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MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Honorable *1. Spence*
Walt W. Rostow *2. Rostow*

file
1

This is the paper Mr. Helms agreed to provide at the recent SIG meeting dealing with the question of arms for Jordan. We have also provided an annex on military equipment held by the various Middle Eastern countries.

R. J. Smith

R. J. SMITH
Deputy Director for Intelligence

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E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.5

NLJ/RAC 03-173

By *iw*, NARA, Date *12-31-03*

22 December 1967

(DATE)

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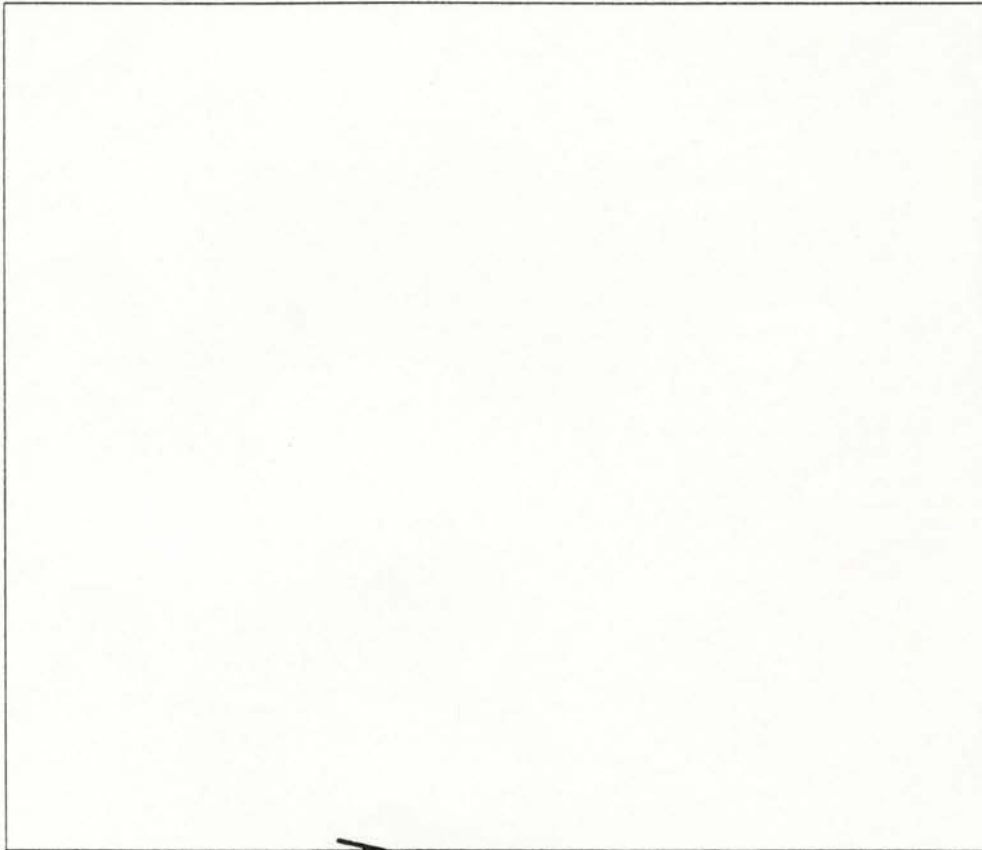
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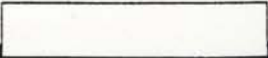
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THE ARAB-ISRAELI MILITARY BALANCE



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THE ARAB-ISRAELI MILITARY BALANCE

C O N T E N T S

Summary Introduction

- I. The Current Situation
- II. Prospective New Materiel Acquisitions
During the Next Six Months

Chart of Selected Armaments and Forces

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS OF ARAB AND ISRAELI
MILITARY EQUIPMENT, AND COUNTRIES POSSESSING IT

Aircraft and Air Defense Equipment

- Fighters
- Bombers
- Transports
- Others

Ground Equipment

- Tanks
- Rockets

Naval Equipment

- Destroyers
- Frigates
- Submarines
- Patrol Boats
- Minesweepers

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
21 December 1967

The Arab-Israeli Military Balance

Summary Introduction

This paper compares the current military strengths of Israel and the Arab states and surveys their prospects for acquiring new equipment during the next six months.

At the present time, Israel is enjoying a military superiority over the Arab states collectively that is greater than it had before June 1967, while the Arabs are incapable of mounting offensive operations with any hope of success. Although the Arabs are rebuilding their forces with massive aid from the Soviet Union, this will have to proceed for many months before they can achieve any meaningful capability against Israel. The critical factors in this process are not only or even primarily the flow of new equipment, but the retraining and reorganization of the Arab forces. The results of the June war make it clear that if the Arabs are to have any hope of contending with Israel on equal terms, they must achieve a substantially higher level of military organizational and technological know-how than they have yet displayed.

The Arabs are acutely conscious of their inferior military position; no Arab leader sees any chance of defeating Israel in regular warfare in the near future,

Note: This handbook was produced solely by CIA. It was prepared by the Office of Current Intelligence and coordinated with the Office of Strategic Research, the Office of National Estimates, the Office of Economic Research, and the Clandestine Services.

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and only the Syrians and Algerians seriously contend that the Arab "struggle" can be carried on successfully by irregular warfare on the model of the Algerian rebels' fight against the French. The Arabs' present quests for arms from Western sources, such as Iraq's deal with France and Jordan's shopping list to the US, are thus essentially political, and the arms involved in these negotiations will not have any appreciable effect on the Arab-Israeli balance.

The Israelis nonetheless express continuing concern that the balance is being tipped against them. Any merit this concern may have at present is only in the sense that Arab equipment inventories are being rebuilt to, and in a very few categories beyond, the levels which obtained at the beginning of the June war. The build-up of the Arab forces--their re-equipment over the years--was, of course, in train before the war; since the war there has been little new in this respect, although more sophisticated weapons--short-range tactical missiles, for example--may be supplied by the USSR in the future.

Political motives aside, the Israelis' ambition--judging particularly from their indications of interest in acquiring from the US substantial quantities of aircraft over and above those they have already firmly ordered--is to have a capability during the next several years not merely to defeat the Arabs, but to defeat them quickly and with little or no risk of serious damage to Israel.

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I. The Current Situation

A. General

1. Israel at present continues to enjoy military superiority over the Arab states, which are incapable of mounting major offensive operations at this time.

2. The Arab states, with massive aid from the Soviet Union, are rebuilding their forces, but the process will have to continue for many months before they can achieve any meaningful military capability against Israel. Thus far, the USSR has replaced about \$250 million of the estimated \$400-500 million worth of military equipment destroyed or lost in June. Moscow also has engaged in negotiations for new arms agreements with Egypt, Syria, and Iraq.

3. The Israelis contend that the Arab rebuilding program dangerously threatens Israeli dominance, necessitating their acquisition of new and more advanced weapons and equipment. Whatever Israel's equipment needs are or will soon be, its military superiority over the Arabs seems assured for several years to come, even in the absence of major additions to its equipment inventory.

4. With respect to air power, the Israelis have always been at a disadvantage so far as numbers of aircraft and air facilities are concerned, but this deficiency was and is counterbalanced by the superior quality of Israel's air staff, pilots, and technicians. The Arabs' collective jet fighter inventory is roughly three times the Israelis', but not all of these aircraft could be deployed near Israel. Moreover, the Israeli force retains the qualitative superiority which enabled it to attain quick and decisive air supremacy on the first day of the June war. Although the partially rebuilt Egyptian bomber force might be able to mount a one-shot raid against key Israeli targets, such a strike probably would not destroy Israel's retaliatory air capability. For their part, the Israelis can and do use their fighters on ground attack and bombing missions in addition to employing them as interceptors.

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5. On the ground, Israel, particularly in view of the tactical air supremacy its air force would again be likely to attain, is also clearly superior. Here, too, the decisive advantage is the caliber of its officers and men. Egypt's decimated ground forces will be incapable of effective defensive or offensive operations for some time to come. The battered Syrian and Jordanian ground forces also would be unable to stop a major Israeli assault. Other Arab forces are insignificant as factors in the real balance of power. Indeed, Israel in wartime has numerical superiority in terms of ground forces in the battle area. The armies of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, and Lebanon--the Arab states most likely to commit forces against Israel in any new round of fighting--constitute a combined force of more than 420,000 troops compared with Israel's wartime peak of 280,000. The Arab force actually opposing the Israelis, however, is unlikely to exceed 255,000, because Iraq, Algeria, and Saudi Arabia are relatively remote from the war zone and, thus, could commit only small or token forces, and Lebanon probably would again stay out of the fight.

B. Air

1. Israel: The Israeli Air Force now has 211 jet fighter aircraft (49 fighters were lost during and since the June war), 51 of which are French-built Mirage IIIs. In addition to fighter aircraft, Israel has two obsolescent French Vautour IIB jet light bombers, 62 transports, and 48 helicopters. It also has 172 Hawk antiaircraft missiles together with 30 launchers.

2. Arab States

a. Egypt: The Egyptian Air Force is approaching its prewar level of strength. Egypt's jet bombers still are potentially the Arabs' most effective weapon. Soviet shipments and transfers from Algeria have resulted in a current Egyptian inventory of 36 IL-28 (BEAGLE) jet light bombers and at least six TU-16 (BADGER) jet medium bombers. The Egyptians lost a total of 55 jet bombers during the war out of their total of 69.

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The Egyptian jet fighter force now includes about 300 aircraft. A large part of the Egyptian inventory consists of MIG-21s and SU-7s, both of which are thoroughly modern aircraft. Egyptian losses of [redacted] fighters have been offset by [redacted] shipments [redacted] from the Soviet Union and [redacted] Algeria.

For ground defense against air attack, the Egyptians have more than 300 SA-2 missiles. They also lost a few of their SAM sites in Sinai [redacted]

b. Syria: The Syrian Air Force may now be nearing its prewar level of 85 fighters. A number of these are modern SU-7s and MIG-21s, and the remainder are obsolete MIG-17s. Fifty-five fighters were destroyed by the Israelis. Since the war the Soviet Union [redacted] supplied [redacted] modern SU-7 fighters by sea, and the postwar Soviet airlift undoubtedly included jet fighters.

c. Jordan: The Jordanian Air Force, which was almost totally destroyed by Israeli action, remains insignificant. It presently includes eight Hawker Hunter jet fighters, some acquired directly from the British and the rest indirectly through Saudi Arabia. The Jordanians have five transports and four helicopters.

d. Iraq: The Iraqis have 126 jet fighters--a mix of Soviet SU-7s, MIG-21s and MIG-17s, and British Hawker Hunters, plus outdated Vampires and Venoms. In addition, they have [redacted] IL-28 and TU-16 jet bombers. Iraq [redacted] received [redacted] fighters-- [redacted] MIG-21s and [redacted] SU-7s--from the Soviet Union since the war, [redacted]

In [redacted] September, amid mounting Arab fears that Israel might attempt to cross the Suez Canal, an Iraqi squadron of MIG fighters was sent [redacted] near Jordan, as contingency support for the Jordanians.

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e. Algeria: Of Algeria's prewar inventory of 122 jet fighters--most of which were outdated MIG-15s and MIG-17s--41 were sent to Egypt during the war, [redacted] as were [redacted] Algerian IL-28 light bombers. In this paper these aircraft are included in Egypt's current inventory, although the fighters may have been returned to Algeria. Since the war, the Algerians have received some additional jet fighters [redacted] [redacted] from the Soviet Union.

f. Lebanon: The Lebanese now have 11 Hawker Hunter and Fouga Magister jet fighters, one transport, and six helicopters. These aircraft are of negligible significance in the over-all Arab-Israeli balance of forces, however, because it is extremely doubtful that Lebanon would engage in combat with Israel.

g. Saudi Arabia: The twenty-two Hawker Hunters the Saudis have also are relatively insignificant inasmuch as there are no Saudi pilots capable of flying them. These aircraft, however, might well be sent to Jordan in the event of another conflict.

C. Ground

1. Israel: The Israelis have reduced their level of army mobilization from a wartime high of 280,000 to about 80,000. The latter figure, however, may be too high; the Israelis themselves have stated that the present ceasefire lines can be more easily defended than the prewar armistice line while only a minimum force is needed to control the occupied areas. Given Israel's capability for rapid mobilization of reserves, it could swiftly field additional forces if the need should arise. A recruitment drive presently under way to expand the regular force is directed at filling certain technical and administrative occupations. Many of the new men presumably will be employed in repairing both Israeli and captured materiel.

Israeli tank losses during the war were at least made up by the number captured. These included from 100-150 US M-48s and British Centurions

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from Jordan which were in good condition and which probably either have been or will be added to the Israeli inventory. The Israelis, who have more than 1,300 tanks, rely mainly on their AMXs and M-48s for their armored striking force.

Israeli losses last June in guns, artillery, and personnel carriers probably were light or moderately light, and in these categories, too, the amount of captured equipment may have exceeded the losses. Israel probably did not lose any of its anti-aircraft artillery.

2. Arab States

a. Egypt: Egypt's ground forces are undergoing a wholesale reorganization under Soviet guidance. The present army force level probably is in excess of 150,000, including the six infantry brigades being withdrawn from Yemen. By comparison, Egypt before the war had some 175,000 troops under arms and probably had as many as 200,000 by 5 June. Army losses--killed, captured, wounded or missing--thus totaled about 25,000.

More than half of Egypt's prewar inventory of tanks was lost, leaving a balance of about 500 which has been augmented by the postwar receipt of at least 130 from the USSR and [redacted] from Algeria. The Egyptians rely mainly on T-34s and T-54/55s, tanks which compare favorably with Israel's AMXs and M-48s. The extent of Egyptian losses in guns and artillery, personnel carriers, and wheeled vehicles [redacted] was certainly high. Replacements in all of these categories have been received from both the Soviet Union and Algeria.

b. Syria: Syrian ground forces presently number about 45,000, some 15,000 less than the level at the start of hostilities. Syria lost about 100 of the 435 T-34 and T-54 tanks it had before the war as well as [redacted] numbers of guns and artillery, personnel carriers, and motor transports. The Soviet resupply effort has included equipment in all of these categories.

c. Jordan: Jordan, like Egypt, is engaged in a major reorganization of its army. The army's current strength is about 48,000. Jordanian

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forces opposing the Israelis across the Jordan River have been bolstered by an Iraqi force of 15,000 and about 3,500 Saudi troops. Jordan lost nearly 200 tanks during the war and now has about 160, including [redacted] British Centurions supplied by Iraq. Losses in guns and artillery were also heavy.

d. Iraq: The Iraqi Army now numbers about 80,000 troops. Having already deployed 15,000 in Jordan, the Iraqis probably would be hard pressed to commit additional forces against the Israelis in view of the recurrent Kurdish rebel threat in northern Iraq. Iraq lost during the war an unknown number of tanks.

e. Algeria: The Algerian Army has a strength of about 61,000, but Algeria's remoteness from the Arab-Israeli ceasefire lines probably precludes more than token Algerian aid in the event of a new outbreak of fighting. The Algerians still have roughly 1,000 men in Egypt, and there may be a few hundred in Syria.

f. Saudi Arabia: Saudi Arabia has an ineffective army of some 24,000 men but is unlikely to commit any additional forces against the Israelis beyond the 3,500 now deployed in Jordan. Saudi equipment is not significant.

g. Lebanon: Lebanese ground forces number about 13,000. In the event of any further hostilities, however, Lebanon undoubtedly would again try to remain aloof, as it did in June, and in any event would pose no serious problem for the Israelis.

D. Naval

1. Israel: The Israeli Navy was only involved peripherally during the war, with the result that its losses were virtually nil. In late October, however, the Egyptians sank the Eilat, one of Israel's two destroyers, and some 50 Israeli seamen lost their lives. In addition to the remaining destroyer, Israel has four submarines, one of which is undergoing refit in the UK, and 11 patrol craft. Israel is at a disadvantage in terms of naval materiel, as it is over all in relation to Arab military equipment, but this disadvantage is offset by the air supremacy it probably would again quickly achieve in any new round of fighting.

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2. Arab States

a. Egypt: Egypt is not known to have lost any of its naval equipment during the June war. Since then it has received two Osa-class guided-missile patrol boats and four Shershen-class fast patrol boats from the USSR. This gives the Egyptians a total of 20 guided-missile patrol boats and approximately 45 regular patrol craft, in addition to six destroyers and 11 submarines. Although this force is capable of isolated strikes--like the attack on the Eilat--it could not seriously affect Israel's defense position.

b. Syria: Syria still has its prewar complement of four Komar guided-missile patrol boats, none of which actively participated in the June war. As with Egypt, some isolated strike is conceivable.

c. Algeria: Algeria has nine guided-missile patrol boats, but the country's location makes their deployment against the Israelis difficult, unless they were shifted to Egyptian bases.

d. Other Arab States: None of the other Arab states possesses a naval force of any consequence.

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II. Prospective New Materiel Acquisitions During the Next Six Months

A. General

1. Increments to the Arab inventories during the next six months will not significantly affect the military balance, which will remain strongly favorable to Israel. Beyond that period, the Israelis apparently are concerned that the re-equipment of the Arab forces, particularly the air forces, with additional and more modern weapons will pose problems more serious than those they encountered in knocking out the Arab military threat in June 1967.

2. Specifically, the Israelis seem to want to ensure that they will have enough strike aircraft available so that they can incapacitate the Arab air forces on the ground, simultaneously, with minimum risk of significant damage from Arab counterstrikes, even from widely dispersed Arab bases. The Israelis did not have this capability at the outset of the June war; by their own account, which appears accurate, they stripped their air-to-air defense in order to make an all-out strike against the Egyptian Air Force, turning against the Syrians, Jordanians, and Iraqis only after the Egyptians had been knocked out. Given the foreseeable level of Arab re-equipment, the capability that the Israelis are now seeking would render them virtually invulnerable to anything but a sneak Arab air attack; Israeli intelligence and defensive measures have been and almost certainly will remain a guard against such an attack, even if the Arabs should become theoretically capable of mounting it.

3. At present, the Arabs in particular tend to see Western agreements to supply them with significant equipment primarily from a political viewpoint. France's deal with Iraq, and the US reply to Jordanian requests, are and will be interpreted as indicators that the suppliers are interested in maintaining "influence" with the Arab states and, in the case of Jordan, in maintaining King Husayn's regime. The actual arms in question will have no appreciable

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weight in the military balance for the immediate future, although Jordan might gain some sense of greater security against Israeli raids.

B. Prospects by Country

The following individual country statements do not address longer term supply prospects or ambitions; they detail only those relatively firm commitments on which reporting is available.

1. Israel: The Israelis are urging the US to expedite delivery of the 48 A4 jet aircraft they have already purchased from the US; delivery is scheduled for 1968.

Israel also had a prewar order for 50 additional French Mirages which are presently subject to the French embargo on arms shipments to the Middle East. It is possible that some of these aircraft might become available within the next six months if the Israelis can circumvent the embargo, as they did recently in obtaining some disassembled Magisters, ostensibly as "spare parts."

Israel also may receive six patrol boats which it purchased from France before the war. These boats reportedly will be equipped with Israel's tactical surface-to-surface missile, the Gabriel. In addition, Israel will soon receive 18 Centurion tanks it has ordered from the UK.

2. Arab States

a. Egypt: During the next six months the Soviet Union probably will continue to deliver MIG-21 and SU-7 aircraft to Egypt as well as helicopters and transports. The Egyptians may also get additional IL-28 and TU-16 bombers. With respect to ground equipment, tanks, artillery, antiaircraft guns, spare parts, ammunition, and communications equipment probably will continue to be supplied at the present pace, i.e., at about prewar rates. Large deliveries of vehicles are also expected. In addition, the FROG missile, a short-range tactical weapon, might be introduced into the Egyptian arms inventory in some quantity. One R-class submarine

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is scheduled for May 1968 delivery. Two more Shershen-class patrol boats may be delivered along with two surface-to-air equipped destroyers which were ordered under a 1965 agreement.

b. Syria: Additional SU-7s and MIG-21s may be delivered to Syria, along with [redacted] IL-14 transports. It is possible that the SA-2 surface-to-air missile system will be introduced. Deliveries of ground equipment, including T-54/55 tanks, are likely to continue.

c. Iraq: Equipment still to be delivered under the May 1966 Soviet-Iraqi arms agreement will probably arrive in early 1968. From this agreement, [redacted] MIG-21s and [redacted] SU-7s have not yet been shipped along with a variety of spare parts and ammunition. The outstanding items also include [redacted] tanks and tank ammunition, some artillery, small arms, spare parts, and communications equipment. Naval equipment still to be received consists of [redacted] minesweepers and [redacted] Komar guided-missile patrol boats. Iraq, like Syria, may also receive some equipment for the SA-2 antiaircraft missile system. Finally, [redacted] L-29 jet trainers are scheduled for future delivery from Czechoslovakia.

The French apparently have decided that their embargo on arms shipments to the Middle East does not apply to Iraq. An Iraqi-French arms deal has just been concluded which is said to involve late-model Mirage jet fighters--presumably Mirage Vs, simplified versions of the Mirage IIIs Israel has--some Mirages of earlier vintage, troop carriers, armored personnel carriers, and mortars. [redacted]

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d. Jordan: De Gaulle recently indicated to King Husayn that there was some elasticity in the French arms embargo and that Jordan, which has been trying to obtain Mirage jet fighters, could get them through intermediaries.

King Husayn has a standing offer of aid from the Soviet Union but thus far has not accepted it. Jordan has obtained some British equipment--through Saudi Arabia--since the June war, and discussions with London over direct supply of aircraft are continuing. The Jordanians are looking for a three-squadron force--36 planes.

e. Algeria: Deliveries of a variety of [redacted] [redacted] Soviet equipment--air, ground, and naval--are expected to continue during the first half of 1968.

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SELECTED ARMAMENTS AND FORCES

	<u>Algeria</u>	<u>Iraq</u>	<u>Jordan</u>	<u>Syria</u>	<u>UAR</u>	<u>Saudi Arabia</u>	<u>Lebanon</u>	<u>Total Arab</u>	<u>Israeli</u>
<u>Air Force</u>									
Personnel									
Aircraft									
Jet fighters									
Jet bombers									
Transports									
Helicopters									
Surface to Air									
No. Missiles									
No. Launchers									
<u>Army</u>									
Personnel									
Tanks									
SP At. and									
Assault guns									
Artillery 100mm.									
and over									
Up to 100mm.									
AAA									
57mm. and over									
Up to 57mm.									
APC									
<u>Navy</u>									
Personnel									
Ships									
Destroyers									
Submarines									
Missile Patrol									

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FORCES

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PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS OF ARAB AND ISRAELI
MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND COUNTRIES POSSESSING IT

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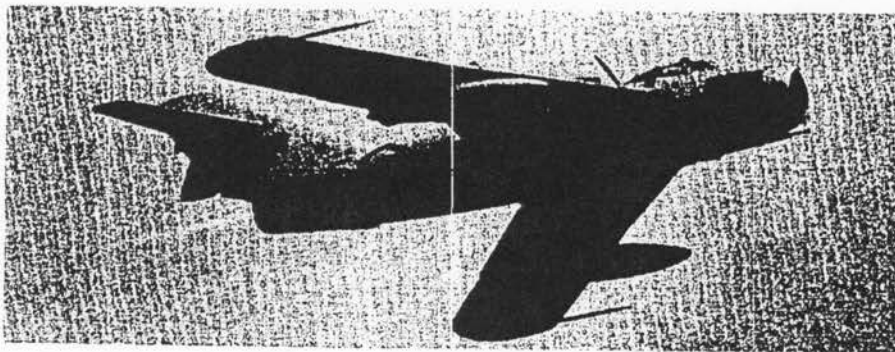
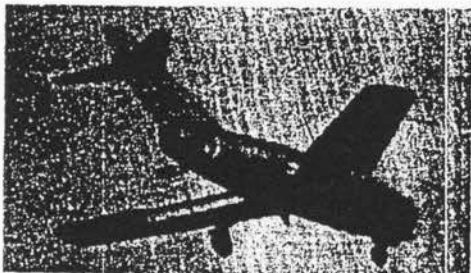
Aircraft and Air Defense Equipment

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FIGHTERS

MIG-15 (Fagot) and MIG-17 (Fresco)

Egypt, Syria,
Iraq, Algeria



Soviet single-seat, swept-wing turbojet interceptors. Armed with air-to-air and air-to-ground rockets, the planes have a combat radius of 500 miles and can carry a 500-pound bomb under each wing. The MIG 15/17s equate most closely to the US F-86 Sabre jet.

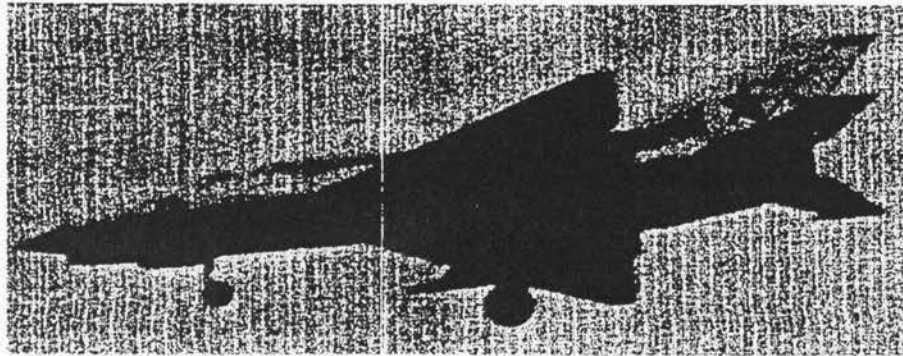
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FIGHTER

MIG-21 (Fishbed)

Egypt, Syria,
Iraq, Algeria



Soviet supersonic delta-wing interceptor with a secondary role as a ground support fighter-bomber. The aircraft can carry either rockets or missiles and has a combat range of nearly 1,000 miles and speeds of close to 600 knots. The MIG-21 equates most closely to the US F-104 Starfighter.

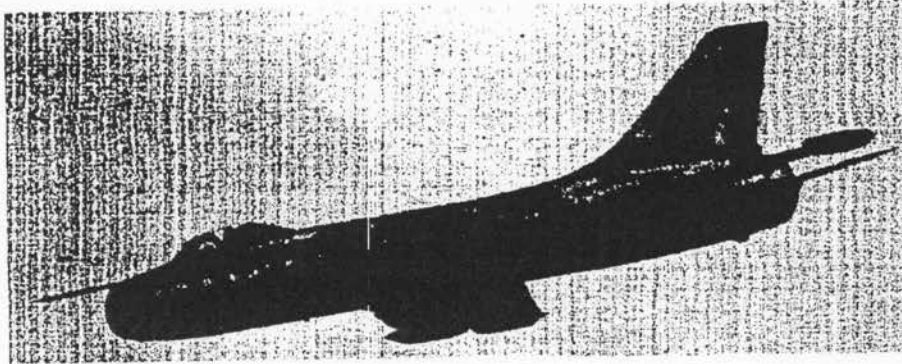
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FIGHTER

SU-7 (Fitter)

Egypt
Syria
Iraq



Soviet single-place, swept-wing turbojet fighter used as a day interceptor, or in a tactical strike or ground support role. Heavily armed with two guns, it also carries missiles and rockets, and has a range of 1,000 miles with speeds of up to 650 knots.

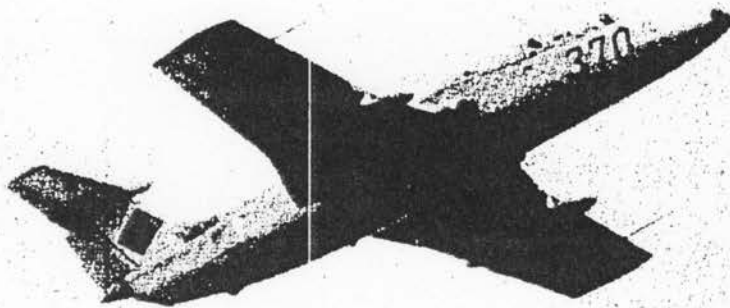
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FIGHTER

L-29 (Maya)

Egypt
Iraq
Syria



A turbojet, Czech-designed, advanced fighter trainer, widely used by several nations. The Maya resembles the US T-38 Talon.

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FIGHTER

Mirage III-C

Israel



French single-seat, delta-wing, all-weather interceptor and fighter-bomber. It has a combat radius of some 300 miles and can carry two 1,000-pound bombs and two air-to-air missiles. Its nearest US counterpart is the F-5.

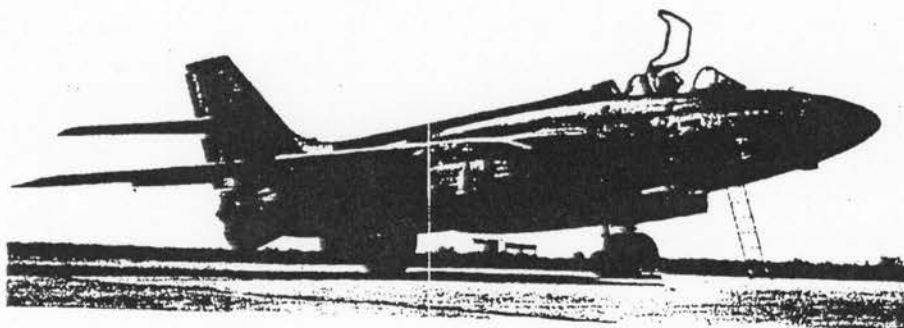
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FIGHTER

Vautour II-A

Israel



French single-place, twin-jet, ground support fighter. It has a combat radius of 375 miles, mounts four 30-mm. cannon, and can carry a variety of bomb loads. The US F-84 is comparable in payload and speed, but has a shorter range.

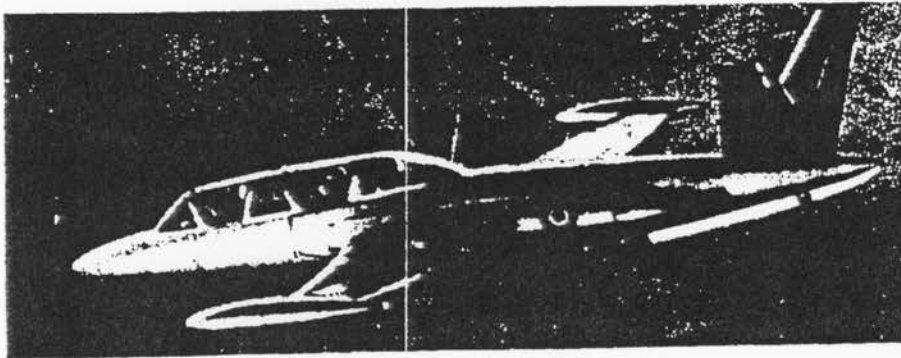
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FIGHTER

Fouga Magister

Israel



French two-seat, twin-jet, light trainer and ground support aircraft. It has a combat radius of 125 miles and can carry air-to-ground rockets and two small bombs. The nearest US counterpart is the T-39.

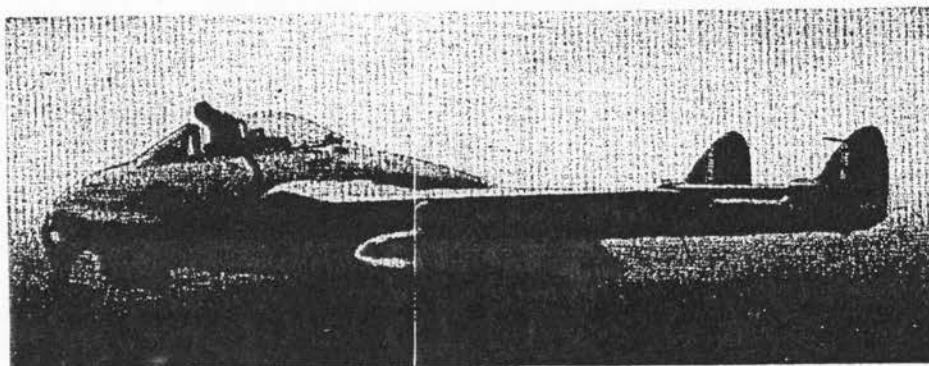
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FIGHTER

Vampire

Iraq



This British-built aircraft first flew in 1943. It is powered by one turbojet engine and can attain a maximum speed of 460 knots. It has a combat radius of 270 miles, mounts four 20-mm. cannon, and can carry 2,000 pounds of bombs.

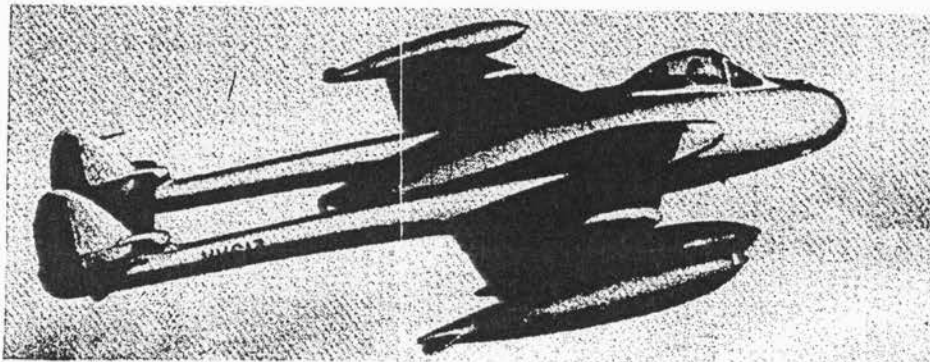
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FIGHTER

Venom

Iraq



This British-built aircraft is a single-seat fighter-bomber. It is powered by one turbojet engine and can attain a maximum speed of 525 knots. It has a combat radius of 250 miles, mounts four 20-mm. cannon, and can carry 2,000 pounds of bombs.

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[REDACTED]

FIGHTER

Hawker Hunter

Jordan, Iraq,
Saudi Arabia,
Lebanon, Kuwait



A British fighter and ground support aircraft that can carry two 1,000-pound bombs or twelve 3-inch rockets. It can be fitted with two sidewinder air-to-air missiles. It has a range of 1,600 miles.

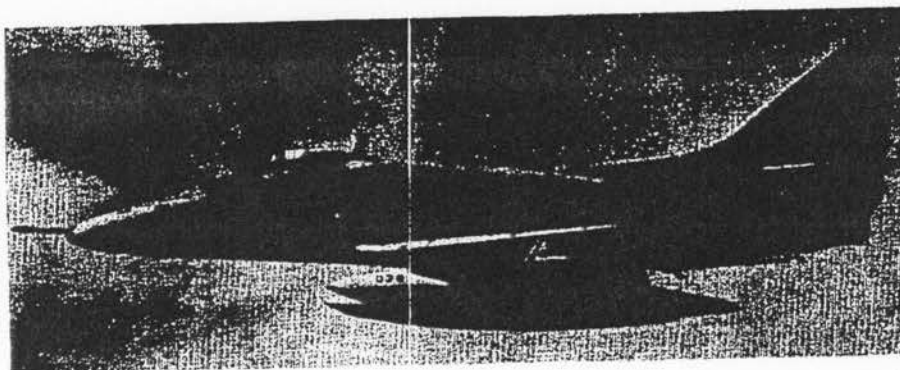
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[REDACTED]

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FIGHTER

A-4 Skyhawk

Israel



A US-designed tactical bomber due to be delivered to Israel in 1968 and 1969. It is a single-seater with a normal combat radius of 500 miles and an ordnance load in excess of 8,000 pounds. Its maximum sea level speed is subsonic.

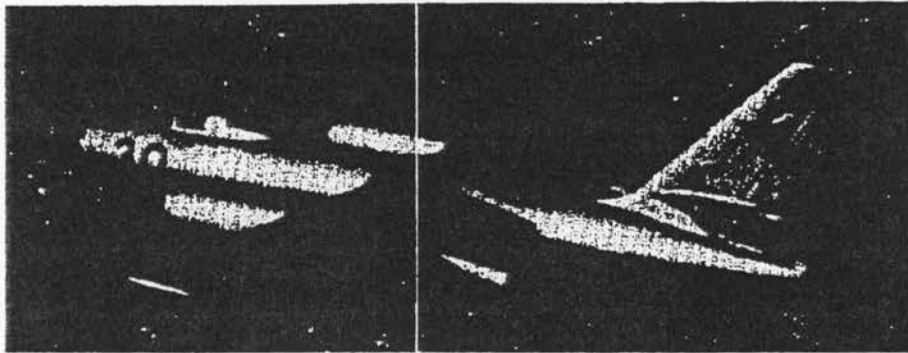
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BOMBER

IL-28 (Beagle)

Egypt, Syria,
Iraq, Algeria



Soviet straight-wing, subsonic, twin-jet light bomber first seen in 1950. It has a range of 1,000 miles and carries a bombload of 6,500 pounds. It probably equates most closely to the US-B-57 and the British Canberra bomber.

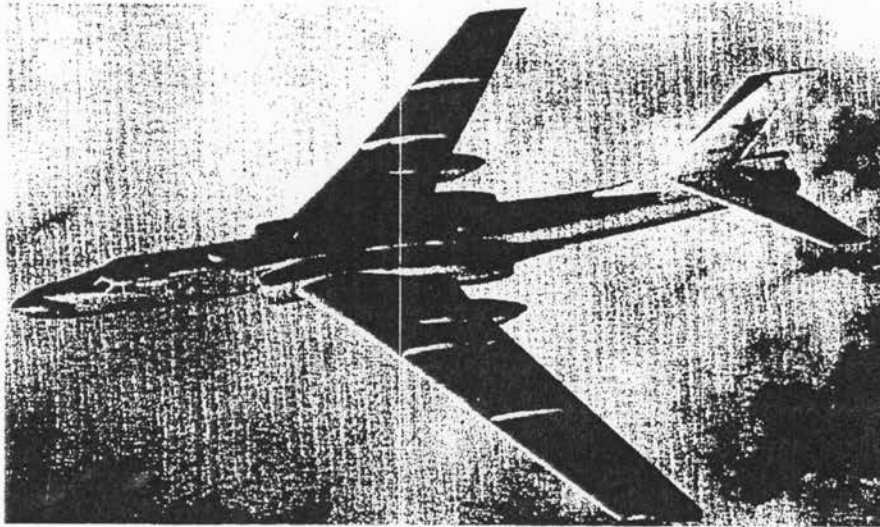
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BOMBER

TU-16 (Badger)

Egypt
Iraq



Soviet swept-wing, medium, twin-jet bomber that can also be configured to carry air-to-surface missiles. It can carry a bombload of 12,000 pounds and has a range of 1,800 miles. The TU-16 equates to the US B-47 Stratojet.

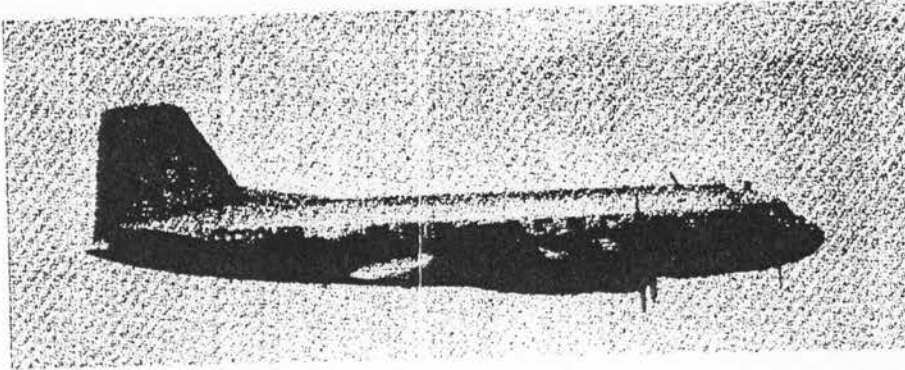
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TRANSPORT

IL-14 (Crate)

Egypt
Syria



A Soviet low-wing twin-engine transport primarily for passengers (18-24). The aircraft has a cargo rating of 4,800 pounds. It relates most closely to the US Convair 440.

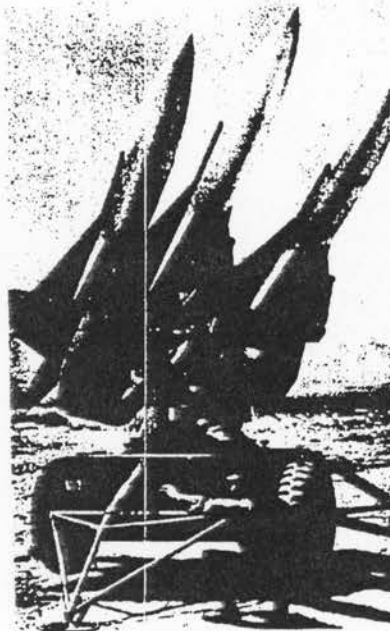
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OTHER

Hawk surface-to-air missile

Israel
Saudi Arabia



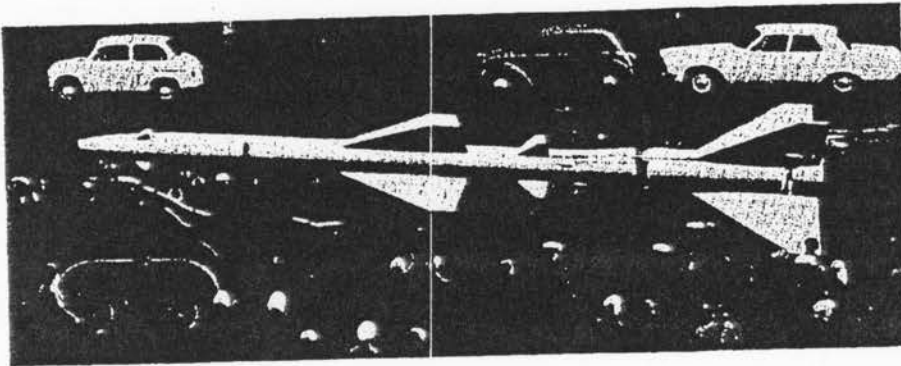
A US SAM with a 22-mile range. It is effective from 50 to 45,000 feet.

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OTHER

SA-2 Surface-to-air missile



The most widely deployed Soviet SAM, effective from altitudes of 1,600 to 90,000 feet. The system is flexible and easily transported, but must be removed from its transporter and mounted on a launcher to be fired.

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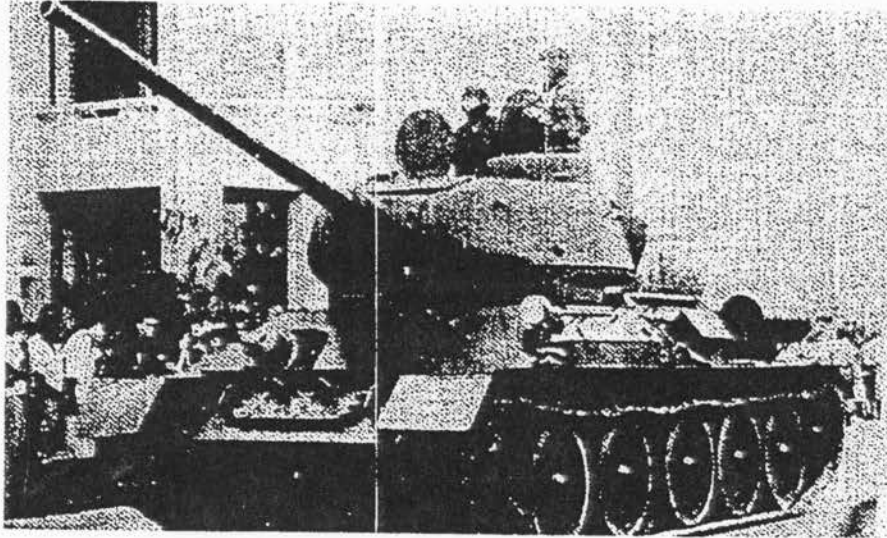
Ground Equipment

GROUND

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T-34 Medium Tank

Egypt, Syria,
Iraq, Algeria,
Israel



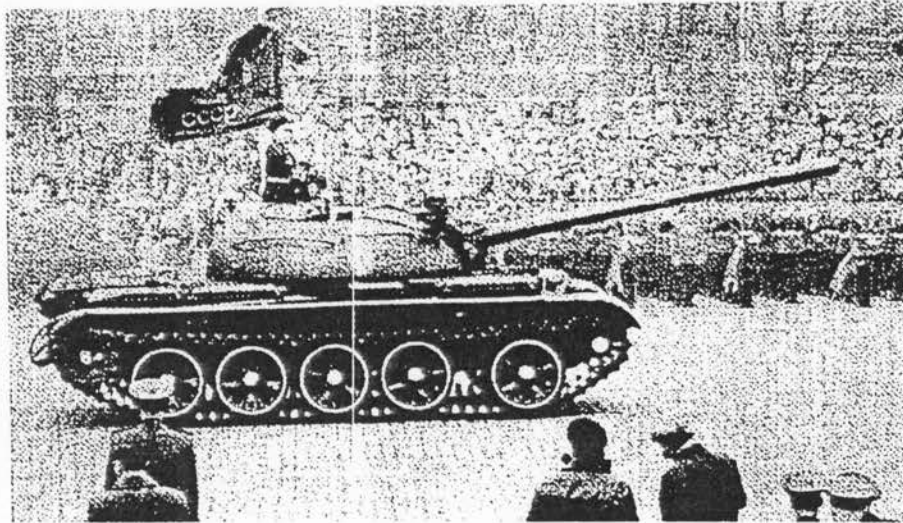
Soviet 35-ton tank, mounting an 85-mm. gun, with a cruising range of 190 miles at a maximum speed of 35 miles per hour.

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T-54/55 Medium Tank

Egypt, Syria,
Iraq, Algeria,
Israel



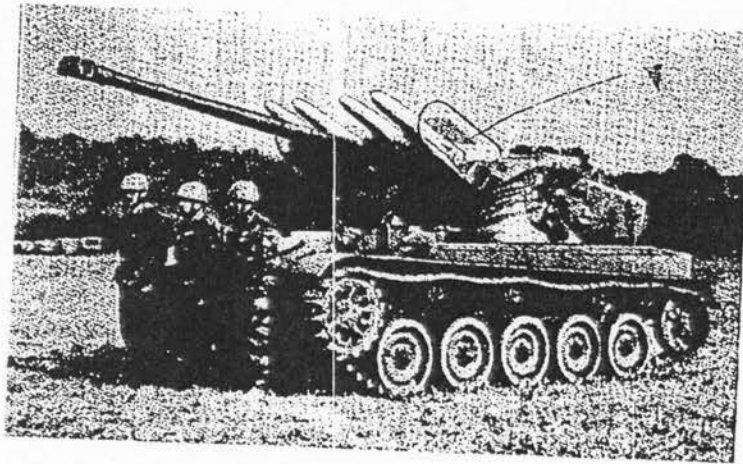
Soviet 40-ton tank, mounting a 100-mm. gun, with a
cruising range of 215 miles at a maximum speed of
30 miles per hour.

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AMX-13 Tank

Israel
Egypt
Lebanon



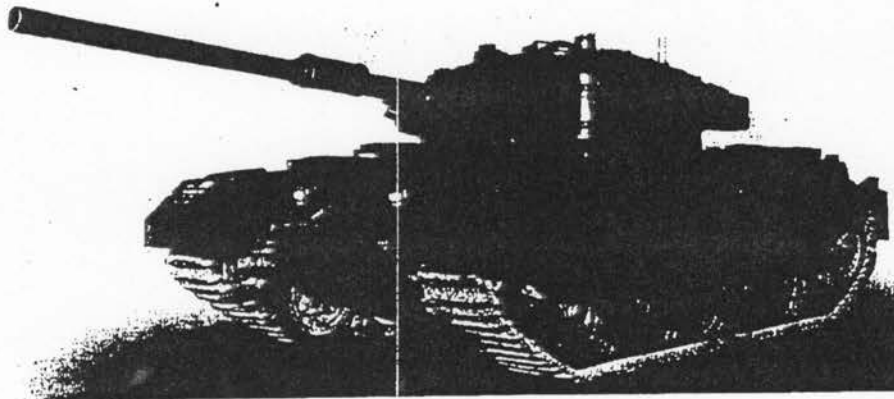
French medium tank, mounting a 75-mm. gun, with a
cruising range of 217 miles at a maximum speed of
40 miles per hour.

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Centurion MK-I, II, V, VII, VIII

Israel, Jordan,
Iraq, Egypt



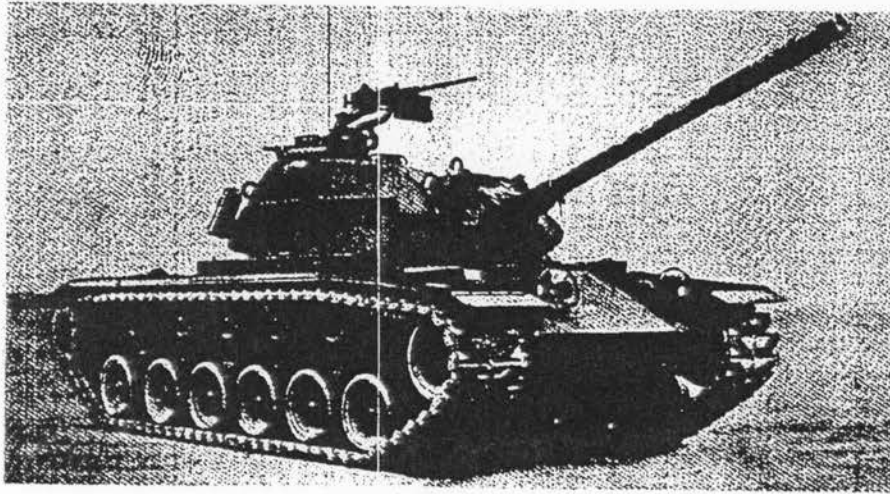
British medium tanks mounting 76.2-mm. and 83.4-mm. guns. Cruising range is 100 miles at a maximum speed of 22 miles per hour.

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M-48 Tank

Israel
Jordan

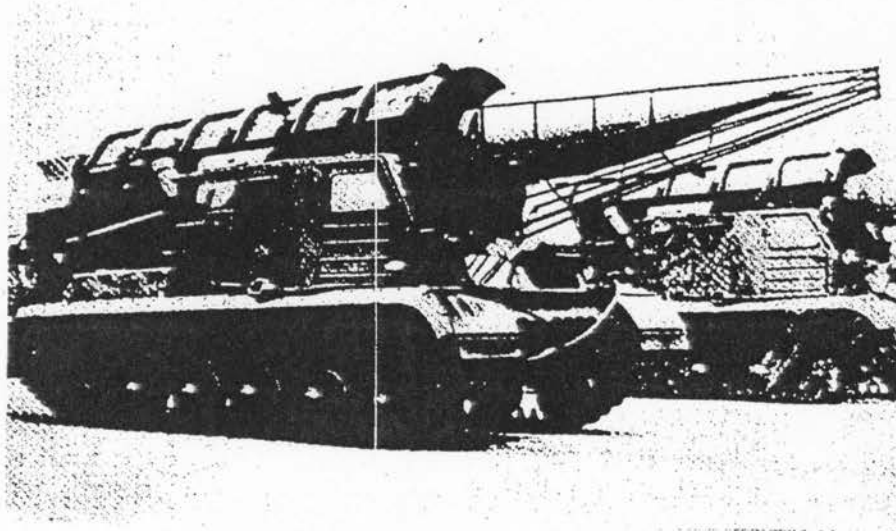
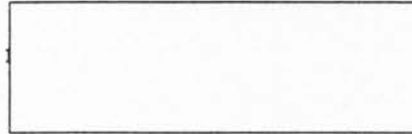


US medium tank, mounting a 90-mm. gun, with a
cruising range of 70 miles and a maximum speed
of 32 miles per hour.

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Frog-1 Rocket

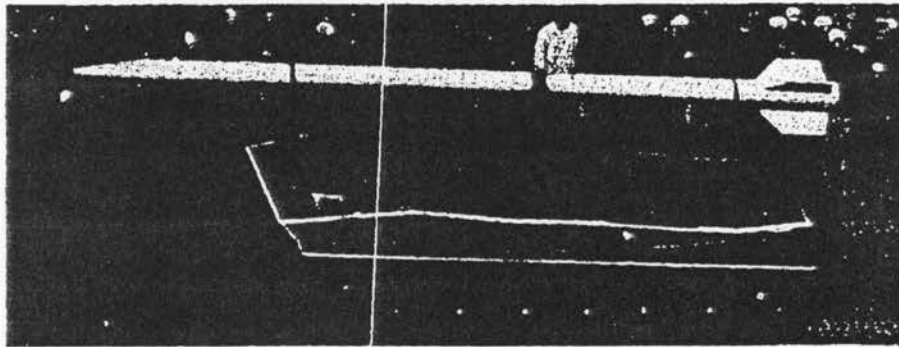


Soviet tactical rocket on a tracked vehicle that can deliver high-explosive, chemical, and nuclear warheads to a range of 15 miles.

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Frog-5 Rocket



Soviet tactical rocket on a tracked vehicle that can deliver high-explosive and nuclear warheads to a range of 35 miles.

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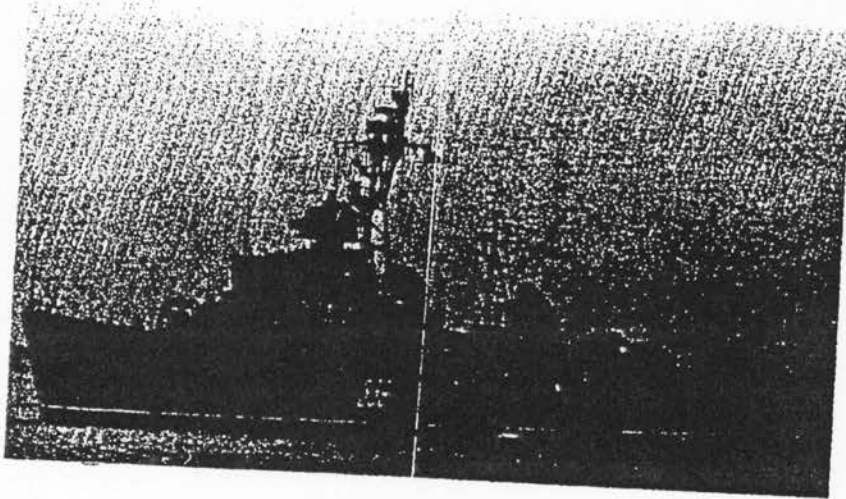
Naval Equipment

NAVAL

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Skoryy-class Destroyer

Egypt

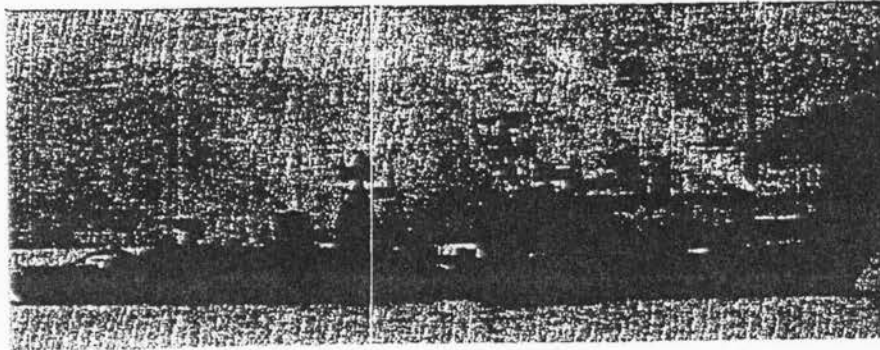


Soviet obsolescent conventional destroyer built during the period 1949-53. This unit carries two twin 5.1-inch guns, antiaircraft guns, torpedoes, and mines.

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Kotlin-class Destroyer
[redacted]



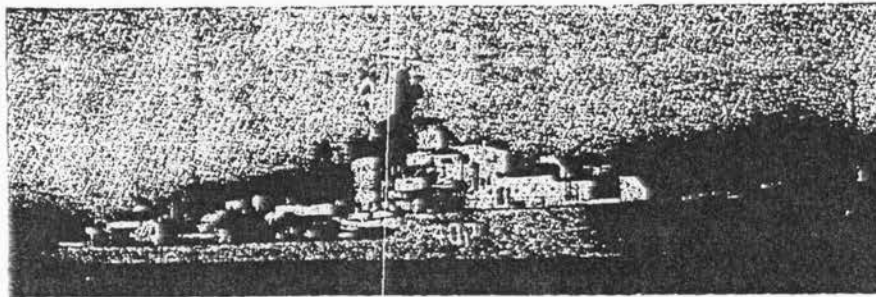
The best of the Soviet postwar conventional de-
stroyers. Some of these units are being armed
with surface-to-air missiles. The UAR may receive
two SAM conversion Kotlins.

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Z-class (Emergency) Destroyer

Israel
Egypt



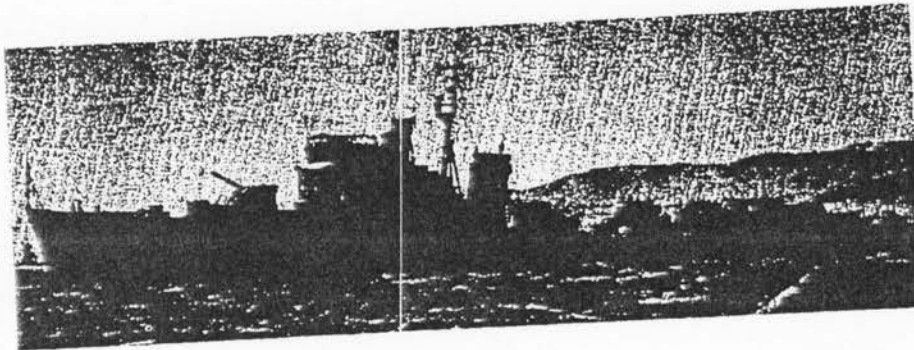
British eight displacement escort built during WWII. These ships carry four 4.5-inch guns, anti-aircraft guns, torpedoes, and depth charges. Israeli Eilat--sunk off Port Said on 21 October--was of this class.

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Hunt-class Frigate

Israel
Egypt



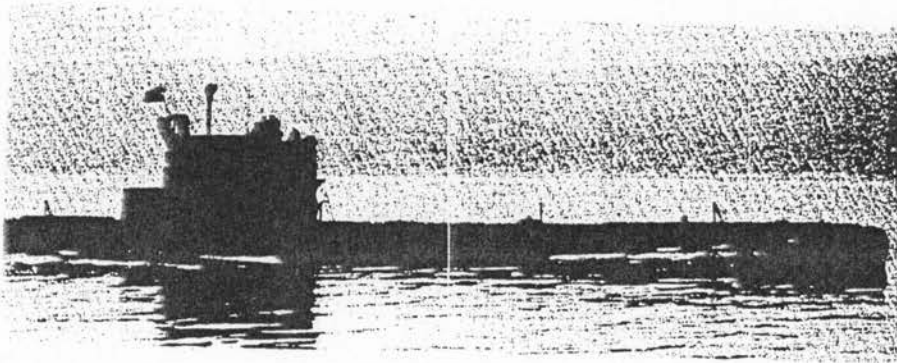
British small ASW ship captured from Egypt in 1956.
It carries four 4-inch guns, antiaircraft guns,
and depth charges.

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W-class Submarine

Egypt



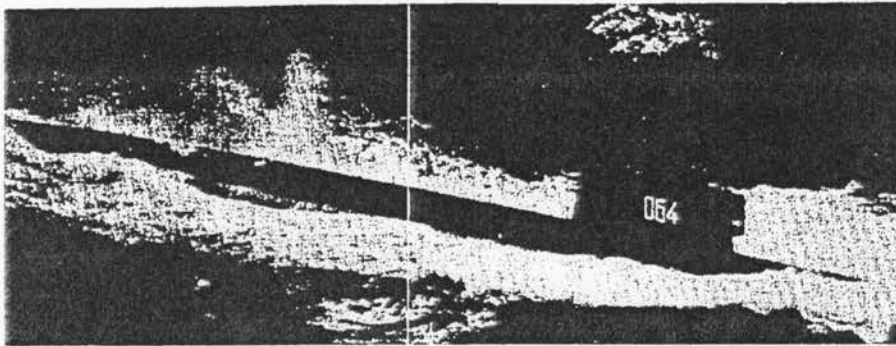
The workhorse of the Soviet fleet until the mid-1950s. It has been replaced by modern diesel and nuclear units, but is still a good medium-range unit. The W-class has a maximum submerged speed of 13.5 knots for one hour and carries 14 torpedoes or 28 mines.

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R-class Submarine

Egypt



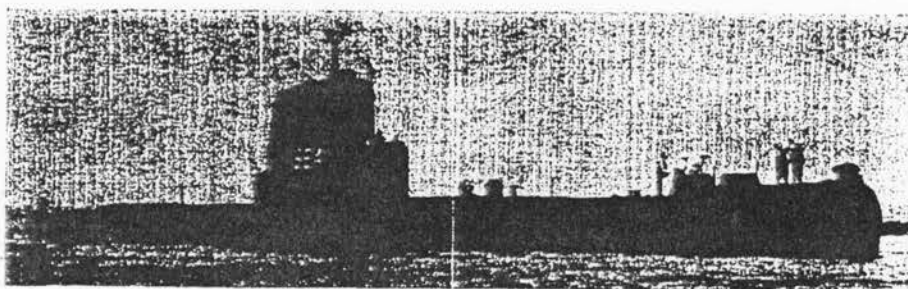
An improvement of the Soviet W-class diesel attack submarine. A streamlined superstructure gives these units a maximum submerged speed of 15.5 knots and permits quieter submerged operations.

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T-class Submarine

Israel



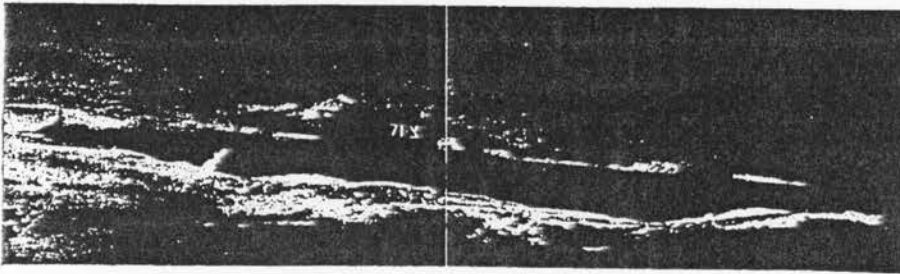
A modern British diesel-powered torpedo attack unit. These two units were extensively modified to Israeli specifications before delivery.

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S-class Submarine

Israel



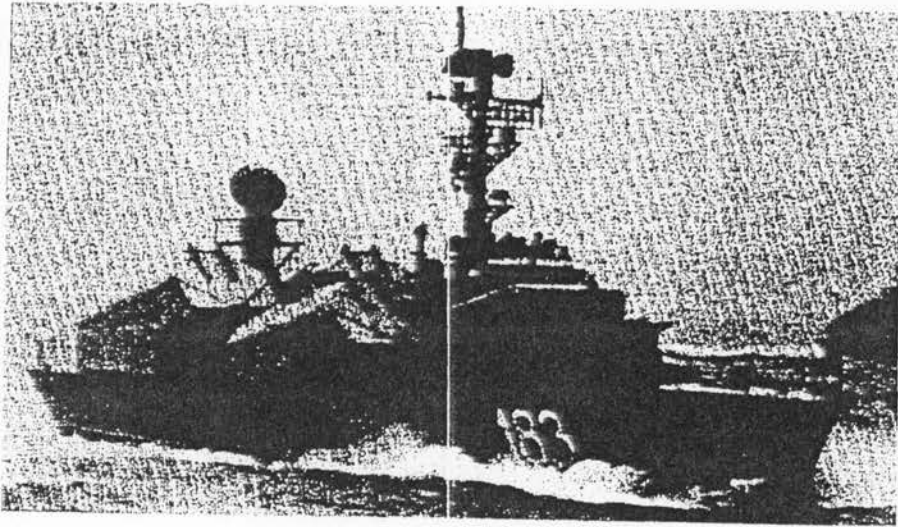
A short-range British unit with limited capabilities against modern ASW units. They are quite good, however, for coastal patrols and carry a 4-inch gun for surface engagements.

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OSA-class Guided-Missile Patrol Boats

Egypt
Algeria



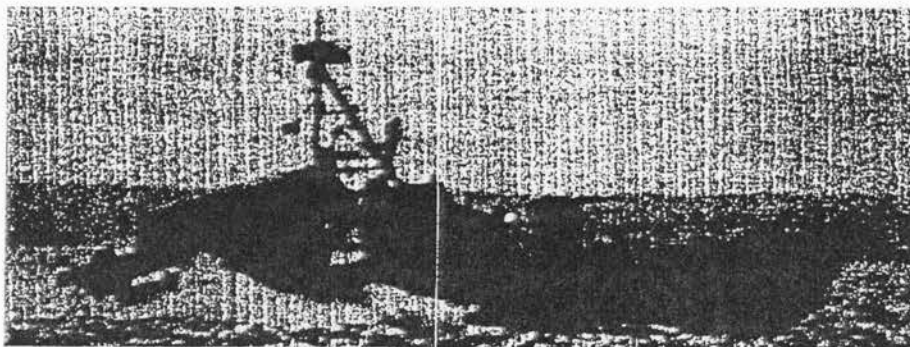
A Soviet-built high-speed patrol boat armed with four SS-N-2 (Styx) cruise missiles and 37-mm. antiaircraft guns provides effective coastal defense against enemy naval attack.

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Komar-class Guided-Missile Patrol Boat

Egypt, Syria,
Algeria, Iraq



This Soviet unit carries two SS-N-2 cruise missiles and has a shorter operating radius than the Osa-class unit. The SS-N-2 missile has a maximum range of about 20 miles and has a self-contained terminal radar guidance system. A Styx missile fired from an Egyptian boat sank the Eilat last October.

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Shershen-class Fast Patrol Boat

Egypt



A large Soviet PT boat which carries four torpedoes and two twin 37-mm. mounts. They have been used for picket duty off major harbors.

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T-43-class Fleet Minesweeper

Egypt
Syria



The Soviet T-43 is a mass-produced postwar design which apparently handles well in restricted waters and heavy seas. They have excellent maneuverability. Several weapons mixes have been tried on these boats including two twin 25-mm. antiaircraft guns, and two twin 37-mm. antiaircraft guns. They are equipped to sweep moored and magnetic mines, although these units are used as general purpose auxiliaries.

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