venue, and security arrangements for convening parliament. *(Page 3)*

China: The pro - Chou En-lai demonstrations in Peking on Monday appear to be part of an orchestrated campaign against party leftists who have been working to oust Teng Hsiao-ping. *(Page 5)*

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USSR

A review of satellite photography taken between [redacted] *shows that the Soviets have made little effort since January to meet the requirements for dismantling older ICBM launchers. Indeed, no activity has been evident at most of the partially dismantled launchers for several months or more.*

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The only dismantling activity observed since January has been the removal of some of the internal components from nine SS-7 silos. Under the terms of the Interim Agreement the Soviets should have had 23 older ICBM or submarine-launched ballistic-missile launchers fully dismantled by January 23, and 51 dismantled by about March 1.

Initially they appeared to be complying with the agreement. By late December they had begun to dismantle 51 SS-7 above-ground and silo launchers. The work lagged, however, and we can only confirm that eight launchers are fully dismantled. The Soviets themselves admitted on March 30 that they had fully dismantled only 10 older ICBM launchers.

All of the 209 original SS-7 and SS-8 launchers were photographed on several occasions during the mission, and nearly all were seen at least once since about mid-March. No additional SS-7 launchers were observed being dismantled nor were there any indications that the Soviets had started dismantling any SS-8 ICBM launchers or older SLBM launchers.

The two additional launchers counted by the Soviets as fully dismantled may be at the Yoshkar-Ola complex. At one of the SS-7 sites the control bunker has been dismantled, and the two launch pads have been partially excavated. The propellant tanks at these facilities also must be removed, however, to comply with the dismantling requirements. The propellant facilities appeared intact [redacted]

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The reasons given last week by the Soviets for not fully dismantling all 51 launchers are not compelling. They said that they have encountered difficulties and implied that they could not use explosives because nearby buildings might be damaged. The photography, however, shows that the nearest buildings are too far away to be damaged.

The level of activity in other areas at the complexes containing the partially dismantled SS-7 launchers suggests that weather and manpower were not major factors in the slowdown of dismantling. The Soviets continue to build new launch control silos or to modify SS-11 silos for new missiles at many of the complexes containing partially dismantled SS-7 silos, and an exercise was noted at an operational SS-7 site, at the Kostroma complex.

The lack of activity at the partially dismantled sites makes it impossible to project when work on all 51 launchers might be completed. The Soviets probably could fully dismantle an SS-7 site containing two above-ground launchers or three silos within about four to six weeks. With a concerted effort, they probably could complete the dismantlement of all 43 partially dismantled launchers in two to three months.

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LEBANON

Sporadic fighting flared up yesterday in the mountains east of Beirut where leftist and Christian militiamen resumed their struggle for control over the Christian villages of Aynturah and Al Mutayn. Leaders on both sides seem willing to tolerate breaches of the truce in outlying areas as long as the capital remains relatively calm.

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some Syrian reservists have been recalled to active duty over the last several weeks and others notified of a possible recall. The attaché reports that there are no signs of a general mobilization or an imminent move by Syrian forces.

No Syrian patrol boats were detected operating in Lebanese waters off Tripoli yesterday, although it is not clear whether Damascus has totally lifted its blockade of the Lebanese port.

Muslim and Christian politicians continued their strident public debate over the timing, venue, and security arrangements for convening parliament, but they may have reached some points of tentative agreement--at least on an acceptable

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site for the session. The Muslim-controlled radio in Beirut states that major Christian leaders--including Interior Minister Shamun--have agreed to hold the meeting in a so-called neutral area of Beirut.

The more controversial question of which force will protect the assembly apparently has not been resolved. Jumblatt's recent accusations against Syria almost certainly mean he will not accept Syrian-controlled Palestinian forces as the sole guardians of the parliament.

The debate over a successor to President Franjiyah is likely to remain deadlocked until the Christian Phalanges Party and Jumblatt's leftist coalition hold meetings later this week. The list of possible compromise candidates is growing each day; none of those mentioned, however, has gained even tacit approval from the Syrians, the Christians, or the Muslim left.

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CHINA

The massive pro - Chou En-lai demonstrations in Peking on Monday, as well as poster attacks elsewhere in China on unnamed but important persons who are said to have denigrated Chou, appear to be part of an orchestrated campaign against party leftists who have been working to oust Chou's chosen successor, Teng Hsiao-ping.

Moderate leaders, who seem to be trying to protect Teng and preserve the policies for which he and Chou stood, apparently have seized on the highly popular issue of paying tribute to the deceased premier as a vehicle to turn the attacks on Teng around. The unruly behavior of the crowds in Peking, estimated at over 100,000, is uncharacteristic of the normally timid Peking residents and strongly suggests that these people were given the green light to hold demonstrations by important figures in the leadership. The fact that security personnel and unarmed military men did little to interfere with the demonstrations itself implies official sanction.

The current defense of Chou contains thinly veiled attacks on Mao's wife, Chiang Ching, and on three members of the party's ruling Politburo who hail from Shanghai. These four people, all members of the party's left wing, undoubtedly are in the forefront of the anti-Teng campaign. Unlike the criticism of Teng, which has fallen short of calling for his ouster, the current attacks on his detractors call for "overthrowing" them. The fact that these attacks are now appearing in east China further points to orchestration of the "defense" of Chou for political reasons.

Almost from the beginning of the anti-Teng campaign, some Chinese seemed to interpret it as indirect criticism of Chou En-lai--if only because Teng was Chou's hand-picked successor and represented the continuation of the premier's popular policies. The demonstrations may have been designed to influence discussions in a major leadership meeting currently in progress concerning the future course of the campaign and Teng's ultimate fate.

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An editorial in today's *People's Daily*, presumably inspired by anti-Teng forces, says that the campaign is not aimed at discrediting Chou and that it will continue against Teng.

The shows of strength both by pro- and anti-Teng forces suggest that the leadership in Peking remains in deadlock.

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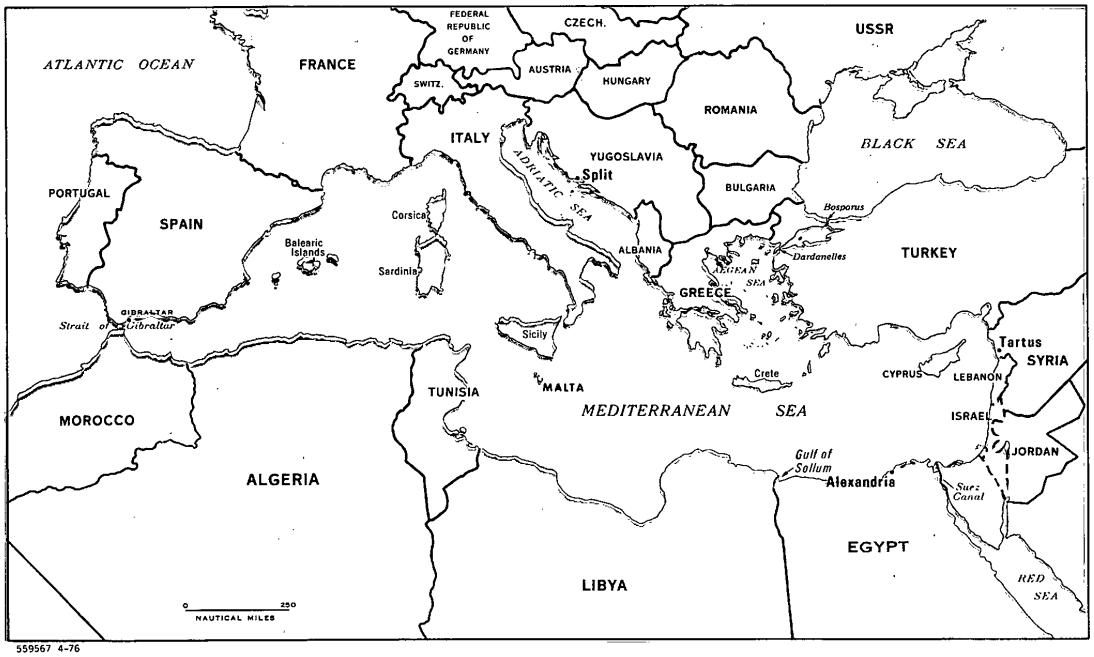

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NOTES

The Soviet navy continues to shift its forces in the Mediterranean, partly in response to US naval moves.

As of midday yesterday, the Soviets had two cruisers, a destroyer, a frigate, and an intelligence collector watching the 11-ship US force southeast of Crete. One or more Soviet attack submarines probably are also in the area. 25X1

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Cuba

Angola 25X1

25X1

* * *

The Soviets, in talks with Westerners, continue to play down the significance of Egyptian President Sadat's abrogation of the Soviet-Egyptian friendship treaty.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry official responsible for Middle East affairs told a British official that the treaty abrogation only formalized the existing situation. He said relations might be sour "for several years," but that the Soviets are convinced they will eventually improve.

Soviet public comments, however, are designed to stir Egyptian apprehensions about future Soviet actions and to promote questioning about the wisdom of Sadat's actions. The Soviets' formal protest note to Cairo last week, in fact, has stirred an outpouring of charges of Soviet meddling from the Egyptian press and Egyptian public figures.

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Tanzanian *President Nyerere and* Mozambican *President Machel are trying to tighten their control over outside aid to the* Rhodesian *nationalists.*

Their intent is partly to limit non-African involvement with the guerrillas. They are also concerned that direct Soviet, Cuban, and Chinese aid to the rival factions of the nationalist African National Council could intensify internal divisions and weaken the insurgency against the Smith government.

Last week the Tanzanian foreign minister told the ambassadors of a number of communist and Western countries that, from now on, all outside support for the nationalists is to be channeled through Tanzania and Mozambique by the African Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity.

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China: The offensive against policies associated with Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping includes attacks on his program for modernizing the military. *(Page 3)*

OPEC: Investment by OPEC in the US increased $6.4 billion in 1975. *(Page 4)*

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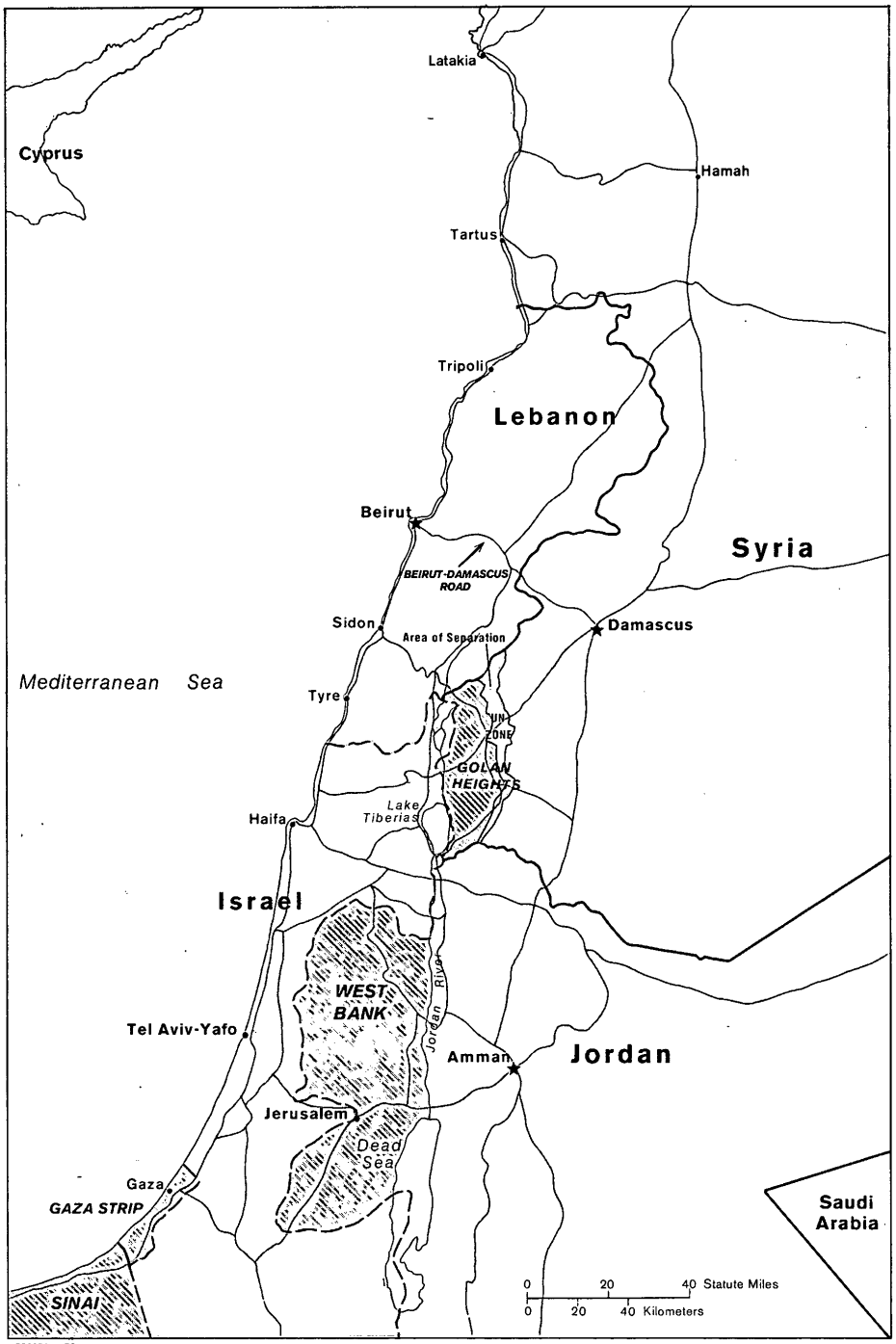

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LEBANON:

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Although Jumblatt has not indicated this position publicly, he is showing some flexibility on related issues. His leftist coalition yesterday issued a statement expressing satisfaction with the current truce and appreciation for the efforts of the "various quarters" to resolve the political crisis.

The leftists also indicated their qualified acceptance of the Syrian mediation effort and a willingness to allow forces of the Syrian-controlled Palestine Liberation Army to assist in providing security for the meeting of parliament. The speaker of parliament announced yesterday that all sides have agreed to meet on Saturday in a neutral zone of Beirut to discuss the early replacement of Franjiyah.

The US embassy reports that Jumblatt has privately indicated his willingness to extend the political settlement process beyond the ten-day truce period, provided substantial progress is achieved in the meantime. Presumably, Jumblatt would accept amendment of the constitution as substantial progress and would allow election of a new president to be delayed until next week.

Jumblatt's more cooperative stand--which he could reverse at any time--may be the result of a fear that Syria is prepared to use whatever force is necessary to forestall a leftist effort to spark another round of heavy fighting. Jumblatt almost certainly is disappointed at signs that Arafat is again cooperating with the Syrians and

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apprehensive that Fatah forces would not again provide critical military support should heavy fighting resume.

[redacted] the Syrian naval blockade of Lebanese ports remained in effect yesterday. Syrian ships, which may now be based at Tripoli, are patrolling most of the Lebanese coast. 25X1 25X1

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[redacted]

* * *

USSR: *Georgy Arbatov's article in Pravda last week blames Washington for current bilateral difficulties and is specifically critical of your administration. The article has been touted privately by several Soviets as a very important statement.*

Arbatov's analysis of the recent course of US-Soviet relations is familiar fare. He credits a changing correlation of world forces with prompting favorable changes in US foreign policy. He notes signs of backsliding in Washington, however, under the pressures generated by US economic and political problems and the realities of the US presidential campaign. In undisguised criticism of you, Arbatov attacks the concept of "peace through strength" as reminiscent of cold war attitudes. He warns that concessions made during a political campaign may persist beyond the election, "sometimes creating serious difficulties."

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Referring to the inevitability of occasional reverses for both superpowers, Arbatov argues that "detente" must not be made a scapegoat. He clearly does not want current problems between the US and the USSR to jeopardize the gains made in arms control. His message seems to be that progress can still be made despite other setbacks to the relationship.

* * *

CHINA: *The offensive against policies associated with Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping includes attacks on his program for modernizing the military. The radicals are apparently trying to capitalize on the disaffection among military figures that was created by Teng's policies.*

At issue is a directive approved last summer that calls for the upgrading of China's conventional forces. Wall posters charge that the directive over-emphasizes military proficiency, and that Teng tried to reduce the political influence of important provincial military figures.

Teng has worked hard over the past three years to remove the armed forces from civilian politics and to curb the political power of specific commanders. At the same time, he has "rehabilitated" and promoted military men whose advocacy of modernization of China's military, in many cases, led to their purge early in the Cultural Revolution. Regional commanders could have seen these rehabilitations as threatening their own influence within the army.

Aside from the modernization issue, one of the most significant charges against Teng is that he monopolized control of the armed forces. This seems to be an attempt to win over those who opposed his appointment as armed forces chief of staff; he is the first civilian ever named to this post.

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Although the evidence is sparse, the criticism thus far does not seem to have had much impact. Most of the officer corps favors Teng's efforts to upgrade the armed forces' fighting capability and has shown little enthusiasm, particularly in the provinces, for the campaign against Teng. As for those military officers whose sympathies lie with the radicals, their views probably parallel the wall poster criticism; otherwise, they seem to be keeping their heads down.

* * *

OPEC: *Investment by OPEC in the US increased $6.4 billion in 1975, bringing the total to nearly $20 billion at the end of the year. The US part of OPEC foreign investment was at least 25 percent, compared with 20 percent in 1974.*

Purchases of corporate and medium- and long-term government securities accounted for most of the new holdings. Bank deposits and holdings of short-term government securities--at one time the major share of OPEC investment--increased only slightly. The shift toward less liquid assets in the US portfolio reflects the growing predominance of Persian Gulf oil producers, whose wealth permits investment in longer term assets, increased investor confidence in the US economy, and declining short-term interest rates. Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates accounted for over 65 percent of OPEC's investment in the US at the end of 1975, compared with less than 35 percent a year earlier.

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Lebanon: Socialist leader Kamal Jumblatt [redacted] showing some flexibility on issues involved in the political crisis. *(Page 1)*

25X1

USSR: Arbatov's article in Pravda last week blames Washington for current bilateral difficulties and is specifically critical of your administration. *(Page 3)*

China: The offensive against policies associated with Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping includes attacks on his program for modernizing the military. *(Page 4)*

Note: OPEC *(Page 6)*

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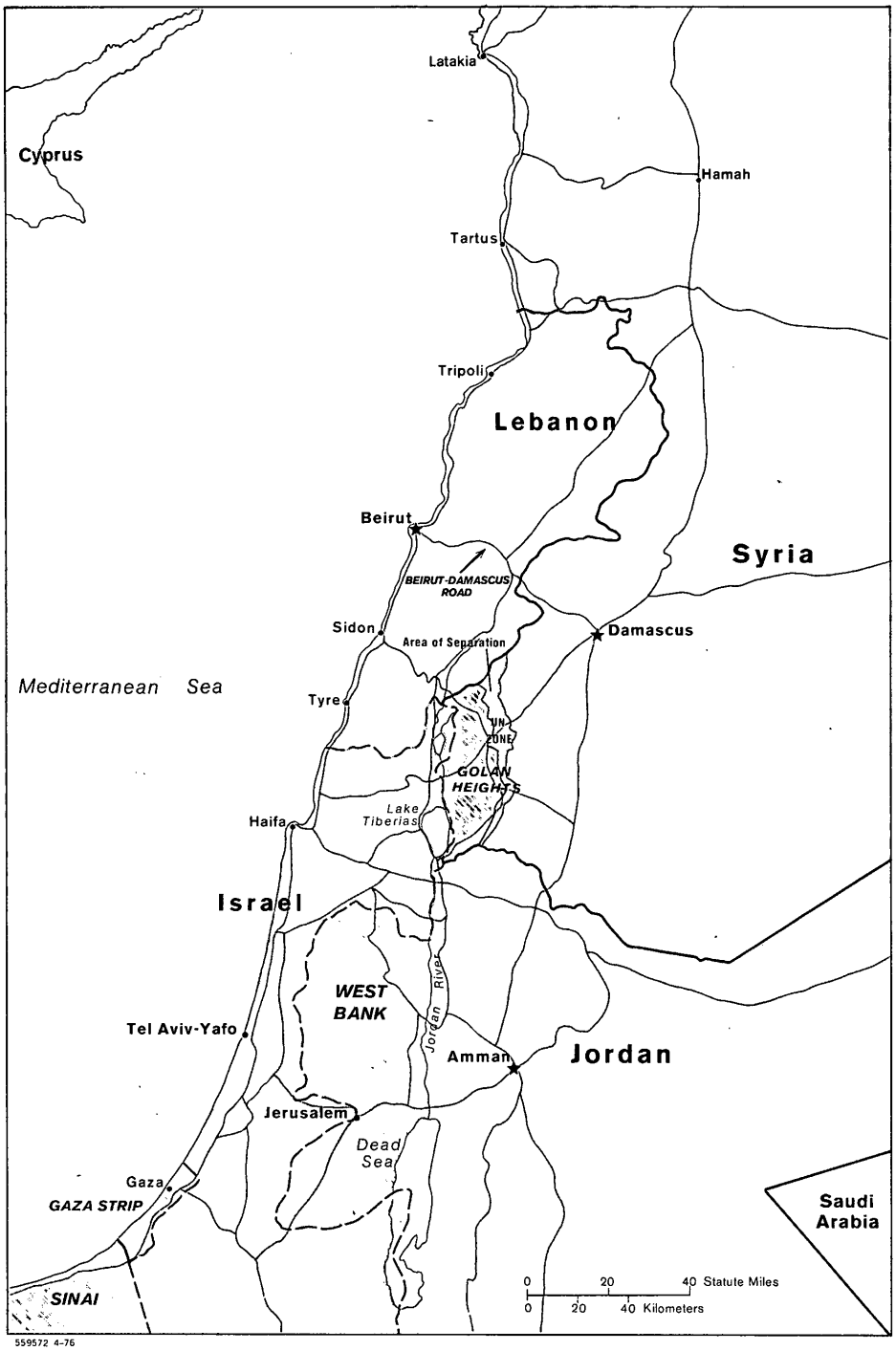

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LEBANON

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[redacted] Jumblatt [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] leftist coalition yesterday issued a statement expressing satisfaction with the current truce and appreciation for the efforts of "the various quarters" to resolve the political crisis. 25X1

The leftists also indicated their qualified acceptance of the Syrian mediation effort and a willingness to allow forces of the Syrian-controlled Palestine Liberation Army to assist in providing security so that parliament can meet. The speaker of parliament announced yesterday that all sides have agreed to meet on Saturday in a neutral zone of Beirut. They will discuss the constitutional amendment allowing for the early replacement of Franjiyah.

The US embassy reports that Jumblatt has privately indicated his willingness to extend the political settlement process beyond the ten-day truce period, provided substantial progress is achieved in the meantime. Presumably, Jumblatt would accept amendment of the constitution as substantial progress and would allow election of a new president to be delayed until next week.

25X1

Jumblatt's more cooperative stand--which he could reverse at any time--may result from fear that Syria is prepared to use whatever force is necessary to forestall a leftist effort to spark another round of heavy fighting. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted]

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has unconfirmed information that a Syrian armored brigade moved into the northernmost region of Lebanon yesterday. The report came from a contact in Lebanon's internal security force. We have no information to confirm this report, but a Syrian armored brigade stationed at Hamah, some 40 miles northeast of the border, could be moved quickly into Lebanon.

Intercepts show that the Syrian naval blockade of Lebanese ports remained in effect yesterday. Syrian ships, which may now be based at Tripoli, are patrolling most of the Lebanese coast.

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USSR

Georgy Arbatov's article in Pravda last week blames Washington for current bilateral difficulties and is specifically critical of your administration. The article has been touted privately by several Soviets as a very important statement.

Arbatov's analysis of the recent course of US-Soviet relations is familiar fare. He credits a changing correlation of world forces with prompting favorable changes in US foreign policy. He notes signs of backsliding in Washington, however, under the pressures generated by US economic and political problems and the realities of the US presidential campaign. In undisguised criticism of you, Arbatov attacks the concept of "peace through strength" as reminiscent of cold war attitudes. He warns that concessions made during a political campaign may persist beyond the election, "sometimes creating serious difficulties."

Arbatov analyzes recent US foreign policy "defeats" (he mentions Southeast Asia, Portugal, "miscalculations in the Eastern Mediterranean," and Angola) as being the result of wrong-headed policies in Washington, rather than of any communist intrigues.

Referring to the inevitability of occasional reverses for both superpowers, Arbatov argues that "detente" must not be made a scapegoat. He clearly does not want current problems between the US and the USSR to jeopardize the gains made in arms control. His message seems to be that progress can still be made despite other setbacks to the relationship.

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CHINA

The offensive against policies associated with Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping includes attacks on his program for modernizing the military. The radicals have avoided press discussion of this sensitive matter, and have generally confined their attacks on military policy to wall posters. They are apparently trying to capitalize on the disaffection among military figures that was created by Teng's policies.

At issue is a directive approved last summer that calls for the upgrading of China's conventional forces. The posters charge that the directive overemphasizes military proficiency, and that Teng tried to reduce the political influence of important provincial military figures.

Indeed, Teng has worked hard over the past three years to remove the armed forces, particularly the military region commanders, from civilian politics and to curb their political power. At the same time, Teng has "rehabilitated" and promoted to important positions in Peking a number of military men whose advocacy of modernization of China's military establishment, in many cases, led to their purge early in the Cultural Revolution. Regional commanders could have seen these rehabilitations as threatening their own influence within the army.

One of the most significant charges against Teng, aside from the modernization issue, is that he monopolized control of the armed forces. This seems to be an attempt to win over those who opposed his appointment as armed forces chief of staff; he is the first civilian ever named to this post.

Although the evidence is sparse, the criticisms thus far do not seem to have had much impact. Important military figures, particularly in the provinces, have shown little enthusiasm for the campaign against Teng. Most of the officer corps favors Teng's efforts to upgrade the armed forces' fighting capability. Others may not be completely

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satisfied with Teng, but in the long run are likely to find in the radicals a less agreeable alternative. As for those military officers whose sympathies lie with the radicals, their views probably parallel the wall poster criticism; otherwise, they seem to be keeping their heads down.

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NOTE

OPEC investment in the US increased $6.4 billion in 1975, bringing the total to nearly $20 billion at the end of the year. The US part of OPEC foreign investment was at least 25 percent, compared with 20 percent in 1974.

Purchases of corporate and medium- and long-term government securities accounted for most of the new holdings. Bank deposits and holdings of short-term government securities--at one time the major share of OPEC investment--increased only slightly. The shift toward less liquid assets in the US portfolio reflects the growing predominance of Persian Gulf oil producers, whose wealth permits investment in longer-term assets, increased investor confidence in the US economy, and declining short-term interest rates. Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates accounted for over 65 percent of OPEC's investment in the US at the end of 1975, compared with less than 35 percent a year earlier.

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Lebanon: Syria's direct military involvement may be increasing as the Lebanese parliament prepares to act on the presidential succession. *(Page 1)*

USSR-Lebanon: An authoritative Moscow statement on Lebanon praises the cease-fire but charges that Israel and "imperialist forces" are responsible for the strife. *(Page 2)*

China: The Central Committee's announcement that Teng Hsiao-ping has been dismissed from all his positions inside and outside the party specifically links this move to Monday's demonstrations. *(Page 3)* 25X1

USSR:

Notes: India-China; Iran-Cuba *(Page 6)*

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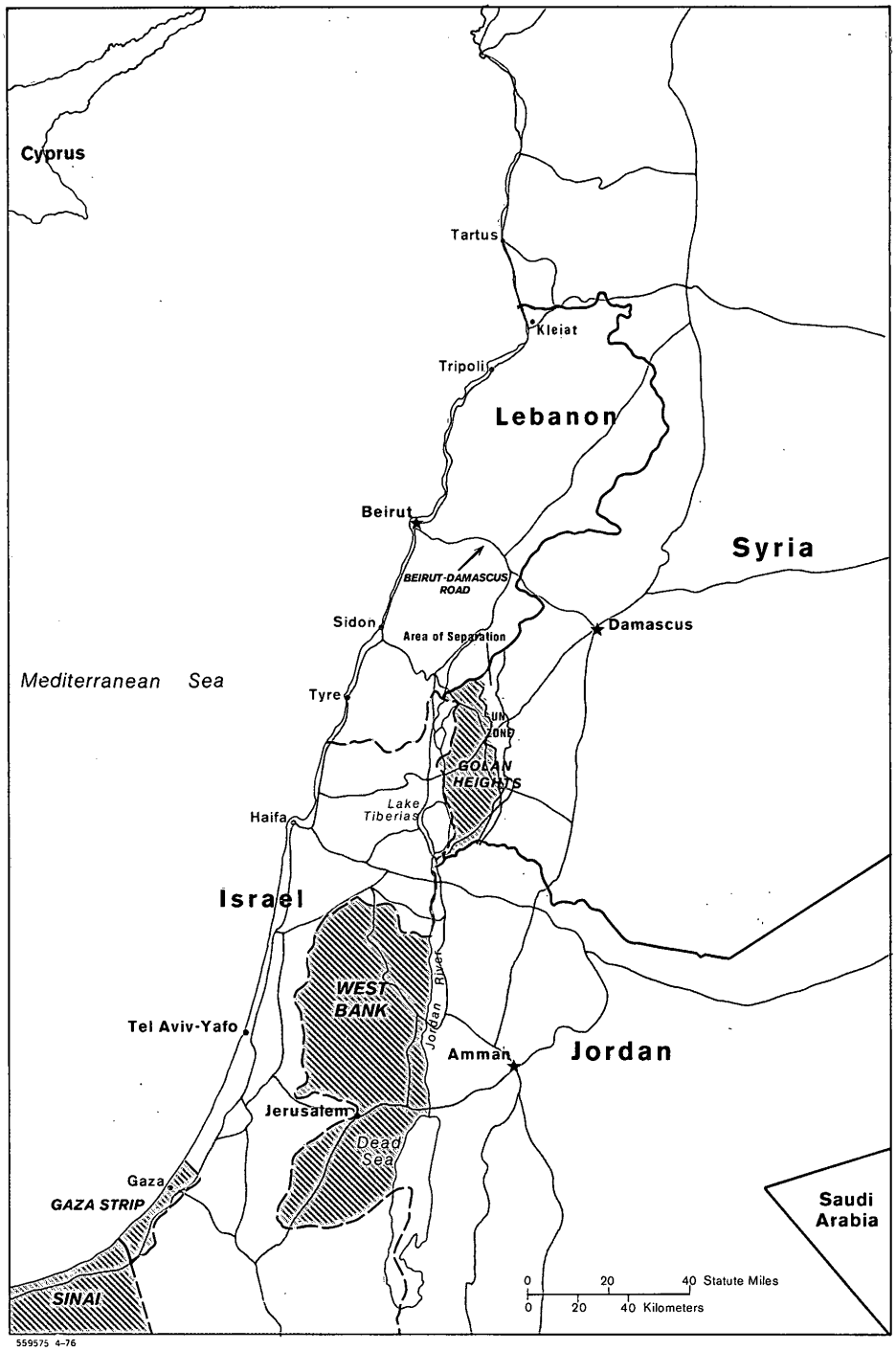

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LEBANON: *The Syrian naval blockade of the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli remains in force and may now be supported by helicopters. Syrian helicopters have reportedly been assisting a Syrian ground force that crossed into northern Lebanon on Tuesday. That force may have as many as 2,000 troops and some 100 to 150 vehicles, including armored personnel carriers.*

These troops are said to be wearing uniforms of the Syrian-controlled Saiqa fedayeen organization. Their mission appears to be to control the area between Tripoli and the air base at Kleiat.

The Syrians presumably have chosen to move increased numbers of Syrian regulars into Tripoli rather than into central or southern Lebanese cities to minimize the chance of an Israeli countermove into southern Lebanon. Damascus may calculate that Tel Aviv will continue to tolerate a gradual Syrian buildup inside Lebanon if Syrian troops are disguised as fedayeen and do not have armored units.

The great danger in the Syrian move is that it might fail in its intention to intimidate the Lebanese leftists, yet through lack of Israeli reaction cause Damascus to misjudge the limits of Israeli tolerance for a similar move in central or southern Lebanon. 25X1

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A French government spokesman announced yesterday that Georges Gorse, a former minister and diplomat, will leave for Lebanon today on a "fact-finding" mission, as opposed to a "mediation effort." Gorse accompanied Maurice Couve de Murville on his unsuccessful mediation mission last November. If Gorse is well received, it is likely that Couve will also return to Beirut.

* * *

USSR/LEBANON: *The most authoritative Soviet statement to date on Lebanon appears today in a Pravda article signed by "Observer," to denote the Kremlin's endorsement.*

"Observer" terms the current cease-fire agreement "a new, positive element." The article welcomes Syrian mediation efforts and calls for "the preservation of a united, integral, and independent Lebanese state."

The article charges that it is "naive" to view the events in Lebanon as solely a manifestation of Christian-Muslim strife. Rather, it says the conflict was unleashed by Israelis and "imperialist forces" bent on diverting Arab attention from efforts to liberate the Israeli-occupied Arab territories, weakening Palestinian resistance, and dividing Lebanese territory.

The way the US is singled out is new. One paragraph condemns the movements of the Sixth Fleet toward Lebanon, "the fully bankrupt 'from the position of strength' policy which some political circles dream of reviving," and Senator Jackson's "openly calling for landing the US Marines on Lebanese soil."

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"Observer" closes with a call for a maximum effort to consolidate the cease-fire and to normalize the situation. The article acknowledges that Lebanon remains tense and that "a good deal of combustible material has accrued." It warns that another outburst would be "fraught with still graver consequences" for Lebanon and for the entire Middle East.

* * *

CHINA: *The Central Committee's announcement that Teng Hsiao-ping has been dismissed from all his positions inside and outside the party was specifically linked to the demonstrations last Monday.*

Teng and his supporters appeared to have badly overplayed their hand by arranging the demonstrations. A month or more earlier, a party directive had indicated that Teng was in a relatively good position to survive the attacks on him. It reportedly stated that Teng was not to be "struck down," and that his case was different from those of party leaders purged in the recent past.

The demonstrations and the wide international coverage given them, however, clearly angered and embarrassed Mao and the left, and may have enabled them to win the support of moderates for Teng's removal.

Although the decision on Teng's case was "unanimous," indicating his supporters had abandoned him, concessions from the left may well have been involved. One such concession could be the end of the current political campaign. The reappearance yesterday of Politburo member Li Hsien-nien, one of Teng's staunchest backers, who had been absent from public view since mid-January, suggests that other supporters of Teng will not suffer.

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The appointment of Hua Kuo-feng--who is not in the leftist camp--as premier and as first vice chairman of the party over Wang Hung-wen, a young party leftist, may also be part of a compromise solution. The reappearance of Li Hsien-nien, the party's leading economic specialist, suggests that Teng's ambitious economic policies may continue with little change.

Teng's backers may have agreed to drop their support of him once they were assured that the relatively moderate Hua would be promoted to a party position of sufficient importance to give him a major voice in policy issues.

Hua's new position is second only to that of Mao. Hua is closely identified with Teng's agricultural policies. As acting premier, he frequently indicated there would be no change in China's foreign policy. Others in the leadership, who may have opposed the abrasive Teng for personal reasons, may now close ranks with those who personally supported Teng, thus giving the moderates a major voice in policy matters.

Yesterday's decisions do not provide a long-term solution to China's leadership problems. A People's Daily editorial acknowledged on Tuesday--for the second time--that the central committee of the party remains split. Given the depth of public sentiment revealed on Monday and the relatively powerful position of the moderates in positions of authority throughout the country, a "blacklash" against the left is still a real possibility.

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Another round of struggle is almost certainly in the cards, perhaps even before Mao dies. 25X1

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USSR:

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NOTES

India and China have agreed to exchange ambassadors for the first time since their border war in 1962.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi probably believes that establishing diplomatic relations with Peking will demonstrate India's independence of its closest ally, the USSR, and refurbish New Delhi's nonaligned image. Gandhi is concerned about China's close relations with Pakistan, good relations with Nepal and Sri Lanka, and improving relations with Bangladesh. 25X1

* * *

Iran has broken diplomatic ties with Cuba over a publicized meeting last month between Cuban Prime Minister Castro and the leader of the outlawed Iranian Communist Party.

The two men met in Moscow while attending the Soviet party congress. The Shah regards the incident as a gross intervention in Iran's internal affairs. He also probably intends his action to signal Iranian opposition to what he regards as Cuban adventurism in Angola and in the southern Arabian peninsula, where Cuba has been supporting guerrillas seeking to overthrow the Shah's ally, the Sultan of Oman.

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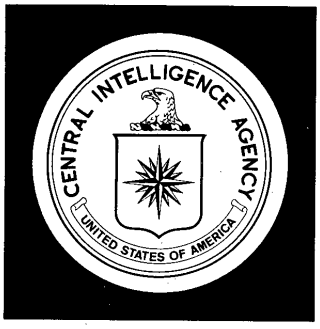

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Lebanon-Israel: Israeli Defense Minister Peres yesterday acknowledged for the first time that there are substantial numbers of Syrian forces in Lebanon. *(Page 1)*

Cyprus: The forced resignation of Greek Cypriot negotiator Clerides yesterday and growing rancor over the US-Turkish defense agreement have permitted more radical Greek Cypriot leaders to seize the initiative. *(Page 2)* 25X1

25X1

USSR-Egypt: [redacted] 25X1

USSR: [redacted] 25X1

Cuba-Portugal: [redacted] 25X1

Notes: Guinea-USSR; USSR-China; France *(Pages 5 and 6)* 25X1

At Annex we present an alert memorandum on the scope and intent of reported plans for anti-US demonstrations in Nicosia. 25X1

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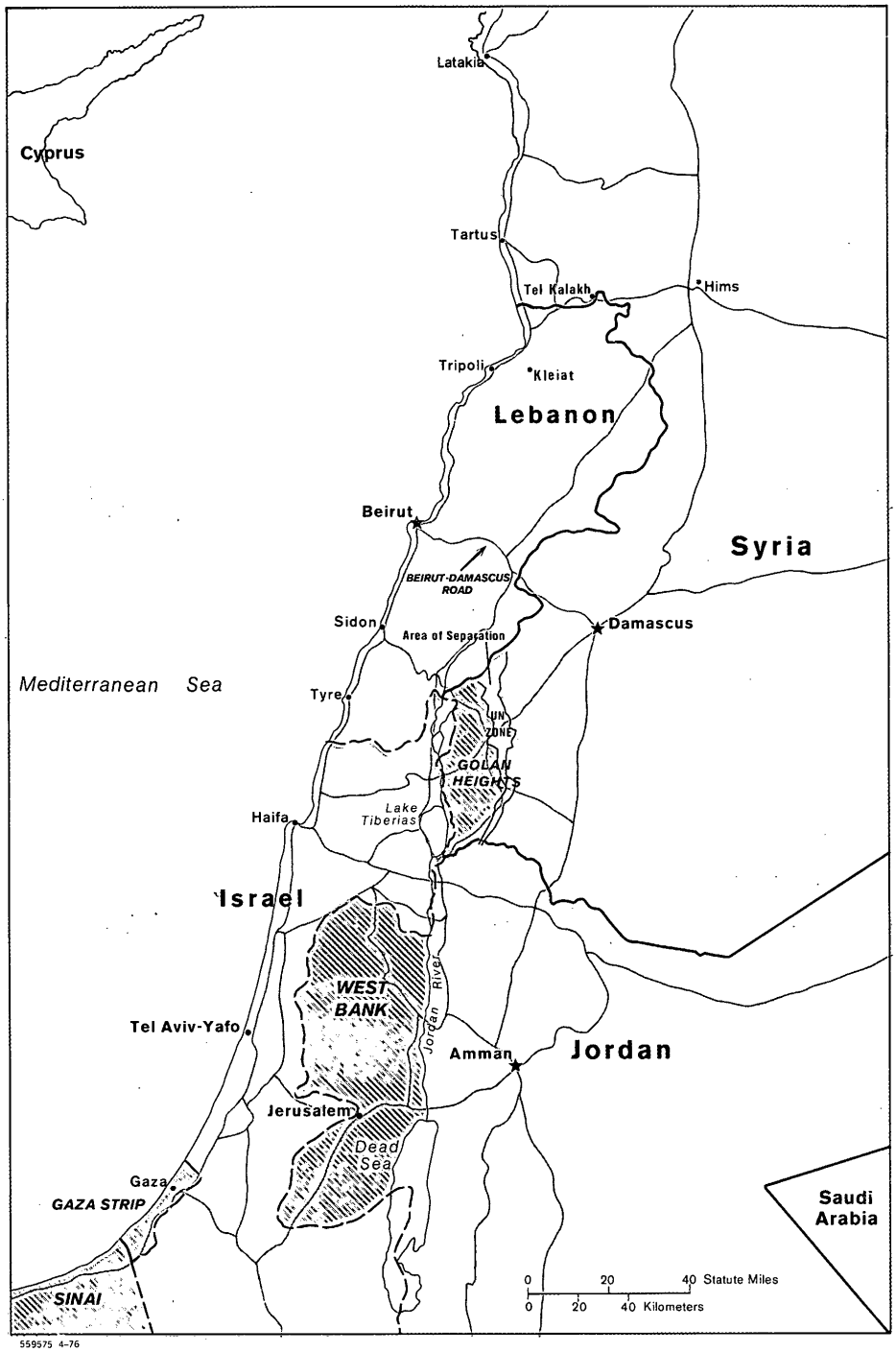

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LEBANON-ISRAEL: *Israeli Defense Minister Peres yesterday acknowledged publicly for the first time that there are substantial numbers of Syrian forces in Lebanon.*

His statement presumably was prompted by Damascus' introduction of 1,300 to 1,500 Syrian regulars and nearly 100 vehicles into the Tripoli area on Tuesday. 25X1

Peres continued to minimize the significance of the Syrian role in Lebanon, saying that no more than 2,500 troops are involved and that they are not an "organized military force" constituting a threat to Israel. He added, however, that Israel will "take the necessary defensive measures" if its security is threatened.

Peres' statement appears designed both to remind the Syrians and reassure the Israelis that Israel is alert to Damascus' actions and will not necessarily remain inactive if Syria continues to move forces across the border.

We have had no indications that more Syrian froces have crossed into Lebanon in the past 24 hours. 25X1 has seen no unusual activity that would indicate preparations for a large-scale move into Lebanon, but an East European diplomat has told the attache that he believes Syria may make a major move this weekend.

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Leaders of the principal Lebanese and Palestinian factions still appear to be working to arrange a peaceful meeting of parliament tomorrow. Violence continues in several sections of Beirut, but at a level that probably will not derail plans for convening that body.

Leftist leader Jumblatt and his group have reaffirmed their willingness to accept a political rather than a military solution to the crisis, provided President Franjiyah is quickly replaced.

CYPRUS: *The forced resignation of Greek Cypriot negotiator Clerides yesterday, combined with growing rancor over the US-Turkish defense agreement, have left more conciliatory forces in Cyprus in disarray and permitted more radical Greek Cypriot leaders to seize the initiative.*

At Annex we present a memorandum on reportedly planned violence against the US embassy in Nicosia.

The ascendency of the more extreme elements in the Greek Cypriot community spells serious trouble for efforts to reach a Cyprus settlement with the Turks. Former supporters of Clerides joined hardliners in demanding his resignation after he admitted arranging secretly to give Turkish Cypriot negotiator Denktash a preliminary version of Greek Cypriot proposals for a settlement.

The Turks probably see the situation as offering an opportunity to stall even longer in the talks and to place the blame on the Greek side. In fact, Turkish Cypriot negotiator Denktash apparently leaked information of his secret agreement with Clerides.

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USSR:

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CUBA-PORTUGAL: 25X1

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NOTES

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Guinea

Soviet

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Soviet propagandists are citing the demonstrations in Peking and the subsequent dismissal of Teng Hsiao-ping as evidence of intensified political turmoil in China.

Some broadcasts predict further upheavals and seem to be trying to fan Chinese suspicions of Mao's intentions.

Despite the propagandists' glee over China's internal disarray, Soviet leaders probably have serious misgivings over the uncertain situation in Peking.

Since January, when Hua Kuo-feng was named acting premier, the Soviets have portrayed themselves as sympathetic to China's moderates. They hastily rehabilitated Chou En-lai at that time, commented approvingly on his policies, and became more outspoken in their criticism of China's leftists.

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ANNEX

CYPRUS

We present below an alert memorandum, released yesterday, on the scope and intent of reported plans for anti-US demonstrations in Nicosia.

We have reports that the organizers of a demonstration scheduled for April 12 to protest the US-Turkish agreement are planning violent attacks on the US embassy. The forced resignation of Greek Cypriot negotiator Clerides--the principal leader of the forces for moderation--has helped loosen the restraints on more radical elements and may have weakened the resolve of security forces to control anti-US protesters. Representatives of various right-wing and extreme leftist groups have reportedly agreed to cooperate in demonstrations against the embassy. 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1 25X1 25X1

the impression from talks with the commander of the Cypriot National Guard that his troops will assist the police if necessary.

Ultimately the protection of the embassy depends on Archbishop Makarios. His government has shown itself capable of controlling demonstrations when it has had the will to do so. This time it may suit him to encourage the demonstrators in order to keep the issue in the international limelight, and the demonstration could get out of control.

Compounding the problem is a reported plot by rightist extremists to assassinate Ambassador Crawford as well as prominent Cypriot political officials. Such an attempt would intensify factional strife and possibly lead to violence within the Greek Cypriot community. It would also present difficult political complications for Greek politicians in Athens.

The growth of extremism implied by these plans, plus the fact of Clerides' resignation, bodes ill for efforts at a Cyprus settlement. Should the demonstrations get out of hand and lead to violence, additional complications would be introduced in an already difficult situation. 25X1

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25X1 25X1

USSR-Somalia: Policy differences between the USSR and Somalia over the French Territory of the Afars and Issas are continuing. *(Page 3)*

Notes: USSR; West Germany; Panama-Venezuela-Cuba *(Pages 4 and 5)*

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25X1

LEBANON: [redacted]

[redacted]

The Syrian move so far has worked to stall rather than speed political progress in Beirut.

Early this morning, [redacted] a large convoy of transporters loaded with armored personnel carriers moving along the Damascus-Beirut road. The convoy included a few tanks and miscellaneous vehicles carrying ammunition, water, and fuel. 25X1 25X1

[redacted] these forces are from the Syrian 3rd Armored Division, normally stationed just north of Damascus. 25X1 25X1

[redacted]

If a sizable portion of the Syrian 3rd Armored Division has in fact entered Lebanon, Israeli forces are virtually certain to go on high alert, reinforce the northern border area, and mobilize some reserves.

The Israelis may consider the presence of Syrian troops near Rashayya, and the size and composition of the Syrian force generally, to be a threat to their security. Tel Aviv's reaction will depend largely on how big the force is revealed to be today, how much armor it possesses, and whether it moves still farther south.

The Israelis may conclude that they must make limited incursions of their own into far southeastern Lebanon to take up good defensive positions.

We believe the Israelis are not likely--on the basis of the extent

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of Syrian intervention identified thus far--to resort immediately to more drastic measures such as the occupation of southern Lebanon or a preemptive strike on the Golan front.

* * *

Leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt, who earlier this week had offered cautious approval of Damascus' efforts, last night condemned Syria for "resorting to escalation at a time of truce without any justification."

Jumblatt has not indicated that he will boycott the meeting of parliament today, but he almost certainly will be in no mood to compromise with Damascus on the question of who should replace President Franjiyah.

25X1

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25X1

SOUTH AFRICA - ANGOLA:

25X1

25X1

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* * *

USSR-SOMALIA: *Policy differences between the USSR and Somalia over the French Territory of the Afars and Issas are continuing.*

In recent conversations with US embassy officials in Mogadiscio, Soviet Ambassador Samsonov said the Soviets favor self-determination for the territory and oppose any outside interference, including that of Somalia, in FTAI affairs.

The Soviets reportedly have cautioned Mogadiscio to limit its activities in the territory to insurgency and political subversion. In return for Somalia's restraint, Moscow has promised to work behind the scenes with Addis Ababa and Paris to try to fashion a political settlement that would satisfy both Somali and Ethiopian interests in the territory.

Somali President Siad apparently used his recent month-long visit to Moscow to try to drum up Soviet diplomatic and military support for a more aggressive Somali policy. The absence of a joint communique at the close of his visit suggests that he received considerably less than he had hoped for. According to one unconfirmed report, the Soviets tried to put pressure on Siad to seek an accommodation with the French on the future of the FTAI, but the Somali leader flatly refused.

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NOTES

The rate of Soviet *Jewish emigration for the first three months of 1976 is approximately 18 percent ahead of that for the same period last year.*

Through March, 3,641 Soviet Jews were granted permission to go to Israel. In contrast to the first quarter of 1975, in which successive monthly totals declined, the trend this year has been one of rising figures.

This year's rise in emigration does not necessarily indicate a shift in Soviet policy; similar brief upswings have occurred in the recent past. In this instance, Soviet authorities may have opened the emigration tap a bit to reduce chances of embarrassing incidents during the 25th Party Congress.

* * *

The West German *cabinet has decided to go ahead with production of the multirole combat aircraft.*

West Germany is the last of the three participating countries to give the go-ahead to the aircraft. The UK announced its favorable decision in late March. Although there has been no formal announcement from Rome, Bonn is already paying the relatively small Italian share of the program's development costs, and the German decision may speak for the Italians.

A successful debut by the aircraft in 1979 could be an important stimulus to the growth of collaborative weapons projects and to the principle of West European common procurement and standardization. Co-production is viewed as the only way for European companies to remain competitive with the US in advanced weapons development and sales in the 1980s.

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25X1 25X1 25X1

Panama

Vene-
zuela

Cuba

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25X1

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Algeria - Morocco - Western Sahara: Satellite photography shows that Algeria is continuing to strengthen its forces and defensive positions in the tri-border area. *(Page 2)*

Notes: Israel; Portugal *(Page 4)*

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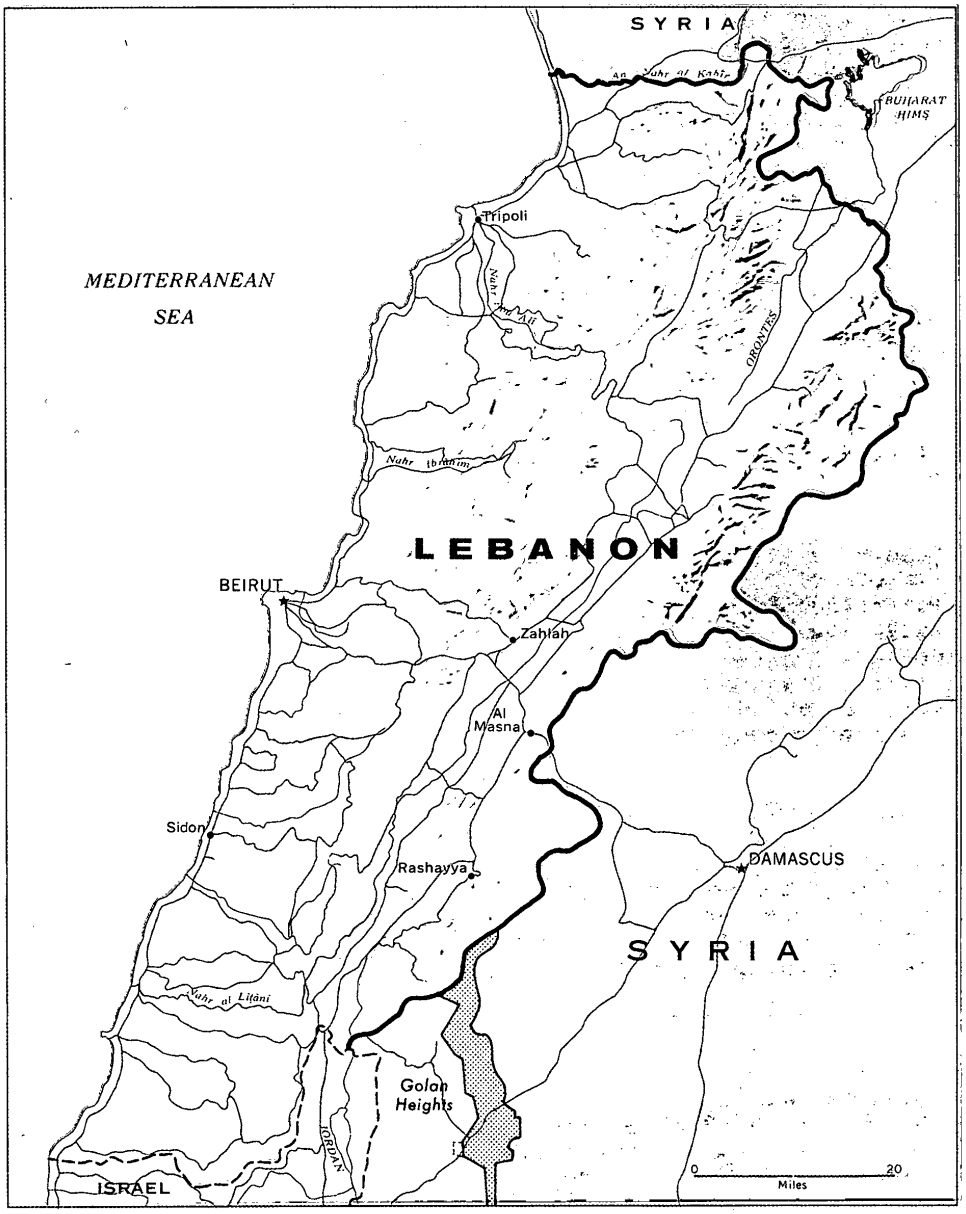

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LEBANON: *Kamal Jumblatt announced last night that the leftists have agreed to extend the truce until April 30.*

The decision partly reflects satisfaction with parliament's approval on Saturday of an amendment to the constitution permitting immediate election of a new president. It also suggests that the leftists have been intimidated by the movement of Syrian regular forces into eastern Lebanon.

Jumblatt has called for an election within ten days, but first President Franjiyah must sign the amendment. At present, Franjiyah is believed willing to do so and to resign quickly, but if the cease-fire breaks down this could change.

Syrian President Asad almost certainly will maintain the military pressure on the Lebanese leftists, although he may slow the movement of Syrian troops into the country. This would minimize domestic and foreign criticism of his Lebanon policy and help avoid an Israeli military countermove. 25X1

A Syrian cabinet minister last week publicly warned Asad against being drawn deeper into the Lebanese conflict, charging that Syria's enemies--meaning Egypt as well as Israel--hope to wear down Syrian forces. 25X1

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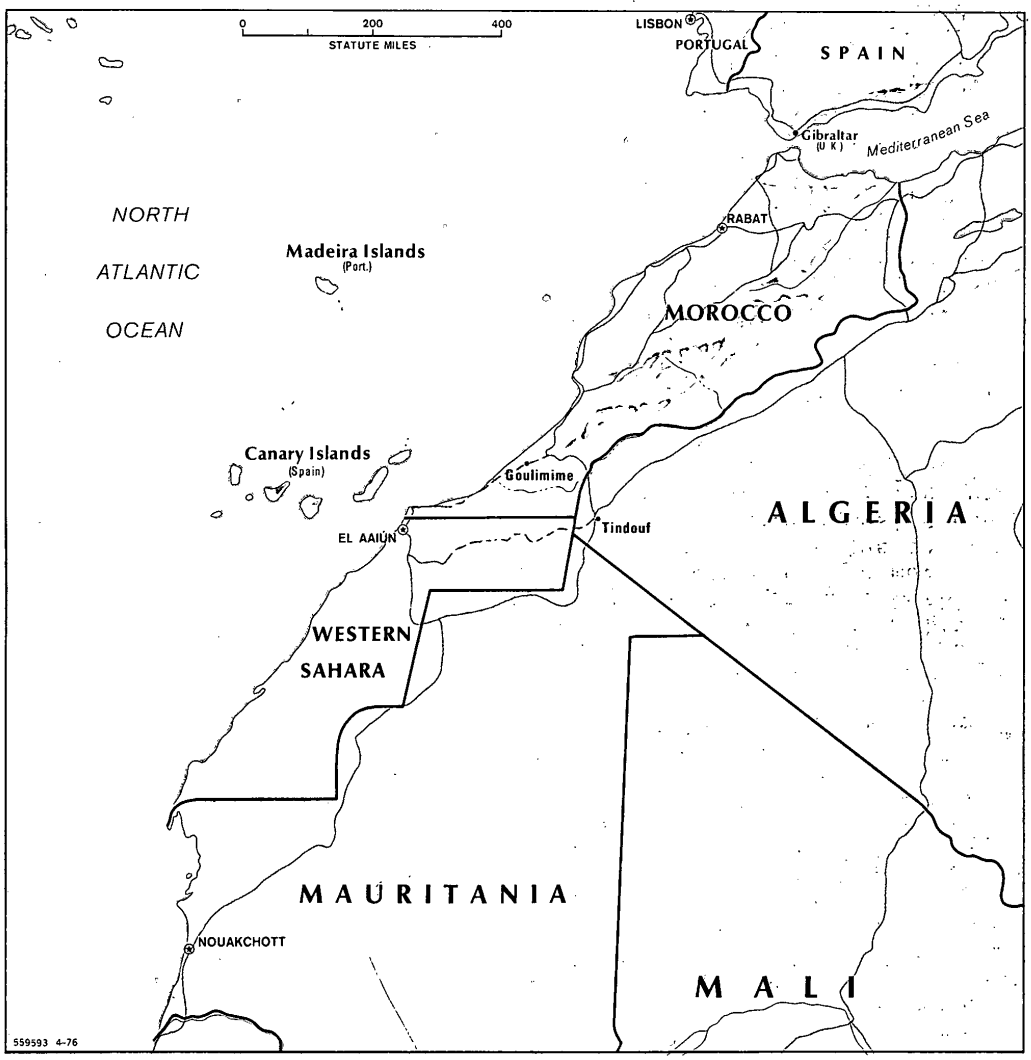

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[redacted] 25X1

Approximately 5,000 to 6,000 Syrian troops are now in the border area. They have been drawn largely from the 3rd Armored Division. A large portion of the force is deployed along a 15-mile stretch of road from Al Masna to the junction a few miles south of Zahlah. A command post has been established east of Al Masna, just inside the Syrian border. 25X1

We have detected no significant Israeli military reaction to the Syrian troop movements. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] Israeli aircraft flew reconnaissance missions over northern and southern Lebanon during the weekend. 25X1

* * *

ALGERIA - MOROCCO - WESTERN SAHARA: *Satellite photography of late February and early March shows that Algeria is continuing to strengthen its forces and defensive positions in the tri-border area.*

Major elements of two armored battalions, one mechanized, and up to four motorized infantry battalions, plus several supporting artillery units, are deployed in defensive strongpoints west of Tindouf. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

Algiers also is increasing its air strength in the area. Six MIG-21 fighters were seen on a highway

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strip northeast of Tindouf, the first time such aircraft have been located there. Sixteen new aircraft revetments were observed nearby, suggesting that the Algerians intend to build at least an auxiliary landing strip. Seventeen MIG-15s or MIG-17s were at Tindouf airfield, about double the number previously located there.

Rabat, for its part, has completed a new natural-surface runway at Goulimime airfield, some 100 miles west of the Algerian border.

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NOTES

Candidates sympathetic to the Palestine Liberation Organization are likely to attract substantial votes in the Israeli *West Bank municipal council elections today, although the traditional clan political machines appear to be strong enough to re-elect many of the conservative incumbents who are running.*

The balloting will probably take place without incident. The Israelis are expected to impose tight security measures, and all but the most radical fedayeen groups favor holding the elections. Prospects for the Palestinian nationalists appear best in the West Bank's two largest towns, Hebron and Nabulus, where the conservative incumbent mayors are not running.

Councils name one of their members, usually the highest vote-getter, as mayor. Israeli occupation authorities can veto these selections, however, and appoint mayors they prefer. The Israelis may install traditionalist, pro-Jordanian officials if pro-PLO council members are chosen. Such measures could spark renewed demonstrations or outbursts of violence similar to those that occurred there in recent weeks.

* * *

Portugal's *recent success in securing several sizable loans in Western Europe should strengthen the position of the democratic parties, particularly the Socialists, in the legislative elections on April 25.*

The European Free Trade Association last week agreed to provide approximately $100 million in industrial development loans to Portugal. The European Investment Bank also has approved loans of about $42 million for electric power development projects and $18 million for small- and medium-sized businesses. These two loans follow an earlier decision by the EC foreign ministers to lend Lisbon an additional $230 million from the European Investment Bank.

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Lebanon: Syria has moved no additional troops to the Lebanese border area since the weekend. *(Page 1)*

China: The country-wide rallies held since April 8 to mark the dismissal of Teng Hsiao-ping and the appointment of Hua Kuo-feng as premier and first vice chairman of the party have been well organized and orderly. *(Page 2)*

USSR [redacted] 25X1

Notes: Cyprus; USSR; Zambia-Angola *(Pages 5 and 6)*

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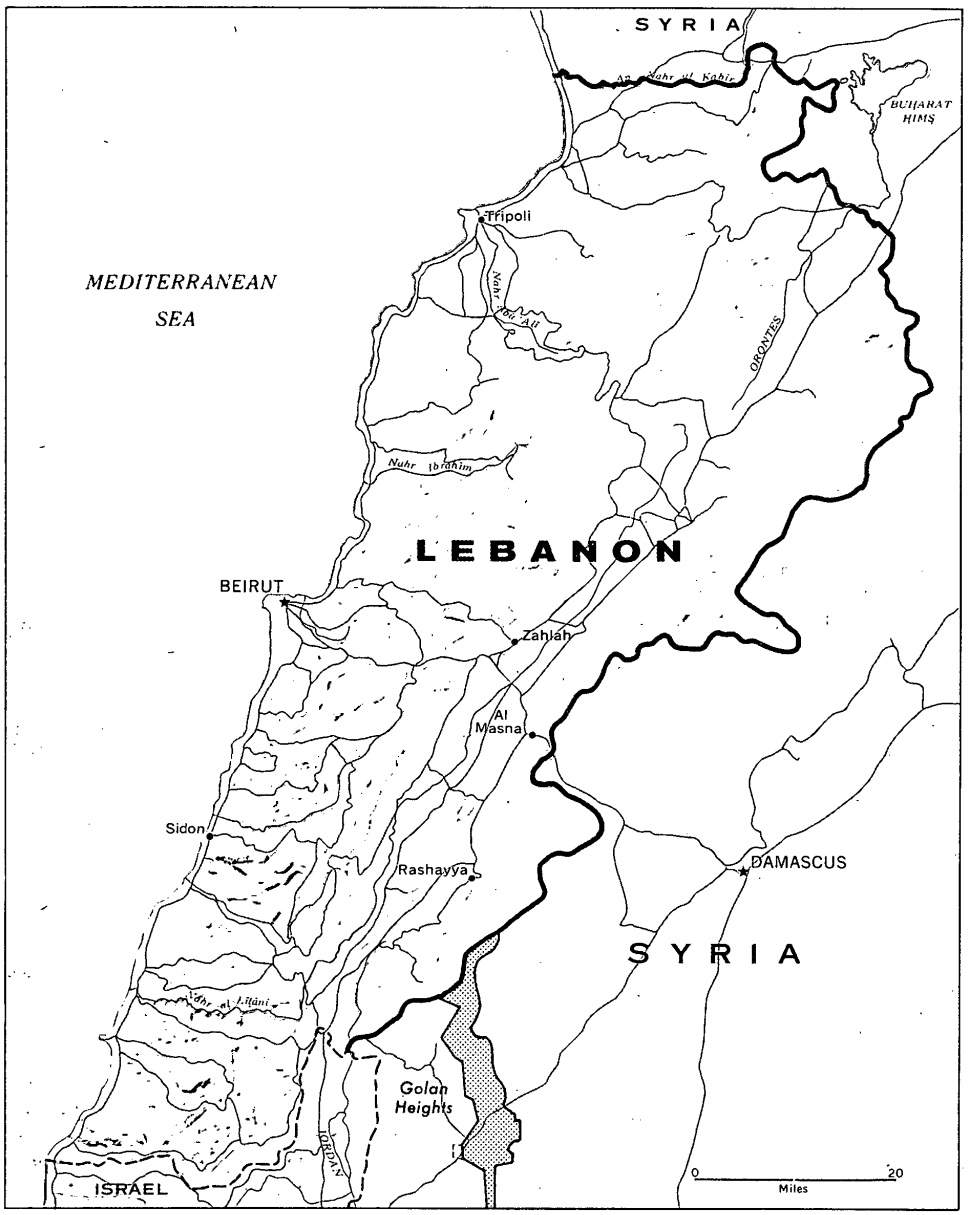

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LEBANON: *Syria has moved no additional troops to the Lebanese border area since the weekend.*

The major elements of three Syrian brigades are still along the border and remain in control of the Damascus-Beirut highway between the border and the road junction a few miles south of Zahlah. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

Israeli leaders are still avoiding public comment on the situation in Lebanon. The Israeli press has generally followed the government's lead and avoided dramatizing Syria's actions. Many commentators, however, are expressing misgivings about the government's restraint.

Some fighting occurred yesterday in the Beirut hotel district and several areas in the suburbs and the mountainous areas east of the city. Although the clashes have subsided, a wave of kidnapings has kept tensions high. Other areas of the country are relatively quiet.

Officials close to President Franjiyah have told the US embassy that Franjiyah will sign the amendment to the constitution providing for his departure bef 25X1 this Thursday. There has been no breakthrough, however, in the debate over Franjiyah's successor.

[redacted] 25X1

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The Soviet navy, meanwhile, continues to maintain a close watch on the US naval task force anchored southeast of Crete. The Soviets have four surface warships, some support ships, and probably several submarines in the area of the 11-ship US force, which includes the aircraft carrier Saratoga.

* * *

CHINA: *The rallies throughout the country since April 8 to mark the dismissal of Teng Hsiao-ping and the appointment of Hua Kuo-feng as premier and as first vice chairman of the party have been well organized and orderly. They seem to be designed to contrast with the unruly demonstrations of April 5 and to convey an impression of popular support for the new personnel decisions.*

Participants in the rallies included several provincial officials who had not previously lent their public support to the campaign against Teng as well as some others who had been under attack. While it is likely that most of these provincial leaders are now anxious to disassociate themselves from Teng, the prominent role they have taken at the rallies suggests they are not under serious political pressure and that the campaign against Teng will not spread to other political moderates.

Most of China's powerful regional military commanders took part in the rallies. There have been virtually no military rallies of this sort since the Lin Piao "coup" of 1971. The sudden emergence of the military in a political connection suggests that prominent military figures may have played an important role in piecing together last week's apparent compromises. It is possible that political pressure against the military may now ease.

In contrast to the public appearance of several moderate leaders, China's leading leftists have not

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appeared since the announcement on Hua and Teng. Their absence is conspicuous and further suggests that the party's left wing is not entirely satisfied with the outcome of the anti-Teng campaign.

The dismissal of Teng is probably no more popular in the provinces than was the campaign against him. The Chinese populace undoubtedly has been unsettled by the sudden leadership changes. Some Chinese officials abroad have reacted to the situation with uncertainty and concern.

Hua Kuo-feng's ability to head a leadership coalition effectively remains a question mark. Hua does not appear to have a power base of his own. As a relative newcomer to the highest levels of the regime, he lacks the experience and the ties to important second-level figures that both Chou En-lai and Teng Hsiao-ping possessed. Although Hua's political roots are in Hunan, Mao's home province, there is no evidence that he is personally particularly close to the Chairman.

The leadership clearly needs a mediator like Chou En-lai, but it is far from certain that Hua can function effectively in that capacity. Others in the leadership, notably leftist Politburo members Chang Chun-chiao and Wang Hung-wen, may have had their eye on one or the other of Hua's new jobs and may harbor some resentment toward him. Hua probably can count on the cooperation of moderates in the leadership for implementation of policies, but he will have to tread a careful path between pursuing relatively moderate policies and giving sufficient weight to the left's interest in political struggle.

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USSR:

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NOTES

CYPRIOT police prevented anti-American demonstrators in Nicosia yesterday from penetrating US embassy grounds.

Some of the 1,000 demonstrators managed to get through two of three police lines, but they were eventually forced back by tear gas. A five-man delegation was subsequently allowed to deliver a letter to the embassy protesting the new US-Turkish Defense Cooperation Agreement and its alleged consequences for Cyprus.

Knowledge that Greek Foreign Minister Bitsios is visiting Washington to discuss additional military assistance for Greece could bring cancellation of other demonstrations scheduled over the next few weeks. Athens fully supported the firm handling of yesterday's demonstration.

* * *

Two of the USSR's most prominent Jewish activists have told US embassy officials in Moscow of the "shock and concern" felt by Soviet Jews over the demonstrations and violence directed by Jewish extremists at the Soviet UN mission in New York.

Both men said they have tried to pass on through their contacts with Western newsmen in Moscow the "revulsion" that Soviet Jews feel at this kind of activity, believing it to be wholly counterproductive to their cause. They agreed that the events in New York could result in more official intransigence than ever toward all would-be Jewish emigrants, as well as such activists as themselves who have been repeatedly denied exit permits.

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Zambia

Angola

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Syria-USSR: [redacted]

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LEBANON: *Syria*

25X1

In a speech on Monday Asad, in effect, warned the Lebanese leftists, the Palestinians, and the Israelis that he will enlarge Syrian intervention if necessary to prevent resumption of heavy fighting. 25X1

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SYRIA-USSR: [redacted]

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NOTES

France last week successfully launched what may have been its new S-3 intermediate-range ballistic missile.

Although there has been no confirmation that the missile involved was the new, silo-launched S-3, it is the most likely candidate for a new test series. Other French strategic missiles are either already operational or have been tested for some time.

25X1

* * *

Egyptian Vice President Mubarak is beginning a seven-day visit to China, presumably to discuss a military aid relationship.

Mubarak, formerly the Egyptian air force commander, 25X1 Egyptian officials have said publicly that China will provide spare parts for Egypt's industrial machinery.

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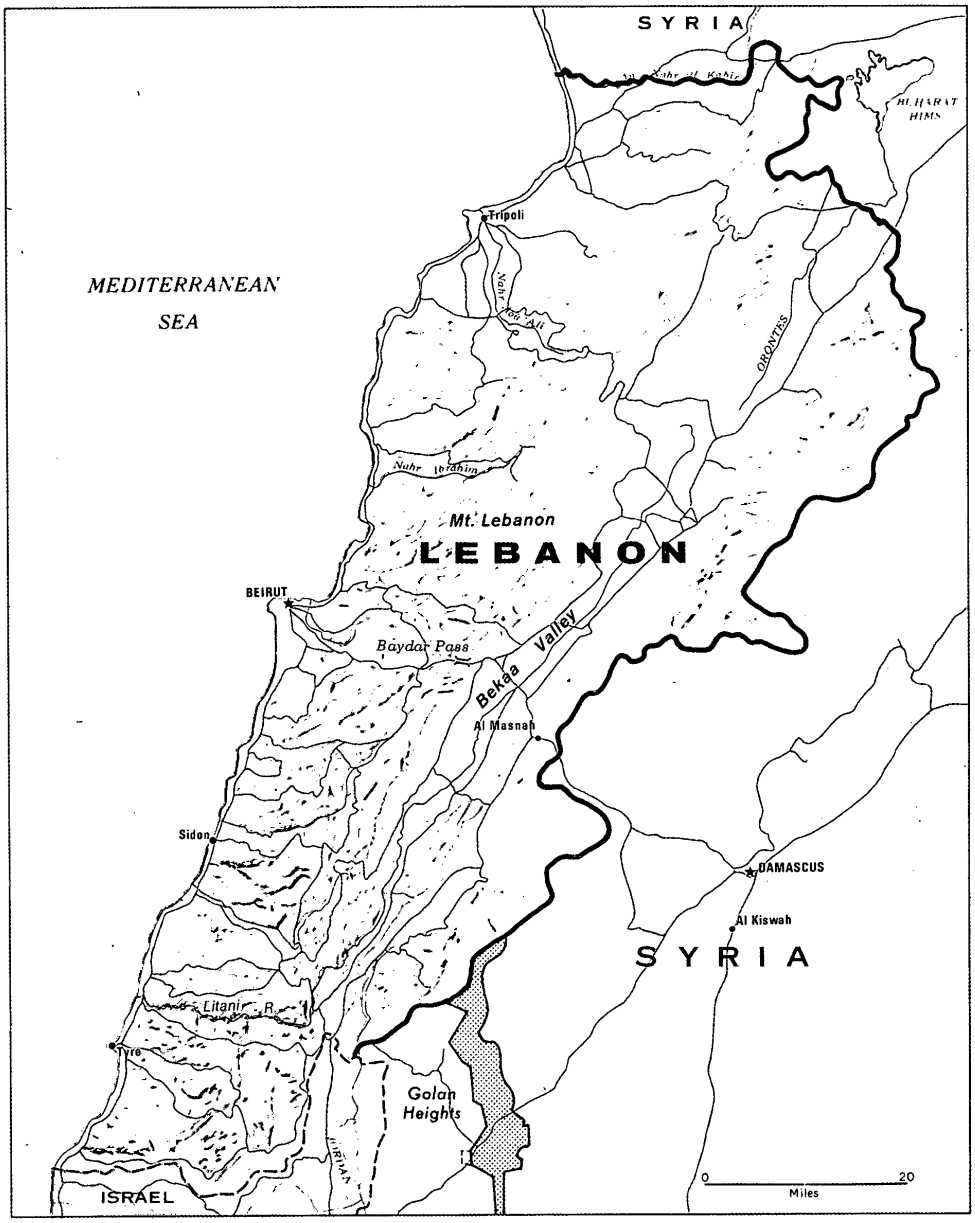

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LEBANON: 25X1

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Top Israeli leaders remain cautious in their public reactions to developments in Lebanon and their treatment of the possibility of Israeli military intervention. As Prime Minister Rabin did in his interview reported in this morning's Washington Post, they have all stressed that Israel will act only if it believes its security is directly threatened. 25X1

Defense Minister Peres has publicly cautioned that Israel must consider whether intervention would simply unite the Arabs and the warring factions in Lebanon into a common front against Israel.

The Israeli press is reflecting growing public concern about the implications of the Lebanese problem for Israel. An editorial in Israel's most prestigious daily asserts that events in Lebanon have weakened Israel's strategic position for the long run.

The Syrian troops that moved into the ports of Tyre and Sidon presumably are attempting to prevent

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Lebanese leftist forces from getting supplies from Arab states opposed to the Syrian role in Lebanon, and to limit anti-Syrian political demonstrations. 25X1

Anti-Syrian demonstrations have occurred in Sidon and the northern city of Tripoli. 25X1

Syria may be preparing to send more forces toward Lebanon. Yesterday, the US defense attache in Syria observed 40 to 50 tank transporters near a garrison of Syria's 1st Armored Division at Al Kiswah, about 10 miles south of Damascus. He believes any additional Syrian forces sent to Lebanon would come from this division.

* * *

25X1

USSR: *The Soviet navy apparently has met Egypt's deadline of today for evacuating the port of Alexandria. The last Soviet ship left the port last night.*

The Soviets apparently would have preferred more time in which to carry out the evacuation.

Moscow is trying to make alternative arrangements for supporting naval units in the Mediterranean. Some high-ranking Soviets probably were aboard a VIP-associated naval

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transport that flew into Damascus earlier this week. Presumably they went to Syria to discuss use of the port at Tartus. Several of the Soviet ships removed from Alexandria in the past few weeks have gone there.

25X1

Without additional port facilities, the Soviet navy is limited to increasing its use of international anchorages. A buoy tender--a ship that emplaces and services mooring buoys--has been shifted from the Black Sea into the Mediterranean. The Soviets already have mooring buoys at anchorages south of Cyprus and north of Tobruk, Libya.

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25X1

25X1 25X1

25X1

JORDAN:

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Lebanon: Fighting flared up again yesterday, largely as an extension of the intense political maneuvering for stronger bargaining positions. The Israelis, meanwhile, may be nearing the limits of their tolerance of Syrian military moves. *(Page 1)*

Western Sahara: Morocco and Mauritania have made another move to establish formal sovereignty over Western Sahara by announcing on Wednesday a final agreement to partition the disputed territory. *(Page 2)*

Notes: USSR [redacted]; USSR (food shortage) *(Page 4)*

25X1

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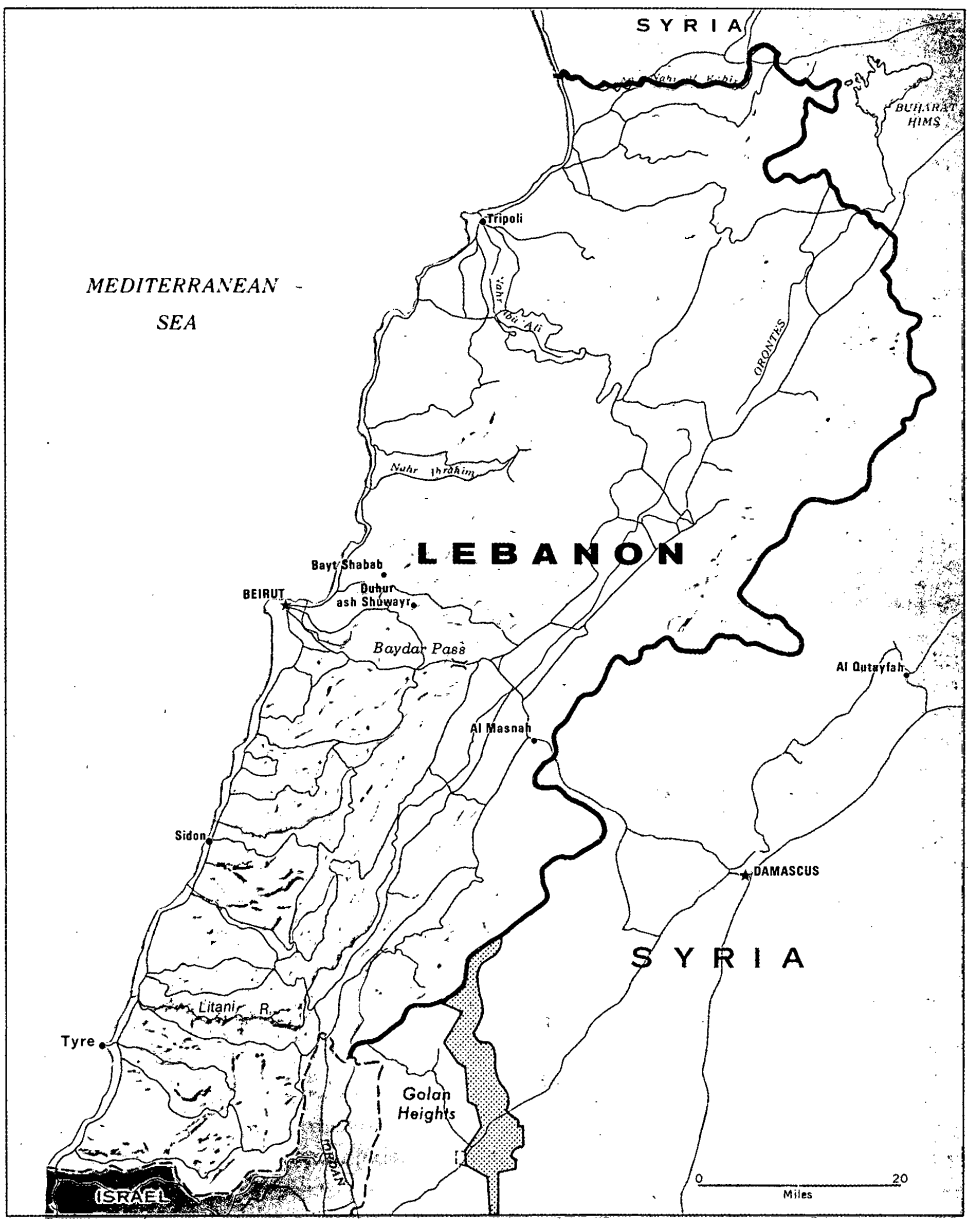

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LEBANON: *Fighting flared up in Lebanon yesterday as Christian militiamen seized two villages in the mountainous region east of Beirut. The Christian advances apparently triggered moves by leftist forces on Christian-held territory in the capital. None of the principal combatants has formally renounced the cease-fire, however, and so far the escalation of fighting has not prompted any new advances by Syrian forces or the introduction of additional troops.*

The Christians claim they seized the towns of Bayt Shabab and Duhur ash-Shuwayr because of persistent mortar shelling from the two villages. There may be some truth, however, in charges from leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt that the Christians are trying to provoke a leftist counterattack in order to draw Syrian regular forces in central Lebanon closer to Beirut.

Syrian troops based in Beirut apparently have not been involved in the fighting there, which appears to be concentrated in the areas adjacent to the large Christian section of Ashrafiyah. Some Syrian forces in Tripoli, however, appear to have clashed with local leftists and elements of the renegade Muslim army.

The sudden increase in fighting--although clearly a threat to the truce--is largely an extension of the intense political maneuvering. Both the Christians and the leftists want to improve their positions on the ground before the final round of bargaining over President Franjiyah's successor. Moreover, the controversy over Syrian intervention and the stability of the cease-fire are now key issues in the presidential contest.

Ilyas Sarkis, the preferred candidate of the Syrians and Maronite Christians, is believed to favor a major peace-keeping role for Syria, while Jumblatt's choice, Raymond Edde, totally rejects that idea. Despite Edde's and Jumblatt's strong objections, Muslim support for Syria's continued presence appears to be growing.

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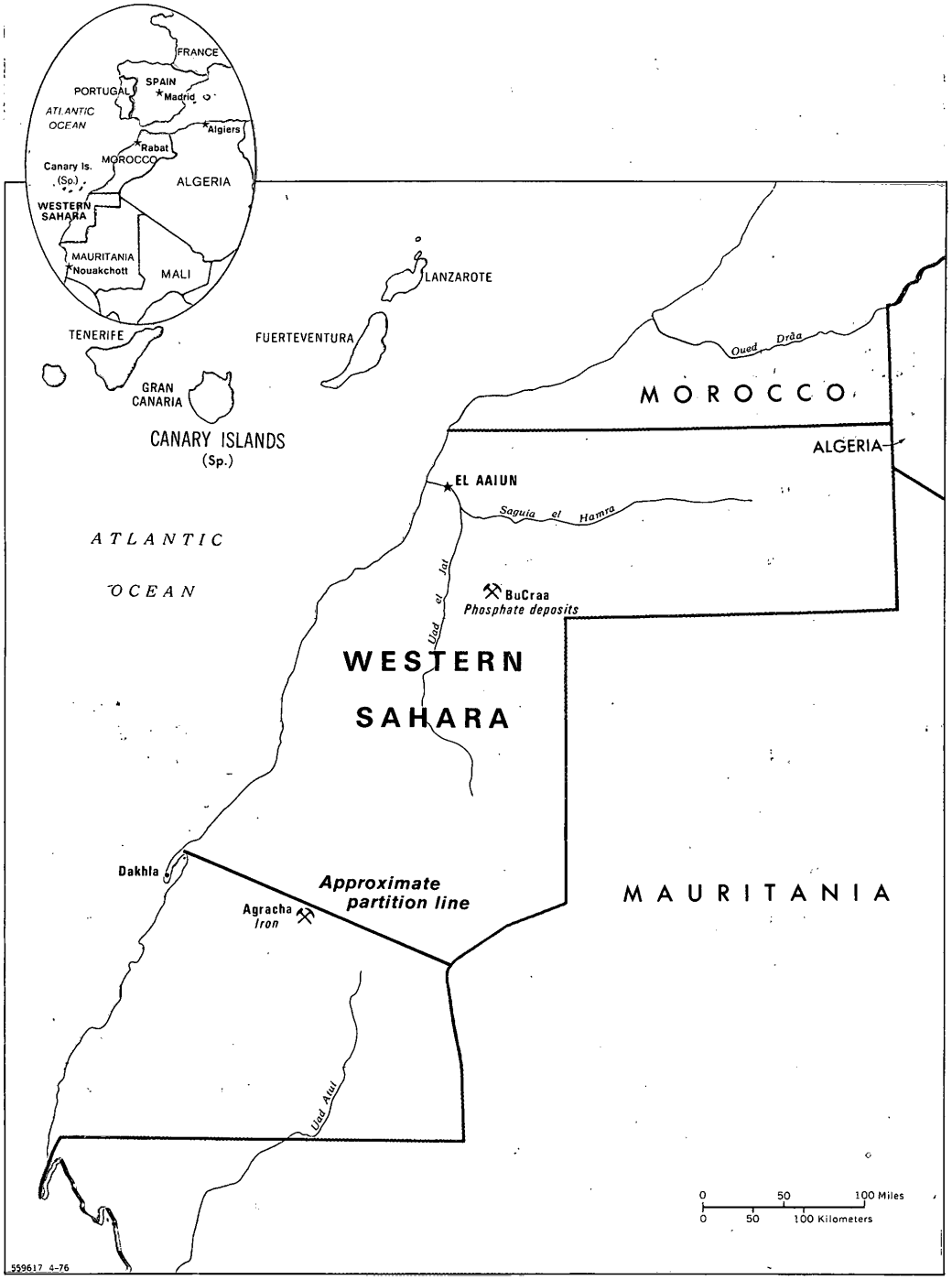

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[redacted]

25X1

The Israelis may [redacted] be nearing the limits of their tolerance of Syrian military moves in Lebanon. If the Syrians build up their forces in Sidon and especially Tyre, which is south of the Litani River, there is a strong possibility that the Israelis will initiate a limited intervention into southern Lebanon to signal the Syrians to confine their actions to a peace-keeping role. Israel would probably seek to avoid a direct military confrontation with any Syrian or other Arab forces already in the south.

25X1

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WESTERN SAHARA: *Morocco and Mauritania have made another move to establish formal sovereignty over Western Sahara by announcing on Wednesday a final agreement to partition the territory.*

The text of the agreement indicates Morocco will acquire the northern two thirds of the territory. Morocco thus will acquire the rich phosphate reserves at Bu Craa, while Mauritania will gain control of the lucrative fishing industry at Dakhla and the unexploited iron ore at Agracha.

Algeria is certain to condemn the partition as illegal. It still holds Spain accountable as Western

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Sahara's administering state and continues to support Polisario Front guerrillas seeking independence for the territory. The Algerians also hope to keep the UN involved in the dispute by exploiting a forthcoming report by a UN envoy who was not allowed to stop in Morocco and Mauritania because he met with Polisario Front representatives in Algeria.

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Last year's harvest failure in the USSR is causing localized food shortages.

Some severe shortages are occurring in rural areas, although supplies of most foods remain adequate in the central areas of major cities. A foreign observer 25X1 claimed he had "never seen the food situation so bad as now" in the Moscow suburbs. Some shortages will ease as the new crop becomes available. Moscow also might be able to bolster the low meat supplies by importing. Since the beginning of the year there have been rumors of contracts with New Zealand, Australia, and France.

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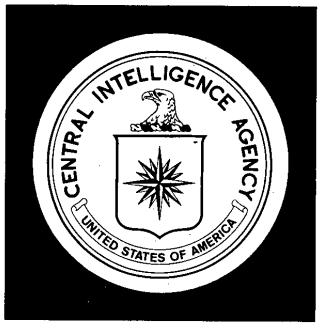

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Lebanon: Fatah chief Arafat returned from Damascus yesterday having made no apparent progress in bridging the impasse between Syria and Lebanese leftist leader Jumblatt over the issue of Syrian intervention. *(Page 1)* 25X1

Syria-Lebanon: [redacted] 25X1

USSR-Lebanon: The Soviet Union, although uncomfortable with Syria's role in Lebanon, apparently regards it as the best way out of the crisis. *(Page 3)*

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LEBANON: *Fatah chief Yasir Arafat, who has been trying to mediate the quarrel between Syria and Lebanese leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt over Syrian intervention, returned from Syria yesterday having made no apparent progress.*

Although there appears to be a serious impasse, Damascus may be more flexible on some issues than it is willing to admit publicly and may have given some ground during private talks with Arafat. The Syrian press says Damascus has agreed to revive the joint Lebanese-Syrian-Palestinian truce committee as Jumblatt wished, but only until a new president is elected. This qualification almost certainly reflects Syrian President Asad's hope that Lebanon's next president will ask Syrian troops to remain as a peace-keeping force. Jumblatt has been insisting the troops withdraw immediately.

Asad was able to get a public commitment from Arafat and his delegation of independent fedayeen officials that they support the current truce and favor a continuation of Syrian mediation. This endorsement of Syria's role from Arafat--who has been playing both sides of the dispute--puts Jumblatt on notice that he now stands alone in his defiance of Damascus. In any event, Jumblatt has little choice but to continue with the Palestinian mediation effort and reportedly is prepared to do so.

The urgings by the Syrians and Arafat that all parties respect the cease-fire have had no significant effect on the warring factions, although the fighting appears to have slackened in the north and in the mountains east of Beirut. There have been no signs of significant advances by Syrian troops in Lebanon nor evidence that additional forces have crossed the border.

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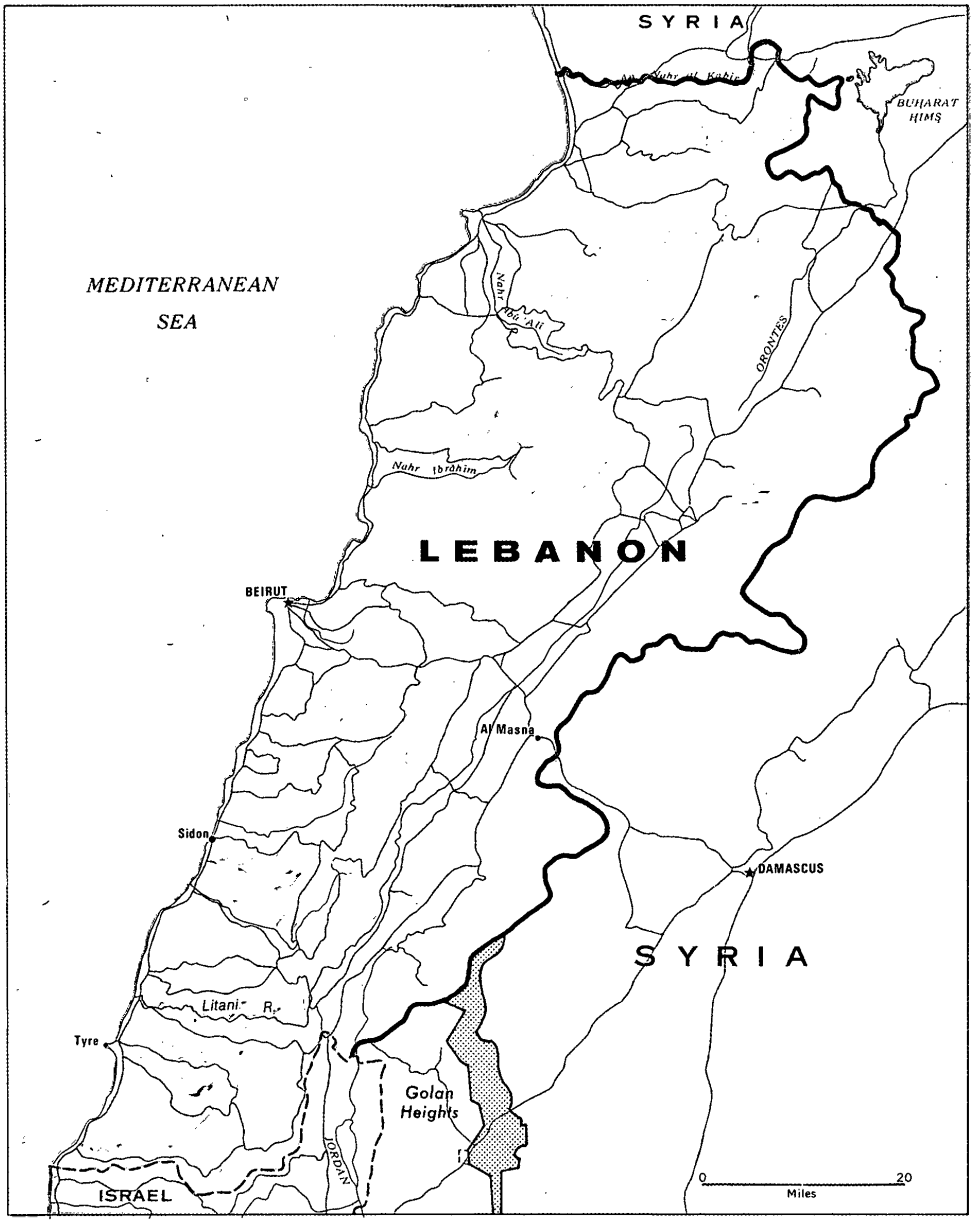

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The US assistant defense attaché in Tel Aviv reports that Israel has taken some military precautions in light of the Lebanese crisis, despite the military's generally relaxed posture for the Passover holidays.

The attaché believes that the Israelis have moved an additional armored battalion--about 36 tanks--to the Golan Heights, although he has not yet been able to verify the move. The battalion apparently is a regular unit, and not one that was recently mobilized. [redacted] 25X1 the Israeli armored corps has halted field training exercises and is now concentrating on getting its equipment in good working order.

25X1

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25X1 25X1

SYRIA-LEBANON: [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

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USSR-LEBANON: *The Soviet Union, although uncomfortable with Syria's role in Lebanon, apparently regards it as the best way out of the crisis. Moscow continues to endorse Syrian mediation efforts, but in increasingly lukewarm terms.*

Two Soviet scholar-journalists who tend to be quasi-official troubleshooters arrived in Beirut late this week; they have been meeting with Lebanese politicians, presumably to see whether there is any opening for Soviet moves. The Soviets have been asked by Lebanese leftist leader Jumblatt and Fatah chief Arafat to press Syria to end its intervention in Lebanon.

A Soviet official has commented on the disarray in fedayeen ranks caused by Syrian actions. The USSR is concerned that if Syria comes to dominate Lebanon, Arafat's leadership position could be challenged by a pro-Syrian faction. Moscow has its problems with Arafat, but thinks his leadership of an independent Palestinian movement best serves long-term Soviet interests.

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Moscow also fears the results of tacit US-Syrian cooperation over Lebanon. Some Soviet officials have speculated that the US has "accepted" Syria's actions in Lebanon in return for a promise by Syrian President Asad to negotiate on the Golan Heights.

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Lebanon: Leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt and Phalanges chief Pierre Jumayyil have approved the Syrian-Palestinian agreement on Lebanon announced late last week. *(Page 1)*

China: The reappearance of Yeh Chien-ying is a further indication that moderates as a group have come through the anti-Teng campaign relatively unscathed. *(Page 2)*

Notes: Angola-USSR; Rhodesia *(Page 3)*

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LEBANON: *Lebanese leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt and Phalanges Party chief Pierre Jumayyil over the weekend gave their general approval to the Syrian-Palestinian agreement on Lebanon announced late last week.*

Jumblatt is supporting the basically pro-Syria accord primarily because he has no realistic alternative. The large fedayeen groups that provide the bulk of his arms and fighting men are--for the moment, at least--cooperating with Damascus.

The Lebanese leftists and Palestinians apparently did elicit some concessions from Syria, probably including an agreement to withdraw some Syrian forces from Lebanon and ease the blockade of supplies to the left.

We have no evidence to confirm press reports that significant numbers of Syrian forces have withdrawn from Lebanon. We doubt that Damascus will withdraw large numbers of troops until significant political progress has been made in Beirut.

Important Christian leaders are taking special care to make as few concessions as possible until agreement has been reached on a successor to President Franjiyah. Franjiyah yesterday still had not delivered to the speaker of parliament a signed copy of the constitutional amendment that would permit a new presidential election. He must do this before an election can be held.

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CHINA: *Yeh Chien-ying, a leading moderate and the only major figure who had not made a public appearance since the ouster of Teng Hsiao-ping, attended a diplomatic reception in Peking on Saturday. His reappearance is a further indication that moderates as a group have come through the anti-Teng campaign relatively unscathed.*

Yeh left his post as defense minister in protest last January when Teng Hsiao-ping was not named premier. A document issued by Peking claimed that Yeh was "ill" and that his duties were being performed by the Peking Military Region commander. 25X1

25X1

Defense ministry spokesmen, however, have repeatedly denied any changes in the leadership of the ministry--suggesting that the portfolio was held for Yeh during his period of protest.

Yeh reportedly has spent the last few months in south China. It seems unlikely that he would have returned to Peking if he had actually lost his job as defense minister.

Reports of Yeh's attendance at the reception did not identify him as minister of defense. Although this failure to identify him by that title is not unusual, it could mean that the job is still subject to bargaining.

Yeh's return to public view makes the non-appearance of party leftists--the leaders in the anti-Teng campaign--all the more conspicuous. None has appeared since the demonstrations on April 5.

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NOTES

Angolan *President Agostinho Neto may visit the* Soviet Union *later this month.*

If the visit materializes, Neto will probably ask for continued Soviet military assistance. He is unlikely, however, to give Moscow an opportunity to establish a major military presence in Angola. 25X1

25X1

Luanda shows signs of wanting to follow a non-aligned foreign policy. 25X1

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Rhodesia

25X1

25X1

25X1

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Lebanon: Top Christian leaders fear that Syria may have made unacceptable concessions to the Palestinians and the Lebanese left in negotiating the recent agreement. *(Page 1)*

Notes: Thailand; Turkey-Greece; India-Pakistan *(Pages 3 and 4)*

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LEBANON: *Top Christian leaders made clear yesterday that they are unhappy over their exclusion from the negotiations leading to the recent agreement between Syria and the Palestinians. They fear that Syria may have made unacceptable concessions to the Palestinians and the Lebanese left.*

The Christians reportedly have strong reservations about the provision in the accord that rejects participation by Western powers in any renewed mediation. They probably also are worried about Syria's alleged agreement to begin withdrawing its troops from Lebanon. Their deepest suspicions are almost certainly aroused by the possibility that Arafat and the Syrians reached an understanding on the contentious issue of the status of the fedayeen in Lebanon. 25X1

25X1

Phalanges Party leader Jumayyil seems prepared to abide by the cease-fire, at least temporarily, and to explore further the implications of the Syrian-Palestinian agreement. Phalanges representatives attended the meeting of the joint truce commission yesterday, and Phalanges militiamen have been ordered to honor the new truce, which went into effect yesterday. Interior Minister Shamun's representatives, however, continue to boycott the commission.

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There are still no indications that Syria has withdrawn any of its military forces from Lebanon, despite press reports of a pull-back.

The US defense attache in Damascus noted little change in the disposition of Syrian troops yesterday morning when he visited the border near the Syrian command post opposite Al Masna.

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Thailand

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Turkish

Greek

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India

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Pakistan

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Notes: Maldives-USSR; Senegal-Angola (Page 3)

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LEBANON:

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CHINA: *Chinese concern over possible domestic political disruption and Soviet military intentions following the ouster of Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping*

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

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nese leadership fears that the riot of April 5 and the previous pro-Chou En-lai demonstrations reflect deep-seated popular approval of Teng's measures to consolidate and regularize the country's politics and economy.

Peking has shown similar signs of nervousness only twice since the conclusion of the Cultural Revolution: at the time former president Nixon's first visit to China was announced and at the height of the Lin Piao crisis.

The Chinese leadership is concerned that Moscow may attempt to exploit or take advantage of the recent signs of disarray and dissension in Peking. The participation of the army in the rallies conveys the message to Moscow that the military is in agreement with political developments in Peking.

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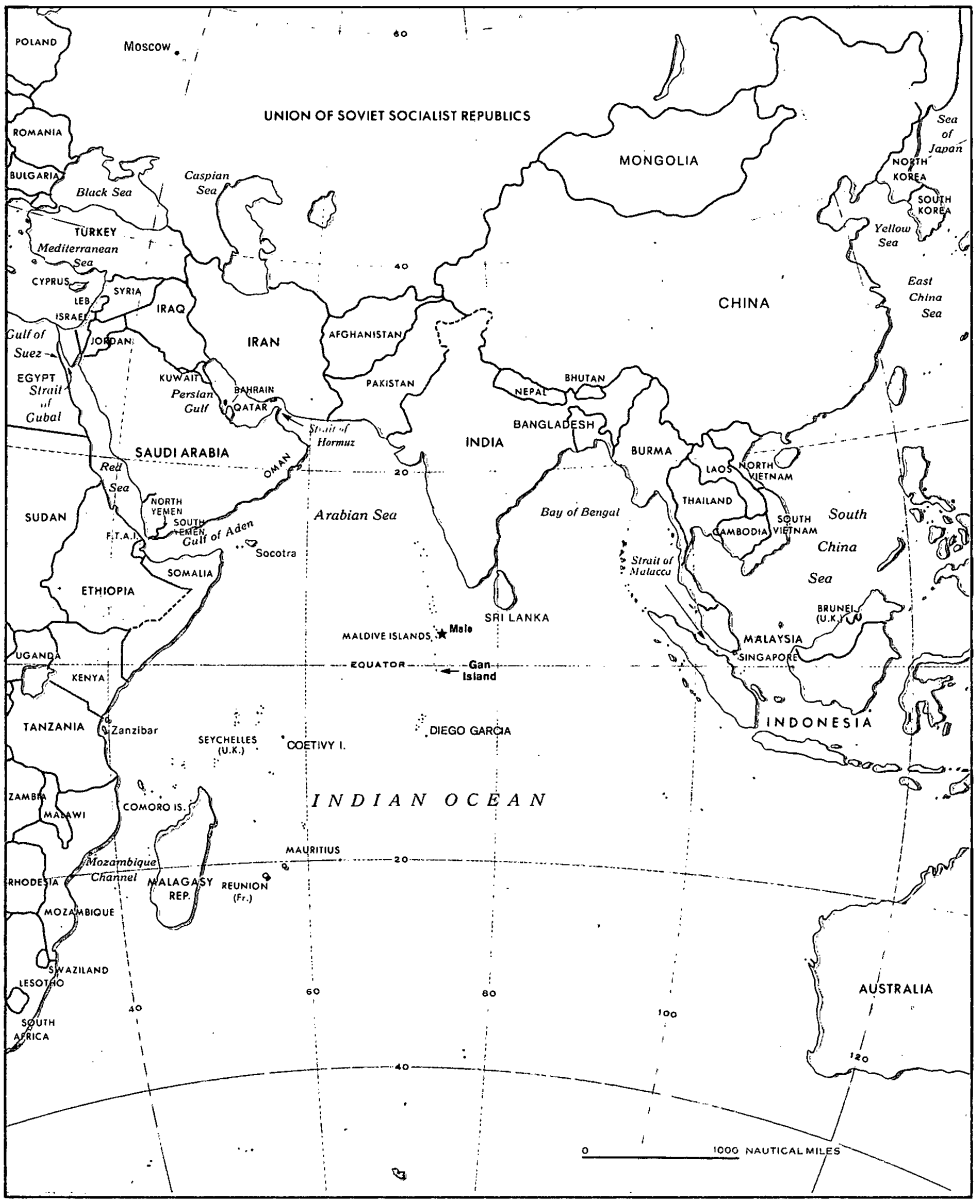

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NOTES

Officials in the Maldives *have told US Ambassador Van Hollen that the* Soviet Union *has expressed an interest in the former RAF facility on Gan Island.*

Maldivian officials now claim that an agreement giving London a veto over prospective third-country lessees until 1986 is void. They make this claim in view of what they regard as Britain's failure to provide adequately for Maldivian workers at the former base.

The US ambassador believes that if no other satisfactory alternative appears, the Maldives may try to lease the facility to any one of several governments, including the USSR, that have shown interest in the base.

* * *

Senegalese *President Senghor has reportedly invited National Union leader Jonas Savimbi--now at guerrilla headquarters in eastern Angola--to Dakar to discuss the possibility of a meeting with* Angolan *President Agostinho Neto.*

25X1

Luanda regime had approached the Senegalese to arrange such a meeting. Neto's reported approach through Senghor may be less a bona fide overture to the National Union than an attempt to impress the Senegalese government that he sincerely desires reconciliation with his former rival.

Senegal, the Central African Republic, and Kenya are the only African governments still refusing to recognize Neto's regime.

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Lebanon: [redacted] 25X1

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Portugal: Voters go to the polls on Sunday to select their first freely elected parliament in half a century. *(Page 2)*

Iraq-Syria: Iraq cut off oil to Syria on April 9, forcing Damascus to seek crude elsewhere. *(Page 4)*

Notes: USSR; Thailand; Angola *(Page 6)*

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LEBANON:

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PORTUGAL: *Portuguese voters go to the polls on Sunday--the second anniversary of the overthrow of the Caetano regime--to select their first freely elected parliament in half a century.*

The pronounced shift away from the left since last summer augers well for the center and center-right parties. The fact that a democratic election is being held at all is due in large measure to the persistent opposition of Mario Soares and other Socialist leaders to former prime minister Vasco Goncalves and his Communist supporters. The irony is that the conservative backlash, which the Socialists by their criticism of the Communists helped to trigger, will cut into the Socialists' own vote totals.

Opinion polls indicate that the Socialists will receive 30 to 35 percent of the vote, the Popular Democrats 28 to 35 percent, the Social Democratic Center 18 to 25 percent, and the Communists 8 to 12 percent.

Should the Socialists win anywhere near the 40 percent they are seeking, they probably will try to form a government with support from independents.

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The most likely outcome of the election is a coalition government comprising the Socialists and one or both parties to their right, although the Socialists have disavowed any interest in combining with either the right or the Communists.

Even though the Popular Democrats and the Social Democratic Center could win a majority of the assembly seats, a two-party center-right coalition with no labor credentials would lack stability.

If the effort to form a workable coalition is prolonged, calls for a national unity government that would include the Communists are likely to be heard. The vital importance of labor peace also may be advanced as an argument for Communist participation.

Whatever the outcome of the assembly election, the new president--who will be elected in late June--will play an important role in forming the government. The present head of state, Costa Gomes, Prime Minister Azevedo, and Army Chief of Staff General Eanes, appear to be fading from contention.

Northern military region commander Pires Veloso has emerged as the military front-runner. Recent statements by the general indicate that as president he would adopt a hard line against leftist manipulation of the labor sector.

The two-month interregnum between elections could see various attempts to disrupt the relative stability Portugal has enjoyed since November. A poor showing by the Communists, coupled with their probable exclusion from the government, could prompt them to take

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some rash action, including an attempt, in collusion with leftist military officers, to have the election results suspended.

* * *

IRAQ-SYRIA: *Iraq cut off oil to Syria on April 9, forcing Damascus to seek crude elsewhere.*

The transit pipeline agreement under which Syria had been buying 50,000 barrels per day of Iraqi crude expired last December. Differences over the price of Iraqi oil and Syrian transit fees have prevented the two governments from concluding a new agreement.

Syria depends exclusively on Iraq for light crude and will also lose transit fee earnings which provided significant foreign exchange. Damascus could meet its refining requirements by purchasing light crude from other suppliers at world market prices--which are considerably higher than the price paid Iraq under the former agreement.

The Iraqi decision to cut off the oil flow may have followed Syrian efforts to take more oil from the pipeline than allowed under the old agreement. The move may also have been timed to obstruct Syria's most recent efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis. The Iraqis have supplied [redacted] fedayeen radicals in an effort to undercut Syrian mediation efforts in Lebanon and have been vocal in their criticism of recent Damascus policies. 25X1

The two rival Baathist governments have been bickering more or less openly since last spring when Damascus cut off water to Iraq from the Euphrates River for allegedly meddling in Syria's internal affairs. If Syria wanted to exert

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pressure on Iraq to resume oil shipments, withholding water would be the most obvious and effective way of doing so. There is no indication so far that Damascus has taken that action.

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NOTES

The Soviets apparently are preparing to orbit a military version of the Salyut space station, probably within the next two months.

A major goal of the Soviet manned space program is to develop and use long-term military space stations. They probably will man the space station for at least one 90-day period. This would break the manned space station record of 84 days established by the US with Skylab 3 in 1974. The Soviets conducted a successful 91-day unmanned qualification flight with Soyuz 20 and Salyut 4 between November 17, 1975, and February 16, 1976.

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The formation of the new Thai government is proceeding on schedule with yesterday's royal decree appointing the new cabinet under Prime Minister Seni.

* * *

Small groups of armed National Front personnel are still active in northeastern Angola.

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Zairian President Mobutu allows the Front to maintain an underground headquarters in Zaire, but he does not appear to be providing assistance. Sporadic low-level skirmishing is likely to continue for some time.

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[redacted] 25X1

USSR: The Lenin anniversary celebration yesterday was the occasion for the first ceremonial appearance of the Soviet leadership since the end of the party congress early last month. *(Page 4)*

Notes: USSR (Novaya Zemlya); USSR (attack submarine) *(Page 5)*

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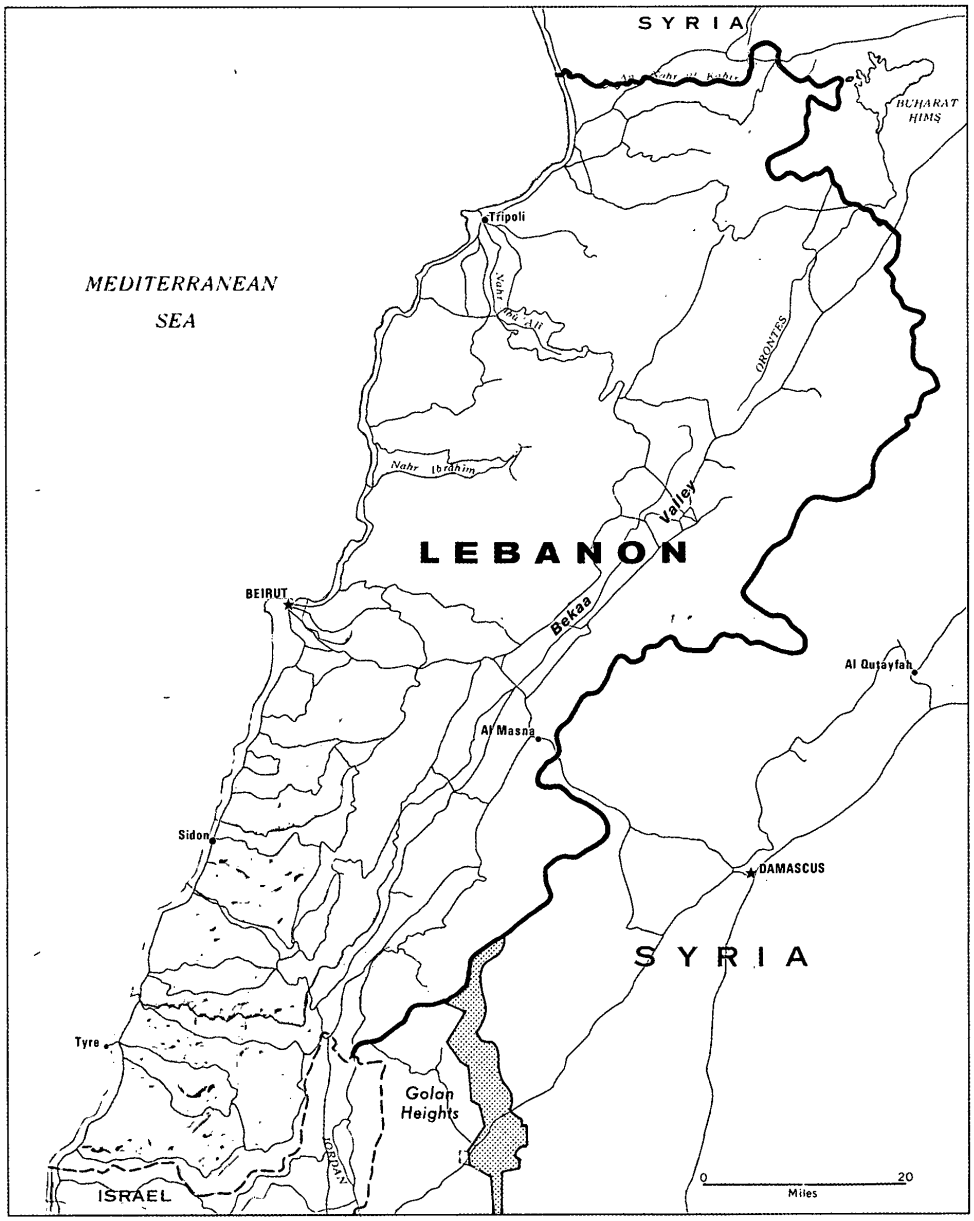

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LEBANON: *Palestine Liberation Army troops, under the direction of the tripartite truce committee, have reportedly assumed control of Beirut's commercial district. They have begun taking up positions in the disputed area between Muslim and Christian sections of the city.*

In addition to the PLA troops operating in Beirut, a 500-man special force drawn mainly from Fatah is being used against Muslim and Palestinian truce violators. The force has met stiff resistance from leftist forces.

The main problem is the continuing exchange of artillery fire between Christian and Muslim suburbs of the capital. Under the terms of the truce agreement, Palestinian forces are not permitted to enter Christian areas and, therefore, cannot stop the shelling.

President Franjiyah's representatives returned from Damascus yesterday with assurances that President Asad has made no secret commitments to the Palestinians. US embassy sources believe this will clear the way for Franjiyah to sign the constitutional amendment permitting election of his successor.

In the south, a battle between soldiers from the renegade Muslim army and Christian troops based at Qulayah reportedly drew fire from the Israelis. Qulayah is only four kilometers from the Israeli border. The leader of the rebel Muslim troops had been cooperating with Syria in trying to enforce the cease-fire, but apparently triggered the fighting when he refused to allow food supplies to reach the Christian outpost.

The Syrian forces that were sent to Lebanon's eastern border area two weeks ago appear prepared to stay indefinitely if necessary.

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On the Syrian side of the border, they have set up field camps and have established a logistic system to Damascus.

Syrian forces in eastern Lebanon reportedly are remaining in place but are no longer patrolling the Bekaa Valley. Relations between the Syrians and the local population are poor.

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USSR: *The Lenin anniversary celebration yesterday was the occasion for the first ceremonial appearance of the Soviet leadership since the end of the party congress early last month. During the past six weeks, more than half of the Moscow-based full members of the Politburo have been away from the Kremlin for extended periods of rest and recuperation.*

General Secretary Brezhnev spent at least five weeks at a sanatorium. President Podgorny, senior party secretary Suslov, Minister of Defense Grechko, Foreign Minister Gromyko, and Moscow party boss Grishin were away from their offices for periods ranging from ten days to three weeks. Even Premier Kosygin, who maintained a normal work schedule, for two weeks spent his nights at a VIP sanatorium near Moscow.

The only leaders missing from the ceremonies yesterday were party secretary Kirilenko and party Control Committee chairman Pelshe, who had been among the stalwarts minding the office and may now be taking their own vacations.

* * *

Andropov, chairman of the KGB and a member of the Politburo, delivered the Lenin anniversary address. He criticized indirectly your policy of "peace through strength" and commented further on the challenge posed to the Soviet party by West European communists. Andropov's rhetoric was both relatively restrained and conventionally phrased.

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NOTES

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A new attack submarine was seen on satellite photography of the Severodvinsk shipyard complex in the northwestern USSR *in early April.*

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The new submarine appears similar to the Soviet A-class nuclear unit.

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LATE ITEM

Lebanon: A Beirut radio broadcast this morning reports that President Franjiyah has signed the constitutional amendment that permits the election of a new president. The broadcast adds that Franjiyah has forwarded a copy of the amendment to the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies. (This information updates the article on page 1.)

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Lebanon: President Franjiyah has not yet signed the constitutional amendment that would permit the election of a new president. *(Page 1)*

China: The unidentified Chinese vessel operating in the South Pacific has continued to move in a southeasterly direction and is now about 4,000 nautical miles from the mainland. *(Page 2)*

China: The campaign of criticism against Teng Hsiao-ping has caused widespread dissatisfaction in the general population. *(Page 3)*

USSR - Southern Africa: [redacted] 25X1 25X1 *(Pa* 25X1 *)*

Notes: Morocco - Western Sahara; France - West Germany - Cyprus; USSR; Portugal *(Pages 5 and 6)*

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LEBANON: *President Franjiyah has not yet signed the constitutional amendment that would permit the election of a new president, as many hoped he would yesterday. The twice-postponed meeting of principal Christian leaders to discuss this matter is now set for today.*

The leftists, to underscore Kamal Jumblatt's threat to establish a rival Muslim government unless Franjiyah resigns by May 2, yesterday set up a new municipal council in Tripoli under their control.

Although Syrian-controlled PLA forces have established a buffer zone between the combatants in Beirut, sporadic exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continue to expose the fragility of the truce. Neither the Christian nor Palestinian forces charged with policing the cease-fire in their respective areas have been willing to crack down hard on violators or to clear disputed areas.

The Syrian press, meanwhile, has given increasing play to charges that the US, Israel, and Egypt are working in collusion against Syria in Lebanon in order to distract attention from the Sinai accord and undermine Palestinian-Syrian solidarity.

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These suspicions have apparently gained considerable currency among senior Syrian officials as well. President Asad told Senator Mathias recently that he suspects the US and Israel of trying to keep Syria tied down in Lebanon and preoccupied with issues extraneous to peace negotiations.

* * *

A member of French President Giscard's staff has told US embassy officers that Paris would be willing to send a "symbolic" military peace-keeping force to Lebanon.

The French official made clear that Paris envisions a small military contingent that would primarily serve as an "optical" counterweight to the Syrian presence. He emphasized that the French would not accept a "policeman's role" and would not participate without the unanimous consent of the parties immediately involved.

President Giscard is under strong political pressure, especially from orthodox Gaullists, to play a leading role in resolving Lebanon's troubles. Giscard has shown a penchant for acting as an international middleman on economic and political issues during his two years in office.

* * *

CHINA: *The unidentified Chinese vessel operating in the South Pacific has continued to move in a southeasterly direction and is now about 4,000 nautical miles from the mainland.*

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If this vessel is in fact a submarine, it is probably the nuclear-powered Han. The distance and time involved make a diesel-powered unit--a Chinese R-class

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for example--an unlikely candidate. Recent satellite photography shows that the Han is not at the two bases--Hulutao and Hsiao-ping-tao--where it has been seen most often in the past. Because another submarine base farther to the south at Chingtao, where the Han has been seen previously, has not been covered recently, we are unable to state positively that the Han is the vessel in question.

Assuming the Han is involved, we do not know where it is going or the nature of its mission. Training in open ocean operations and navigation is the most likely reason, but the Chinese could have another purpose in mind.

* * *

CHINA: *The current campaign of criticism against Teng Hsiao-ping has engendered widespread dissatisfaction and bitterness among both middle and lower level cadres and the general population.*

Some lower level officials, a number of Chinese serving abroad, and even tour guides in China have shown a surprising willingness to discuss candidly Chinese internal politics with foreigners--a departure from attitudes that have prevailed for decades. Even more unusual, a considerable number of officials seem willing openly to criticize Mao Tse-tung himself.

Widespread and sometimes outspoken support for Teng and for the policies he and the late Chou En-lai represented has been evident since the initial announcement in early February that the former vice premier had been blocked from the premiership. Many Chinese have commented that the charges against Teng are false and that he has been treated unfairly. The unhappiness with recent events seems to be quite widespread; Teng, in fact may be more popular today than he was before the campaign against him began.

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There seems little doubt that Mao's political stock has fallen and that many Chinese blame him for the latest leadership upheaval. The current criticism of the Chairman appears to surpass that which surfaced following the failures of the Great Leap Forward in the early 1960s. Moreover, it is being expressed openly and directly rather than indirectly and by analogy, as was the case in the 1960s.

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USSR-SOUTHERN AFRICA:

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NOTES

Moroccan *forces are engaged in what Rabat hopes will be the final clean-up operations against Polisario guerrillas in* Western Sahara.

Military operations began over a week ago to clean out small pockets of Polisario forces. [redacted] the Moroccans have had some success in driving the guerrillas from the Guelta area. Moroccan fighter aircraft have been supporting the operations, and in one instance may have drawn SA-7 missile fire from the Polisario forces. 25X1

The Moroccans claim that Algerian forces have shifted positions in the southwest border area within the past week. Although we cannot yet confirm any major shifts, the latest satellite photography shows that some MIG-21 fighters have flown to the airfield at Bechar for the first time. 25X1

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France *and* West Germany

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Six years after it first became operational, the Soviets *have assigned the MIG-23 Flogger to their strategic air defense forces.*

Satellite photography [redacted] showed 12 of these aircraft at Smolensk, an air defense fighter base some 200 miles west of Moscow. The aircraft is the only operational Soviet fighter with some capability to detect, track, and engage targets flying below it. That capability, although rudimentary by US standards, should provide limited improvement in Soviet ability to cope with low altitude attackers. 25X1

* * *

The Portuguese *military is on full alert to counter any attempt to disrupt the national legislative assembly election tomorrow.*

The alert reflects concern that there may be a repetition at the polls of the violent incidents that have marred the three-week-long election campaign. On Thursday, security forces were rushed to key diplomatic missions in Lisbon in the wake of a bomb blast, which destroyed the Cuban embassy.

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LATE ITEM

USSR: According to a Tass announcement, Soviet Defense Minister Grechko has died of a heart attack at age 72. The choice of his successor is likely to be between Chief of the General Staff Kulikov and Warsaw Pact Commander-in-Chief Yakubovsky, his two principal deputies.

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Lebanon: Tensions in Beirut have noticeably decreased since President Franjiyah signed the constitutional amendment setting the stage for the election of his successor. *(Page 2)*

China-Egypt: Talks last week between Chinese officials and an Egyptian delegation resulted in a military protocol and agreements to expand economic cooperation and trade. *(Page 3)*

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USSR-Egypt: [redacted] *(Page 4)*

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PORTUGAL: *Preliminary unofficial returns from yesterday's legislative assembly election showed the Socialists running somewhat behind the 40 percent they would prefer to have to form a government on their own, but a Socialist minority government probably cannot be ruled out.*

With 82 percent of the election districts reporting, the Socialists had 35.2 percent of the vote, the centrist Popular Democratic Party 23.9 percent, the Social Democratic Center 15.3 percent, and the Communists 14.9 percent.

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LEBANON: *Tensions in Beirut have noticeably decreased since President Franjiyah signed into law on Saturday the constitutional amendment setting the stage for the election of his successor.*

Several major as well as minor obstacles remain to choosing a new president. Lebanese political leaders now will have to decide once more where and when parliament should meet and who will provide security for its delegates. In addition, the Lebanese, Palestinians, and Syrians have yet to settle on a candidate to replace Franjiyah. Raymond Edde--the favorite of the Palestinians and Lebanese leftists--and Ilyas Sarkis--the Syrians' and Christian Phalangists' choice--remain the front-runners, with a host of dark horses trailing behind, each hoping to emerge as a "compromise" candidate.

The leftists, under Kamal Jumblatt, are certain to keep up the pressure for a speedy decision on these matters. Jumblatt welcomed the promulgation of the amendment, but expressed skepticism that Franjiyah would resign without further bloodshed. He said that the leftists would continue to set up local administrations in areas under their military control in order to provide security and restore local services.

Phalangist leaders--who put heavy pressure on Franjiyah to sign--also publicly welcomed the implementation of the amendment. They warned, however, that they now expect the Palestinians and leftists to reciprocate by abiding by the cease-fire and previous agreements regulating the activities of the fedayeen in Lebanon.

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CHINA-EGYPT: *Talks last week between Chinese officials and an Egyptian delegation led by Vice President Mubarak resulted in a military protocol and agreements to expand economic cooperation and trade.*

Mubarak, who met with Chairman Mao last Tuesday, said that China had "responded in a magnificent and positive manner to everything submitted by the Egyptian delegation." He also announced that Premier Hua Kuo-feng had accepted an invitation to visit Egypt at some future date.

25X1

Peking also has agreed to assist Cairo in developing agricultural light industries, accelerating implementation of industrial projects previously agreed upon, and considering new projects. A Chinese delegation will visit Cairo soon to work out the details.

The discussions in Peking were dominated by Egypt's effort to obtain increased Chinese military assistance. Peking has agreed to supply some badly needed aircraft

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engines and other equipment. Chinese officials often have said they will do everything they can to help Cairo, but the Egyptians realize that Chinese aid will never match the volume or sophistication of Soviet equipment.

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USSR-EGYPT:

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USSR: *The selection of a successor to the late Soviet Defense Minister Grechko should pose no insurmountable problem for General Secretary Brezhnev.*

Brezhnev is in a stronger position now in relation to his colleagues than he was when the previous defense minister, Marshal Malinovsky, died in 1967. Moreover, the suddenness of Grechko's death offers little time for maneuver among potential successors.

The new defense minister must be acceptable to both the political leadership and the military establishment. A decision must also be made as to whether he will be seated soon on the Politburo or only after having demonstrated his loyalty for some years, as Grechko had before he became a Politburo member.

A delay would leave the military unrepresented on the Politburo while the Foreign Ministry, KGB, and arms producers would continue to have their interests represented on that body. To seat the new defense minister on the Politburo either immediately or in the near future, however, would seem to confirm the right of the military to Politburo representation--something the civilian leadership has been reluctant to do in the past.

The new minister will probably be announced in a week or so. In our view the most likely choice is General Viktor Kulikov, the first deputy minister of defense, who is also chief of the General Staff.

Kulikov, age 55, has held these jobs since 1971 and is probably sufficiently experienced to make the move to the full ministerial post with relative ease. He appears to be on good terms with Brezhnev and with at least some of the other Politburo members.

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His colleagues within the Soviet military establishment reportedly hold him in high esteem.

Another good possibility is Marshal Ivan Yakubovsky, the first deputy minister who commands the Warsaw Pact forces. Yakubovsky, 64, was the senior officer in the ministry after Grechko, but he might be unacceptable to the political leadership.

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25X1

TANZANIA-CUBA-RHODESIA:

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PORTUGAL: *The indecisive results of the legislative election on Sunday open many options for the formation of the next government, and political leaders are already maneuvering for a role.*

The Socialists will come under heavy pressure from all sides in the two months before the presidential election and the installation of a new government. Their plurality of 35 percent compared to 24 percent for their nearest rival, the Popular Democrats, means that a coalition would not be feasible without the Socialists.

Popular Democratic Party Secretary General Sa Carneiro and Social Democratic Center leader Freitas do Amaral have already called on Socialist leader Mario Soares to join them in a government coalition. Soares rejected their appeals, but press reports say other influential Socialist leaders believe a coalition is inevitable.

Soares' stated objection is based upon his belief that the country's burdensome economic problems can only be solved by a government which is not divided over domestic policy.

Although Soares has doggedly held his ground on this point, he confirmed in a recent conversation with US Ambassador Carlucci that he would view an alliance with the Popular Democrats much more favorably if Sa Carneiro were replaced as party chief by Minister of Internal Commerce Magalhaes Mota.

A Socialist attempt to form an alliance with the Communists cannot be ruled out, but Soares' heated denial of such intentions during the campaign, coupled with strong opposition from both "operationals"

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in the Portuguese military and Portugal's NATO allies, would seem to diminish considerably the chances for such a combination.

The Communists' best hope of participation would be in a "government of national salvation" formed to avert a serious political crisis--a possibility Soares alluded to in an interview on Sunday.

The present stalemate could continue until the presidential election, a possibility that is likely to put growing pressure on party and military leaders to agree on a joint candidate to avoid a divisive campaign and minimize political instability during the next two months.

* * *

LEBANON: *The fighting has subsided since President Franjiyah's decision over the weekend to permit the election of his successor, but the problem persists of how Lebanese authorities can arrange adequate security to permit the convocation of parliament before the Sunday deadline set by the Muslim left.*

The speaker of parliament believes the session should be postponed for at least a week. He is seeking the advice of the Syrians and Palestinians, whose forces will have primary responsibility for the safety of the deputies.

The haphazard security arranged for the brief parliamentary meeting earlier this month provided little real protection for the deputies. It would be inadequate for this session, especially if the principal parties have not agreed in advance on Franjiyah's successor.

Neither Raymond Edde nor Ilyas Sarkis, the two leading contenders, has made much headway in his campaign.

President Franjiyah's determination to block the election of Edde or any other candidate sympathetic to the leftists could break the deadlock in Sarkis' favor. Franjiyah

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is especially worried that Edde would try to unearth evidence of corruption during Franjiyah's administration. The President reportedly has recently threatened not to resign if he is not satisfied with his successor.

Meanwhile, one of the top generals on the Israeli general staff has warned that the threat of an attack from across the Lebanese border will increase no matter what the eventual outcome is in Lebanon.

Major General Adam told a group of military correspondents on Sunday that Israel has already had to reinforce its defensive positions along the Lebanese border. He said the border must now be considered "a new frontier of confrontation," presumably like those with Syria, Egypt, and Jordan.

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NOTES

Panama is preparing to seize US and other foreign fishing vessels operating off its coast.

[redacted]

April 26.

[redacted] chief of government Torrijos discussed the possibility of seizing foreign fishing boats and levying large fines against them. 25X1

There may be several motives for Panama's action. The canal treaty negotiations with the US have slowed, and action against US boats would enable Torrijos to deflect possible domestic criticism by showing that he does not fear Washington. The tuna and shrimping season is under way, and the Panamanians may be sensitive to encroachments on their fishing zones. Panama claims a 200-mile territorial sea but has not aggressively pursued its claim. Torrijos may feel that similar US legislation will make it difficult for the US to react forcefully. Finally, the Panamanians are in a financial squeeze and may hope to resolve a number of problems through the use of revenue from the fines.

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Two Chinese surface ships, visually sighted on April 25 by a US navy patrol aircraft north of the Fiji Islands, may be supporting the Han submarine that we suspect is in this area.

The US aircraft also detected several underwater explosions near the surface ships, suggesting that the Chinese were conducting hydroacoustic tests or were signaling the submarine.

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25X1

Japan

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Egypt

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A Mozambican *military delegation has been in the* USSR *since late last week presumably discussing economic and military assistance.*

After years of insurgency against the Portuguese, Mozambique is just beginning to shape its guerrilla fighters into a conventional force. The military has little in the way of heavy equipment and presumably is looking to Moscow to help satisfy its requirements. The delegation may also be looking for Soviet economic assistance; Mozambique is sustaining substantial money losses as a result of closing its border with Rhodesia.

Mozambican commercial and information officers visited Moscow earlier. The USSR is increasingly important as a source of trade and arms to the Machel regime.

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Thailand: The Seni Pramot coalition is expected to clear its final hurdle by winning a parliamentary vote of confidence by the end of the week. *(Page 2)*

Lebanon: The election of a new president will be held on Saturday. *(Page 2)*

Notes: Ghana; Panama; Spain; Romania-USSR; Tunisia-Libya; Rhodesia *(Pages 4, 5, and 6)*

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PORTUGAL: *Francisco Sa Carneiro, secretary general of the center-right Popular Democratic Party, created new political uncertainty yesterday by threatening to withdraw his party from the present provisional government.*

He is demanding that the Socialists drop plans to form a minority government after the presidential election this summer. He also is insisting that the present government be shuffled to exclude the Communists and to reflect more accurately the results of the legislative assembly election last Sunday. His party finished second in the election.

Socialist Party leader Soares has not reacted publicly to Sa Carneiro's threat, but he is unlikely to give in easily to such pressure tactics. A Popular Democratic withdrawal, however, would leave the Socialists and the Communists as the only parties in the provisional government. This would embarrass the Socialists, who have said on several occasions that they would not govern with the Communists alone. It would also cause concern among anti-Communist "operational" military officers that such a leftist coalition might become a permanent fixture.

Sa Carneiro's strategy could have even more far-reaching consequences, however. Shortly before the assembly election, Prime Minister Azevedo threatened that any political upheaval during the interregnum could cause his resignation. Should Azevedo decide to step down, President Costa Gomes would be required to appoint a successor to form another temporary government. The prospect of a complete government collapse would be upsetting to the military and could play into the hands of those who favor suspending the presidential election and setting aside the legislative results.

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THAILAND: *The Seni Pramot coalition is expected to clear its final hurdle by winning a parliamentary vote of confidence by the end of the week.*

The new government probably will have a comfortable majority of over 60 seats, which should make it less vulnerable to parliament pressures than the previous Khukrit government. 25X1

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LEBANON: *The election of a new president will be held on Saturday, May 1, the speaker of Lebanon's parliament announced yesterday.*

The principal groups--the Christians, Muslim leftists, Palestinians, and Syrians--have made clear their preferences for President Franjiyah's successor and have shown only tentative signs of compromising before the elections. If they do not settle on a candidate in advance, the parliamentary session could turn into a prolonged debate that could upset the shaky cease-fire in Beirut.

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During the few remaining days of the campaign, Ilyas Sarkis, the preferred choice of the Syrians and conservative Christians, and Raymond Edde, the favorite of the Lebanese left and the Palestinians, will try to break the deadlock in their race for the presidency. Should they fail, the field will be open to a host of weaker candidates.

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25X1

Ghana

25X1

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Panama's *efforts to capture foreign fishing vessels is still underway. No boats have yet been seized, but a US tuna boat reported a Panamanian aircraft fired across its bow on Monday.*

Heavy rains yesterday may have curtailed sea and air patrolling and apparently hampered communications. The Panamanians are still awaiting an official response to their request that Canal Zone authorities detain a US registered boat presently in zone waters that they claim was fishing illegally.

* * *

Spanish *Communists and other opposition parties are planning strikes and massive demonstrations on May Day.*

As a prelude to May Day, the Communist Party has called for nationwide walkouts to begin today in the construction industry. The Communists are urging Spanish workers to transform the work stoppage into a general strike. Security forces are preparing for trouble and have banned all rallies except those sponsored by the state labor organization.

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Romanian President Ceausescu used exceptionally strong language in a speech on Monday to charge Moscow with twisting Marxist-Leninist doctrine to advance Soviet hegemony in the world Communist movement.

The Yugoslavs immediately rebroadcast Ceausescu's speech, describing it as the "official opening of a polemic" against advocates of limited sovereignty--a euphemism for the "Brezhnev Doctrine."

Ceausescu's speech, which will not be ignored by the Kremlin, suggests that Bucharest feels itself under pressure from Moscow. His charges and the Yugoslav commentary clearly reflect the apprehensions of Bucharest and Belgrade both over the greater Soviet emphasis on ideological conformity since the 25th Soviet party congress and Moscow's intentions in the Balkans in the post-Tito period.

* * *

The Tunisian navy may be conducting a small-scale naval operation in waters under dispute with Libya.

The continental shelf has been a source of concern for both countries for several years because of potential petroleum resources. The latest round of negotiations to establish a mutually acceptable boundary along the shelf broke down in early March. A US destroyer is now participating in an exercise with the Tunisian navy in the Gulf of Hammamet, but appears to be well out of the potential confrontation area.

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Rhodesian *Prime Minister Ian Smith announced last night that he is bringing ten blacks into his government.*

Four tribal chiefs are being sworn in today as full cabinet ministers, and six deputy ministers will soon be appointed from among Rhodesia's black businessmen and professionals.

Smith apparently hopes this move will offset the collapse last month of his constitutional settlement negotiations with Joshua Nkomo, one of the rival leaders of the divided African National Council.

Smith's token measures are not likely to win over Rhodesia's urban blacks, who have supported Nkomo, nor deter foreign backing for the Rhodesian guerrillas, who have recently stepped up incursions from bases in Mozambique.

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Portugal: The Popular Democratic Party has modified its position on pulling out of the provisional government. *(Page 2)*

Notes: USSR; Egypt-USSR; OPEC; Greece-Turkey; Jordan-Syria; Spain; Ethiopia; Panama *(Pages 4, 5, 6, and 7)*

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EGYPT-ISRAEL: *UN observers confirm that Egypt has more forces in the limited armaments zone than are allowed by the Sinai II disengagement agreement. They report that Egypt has 16 infantry battalions within the limited armaments zone; the agreement limits each side to eight.*

The 16 battalions were located in an area extending from Port Said on the Mediterranean to an area southeast of Port Tawfiq at the mouth of the Gulf of Suez. With the exception of one infantry battalion and a few combat support units at Port Said, the deployed battalions and combat support units probably are lead elements of the five infantry divisions located on the west bank of the canal.

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USSR-CUBA:

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LEBANON: *Leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt, who originally insisted that a new president be chosen before May 2, has now protested holding the elections so soon after President Franjiyah's approval of the election law.*

Jumblatt apparently wants more time to map out his strategy and has intimated that he may not participate in the election unless it is postponed. Although his threats are being widely regarded as pre-election maneuvering, they have cast new uncertainty around the election.

Jumblatt's protest may have been partially responsible for an escalation in the fighting yesterday. A leftist group reportedly attacked Christian-held territory in Beirut's port area. Clashes also erupted in the mixed Christian-Muslim villages east of the capital.

* * *

PORTUGAL: *The Popular Democratic Party has modified its position on pulling out of the provisional government.*

In a statement issued Tuesday evening, the party said it had placed its government posts "at the disposal" of Prime Minister Azevedo, implying that he could shuffle the cabinet at his discretion.

Popular Democratic ministers did not attend a cabinet meeting yesterday. A party spokesman said

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they would stay away until Azevedo decides whether they should remain in office.

The party was probably influenced in changing its position by the Army General Staff. The General Staff reportedly told the Popular Democratic secretary general that it wanted to avoid a crisis over the provisional government that could give President Costa Gomes a pretext for remaining in office.

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NOTES

The Soviet Union's *statement yesterday reiterating its interest in reconvening the Geneva peace conference seems timed chiefly to coincide and compete with discussions on the renewal next month of the mandate for the UN force on the Golan Heights.*

The statement offers a new course of procedure and is intended to appeal to both the Palestinians and Israel. 25X1

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Egypt *and the* USSR *signed their 1976 trade protocol yesterday.*

The new agreement calls for trade valued at $642 million in 1976--a third less than in 1975--and allows for an Egyptian trade surplus of $142 million to be used to reduce Egypt's debt to the USSR.

Beyond the expulsion of five Soviets last week from the Hulwan steel mill for an alleged "slow down," Cairo has taken no overt steps to reduce the level or character of its economic relationship with the Soviet Union. Most of the 1,800 Soviet technicians assigned to economic projects in Egypt will probably remain until their contracts expire or their projects are completed.

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OPEC attitudes on oil price levels appear to have moderated since last September's meeting when most producers were in favor of some increases.

Abu Dhabi's petroleum minister has said that no firm recommendations were reached on a price hike at the unpublicized conclave of OPEC oil ministers in Geneva last week, but that the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, and Kuwait now favor continuing the price freeze until the end of the year. Earlier reporting indicated that Algeria also would support a freeze. The petroleum minister stated that Iran and perhaps some others favor a small increase.

* * *

Greece and Turkey have agreed to hold another round of talks on the Aegean continental shelf.

[redacted] 25X1 the meeting will probably take place this June in Bern if there is agreement on the terms of reference. Neither side seems ready to compromise, although the results of the Law of the Sea Conference now in progress could provide some new grounds for discussion.

Athens' agreement to another meeting, as well as the approaching US Congressional debate on the Greek and Turkish military assistance packages, might incline Ankara to postpone exploration in contested waters.

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Jordan

Syria

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Spanish *Prime Minister Arias' speech last evening provided the most detailed presentation of the government's reform program yet presented, but it will satisfy neither left nor right.*

Arias outlined specific reform measures planned by the government and offered a timetable for implementation. His call for a referendum on constitutional reforms by next October and general elections early in 1977 sets a more leisurely pace for the program than reformers such as Foreign Minister Areilza had been urging. Except for the electoral law, all reform measures are to be ready for submission to parliament by May 15.

The Prime Minister reaffirmed the government's refusal to legalize the Communist Party.

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25X1

Ethiopian

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Panama is attempting to extradite the captain of a US-registered fishing boat presently in Canal Zone waters.

The boat allegedly was fishing within Panama's 200-mile limit. A Panamanian ship has taken up position near the Atlantic entrance to the canal, possibly to intercept the fishing boat if it is not detained by Canal Zone authorities.

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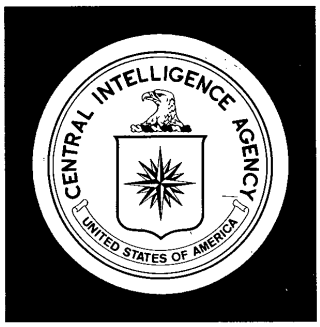

The President's Daily Brief

April 30, 1976

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25X1

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EGYPT-ISRAEL: *Egyptian Minister of War Gamasy has admitted that Egypt has more battalions in the limited armaments zone along the Suez Canal than are permitted by the Sinai II agreement. Gamasy told Ambassador Eilts that within the coming week seven of the battalions would be ordered to move back over the canal, thereby putting Egypt in full compliance with the agreement.*

According to UN observers, [redacted] 25X1

Egypt had 16 infantry battalions in the limited armaments zone, eight more than permitted by the agreement. We have since determined that the UN observers double-counted one of the battalions. Thus, the withdrawal of seven will put Egypt within the limit of eight.

UN observers have reported that the number of Egyptians on the east side has been under the 8,000 man limit. [redacted] 25X1 25X1

There is still a problem, however, involving three occupied SA-6 sites which may be deployed closer to the Suez Canal than permitted by the agreement. This issue is being resolved through the UN.

* * *

LEBANON: *Leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt formally requested yesterday that the presidential election scheduled for tomorrow be postponed. His action is an eleventh-hour effort to block Ilyas Sarkis, whose Syrian-backed candidacy has gained a significant edge in the last several days over Jumblatt's choice, Raymond Edde.*

Beirut radio followed up the announcement with warnings--probably at Jumblatt's instigation--that only a compromise on a candidate other than Sarkis or Edde could prevent a "new explosion." 25X1

Sarkis is believed to have close to the 66 votes necessary to give him a first ballot win. [redacted] 25X1

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The speaker of parliament, who is responsible for fixing the election date, is polling other deputies on Jumblatt's postponement request and has indicated that his bloc of deputies is prepared to find a compromise candidate, if that will satisfy Jumblatt. The speaker probably will not make a final decision before checking with Damascus.

If Jumblatt succeeds in delaying the session either through legal means or through violence, he will again be on a collision course with the Syrians. His moves will almost certainly elicit a sharp reaction from the Christians, who may counter with threats to withhold President Franjiyah's resignation and to press for partition.

* * *

Syria reportedly sent more troops into the Beirut area yesterday. We have no firm information as to the numbers involved, but the addition may total about 400 men. According to the press, the troops were special forces of the Palestine Liberation Army--an often-used cover for regular Syrian forces.

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USSR: *The appointment of 67-year-old Party Secretary Dmitry Ustinov--a civilian and already a member of the Politburo--as minister of defense yesterday allows the Soviet leadership to finesse the question of whether a military successor to Marshal Grechko should inherit his Politburo seat. Ustinov may have been chosen to serve in an interim capacity while General Kulikov, aged 55, the chief of the General Staff, acquires more seniority.*

The announcement of Ustinov's appointment only hours after Grechko's interment in the Kremlin wall suggests that the top leadership was anxious to head off any politicking over the selection of Grechko's successor. Ustinov's posting as minister is almost certain to provoke an adverse reaction among elements of the high command opposed to the idea that any civilian should hold the top post in the ministry.

As a civilian, Ustinov will have a somewhat different outlook on defense matters from that of a professional soldier. His background in the armaments field and in industry will probably facilitate better integration of strategic planning with such matters as rescurce allocation, research and development, armaments programming, and national mobilization than would be possible under a career military man. Unencumbered by service loyalties, Ustinov may be expected to weigh more impartially the claims on resources and advice on defense matters offered by the various members of the high command.

We doubt that Ustinov's appointment will lead to any change in the Soviet position at either the SALT negotiations, with which he has been involved, or at the MBFR talks.

For the moment, Ustinov's appointment means that the military have been left without a representative on the Politburo. Although

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Ustinov has an extensive background in defense production and has been made a general of the army, he is not a professional soldier, and has had no command experience.

Consequently, it seems likely that a good deal of the command authority that the defense minister has had over the armed forces will pass to the General Staff. It also is possible that General Secretary Brezhnev, recently identified in public for the first time as the chairman of the Defense Council, will acquire more command authority over the armed forces.

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USSR:

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[redacted]

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25X1 25X1 25X1

GHANA: [redacted]

[redacted]

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USSR-CHINA: *The Soviet leadership has published in Pravda a lengthy article on China which holds out little hope for change in Sino-Soviet relations unless Peking takes the initiative.*

The article's recital of what the Soviets have done to encourage better party and state relations with China is the longest authoritative rendition in years. Citing General Secretary Brezhnev at the recent Soviet party congress, it implies that Moscow has made its last offer.

The article refers to the recent political turbulence in Peking as evidence that the Chinese people are not reconciled to Maoism. The message for China's moderates would seem to be that the USSR recognizes that not all Chinese are anti-Soviet and believes the situation may improve after Mao goes.

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NOTES

Panama plans to provide the press with the names of US boats allegedly fishing within the country's claimed 200-mile limit.

Panama will demand for each a maximum fine of $100,000.

If the Panamanians take a tough public stance on US fishing boats in the Canal Zone, domestic pressure will make it difficult for General Torrijos to retreat from his aggressive position. The Panamanians yesterday captured a fishing boat of Senegalese registry. 25X1

Meanwhile Torrijos has indicated he will abandon efforts to extradite the captain of a US-registered fishing boat that transited the canal and is now in port on the Atlantic side of the Canal Zone. He has apparently decided the demand for extradition would be tacit admission that the zone is foreign territory.

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Recent satellite photography of Angolan ports indicates that Cuban merchant ships have moved military equipment from northern to southern Angola.

Coverage of Lobito in late March showed three Cuban ships berthed there. One had on deck five T-34 tanks, an unidentified armored vehicle, and two oil trucks. The presence of cargo on deck indicated that the ship probably was shuttling equipment over short distances. Photography of Luanda in early April showed several light tanks, 15 armored personnel carriers, support vehicles in open storage, and a Cuban freighter at dockside.

The Luanda regime has been shifting its armed forces southward over the past month to support operations against UNITA-FNLA guerrillas and to meet the potential threat of South African forces in neighboring Namibia. Satellite photography of mid-April also showed MIG-21 and MIG-17 fighters for the first time at a southern Angolan airfield.

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Reports of unrest within the Syrian military and of confessional tensions resulting from Syria's involvement in Lebanon continue to circulate in Damascus.

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While opposition to President Asad's Lebanese policy exists among middle-level and junior officers, it does not appear to have reached unmanageable proportions. [redacted] Tensions within the military are likely to continue so long as Syria remains heavily involved in Lebanon. 25X1

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The Italian parliament will conclude a debate on Prime Minister Moro's Christian Democratic minority government today. There is now only the slimmest chance that dissolution of parliament and an early election can be avoided.

Moro cannot win the confidence vote scheduled to follow the debate because the three parties on which his survival depends--the Socialists, Social Democrats, and Republicans--have decided to vote against him or abstain. Moro may decide to resign in advance of the vote.

* * *

The Israeli government is bracing for a possible confrontation on Saturday with Arabs who are expected to hold May Day rallies in northern Israel and on the occupied West Bank.

Officials fear that the rallies could turn violent and lead to a new wave of widespread anti-Israeli demonstrations.

Arab Communists have received permission to hold an open air meeting in Nazareth, Israel, which they expect several thousand people to attend. Any demonstration there would help Arab nationalists on the West Bank whip up support for a march they are reportedly planning next week. It would protest the Passover march of mid-April that was sponsored by an Israeli group pushing for more Jewish settlements in the area.

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