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By Cm NARA Date 6-12-03

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Page 7 Syr  
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Date 27-14  
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INDICATE:  
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1971-4-12, Assad, US, over the 15 Syr

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*circuler*

*Karqali, Ghazal*

61913

STATE: SUBJ: Syrian-American Relations: Syrian World View

SUMMARY

Syrian Charge d'Affaires in Washington in 1967

DRAFTED BY: NEA:ARN:AIKilgore:jfc

DRAFTING DATE	TEL. EXT.	APPROVED BY:
4-12-71	22670	NEA - Joseph J Sisco

NEA - Mr. Atherton

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## ACTION:

Chaleb Kayali called on Assistant Secretary Sisco April 9 for discussion of Syria's view of world and Syria's relations with other countries including US under new Syrian regime headed by President Hafiz al-Asad. Kayali pictured Syria as trying to escape from its former isolation. It has already improved relations with Arab world particularly Lebanon and Jordan. Improvement of relations with West generally is sought while Syrian relations with US are under study. Syria has to have political and economic cooperation with East Bloc but mutual confidence has not been strong since Asad took over. Kayali personally hoped US would not falter in seeking Middle East peace, but his government frankly thought US would fail through lack of resolution.

Sisco said USG is determined press forward towards peace and better chance to achieve it has never existed. We had found UAR response to Amb. Jarring courageous and constructive; Israeli response did not match positive quality of UAR ]

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ACTION: We fully aware of our positive responsibility towards peace in Middle East. We would welcome opening of Suez as interim solution leading to peace and we expect Israel will be coming forth with some Suez proposals, in week or two. We have set ourselves self-imposed ~~deadline~~ <sup>time table</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~xxxx~~ <sup>xxxx</sup> will demonstrate that what may appear to some people as lag in progress towards peace will prove not to have been the case. If in attempting to break out of its isolation Syria sought improved relations with US, it would find us sympathetic and quite open-minded.

END SUMMARY

1. Sisco said he was aware of purpose of Kayall's visit to Washington which was to look at Syrian-American relations and make recommendations to his Government. He read excerpt from Secretary Rogers' statement of December 9, 1969 in which Secretary said, QTE Whenever and wherever Arab states which have broken off diplomatic relations with United States are prepared to restore them, we shall respond in same spirit. ... We remain

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