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JAMES SCHMIDT

OCI

7562

30 OCT 63

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BOOK MESSAGE AS BELOW

FROM: DIRECTOR

TO: OCI

INFO: CA 2, CA/PROP; FID 4, FID/INT 2, IN, AF 4, AF/INT 1, AF/OPS, WH 4, DD/1, DD/OP, AF 7, VR, CBS

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NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIF

(CONFORM IN SLANTS. REMAINING INFO RELEASABLE TO LIAISON.)

1. EGYPT-YEMEN: //NASIR HAS REITERATED HIS RELUCTANCE TO MAKE ANY RAPID LARGE-SCALE REDUCTION OF EGYPTIAN TROOP STRENGTH. IN YEMEN BUT HE HAS INDICATED SOME WITHDRAWALS MAY BE ORDERED BEFORE END OF YEAR.//

//NASIR SAID ON 27 OCTOBER THAT THE NUMBER OF EGYPTIAN PERSONNEL IN YEMEN COULD BE REDUCED TO ABOUT 21,000 BY 1 JANUARY. HE INDICATED THAT EGYPTIAN STRENGTH BY EARLY NOVEMBER WOULD BE ABOUT 26,000. REPORTS INDICATE THAT STRENGTH MAY NOW BE ABOUT 23,000-25,000. THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION OF CHANGE IN CURRENT ESTIMATE POLICY.//

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PAGE TWO

HASSIS AGAIN CONTINUED THAT A RAPID WITHDRAWAL WOULD
PRECIPITATE A REVIVAL OF TRIBAL INSURRECTION. HE SAID THAT IF HIS
SUGGESTED REDUCTION WERE CARRIED OUT W THAT SUCH WOULD THE
PACE OF WITHDRAWAL COULD BE ACCELERATED. HE CLAIMED SOME SUCCESS
IN HIS CAMPAIGN TO WIN TRIBAL SUPPORT FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
BUT HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE RECENT POLITICAL SITUATION SUGGESTS THAT
HE DOES NOT EXPECT ANY QUICK SOLUTION. //

//HASSIS INDICATED AWARENESS THAT DELAY IN WITHDRAWING FROM
WESTERNS THREATENS HIS RELATIONS WITH THE US. HE ADMITTED THAT A
CUTBACK IN US AID WOULD DISLOCATE EXISTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BUT MAINTAINED THAT HE WAS READY TO FACE SUCH AN EVENTUALITY AND
SAID HE HAD CONSIDERED ALTERNATIVES TO THE AID. //

9. MOROCCO - ALGERIA: ON THE EVE OF THE MEETING OF
KING HASSAN AND PRESIDENT BEN BELLA IN BAMAKO BOTH STILL APPEARED
INFLEXIBLE AND INTENT ON BUILDING UP THEIR FORCES.

INCIDENTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED NORTH OF TINDOUF SUGGEST THAT
MOROCCAN FORCES ARE POISED TO SEIZE THAT POTENTIALLY RICH MINING
AREA HOWEVER UNLIKELY THAT HASSAN WOULD ORDER HIS TROOPS TO SEIZE
TINDOUF WHILE HE IS MEETING WITH BEN BELLA. SHOULD THE BAMAKO

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TALKS FAIL MOROCCANS MIGHT MOVE TO ASSERT THEIR CONTROL OVER THE AREA.

2. DAKHOUY: THREAT OF SERIOUS CIVIL DISORDER HAS LESSENED FOLLOWING THE TRADE UNIONISTS' RELUCTANT ACCEPTANCE OF EX-PRESIDENT MAGA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE FOUR-MAN PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT HEADED BY ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF ~~SOGLA~~ SOGLO.

LABOR LEADERS HAVE SUSPENDED THE GENERAL STRIKE WHICH FORCED MAGA'S RESIGNATION FROM THE PRESIDENCY. DESPITE THEIR UNHAPPINESS AT MAGA'S RETAINING A ROLE IN THE GOVERNMENT, THEY APPEAR TO BE mollified by SOGLO'S ASSUMPTION OF THE TOP POSITION.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT WILL PROBABLY NOT DEVIATE SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE PREDOMINANTLY PRO-FRENCH ORIENTATION OF MAGA REGIME. SOGLO, A VETERAN OF MANY YEARS SERVICE IN FRENCH ARMY IS REPUTED TO BE A CONSERVATIVE. JUSTIN ANCHADJORE WHO MAY EMERGE AS THE MOST INFLUENTIAL OF THREE CIVILIAN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST HAS SUPPORTED DAKHOUY'S TIES WITH FRANCE.

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THE MORE MILITANT LABOR LEADERS MAY DEMAND MAGA'S COMPLETE OUSTER IF DROPPED A STRONG REACTION CAN PROBABLY BE EXPECTED FROM NORTHERN THIRTEEN WHO SUPPORT MAGA

THE UPHEAVAL IN DAHOBY WILL PROBABLY HASTEN DEGREE OF MODERATE, PARIS-ORIENTED AFDU-MALAGASY UNION IT IS LIKELY TO COMPOUND THE CONFUSION AND HESITANCY AMONG UAM MEMBERS WHICH RESULTED FROM THE REVOLUTION IN CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE) LAST AUGUST IT MAY ALSO STIMULATE LABOR LEADERS IN OTHER UAM STATES TO SEEK GREATER POLITICAL INFLUENCE (CONF)

3. PAKISTAN-INDIA // MUTUAL RECRUITATIONS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND INDIA ARE INCREASING TENSIONS ALONG CEASE-FIRE LINE IN KASHMIR // // EACH GOVERNMENT NOW CLAIMS TO HAVE FIRM INTELLIGENCE THAT THE OTHER IS STRENGTHENING ITS FORCES ALONG THE LINE. UN OBSERVERS IN AREA CHECKING THESE REPORTS BUT NO ASSESSMENT YET AVAILABLE // // REPORTS SUGGEST PAKISTANI MILITARY LEADERS ARE AGAIN GIVING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO LIMITED PARAMILITARY ACTION AGAINST INDIAN-HELD PORTION OF KASHMIR SUCH REPORTS CANNOT BE ENTIRELY DISCOUNTED IN VIEW OF FEAR IN KARACHI THAT THIS IS AGAINST PAKISTAN

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ON THE KASHMIR ISSUE AND IN VIEW OF THE ~~INDIAN~~ ^{INDIAN} KASHMIR PROPOSALS FOR FULLER INCORPORATION OF THE INDIAN PORTION OF THE DISPUTED TERRITORY ^{WILL BE} HOWEVER // AYUB REGIME CONTINUING CAUTIOUS BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES AND ITS CONCERN THAT LOCAL CLASHES MIGHT ESCALATE INTO BROADER MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN WHICH INDIA WOULD ENJOY A MILITARY SUPERIORITY //

4. ISRAEL-SYRIA START OF PALL PLOWING BY ISRAELIS IN SENSITIVE AREAS OF DEHILITARIZED ZONE HAS INCREASED PROSPECTS OF TROUBLE WITH SYRIA UN TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION HAS YET TO GET THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO AGREE ON THE PRECISE LOCATION OF A LINE SEPARATING AREAS OF PREVIOUS JEWISH AND ARAB CULTIVATION ~~←~~

5. NOTE IN DIR 78509 PARA ONE SUBSTITUTE FOLLOWING FOR FIRST SIXTEEN WORDS / UAE PRESIDENT NASIR REPORTEDLY SAID EGYPTIAN TROOPS WHOSE ^{TOTAL} STRENGTH EQUALED A DIVISION WILL BE SENT TO ALGERIA, //

END OF MESSAGE

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