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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
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NEW SYRIAN ARMORED BRIGADE

ASH SHAYKH SHABAN MILITARY INSTALLATION, SYRIA

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NEW SYRIAN ARMORED BRIGADE

HIMSA

Lebanon

DAMASCUS Dimashq

Z-13995 NPIC/IEG (9/83)

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Attachment to Z-13995/83

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NPIC/IEG (9/83)

28 SEPTEMBER 1983

NEW SYRIAN ARMORED BRIGADE
ASH SHAYKH SHABAN MILITARY INSTALLATION, SYRIA (SWN)

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: A NEW SYRIAN ARMORED BRIGADE WAS IDENTIFIED IN NORTHWESTERN SYRIA NEAR THE SYRIAN-LEBANON BORDER ON IMAGERY (SWN)

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2. REMARKS: A SYRIAN ARMORED BRIGADE WAS NEWLY IDENTIFIED ON IMAGERY IN NORTHWESTERN SYRIA AT 34-43-05N 036-05-35E, 30 NM WEST SOUTHWEST OF HIMS AND 5 NM NORTH OF THE LEBANON-SYRIAN BORDER. THE NEW ARMORED BRIGADE, DEPLOYED IN BATTALION-SIZE UNITS, CONSISTED OF THREE ARMORED BATTALIONS, ONE POSSIBLE INFANTRY BATTALION, ONE FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION, AND BRIGADE SUPPORT UNITS. FACILITIES, SUGGESTING SOME PERMANENCY IN THIS AREA, INCLUDED EIGHT SUPPORT BUILDINGS AND ONE LARGE AMMUNITIONS STORAGE REVETMENT. APPROXIMATELY 270 SQUAD-SIZE TENTS, AND NUMEROUS VEHICLE REVETMENTS WERE ALSO PRESENT. EQUIPMENT PRESENT INCLUDED AT LEAST 76 TANKS, 18 FIELD ARTILLERY PIECES (CALIBER UNKNOWN), AND AT LEAST 45 TRUCKS. THIS NEW ARMORED BRIGADE MAY HAVE BEEN PRESENT SINCE AT LEAST WHEN ONE TANK BATTALION COULD BE SEEN THROUGH HEAVY CLOUDS. (SWN)

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ANALYST'S COMMENTS: THIS NEW BRIGADE MAY BE PART OF THE 11TH ARMORED DIVISION CURRENTLY BEING FORMED IN NORTHERN SYRIA. THE DISPOSITION OF THE REMAINDER OF THE 11TH ARMORED DIVISION IS AS FOLLOWS: THE 47TH ARMORED BRIGADE, UNDER THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE 10TH INFANTRY DIVISION, IS IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE BEKAA VALLEY; AN UNIDENTIFIED FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT, IS FORMING IN SYRIA AT HIMS ARMY BARRACKS HQ AND DEPOT IBN AL WALID AND AN UNIDENTIFIED ARMORED BRIGADE, WHICH FORMED AT HAMAH ARMOR BRIGADE HQ IS CURRENTLY UNLOCATED. A MECHANIZED INFANTRY BRIGADE WHICH WOULD NORMALLY COMPLETE THE COMPLIMENT OF 11TH DIVISION MANEUVER ELEMENTS IS AS YET UNLOCATED. (SWN/NOFORN)

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3. COORDINATES 34-43-05N 036-05-35E (S)

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