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CONTROL NO. Z-17347/84

NPIC/IEG (03/84)

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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
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NPIC/IEG (3/84)

12 MARCH 1984

IRANIAN AND IRAQI TROOP DISPOSITIONS
AL BASRAH AREA, IRAQ (SWN)

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1. **SIGNIFICANCE:** AN IRAQI COUNTERATTACK AGAINST FORTIFIED IRANIAN INFANTRY POSITIONS ON MAJNOON ISLAND WAS CONTINUING. (SWN)
2. **REMARKS:** ONE IRAQI TANK BATTALION AND ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY BATTALION WERE OBSERVED ATTACKING IRANIAN INFANTRY POSITIONS ON THE SOUTHERN MAJNOON ISLAND [REDACTED] THIS ATTACK WAS PROBABLY CONTINUING ON 11 MARCH. IRAQI UNITS WERE BEING SUPPORTED BY ARTILLERY DEPLOYED SOUTH OF THE MAJNOON ISLAND. IRANIAN INFANTRY ON MAJNOON ISLAND WAS BEING RESUPPLIED BY HOVERCRAFT AND HELICOPTER FROM THE MAIN LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AREA EAST OF THE ISLAND, IN IRAN (ITEM B). (SWN)

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IN ADDITION, AN INCREASE IN IRANIAN ARMOR WAS OBSERVED NORTH AND NORTHEAST OF AL BASRAH [REDACTED] AT LEAST ONE TANK BATTALION AND ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY BATTALION HAVE DEPLOYED TO AN AREA 35 NM NORTH OF AL BASRAH [REDACTED] ADDITIONALLY, IRANIAN ARMORED UNITS, PREVIOUSLY DEPLOYED ALONG THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER NORTHEAST OF AL BASRAH, WERE AUGMENTED BY AT LEAST ONE IRANIAN ARMORED BATTALION [REDACTED] [REDACTED] OPPOSING IRAQI FORCES NORTHEAST OF AL BASRAH HAVE REPOSITIONED ARMOR AND ARTILLERY IN PROBABLE REACTION TO THESE IRANIAN RE-DEPLOYMENTS. [REDACTED] CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY CONTINUED ON THE IRANIAN PONTON BRIDGE AND HAWK SITE. A HIGH LEVEL OF IRANIAN HELICOPTER ACTIVITY AT THE MAIN IRANIAN LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AREA NORTHEAST OF AL BASRAH WAS ALSO OBSERVED. (SWN)

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IRANIAN FORCES DEPLOYED NORTHWEST OF AL BASRAH, ON MAJNOON ISLAND, IN IRAQ, (ITEM A) INCLUDED TWO LARGE INFANTRY UNITS, ONE ENGINEER UNIT, AND ONE SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT UNIT. (SWN)

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IRANIAN FORCES DEPLOYED NORTH OF AL BASRAH AND THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER (ITEM B) INCLUDED ONE IRANIAN ARMORED BRIGADE, TWO MECHANIZED INFANTRY BATTALIONS, ONE SELF-PROPELLED GUN (SPG) BATTALION, THREE FIELD ARTILLERY (FA) BATTALIONS, ONE HAWK BATTERY, ONE LARGE COMPOSITE HELICOPTER UNIT, NUMEROUS SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT UNITS, ONE LARGE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AREA, NUMEROUS ENGINEER UNITS, ONE COMMAND POST, AND AT LEAST TWO LARGE INFANTRY UNITS. (SWN)

IRANIAN FORCES DEPLOYED NORTHEAST AND EAST OF AL BASRAH ALONG THE NORTH-SOUTH PORTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER (ITEM C) INCLUDED ELEMENTS OF ONE ARMORED BRIGADE, THREE SPG BATTALIONS, AND AT LEAST TWO INFANTRY UNITS. (SWN)

OPPOSING IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED NORTHWEST OF AL BASRAH AND EAST OF ASH SHUWAYYIB (ITEM 1) INCLUDED TWO ARMORED BRIGADES, FIVE SPG BATTALIONS, EIGHT FA BATTALIONS, TWO MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHER (MRL) BATTERIES, NUMEROUS SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT UNITS, ONE ENGINEER UNIT, AND AT LEAST TWO INFANTRY UNITS. THE PORTION OF THESE UNITS ON THE SOUTHERN MAJNOON ISLAND INCLUDED ONE TANK BATTALION, ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY BATTALION, AND ONE INFANTRY UNIT. (SWN)

IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED NORTH OF AL BASRAH ASTRIDE THE EAST-WEST PORTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER (ITEM 2) INCLUDED TWO TANK BATTALIONS, ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY COMPANY, ONE FA BATTERY, AND ONE INFANTRY UNIT. THE PORTION OF THESE UNITS WHICH REMAINED DEPLOYED IN IRAN INCLUDED ONE INFANTRY UNIT. (SWN)

IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED NORTHEAST OF AL BASRAH ALONG THE NORTH-SOUTH PORTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER (ITEM 3) INCLUDED MAJOR ELEMENTS OF TWO ARMORED DIVISIONS, ONE SPG BATTALION, ELEVEN FA BATTALIONS, TWO MRL BATTERIES, AND AT LEAST ONE LARGE INFANTRY UNIT. (SWN)

IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED NORTH AND EAST OF AL BASRAH, BETWEEN THE DEFENSIVE WATER BARRIER AND THE SHATT AL ARAB, (ITEM 4) INCLUDED SEVEN FA BATTALIONS, ONE FA BATTERY, AND AT LEAST ONE INFANTRY UNIT. POOR IMAGE INTERPRETABILITY AND HAZE

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PRECLUDED A COMPLETE ASSESSMENT OF IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED IN THIS AREA. (SWN)

IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED NORTH OF AL BASRAH, IN SUPPORT OF THESE FRONTLINE UNITS (ITEM 5) INCLUDED ONE ARMORED BRIGADE, TWO MECHANIZED INFANTRY BRIGADES, ONE SPG BATTALION, TWO FA BATTALIONS, THREE SA-6 BATTALIONS, ONE LARGE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AREA, ONE COMMAND POST, AND NUMEROUS INFANTRY UNITS. (SWN)

IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED NORTHWEST OF AL BASRAH, ON THE SOUTH BANK OF THE SHATT AL ARAB (ITEM 6), INCLUDED ONE HEAVY-LIFT TRANSPORT BATTALION. (SWN) (PERSIAN GULF SECTION)

3. BE NONE, COORDINATES NONE (U)

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