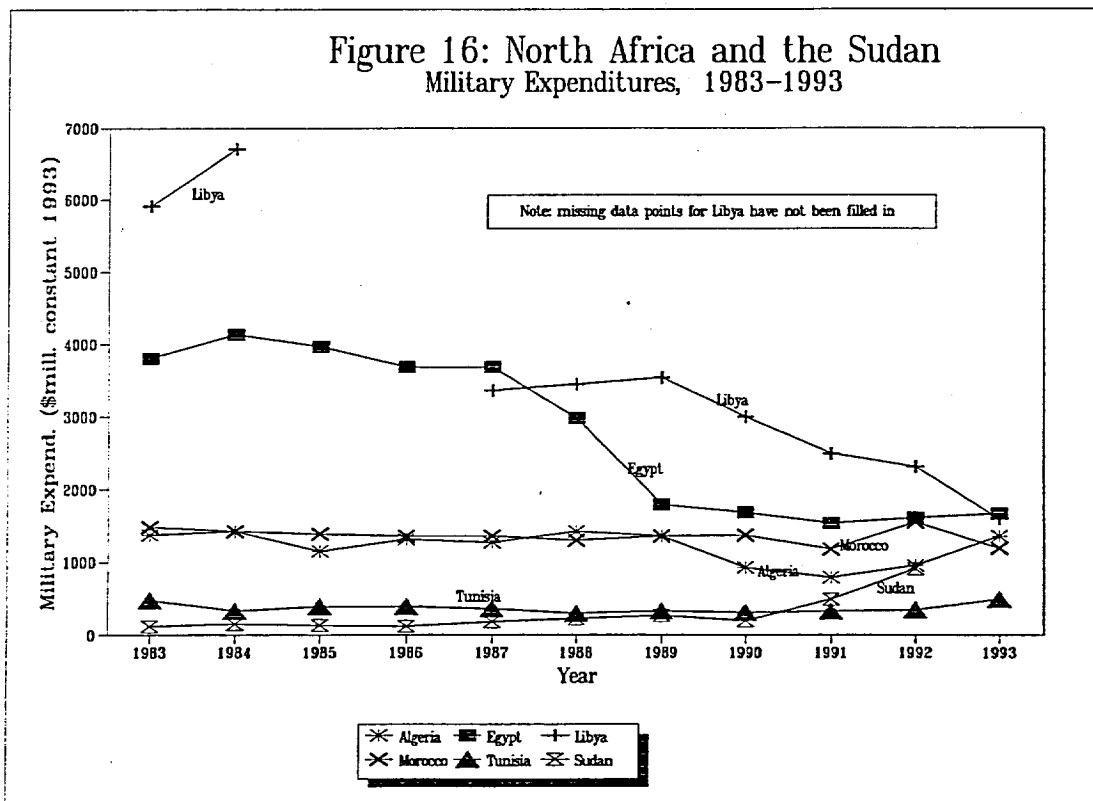


between Morocco and the Polisario independence movement); the civil war in Algeria and Sudan, continued armed clashes between rival groups in Chad (in part fuelled by Libya), a recent coup in Niger, and Islamist unrest in Egypt. Against this backdrop, progress in the political, social or economic realm has been difficult.

Figures 16 and 17 below chart the changing pattern of military expenditure for the ten regional states, and make for some troubling contrasts. First, only three of the ten regional states - Libya, Egypt and Mauritania spent significantly less (in real terms) on the military in 1993 than in 1983. There has been no post-Cold War "peace dividend" in the region, except possibly for Egypt, as a consequence of its peace



with Israel. Second, the scale of spending is radically different between the Sahel and the other states: none of the four Sahel states spends more than \$70 million a year on defence, while none of the Mediterranean coastal states spends less than about \$500 million a year on the armed forces (with only Sudan straddling this geographic divide, and spending more than \$900 million in 1992 - or 17 percent of