

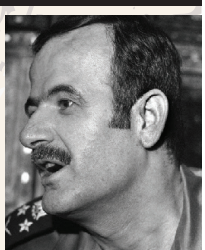


Yom Kippur War – 50 years on

Attacks by Egypt and Syria on Israel on the holy day of Yom Kippur in 1973 took the world to the brink of nuclear war, triggered a major oil crisis, and paved the way for Arab-Israeli peace talks

President **Anwar Sadat** of Egypt believed to have sought limited war to jumpstart peace talks

Syria's President **Hafez al-Assad** built up military with Soviet support to avenge humiliation of 1967 Six-Day War



OCT 6 OPERATION BADR

Troops cross **Suez Canal** to breach Israeli **Bar-Lev Line**, breaking through 20m high sand wall with water cannons



Egypt: 100,000 troops, 1,300 tanks, 2,000 artillery



Chief of Staff General **Saad El Shazly** with Sadat

OCT 14 Battle of Sinai: To relieve pressure on Syrian forces, Egyptians advance out of range of SAM cover, suffering heavy losses

OCT 15 Battle of Chinese Farm: Israeli offensive spearheaded by Major General **Ariel Sharon** establishes bridgeheads across Suez

OCT 17 Arab-dominated OPEC announces oil embargo unless Israel withdraws to pre-1967 boundaries, triggering global economic crisis

OCT 20 Israeli forces 32km from Damascus

Israeli Prime Minister **Golda Meir**. Intelligence underestimated or ignored danger

OCT 8 Israel loses air superiority established in 1967, countered by Soviet **SAMs** – Surface to Air Missiles

OCT 9 Israel rapidly losing equipment – U.S. begins extensive airlift of military supplies

OCT 10 Israelis push Syrian troops back to 1967 boundary

OCT 11 Soviet Union puts forces on alert to defend Damascus. U.S. warns it will take reciprocal action



Israel 400 reservists (at start of war)



Ariel Sharon – insubordinate but intuitive military commander



OCT 6 GOLAN HEIGHTS

Israel's **Eye** spy post on Mt Hermon captured as tanks sweep through south Golan



Syria: Five divisions – 1,400 tanks, 1,000 artillery
Israel: Two brigades – 177 tanks, 50 artillery

80km
50 miles

Israel pre-1967
Captured by Israel in 1967

OCT 21 Sharon advances to 100km from Cairo – controlling 1,600km² on west bank of Suez

OCT 22 Israel recaptures all of Mt Hermon. UN adopts Resolution 338 calling for ceasefire

OCT 23 UN Resolution 339 calls for ceasefire and despatch of UN observers to region

OCT 24 Fighting continues in Sinai – Soviet Union threatens to send troops to Egypt. U.S. puts nuclear forces on high alert

OCT 28 Egypt and Israel agree ceasefire

FATALITIES

Egypt: 7,700

Israel: 2,600

Syria: 3,500

Estimates