



**JHUMUNC**  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

**ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT**  
*Quadrumvirate: Yom Kippur War (1973)*  
*Chaired by Gayatri Pillai*

Session XXIII

# Arab Republic of Egypt

## *Quadrumvirate: Yom Kippur War of 1973*

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*Topic A: Allocating Resources, Improving Internal Stability, and Developing Strategic Maneuvers*

*Topic B: Negotiating Peace*

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### **Committee Overview**

After the Six-Day War, Israel seized our rightful claim to the Sinai Peninsula, a region that was ours since the First Dynasty in 3100 BC. It has now been 6 years and we have a chance to reclaim this land as we begin our invasion into Israel. Yet, we should not underestimate the strength of the Israeli forces and their powerful allies. As a committee we must remain resilient, coordinate with our allies, allocate resources and take back what is rightfully ours!

It is the eve of October 6th, 1973 and I, Sadat Anwar, have requested your presence to contribute to Egypt's success in regaining lost territory and establishing peace in the region. Each of you has demonstrated experience from past wars including World War II, the Arab-Israeli War, the Suez Crisis, the Six-Day War, and the War of Attrition. I urge you to draw upon your skills to develop compelling strategies to overtake the Israeli forces.

My vision for success comes from our ability to efficiently use our resources, anticipate our opponent's moves, build strong relationships with allies, and fight confidently with minimal casualties. We are a strong force to be reckoned with, but we must not underestimate the Israeli military and their support from others who support their cause. Many of us have developed

relations with the Soviet Union, the United States and more. We will utilize communiques to talk to the Syrian Arab Republic, State of Israel, and the United States.

The current state of our economy has set an uneasy foundation for smooth success. However, I am confident that with our collective network and our agile minds we will be able to bring Egypt to a state of greater prosperity.

As commanders, captains, engineers, and diplomats, you all will be challenged with critical situations. Come prepared for fast debate and creative ideas. I look forward to a strong group and personal directives that bring peace to Egypt and our neighbors.

### **Parliamentary Procedure**

Parliamentary procedure for specialized committees will be more relaxed with a focus on more moderated caucuses. Delegates will represent influential individuals during the Yom Kippur War of 1973 with all portfolio powers that come with it. For more information on JHUMUNC parliamentary procedure please note the last few pages of the Conference guide or consult "Model UN Resources" under the "Resources" tab on our website, [www.jhumunc.org](http://www.jhumunc.org).



# Delegate Biographies:

## Mohmoud Fawzi

*Prime Minister*

Fawzi stood as an influential diplomat of the new republic after the revolution in 1952 that ousted King Farouk I. He served alongside President Anwar el-Sadat during the Yom Kippur War. Fawzi served as the foreign minister under President Gamal Abdel Nasser. He has a degree in criminal law from the University of Rome and has developed strong diplomatic skills from his experience as the ambassador to the United Kingdom, representative to the United Nations, and a consul general in Jerusalem.<sup>1</sup>

## Ashraf Marwan

*Diplomat*

Marwan served in the Presidential Office under President Gamal Abdel Nasser. He married Nasser's daughter Mona, which prompted el-Sadat to keep Marwan after Nasser's death as a demonstration that the support of the Nasser family was close. Marwan developed strong relations with the Saudi and Libyan leadership. Prior to the Yom Kippur War he provided Israel with information about Egypt's intentions to take the Sinai Peninsula.<sup>2</sup>

## Ahmed Ismail Ali

*Commander in Chief*

Ali graduated from Egypt's Royal Military Academy in 1938 and has since established tremendous experience serving in numerous wars including World War II, Arab-Israeli War 1948, Tripartite Aggression of 1956, Six-Day War

of 1967, and other battles to defend Egyptian soil. He applied his tactical skill during the attack on the Suez Canal and is known to be a strong strategist.<sup>3</sup>

## Saad El Shazly

*Chief of Staff*

Shazly was a skillful officer who implemented strategic maneuvers to counterattack the Israeli forces on the Suez Canal. Despite his success in outmaneuvering the Israeli forces, he often had disagreements with Sadat over military strategies.<sup>4</sup>

## Abdel Ghani el-Gammasy

*Chief of Operations of the Ground Forces*

El-Gammasy joined the Egyptian Military Academy after high school and continued his service in the infantry in 1941. During the Yom Kippur War he served as a commander of the ground forces and participated in disengagement talks that allowed the Israeli forces to withdraw to the east of the Suez Canal and the Sinai Peninsula.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Encyclopedia Britannica. (2019). *Anwar Sadat on international affairs*. [online] Available at:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Anwar-Sadat-on-international-affairs-1960770> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>2</sup> Bar-Joseph, Uri (2017). *The Angel: The Egyptian Spy Who Saved Israel*. New York: HarperCollins. pp. 227-232.

<sup>3</sup> archive.is. (2019). Ahmad Isma'il (Egyptian defense minister) -- Britannica Online Encyclopedia [online] Available at:

<https://archive.is/20130110164550/http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-9390986> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>4</sup> Shazly, Lieutenant General Saad el (2003). *The Crossing of the Suez, Revised Edition* (Revised ed.). American Mideast Research.

<sup>5</sup> Kandil, Hazem (2012), *Soldiers, Spies and Statesmen: Egypt's Road to Revolt*, Verso Books, p. 86-92.

## Hosni Mubarak

*Commander of the Air Force*

Mubarak received his bachelor's degree in aviation sciences after joining the Air Force Academy. During the Yom Kippur war he served as the Egyptian Deputy Minister of Defense as well as the Air Force Commander. His pilots had a strong hit accuracy of 90% which allowed the Egyptian Air Force to dominate the Israeli Air Force.<sup>6</sup>

## Ismail Fahmy

*Foreign Minister*

Fahmy acquired a degree in political science from Cairo University. He served as a diplomat to the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency, and an ambassador to Austria and France. Sadat appointed him as foreign minister to maintain communication with the Soviet Union and the US.<sup>7</sup>

## Mohammed Aly Fahmy

*Commander of the Egyptian Air Defense Command*

Fahmy studied Air Defense in the Soviet Union and received his PhD in Air Defense strategy. Bringing his knowledge from the Soviet Union to Egypt, he sought to separate the Air Defense from the Armed Forces and reorganized it with brigades, divisions, and an academy. He served in World War II, Arab-Israeli War, Suez Crisis, Six-Day War, and the War of Attrition. He organized the Air Defense Command and resigned as Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces due to rivalry with Mubarak.<sup>8</sup>

## Saad Mamoun

*Commander of the Egyptian Second Army*

Mamoun received a master's in military science from the College of Higher War. He led the largest field army during the Yom Kippur War and successfully seized the bridges east of the Suez Canal. He served in other wars including the war in Yemen and was one of Sadat's closest supports.<sup>9</sup>

## Fouad Mohamed Abou Zikry

*Commander in Chief of the Egyptian Navy*

Zikry served for the Egyptian Navy from 1944 to 1977. He holds the rank of Admiral and helped military planners develop strategies to overtake the Sinai Peninsula. During the Yom Kippur War he also served as the Deputy Minister of Defense.<sup>10</sup>

## Ibrahim El-Orabi

*Commander of the 21st Armored Division*

Orabi received his Bachelor of Military Science from the Egyptian Military Academy and his PhD in Military Science from Nasser Military Academy. He led the 21st Armored Division that served during the conquest for the Sinai Peninsula. He had an active role during the revolution of 1953 and was arrested for opposing the Revolutionary Command Council.<sup>11</sup>

## Abdul Munim Wassel

*Commander of the Third Army*

Wassel worked closely with Mamoun to coordinate a strong attack for the Sinai Peninsula. He strategically used tanks and coordinated with brigades and divisions to conquer the Sinai lands.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Defencejournal.com. (2019). *Opinion*. [online] Available at: <http://www.defencejournal.com/2002/nov/4th-round.htm> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>7</sup> Goldschmidt Jr., Arthur. (1999) *Biographical Dictionary of Modern Egypt*, Boulder, CO: L. Reinner, 51.

<sup>8</sup> Aly Fahmy, Mohammed. "Biography of Mohammed Aly Fahmy". Mmc.gov.eg.

<sup>9</sup> Defencejournal.com. (2019). *Opinion*. [online] Available at: <http://www.defencejournal.com/2002/nov/4th-round.htm> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>10</sup> El-Shazly, N. (1998). *The Gulf tanker war*. New York: St. Martin's

<sup>11</sup> Egypt News. 2019. *Maspero.eg*. Retrieved 25 October 2019, from <https://www.maspero.eg/wps/portal/home/egynews?params=87364>

<sup>12</sup> Web.archive.org. (2019). *Wayback Machine*. [online] Available at: <https://web.archive.org/web/20090116071541> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

## Helmy Afify Abd el-Bar

*Chief of Operations and Staff of the Air Defense Forces*

El-Bar acquired a degree in Air Defense from the Soviet Union. He later received his PhD from the Govorov Air Defense College in 1970 with a thesis that focused on implementing adequate Air Defense for artillery in open deserts. He served as Sadat's assistant and coordinated with the Engineering Corps to develop military strategies.<sup>13</sup>

## Kamal Hassan Ali

*Engineer in Chief*

Ali began his education studying to be a doctor prior to quitting and joining the military academy. He had served in the Arab-Israeli War and World War II. He became the commander of the Central Military Zone from 1973 to 1975. Ali later contributed to peace talks and negotiations as well as gained relationships with the Intelligence service and Gulf Bank.<sup>14</sup>

## Mohammed Hassan El-Zayyat

*Diplomat*

El-Zayyat was the Minister of Foreign Affairs prior to Ismail Fahmy. He is known to present himself as a moderate on the issue with Israel. He had a strong connection to the United Nations when he was a permanent representative of Egypt. He studied oriental language and literature from the University of Cairo and received a PhD in Oriental Studies at Oxford. He had continued to develop relationships throughout different countries to seek out solutions to the Middle East Crisis.<sup>15</sup>

## Hafiz Ismail

*National Security Adviser*

Ismail served as a liaison to Great Britain, France, and Italy. He helped Sadat negotiate with the US and Israel without intervention by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He later served as the ambassador to the Soviet Union. He developed a relationship with Henry Kissinger, President Nixon's National Security Advisor.<sup>16</sup>

## Mahmoud Riad

*Secretary General of the Arab League*

Riad had served as Minister of Foreign Affairs prior to Ismail Fahmy. He also served as an ambassador to the United Nations and Syria. Riad has developed diplomatic skills after nine years of service to the army.<sup>17</sup>

## Emad Salem

*Sniper*

Salem was an army officer who was a trained sniper during the Yom Kippur War. He was successfully able to capture several Israeli prisoners of war.<sup>18</sup>

## Gameel Al-Batouti

*Pilot*

Al-Batouti joined the Egyptian Air Force and trained to be a pilot. He served as a pilot during the Yom Kippur War. He comes from a wealthy and well-educated family. His father was a mayor and landowner.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>13</sup>Gawrych, G. (2000). *The Albatross of Decisive Victory*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.

<sup>14</sup>"Kamal Hassan Ali, 72; Was Premier of Egypt." *The New York Times*. 28 March 1993. Retrieved September 20, 2019.

<sup>15</sup>Nytimes.com. (2019). *Egypt's No. 1 Diplomat Mohammed Hassan el-Zayyat*. [online] Available at: <https://www.nytimes.com/1972/09/09/archives/egypts-no-1-diplomat-mohammed-hassan-elzayyat.html> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>16</sup>SAGE Journals. (2019). *Last Chance to Avoid War: Sadat's Peace Initiative of February 1973 and its Failure - Uri Bar-Joseph*, 2006.

[online] Available at:

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0022009406064668> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>17</sup>Archives. *The New York Times*. January 26, 1992.

<sup>18</sup>Revolvly, L. (2019). "Emad Salem" on *Revolvly.com*. [online] *Revolvly.com*. Available at:

<https://www.revolvly.com/page/Emad-Salem> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>19</sup>"Operational Factors Group Chairman's Factual Report" (PDF). National Transportation Safety Board. 18 January 2000. Archived from the original on 4 June 2011. Retrieved 21 March 2014.

## **Mohammed Bassiouni**

### *Diplomat*

Bassiouni was a liaison to the Syrian General Staff Headquarters. He developed relationships with the Israeli government, which helped foster peace talks.<sup>20</sup>

## **Jamal Azzam**

### *Army Captain*

Jamal served as a captain in the Egyptian army during the Yom Kippur War. He graduated from the Egyptian Military Academy in 1968 and joined the Special Forces. Prior to the war, he was a teacher and a skilled athlete.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Rabinovich, A. (n.d.). *The Yom Kippur War*.

<sup>21</sup> Revolvy, L. (2019). "Jamal Azzam" on *Revolvy.com*. [online] Revolvy.com. Available at:

<https://www.revolvy.com/page/Jamal-Azzam> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].



## Topic A:

### *Allocating Resources, Improving Internal Stability, and Developing Relations with Allies*

## Introduction

The Yom Kippur War of 1973, also known as the October War or Ramadan War, began during the month of Ramadan and on Yom Kippur. After the Six-Day War, Israel seized the Sinai Peninsula, Gaza Strip, West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Syria's Golan Heights. In 1970, President Gamal Abdel Nasser passed away and Anwar el-Sadat was appointed President of Egypt to tackle the economic and political instability of Egypt caused by the loss in battles with Israel.

On October 6th, Egypt and Syria launched a joint surprise attack on the Israeli forces, many of whom were away observing Yom Kippur<sup>22</sup>. Other Arab countries joined including Iraq and Jordan. The Soviet Union equipped Egypt with its latest military technology.<sup>23</sup> The United States aided Israel but delayed the response in sympathy for Egypt and anticipation of economic implications. Egypt had crossed the Suez Canal, while Syria decided to take advantage of Egypt's offensive initiative to attack the Golan heights.

As the tensions between Egypt, Syria and Israel increased, the Soviet Union began to assist the Arab countries. As a result, the originally reluctant and neutral United States decided to aid Israel. In retaliation to U.S. aid, the Arab countries imposed a

significant oil embargo.<sup>24</sup> Tensions between the United States and Soviet Union increased as these two nations aided their respective sides.

With reinforcements, Israel was able to overtake the Egyptian Third Army and take back the Golan plateau. Israel had won back territories at a large cost. On October 22, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 338, which called upon a cease fire from both regions. Fighting continued and on October 24, the United Nations passed Resolution 339 that renewed the call for a cease fire mentioned in resolution 338. Fighting eventually stopped on October 26. Israel and Egypt then signed a cease-fire in November. In 1978, the Camp David Accords returned the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt and Israel became officially recognized. Egypt also left the Soviet Union's sphere of influence entirely. Henry Kissinger, United States Secretary of State, facilitated peace talks. Israeli Major General Aharon Yarín and Egyptian Major General Abdel Ghani el-Gamasy negotiated disengagement agreements on October 28, 1973. When delegates are going about debate, one should keep in mind that while these historical events and actions are provided as examples of what could occur, committee does not have to follow history exactly.

<sup>22</sup> Encyclopedia Britannica. (2019). *Yom Kippur War | Summary, Causes, Combatants, & Facts*. [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/event/Yom-Kippur-War> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>23</sup> Quandt, William B. (1976). *Soviet Policy in the October 1973 War*. <https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/reports/2006/R1864.pdf>

<sup>24</sup> Encyclopedia Britannica. (2019). *Yom Kippur War | Summary, Causes, Combatants, & Facts*. [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/event/Yom-Kippur-War> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

## History with Sinai Peninsula

The Sinai Peninsula has long been central to Egypt's history. It is estimated that the peninsula, which connects Africa and Asia, has been a part of Egypt since around 3000 B.C.<sup>25</sup> Roads along Sinai's northern coast served as principal trade routes between Egypt and Palestine for several centuries until the decline of the Egyptian Empire.<sup>26</sup> The peninsula was then taken over by the Roman Empire.<sup>27</sup> In 1517, the Ottoman Empire assumed control of Sinai.<sup>28</sup> In the 19th Century, Egypt became independent from the Ottoman Empire, making passage through Sinai more difficult.<sup>29</sup> Following the end of World War I, Sinai was finally returned to Egypt.<sup>30</sup>

Israel occupied Sinai several times throughout the 20th century. In 1947, the U.N. General Assembly adopted Resolution 181, sometimes known as the Partition Resolution, which divided Great Britain's former Palestinian mandate into Jewish and Arab states.<sup>31</sup> Under the resolution, Jerusalem would remain under international control administered by the United Nations.<sup>32</sup> Palestinian Arabs refused to recognize the resolution, prompting fighting between Palestinian Jews and Arabs, as Palestinian Arabs fought to prevent the establishment of a Jewish state.<sup>33</sup> Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, and Saudi

Arabia joined the Palestinian Arabs in an unsuccessful invasion of Israel in May of 1948.<sup>34</sup> During the campaign, Israeli troops captured parts of northeastern Sinai while pursuing retreating Egyptian forces.<sup>35</sup> However, Israel's occupation was brief given pressures from the United States and threats of military intervention by Great Britain, forcing Israel to withdraw from the peninsula.<sup>36</sup>

Suffering defeat at the hands of the Israeli state caused years of political upheaval throughout the Arab world as military officers seized power in many countries including Egypt. In Egypt, Nasser rallied a group of young officers to overthrow the King of Egypt.<sup>37</sup> The defeat also became a scar that influenced every aspect of politics and government in Arab countries and contributed to continuously rising tensions between the Israelis and Arabs.<sup>38</sup> Rising tensions and skirmishes along the Israeli-Syrian border eventually led to war again in 1967. Egypt blockaded the Strait of Tiran and Nasser, a general at the time, forced the retreat of the UN Emergency Force, stationed on the peninsula since the Suez Crisis.<sup>39</sup> Egypt's actions and threats of war led Israel to invade.<sup>40</sup> During the Six-Day War that followed, Israel retook the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt, as well as the Golan Heights and the West Bank from Syria and Jordan

<sup>25</sup> Encyclopedia Britannica. (2019). *Sinai Peninsula | Definition, Map, History, & Facts*. [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Sinai-Peninsula> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> History.state.gov. (2019). *Milestones: 1945-1952 - Office of the Historian*. [online] Available at: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/arab-israeli-war> [Accessed 22 Sep. 2019].

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

<sup>35</sup> *SINAI PENINSULA: THE YEARS OF CONFLICT*. (2019). *Nytimes.com*. Retrieved 25 October 2019, from <https://www.nytimes.com/1982/04/26/world/sinai-peninsula-the-years-of-conflict.html>

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> *1967 war: Six days that changed the Middle East*. (2019). *BBC News*. Retrieved 25 October 2019, from <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-39960461>

<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

<sup>39</sup> *Sinai Peninsula*. (2019). *Autocww.colorado.edu*. Retrieved 25 October 2019, from <http://autocww.colorado.edu/~toldy3/E64ContentFiles/GeographicalRegions/SinaiPeninsula.html>

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.



respectively.<sup>41</sup> Israel has retained control of the Sinai since then.

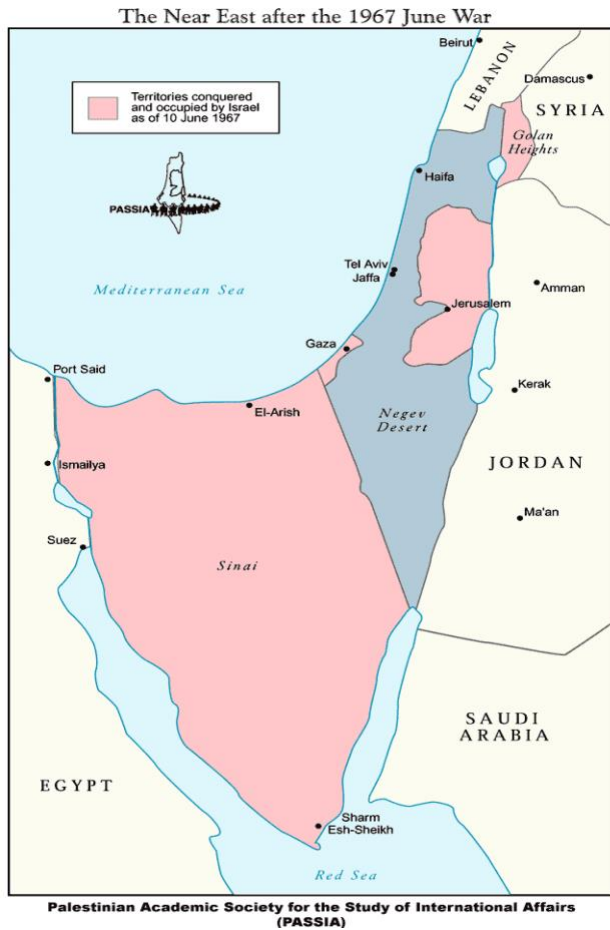


Figure 1: Sinai Peninsula, Israeli, and Palestinian Territory.<sup>42</sup>

## Political and Economic Atmosphere

In 1970, Gamal Abdel Nasser, who had served as Egypt's president since 1952 and was credited with ousting the British imperialist government, passed away. He was succeeded by his Vice President, Anwar el-Sadat, who set the stage for the Yom Kippur War three years later. In 1971, Sadat launched a reform program that became

known as the Corrective Revolution.<sup>43</sup> In May of 1971, Sadat dismissed his vice president as the head of Arab Socialist Union (ASU),<sup>44</sup> which was founded in 1962 by Nasser as the nation's sole political party. Sadat also arrested over one hundred other Nasser-era officials, including the Minister of Interior, the Minister of War, and the Head of Internal Security, charging them with plotting a coup against the government.<sup>45</sup> Sadat's Corrective Revolution purged the Egyptian government of Nasserists, marking the beginning of his distinct shift away from Nasser's policies.

During Sadat's presidency, Egyptian relations with the Soviet Union began to deteriorate. This was largely a result of the USSR's ambivalent foreign policy; the Soviet Union was "Egypt's staunchest advocate against Israel," but also sought to alleviate Cold War tensions and cultivate a more agreeable relationship with the United States.<sup>46</sup> Russia also refused to provide Egypt with offensive weapons that would have allowed Egypt to gain an upper hand against Israel who possessed superior air power, for fear that changing the power balance in the Middle East would lead to confrontation with the United States.<sup>47</sup> As a result, Sadat expelled Soviet military advisers from Egypt in July of 1972. Sadat also began to reorient his policy to become more favorable to the US. As a result, he introduced greater political freedoms to an extent.

Since 1967, Egypt has been governed under Emergency Law No. 162, which

<sup>41</sup> "1967 War: Six Days That Changed The Middle East". 2019. *BBC News*. Accessed November 3 2019.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-39960461>.

<sup>42</sup> "Maps: 1967 To Present - Palestine Portal". 2019. *Palestine Portal*. Accessed November 3 2019.

<https://www.palestineportal.org/learn-teach/israelpalestine-the-basics/maps/maps-1967-to-present/>.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid

<sup>44</sup> Ibid

<sup>45</sup> Ibid

<sup>46</sup> "Why Sadat Packed Off The Russians". 2019. *Nytimes.Com*. Accessed November 3 2019.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1972/08/06/archives/why-sadat-packed-off-the-russians-egypt.html>.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid

grants immense emergency powers to the executive.<sup>48</sup> Under emergency law, the executive has the power to suspend basic rights by prohibiting demonstrations, censoring newspapers, monitoring personal communications, and detaining people indefinitely without charge.<sup>49</sup>

Sadat's reorientation of policy in 1972 also included the opening of the Egyptian economy to foreign trade and investment. Sadat sought to liberalize the Egyptian economy by moving away from the Soviet style planning that Nasser favored.<sup>50</sup> The Soviet's employed a materials-balance approach which made little to no use of market mechanisms and relied heavily on government ownership and operation of large-scale industry.<sup>51</sup> Sadat's economic policy, on the other hand, made greater use of market mechanisms and allowed for a greater degree of international trade.<sup>52</sup>

In 1970, Egypt completed the Aswan High Dam, a rockfill dam across the Nile River that impounded floodwaters into a reservoir that now serves the irrigation needs of both Egypt and Sudan.<sup>53</sup> The dam has produced massive benefits to the Egyptian economy, particularly the agricultural industry.<sup>54</sup> The dam controls floodwaters, enabling farmers to maximize utility on irrigated land and to water hundreds of thousands of new acres. The reservoir also supplied ample water during droughts.<sup>55</sup> Improved irrigation has also benefited tourism and fishing industries. In addition, the dam's turbines generate nearly

100 billion kilowatt-hours per year.<sup>56</sup> However, the dam has had some negative impacts. Massive relocations were required for its construction. The dam has also caused a gradual decrease in the fertility of riverside agricultural lands because impounding floodwaters prevents silt from being deposited on the riverside farmland during floods.<sup>57</sup>

## Strategies

The Egyptian military comprises of 5 regions: Central Military High Command, Northern Military Region, Eastern Military Region, Western Military Region, and Southern Military Region. There are 3 field armies called the First, Second, and Third Field Army<sup>58</sup>. The military also comprises of arms and services that are segmented into Divisions and Brigade.

After the Six-Day War, Israeli forces built the Bar Lev Lines on the eastern bank of the Suez Canal. Israel bolstered these lines by pumping flammable crude oil to create a wall of flame. Egyptian forces used "frogmen", military personnel equipped with scuba-diving like materials, to block the pipes. Israel also built a series of roads that facilitated the military connecting with other fortifications and providing defensive lines with resources more easily. The line incorporated a large sand wall with concrete reinforcements. The line made it dangerous for armies to cross and nearly impossible for military vehicles to cross over. The entire project was worth close to USD 300

<sup>48</sup> "Egypt: Extending State Of Emergency Violates Rights". 2008. *Human Rights Watch*. Accessed November 3 2019. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2008/05/27/egypt-extending-state-emergency-violates-rights#>.

<sup>49</sup> "Egypt: Extending State Of Emergency Violates Rights". 2008. *Human Rights Watch*. Accessed November 3 2019. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2008/05/27/egypt-extending-state-emergency-violates-rights#>.

<sup>50</sup> Bruton, Henry J. "Egypt's Development in the Seventies," *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (Jul, 1983), pp. 697-704.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.

<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

<sup>53</sup> "Aswan High Dam | Dam, Egypt". 2019. *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Accessed November 3 2019.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Aswan-High-Dam>.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

<sup>56</sup> Ibid.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid.

<sup>58</sup> "Wayback Machine". 2019. *Web.Archive.Org*. Accessed November 3 2019.

[https://web.archive.org/web/20110807095449/http://www.orb.at.com/site/cwa\\_open/egypt\\_07182009.pdf](https://web.archive.org/web/20110807095449/http://www.orb.at.com/site/cwa_open/egypt_07182009.pdf).

million.<sup>59</sup> Saad El Shazly crossed the line using a number of technologies including water cannons, dredging pumps, and explosives. To overcome the sand, 70 Egyptian engineering groups attacked each barrier with water pumps and used wood, metal nets, and more to create a floor for the military vehicles and personnel to cross the then muddy barrier. These strategies to overcome the Bar Lev Line allowed the Egyptian army to infiltrate Israeli defense with success.

On October 6, Operation Badr went into effect and Egypt crossed the Suez Canal to overtake the Bar Lev Line. Syria attacked the Golan Heights. The crossing was complete by the next day and the success boosted morale. It began with a large airstrike that targeted three Israeli bases.

On October 7, Operation Tagar went into effect, with an objective of destroying all of the Egypt's surface-to-air missile batteries using three waves. However, after the first wave destroyed the Egyptian air force base, Israel cancelled the other two waves to allocate those forces to fight the Syrian front, also known as Operation Doogman, and to destroy all Syrian surface-to-air missiles.<sup>60</sup>

By October 9, Egypt's lines stabilized and could not advance. However, Shazly wanted to attack eastward only with adequate air coverage. Egypt sent commandos in helicopters to destroy the Israeli rear but were destroyed by a Israeli reconnaissance unit. Egypt refused to send any more commandos and later suffered more casualties than Israel in the subsequent Egyptian attack.

Following this Egyptian defeat, the Israelis enacted Operation Valiant and

launched a counterattack to cross the Suez Canal and attack the Egyptian forces. Having not scouted the area, General Shazly did not know the extent of the Israeli offensive and the magnitude of the forces. As a result, Israel was able to flood in more forces across the canal and ultimately subdue Egyptian defenses. Eventually, on October 22, the United Nations called for a cease fire and both sides started to address building peace diplomatically, yielding the Camp David Accords, disengagement agreements, and other diplomatic agreements.

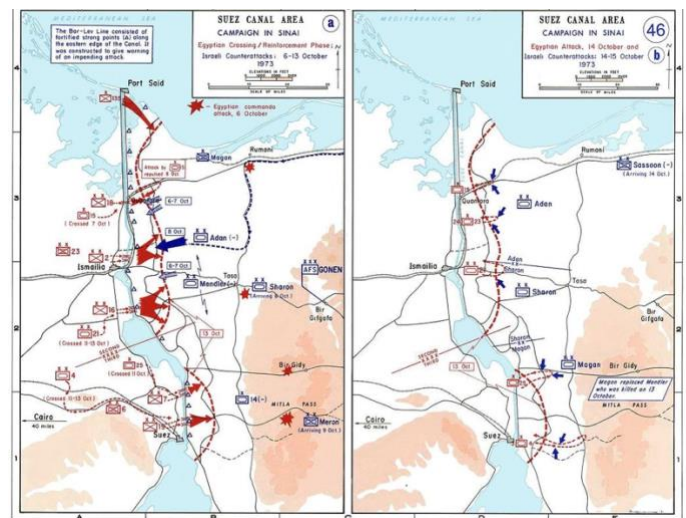


Figure 2: The Bar Lev Line and military attack of Egyptian and Israeli forces<sup>61</sup>

<sup>59</sup> Dr. George W. Gawrych, *The 1973 Arab-Israeli War: The Albatross of Decisive Victory* Archived 2011-05-07 at the Wayback Machine pp. 16-18

<sup>60</sup> "אתר חיל-האוויר". 2019. *Iaf.Org.il*. Accessed November 3 2019. <https://www.iaf.org.il/843-13281-he/IAF.aspx>.

<sup>61</sup> "Egyptians Crossing Suez Canal". 2019. *Flickr*. Accessed November 3 2019. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ciagov/8413628531/in/set-72157632588891070>.

## Resources

The Arab army, comprising primarily of Egyptian, Syrian, and Iraqi soldiers, were equipped with Soviet weapons. The Israeli military was armed with American artillery. Upon Western support of Israel, the Arab countries imposed an embargo on all oil exports to the United States, Portugal, and Holland<sup>62</sup>. These embargos, declared largely by Saudi Arabia and later other members of OPEC, led to the 1973 energy crisis.

The 1973 energy crisis affected several nations including Canada, Japan, United Kingdom, Rhodesia, and South Africa. Oil prices quadrupled. Oil production by members of OPEC also decreased by 5%.<sup>63</sup> With increasing dependence on foreign oil, the United States was depleting its domestic reserves. This crisis coupled with the devaluation of the USD created a global recession. In response, U.S. President Richard Nixon developed programs such as Project Independence to remove the U.S.'s dependence on foreign oil.

Along with leveraging oil, the Egyptian military had tactical advantages with their military equipment. Egyptian tanks called T-54s, T-55s and T-62 were provided by the Soviet Union and had night vision that allowed for more efficient battle at night. The Israeli forces also had advantageous tanks. Some of their tanks including the Centurion and Patton could depress their guns lower allowing for less visualization by the other forces.

<sup>62</sup> "Background & Overview - Yom Kippur War". 2019. *Jewishvirtuallibrary.Org*. Accessed November 3 2019. <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/background-and-overview-yom-kippur-war>.

<sup>63</sup> "Milestones: 1969–1976 - Office Of The Historian". 2019. *History.State.Gov*. Accessed November 3 2019. <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1969-1976/oil-embargo>

## Questions to Consider

1. *What advantages did the Israelis have to make them successful?*

Though the Israelis lacked numbers, they were known for their speed, successful strategies and powerful allies. They had taken defensive initiatives by building and fortifying the Bar Lev Line. Their military equipment and counterattack strategy also provided an advantage.

2. *How did President el-Sadat contribute to the political atmosphere?*

Sadat's surprise attack and infiltration of the Bar Lev Line was highly respected as the Bar Lev line was thought to be impenetrable. After taking office he began quite popular as he took anti-corruption acts, implemented "infatih" to open up the economy, and reduce Soviet dependence.

3. *What resources does the Egyptian military have to take advantage of?*

Egypt had skilled commanders and more manpower. They also had the latest Soviet military equipment and significant influence on OPEC policies.

4. *In hindsight, how would you change the strategies to allow Egypt to be more successful?*

One area Egypt fell short was inaccurately estimating the extent of Israel's counterattack to cross the Suez Canal. However, other strategies such as deploying commandos too deep into Israeli lines led to an unsuccessful mission.

5. *What role did Syria and the United States play?*

Syria helped force Israel to fight on two fronts. However, their forces were not sufficient to hold up. The United States had a stronger bias to helping the Israeli forces, however, Egypt did receive some help and had significant impact on the oil prices on the U.S. economy.

6. *How did the oil embargo affect the world?*

Many nations were quite dependent on OPEC oil. Many countries of the Arab Coalition predominantly Saudi Arabia had sympathy for the Egyptian cause and imposed a costly embargo on nations helping the Israeli forces.

## Conclusion

The Yom Kippur War of 1973 marks the fourth official Arab-Israeli conflict. Our committee session will begin on the eve of October 6th. Anwar el-Sadat has been elected president, and the state of the national economy is not at its best. As tensions continue to rise between Egypt and Israel, delegates must work efficiently and strategically to regain lost territories and prepare for imminent war. Although Egyptian resources alone are necessary to win the battle, they may not be enough to entirely win the war. Therefore, among domestic plans and preparation, delegates ought to also foster relations with outside

allies to support the cause against Israel. As important figures in this crisis, it will be up to you to lead your armies and coordinate with your allies to swiftly bring justice and peace to the Arab Republic of Egypt.



## Topic B: *Negotiating Peace*

### Introduction

The Yom Kippur War increased tensions among many nations in the area along with allies. To best resolve the war, it is important to understand the relationship Egypt has with the other nations involved and the goals of each country in order to make a substantial compromise that works towards peace. The countries most affected by the conflict included Egypt, the United States, Israel, Syria, the Soviet Union and other Arab countries.

### Relations with Other Nations

#### *United States of America*

A focal point of American-Egyptian relations for several decades was the Postwar Petroleum Order (PPO). It began under President Harry Truman with the goal of containing the spread of Soviet Communism as well as maintaining the flow of Middle Eastern oil to the West.<sup>64</sup> Egypt played a key role in the PPO due to its strategic location in Northern Africa.<sup>65</sup> Its control of the Suez Canal in particular made it central to the PPO because the canal played a pivotal role in Europe's access to Persian Gulf oil.<sup>66</sup>

In 1948, with the establishment of the independent state of Israel, the Arab-Israeli

conflict began. The United States pushed a resolution through the United Nations charging Arab with breach of the peace.<sup>67</sup> Tensions continued to escalate with the establishment of the Arab Republic of Egypt under Gamal Abdel Nasser in 1952. Nasser's regime actively opposed the existence of Israel.<sup>68</sup> Nasser's decision to join the Nonaligned Movement, an organization that refused to align with either superpower in the midst of the Cold War, complicated American-Egyptian relations and made the maintenance of the PPO increasingly difficult.<sup>69</sup> As a result, President Eisenhower shifted U.S. policy toward Egypt, focusing on keeping Nasser satisfied primarily by flooding Egypt with American economic aid.<sup>70</sup> Following Nasser's decision to nationalize the Suez Canal, President Eisenhower managed to persuade Britain and France to refrain from using military force against Egypt.<sup>71</sup> However, when both countries agreed to support Israel in its attack on Egypt in 1956, the United States sponsored a U.N. Security Council resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces which failed to pass due to vetoes from both England and France.<sup>72</sup>

President John F. Kennedy implemented an "Egypt First" policy which identified Egypt as key to defeating

<sup>64</sup> Shelby, Alexander. "The Political Dilemma: American-Egyptian Relations and the Postwar Petroleum Order." Wilson Center. May 3, 2018.

<sup>65</sup> Ibid.

<sup>66</sup> Ibid.

<sup>67</sup> "Egypt-Israel Relations". 2019. *Jewishvirtuallibrary.Org*. Accessed September 22 2019.

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

<sup>70</sup> Ibid.

<sup>71</sup> "'Background & Overview - Sinai-Suez Campaign". 2019. *Jewishvirtuallibrary.Org*. Accessed September 22 2019.

<sup>72</sup> "Background & Overview - Sinai-Suez Campaign". 2019. *Jewishvirtuallibrary.Org*. Accessed September 22 2019.

Communism in the Middle East and North Africa.<sup>73</sup> Kennedy attempted to contain the Arab-Israeli conflict through the “Ice Box” Strategy, a plan to set aside differences by highlighting the two countries’ shared interests, primarily the containment of Communism.<sup>74</sup> However, Kennedy also ended the arms embargo on Israel.<sup>75</sup> In 1962, Kennedy agreed to sell anti-aircraft missiles to Israel after failing to dissuade Nasser from escalating the arms race as well as learning that the Soviet Union had supplied Egypt with long-range bombers.<sup>76</sup> The sale of anti-aircraft systems of Israel required that Israeli soldiers be trained in the United States to use American weaponry. Israel would be supplied with spare parts, marking the beginning of a close relationship between the U.S. and Israel predicated on increasing Israeli dependence on U.S. arms.<sup>77</sup>

President Lyndon Johnson, however, found it difficult to accommodate Nasser due to his neutrality in the Cold War and Postwar Petroleum Order. This helped lead to a breakdown in relations during his administration.<sup>78</sup> Security interests had entangled the United States in Arab politics and the Arab-Israeli conflict. When Nasser intervened in the Yemeni Civil War in 1962, Johnson decided he posed too great a threat to the stability of the PPO and enlisted other conservative Arab countries such as Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Libya to replace Egypt as the principle of the PPO.<sup>79</sup>

During the Six-Day War in 1967, the United States took a position of neutrality.<sup>80</sup> President Johnson also imposed an arms embargo on the region.<sup>81</sup>

## *Israel*

Since Israel won independence in 1948 it has been at odds with the Arab world. In 1947, Britain announced that it would terminate its Mandate government. The U.N. created the U.N. Special Committee on Palestine to determine the future of the region’s government.<sup>82</sup> The committee recommended the region be divided into two separate states, one Jewish and one Arab.<sup>83</sup> These states were to be joined by “economic union” and the Jerusalem-Bethlehem region would be placed under international administration.<sup>84</sup> In November of 1947, the U.N. voted for the partition plan.<sup>85</sup> The plan was widely accepted by the Jewish side, but strongly opposed by the Arab side.<sup>86</sup> The Jewish state’s location in the Arab heartland challenged Arab unity and Arab nationalism, a movement to unify the Arab world and establish an Arab republic. As such, Israel presented a continuous threat to the region’s stability.<sup>87</sup> Many Arabs declared a protest strike and instigated riots that claimed the lives of many, both Arab and Jewish.<sup>88</sup> Large-scale armed conflict began in January of 1948.<sup>89</sup>

By the summer of 1949, an armistice agreement had been negotiated between

<sup>73</sup> Shelby, Alexander. “The Political Dilemma: American-Egyptian Relations and the Postwar Petroleum Order.” Wilson Center. May 3, 2018.

<sup>74</sup> Ibid.

<sup>75</sup> “The 1968 Sale Of Phantom Jets To Israel”. 2019. *Jewishvirtuallibrary.Org*. Accessed September 22, 2019

<sup>76</sup> Ibid.

<sup>77</sup> Ibid.

<sup>78</sup> Ibid.

<sup>79</sup> Ibid.

<sup>80</sup> “Background & Overview - Six-Day War”. 2019. *Jewishvirtuallibrary.Org*. Accessed September 22, 2019.

<sup>81</sup> Ibid.

<sup>82</sup> “UN Partition Plan”. 2019. *Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. Accessed September 22, 2019.

<sup>83</sup> “UN Partition Plan”. 2019. *Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. Accessed September 22, 2019.

<sup>84</sup> Ibid.

<sup>85</sup> Ibid.

<sup>86</sup> Ibid.

<sup>87</sup> Shelby, Alexander. “The Political Dilemma: American-Egyptian Relations and the Postwar Petroleum Order.” Wilson Center. May 3, 2018.

<sup>88</sup> “Egypt-Israel Relations”. 2019. *Jewishvirtuallibrary.Org*. Accessed September 22 2019.

<sup>89</sup> Ibid.



Israel, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.<sup>90</sup> However, the armistice agreement did not eliminate tensions between Israel and Arab world and belligerence continued despite the agreement. Soon after the agreement, in August of 1949, Egypt closed the Suez Canal to Israeli shipping.<sup>91</sup> Despite orders to reopen the canal issued by the U.N. Security Council in 1951, Egypt refused to allow Israeli access.<sup>92</sup> Tensions continued to rise as the decade went on. The Egyptian Foreign Minister at the time, Muhammad Salah al-Din, stated in 1954:

The Arab people will not be embarrassed to declare: We shall not be satisfied except by the final obliteration of Israel from the map of the Middle East (Al-Misrsi, April 12, 1954).<sup>93</sup>

In 1955 Nasser began to build an arsenal, imported primarily from the Soviet Union, to confront Israel.<sup>94</sup> Egyptian intelligence then began to train and equip Arab fedayeen, militant groups operating mainly out of Jordan which carried out attacks on Israel throughout the 1950s and 1960s.<sup>95</sup> Israel launched counterattacks on militants with little success. In October of 1956, Nasser proclaimed:

My task is to deliver the Arab world from destruction through Israel's intrigue, which has its roots abroad...There is no sense in talking about peace with Israel. There is not even the smallest place for negotiations.<sup>96</sup>

Later that month, Egypt signed a tripartite agreement with Syria and Jordan which placed Nasser command of all three nation's armies.<sup>97</sup> Arab hostility and rhetoric

finally led Israel, at the end of October, to attack Egypt with the support of Britain and France.<sup>98</sup> Israel routed the Egyptians and captured the Sinai Peninsula in roughly a week.<sup>99</sup> However, following the capture of the Sinai Peninsula, the British government abruptly agreed to a cease-fire due to Soviet threats to use extreme military force to stop the violence and the United States' decision to take a \$1 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund contingent upon the acceptance of a cease-fire.<sup>100</sup> By the conclusion of the Suez Crisis, Israel controlled the Gaza Strip and the vast majority of the Sinai Peninsula.<sup>101</sup> However, President Eisenhower was upset by the secretly planned campaign against Egypt. He was also upset about the ignorance of American entreaties not to go to war, which led the United States to campaign, along with the Soviet Union, for Israel's withdrawal by threatening to end U.S. aid and possibly even expel Israel from the United Nations.<sup>102</sup> As a result of U.S. pressure, Israel withdrew from the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula with no concession from the Egyptians.<sup>103</sup>

<sup>90</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>91</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>92</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>93</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>94</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>95</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>96</sup> Ibid.

<sup>97</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>98</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>99</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>100</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>101</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>102</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>103</sup> Ibid.

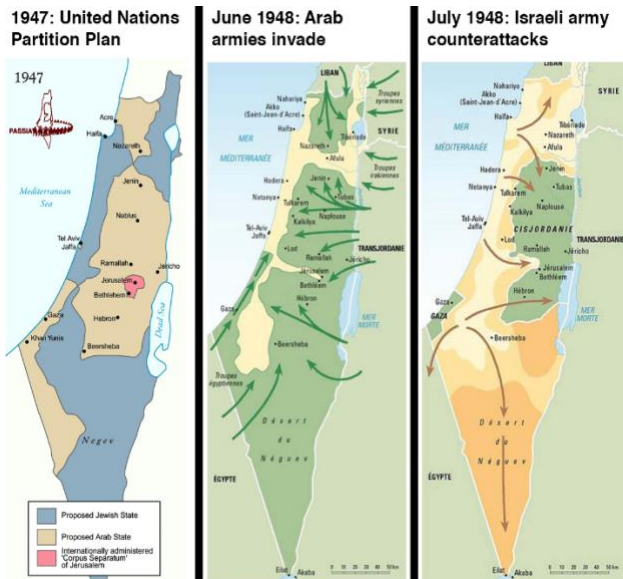


Figure 3: United Nations partition plan and Arab-Israeli attack<sup>104</sup>

In 1964, the Palestinian Liberation Organizations (PLO) was established at a meeting of the First Palestinian Congress.<sup>105</sup> The group ultimately splintered into a number of different factions, but all of these factions still expressed deeply rooted hostility toward Israel. The PLO launched numerous attacks against Israel throughout 1965 and 1966. Orders and logistical support for many of these attacks came from Cairo and Damascus.<sup>106</sup> Hostilities between Israel and the Arab countries came to a head in May of 1967 when Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping, cutting off Israel's only support route with Asia and its access to Iranian oil.<sup>107</sup> Nasser continuously challenged Israel to fight.<sup>108</sup> On June 5th 1967, Israel launched a preemptive attack against Egypt, marking the start of the Six-Day War. By the end of the war, Israel had regained control of the Gaza Strip and the

<sup>104</sup> "9 Questions About The Israel-Palestine Conflict". 2014. *Vox*. Accessed November 10 2019.

<https://www.vox.com/2014/7/17/5902177/9-questions-about-the-israel-palestine-conflict-you-were-too>.

<sup>105</sup> "Background & Overview - Six-Day War". 2019. *Jewishvirtuallibrary.Org*. Accessed September 22 2019.

Sinai Peninsula in addition to capturing the West Bank and Golan Heights.<sup>109</sup>

## Soviet Union

Prior to the Yom Kippur War, The Soviet Union facilitated resources into the Egyptian Military for the primary purpose of expanding their military influence outside the scope of Europe and to gain better control over their naval squadrons and bases in the Mediterranean Sea. As tensions between Israel and Egypt increased, the Soviet Union sought to prevent conflict to prevent a predicted confrontation with the United States and destroying the detente formed.

In response to pressure from Egyptian President Anwar el-Sadat and Syrian President Hafiz al-Assad to send additional resources, the Soviet Union delayed delivering arms to fight against Israel. Frustrated with the Soviet's resistance to war, delay of weapons, and reluctance to destroy the detente with superpowers, Sadat rejected all Soviet military advisors from Egypt in July 1972<sup>110</sup>. Thus, the relationship between Egypt and Soviets deteriorated.

The Soviets reevaluated the value of their relationship with Egypt and decided to restore the relationship after rationalizing that restored relations would improve Soviet control over the region and prevent Egypt from seeking a stronger alliance with the United States and providing them with additional control. Sadat and Assad decided to push for war and up until October 6th, 1973 came, the Soviets kept pushing a political solution.

Once the war began the Soviets had two main goals, preserving their

<sup>106</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>107</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>108</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>109</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>110</sup> "The Soviet Union and The Yom Kippur War: Israel Affairs: Vol 6, No 1". 2019. *Israel Affairs*.

relationship with Egypt and Syria and maintaining detente with the United States, which seemed impossible to achieve simultaneously.<sup>111</sup> The Soviets decided to urge Sadat to approve a cease-fire as quickly as possible, which Sadat was reluctant to do unless he was sure he could come to an acceptable compromise with Israel.

As the Arab forces became overwhelmed, the Soviet Union began to send aid to stabilize the battlefield to promote a cease-fire. Increased Soviet intervention prompted the United States to contribute aid to Israel, which began to create tension with the superpowers.

To promote a cease fire, the Soviet's looked to work with Britain to introduce a resolution in the UN to avoid disrupting their relationship with Egypt. The United States also supported the development of a cease-fire. At the conclusion of the war the Soviets had lost strong relations to the Middle East. Sadat turned to the United States after the war and prevented the Soviets from being an influential superpower in the Middle East.

## *Syria*

Syria coordinated their attack on the Golan Heights with Egypt in order to best attack Israel on two fronts. Though to a lesser extent, Syria was also getting aid from the Soviet Union. Syria gained support from other Arab nations including Iraq and Jordan. These two countries supplied forces to help bolster the Syrian effort to regain the Golan Heights.<sup>112</sup>

Similar to Sadat of Egypt, President Hafez al-Assad looked to regain territory lost to Israel during the Six-Day War in 1967. During the Yom Kippur War, Syria began

with an airstrike and eventually took over the Southern Golan Heights. However, in response to initial Syrian success, Israel launched Operation Doogman 5 a strategy that allowed Israel to regain control of the area.

President Assad met with Soviet Leader Leonid Brezhnev to build relations with the Soviet Union and acquire military support. He renewed a relationship with Sadat based on the Federation of Arab Republics (FAR). The FAR was an attempt to combine Libya, Syria and Egypt into one unified Arab State. However, Sadat and Assad used the summits to discuss strategies in launching an attack against Israel. Both leaders appoint Muhammad Sadiq as the commander of both Egyptian and Syrian armies. On August 26-27 the two nations decided to go to war against Israel. Though united on the attack on Israel, Syria was mostly motivated to regain lost territory, while Egypt was focused on strengthening peace policies with Israel. The Egyptians presented the idea that they were intending to launch a full-scale attack, however the true intentions were to commit to a limited war. This deception allowed Assad to commit to war but resulted in the Arab defeat.

During the war, Syria launched a more intense attack for the Golan Heights. After Egypt conquered the amount of land, they desired they stopped fighting leaving Syria to fight Israel alone. Assad, a bit inexperienced with foreign policy, did not recognize this Egypt's actions until much later after the war.<sup>113</sup>

## *Resolutions and Disengagement*

<sup>111</sup> Ibid

<sup>112</sup> David Rodman, "Friendly Enemies: Israel and Jordan in the 1973 Yom Kippur War", *The Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 6 No. 1 (January 2012), pp. 95-96.

<sup>113</sup> Seale, Patrick (1990). *Asad: The Struggle for the Middle East*. University of California Press. ISBN 978-0-520-06976-3.

On October 22, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 338 that called for a cease fire. Despite attempts to adhere to the cease fire, both regions continued to fight against each other until around October 26th after Resolution 339, passed on October 24, called for adherence to Resolution 338's cease fire. The second Resolution continued to slow the fighting, but a cease fire did not fully go into effect until after the Security Council passed Resolution 340, which included more details as to how to stabilize the regions to allow for a cease fire.

Egypt and Israel finally worked on disengagement agreements with United States National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger. The first disengagement agreement signed on January 18, 1974 resulted in Israel pulling back east of the Suez Canal and creating security zones about 10 kilometer wide. The second disengagement agreement signed September 4, 1975, led to Israel to withdraw further from the Suez Canal and maintain two thirds of the Sinai.

Further talks led to the 1978 Camp David Accords. The Accords led to the first Egypt-Israeli Treaty that sought to establish mutual recognition, stop war, withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Sinai, Egypt's demilitarization of the Sinai, allow free passage of Israeli ships through the Suez Canal, and recognize the Strait of Tiran and the Gulf of Aqaba are international waters. The goal of the treaty was to establish lasting peace. Many members of the Arab world were outraged by Sadat's actions to create peace particularly because he recognized Israel as a sovereign state.

## Questions to Consider

1. *Why did other countries get involved in this conflict between Egypt and Israel?*

The United States and Soviet Union were reluctant to get involved. However, as they saw increasing tensions and wanted to maintain control of the regions. Both countries sought to support their respective allies. Syria looked to regain lost territory lost in the Six-Day War.

2. *How will Egypt embark in the war against Israel while avoiding tensions with the United States and its allies?*

In the beginning of the war, Egypt attempted to convince U.S. leaders not to support Israel and their claims. However, as the U.S. began providing the opposing side with enough resources to have a fighting chance, Egyptian delegates must think about what to do after the Yom Kippur War to maintain foreign relations.

3. *What is the underlying conflict between Egypt and Israel?*

Egypt, like much of the Arab world, did not recognize the Jewish State of Israel for their beliefs that are starkly different from the largely Muslim countries. Much of the conflict in the area stems from religious disparities.

4. *Who won the war?*

Many argue the militarily Israel defeated the Arab forces during the Yom Kippur War. However, after the treaties and peace talks went into effect Egypt regained the territory it failed to capture back but Israel finally became recognized by an Arab country.

5. *What aspects of the peace-making process could have been done better?*

It took three resolutions from the UN in the span of about a week for a cease fire to actually take effect. Additionally, many casualties were lost on both ends. Perhaps, peace talks could have happened sooner and more efficiently.

6. *Moving forward, how will Egypt work to maintain its lost territories and stabilize as a cohesive state in the future?*

As the Yom Kippur War steadily comes to a close, it will leave all involved nations and parties with losses in resources and infrastructure. Therefore, in order to return to its previous state, the leaders of Egypt must strategically rebuild after potential success or even failure.

## Conclusion

Egypt's goal in entering the war was to motivate Israel to negotiate for peace and regain lost territory, which have built up tensions between the two nations over many years. In order to develop meaningful resolutions, it is important to understand Egypt's relationship with other nations and everyone's goals in order to arrive at comprehensive and lasting compromises, including both ceasefire and peace. Negotiations made to resolve the conflict led to incredible precedents in the Arab world including the recognition of Israel. However, despite these great efforts to establish peace, many Egyptian people and leaders were not happy with the outcome, which prompted the assassination of Sadat in 1981. It will be up to you as delegates to navigate everyone's interests to propose the best solutions for our nation, even above the

interest of our opposing sides and potential allies. By creating thorough and methodical resolutions, Egypt will hopefully be able to definitively win the Yom Kippur War on the victorious side.

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