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NOFORN

(See inside cover)

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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
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Attachment to Z-2925/84

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NPIC/IEG (3/83)

7 MARCH 1984

AL BASRAH BATTLEFIELD
AL BASRAH, IRAQ (SWN)

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: IRAQI FORCES HAVE CONSTRUCTED ELABORATE DEFENSES
IN THE AL BASRAH AREA. (SWN)2. REMARKS: SINCE MID-1982, IRAQI FORCES HAVE CONSTRUCTED AN
EXTENSIVE SERIES OF DEFENSIVE LINES AND CANALS IN THE AL BASRAH
BATTLE SECTOR. THESE DEFENSIVE MEASURES HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO
DENY THE IRANIAN FORCES ACCESS TO THE STRATEGIC SHATT AL ARAB
RIVER, IRAQ'S ONLY ACCESS TO THE PERSIAN GULF, AS WELL AS THE
CITY OF AL BASRAH. THESE DEFENSIVE MEASURES CONSIST OF A
SERIES OF ANTITANK DITCHES. TWO MAJOR DEFENSIVE LINES WITH
STRONGPOINTS, CANALS, AND LARGE FLOODED WATER BARRIERS. IN
ADDITION, A THIRD DEFENSIVE LINE CONSISTING OF ARMOR AND
INFANTRY POSITIONS EXTENDS NORTHWEST FROM THE DEFENSIVE WATER
BARRIER AND TERMINATES IN A MARSHY AREA 25 NM NORTHWEST OF AL
BASRAH. (SWN)AS A RESULT OF AN ONGOING IRANIAN OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS, IRANIAN
FORCES WERE OBSERVED ON [] CONSTRUCTING A PONTON BRIDGE
ACROSS THE HAWR AL HAWIZAH MARSH FROM 31-09N 047-49E TO 31-09N
047-45E. THIS BRIDGE IS 3.5 NM IN LENGTH AND IS 38 NM NORTH OF
AL BASRAH. THE IRANIANS ARE ATTEMPTING TO EXTEND THE PONTON
BRIDGE TO AN AREA OF RECLAIMED MARSH IN IRAQ AT 31-09N 047-37E
CALLED MAJNOON ISLAND, WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER IRANIAN CONTROL

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[] (SWN) (PERSIAN GULF SECTION) []

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3. BE: NONE COORDINATES: NONE (U)

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Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered
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