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On October 6, 1973, the war began at two battlefronts in Egypt and Syria simultaneously. This war was called the Yom Kippur War in Western countries. In the Arab world it was called Ramadan War. The war had religious meaning both for Islam and Judaism. There were four wars between Israel and Arabs during 1948 and 1973. The first Arab Israeli War in 1948 was called as "Israel Revolutionary War", which had political meaning. The second war in 1956 was the "Suez War" with economic meaning, and the third war in 1967 was "Six-Day War" showing the superiority of Israel military power. The fourth Arab-Israeli war in 1973 had the religious meaning. It was important both for the Arab and Israel to remind each citizens the religious belief. The surprise attack on the day of Yom Kippur reminded Jews the religious belief. It looked like the attack by Japanese army against Pearl Harbor on Hawaii Islands in US. US President inspired American people saying "Remember Pearl Harbor!" during the Second World War.

The joint maneuver by Egyptian and Syrian army force brought Arabs irresistible success so far. But Sadat knew that predominance by Arab side would be over sooner or later. He adopted another strategy. It was to involve the Arab oil producing countries and to use their oil as a weapon against the consuming countries in Europe, the United States and Asia. It was also the strategy to divide Israel and its allies in the western hemisphere.

(To be continued ----)

Areha Kazuya

(From an ordinary citizen in the cloud)