

~~NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

SSO KIRTLAND
 SSO TAC//INOS
 SSO MCCLELAN//USACMLS
 SSO SDC
 SSO 15 AF//INZEST/GENEVA//START
 SSO USAFE//KEEP AND PASS INOA
 SSO LNDSEY//DET 3/FTD
 SSO USAF
 SSO AU
 SSO MSD
 TAWC CAEWIS
 SSO BSD
 SSO ESD//INS
 CINCLANTFLT VA
 SSO NME
 CMC//INTE
 SSO GRVAL
 SSO NESEA//PASS TO NATC

[REDACTED]
 N SIR
 NST/GENEVA//DEFENSE AND SPACE SIR
 NST/GENEVA//SCC SIR
 NST/GENEVA//NTT SIR
 NST/GENEVA//CD SIR
 FICEURLANT//NORFOLK VA/25
 SSO NME//NAVAIRSYS COM
 SSO NME//SSPO
 CIA//PASS TO CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS
 ZEM
CONTROLS

QQQQ
 SECTION 1 OF 6

BODY
 SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND WEAPONS REVIEW CABLE,
 SW SWRC [REDACTED] 28 SEPTEMBER 1990

X-----
 IRAQ: THE LASER HAZARD TO US FORCES IN THE PERSIAN
 GULF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
 RANGEFINDERS ON IRAQI TANKS POSE THE PRIMARY
 LASER EYE HAZARD TO US FORCES IN THE GULF; AIRBORNE
 LASER TARGET DESIGNATORS MAY ALSO BE A THREAT. FROM
 EVIDENCE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE, WE JUDGE IT UNLIKELY
 THAT IRAQ HAS FIELDDED A DEDICATED LASER BLINDING
 WEAPON. [REDACTED]

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X-----

1. IRAQ: THE LASER HAZARD TO US FORCES IN THE PERSIAN GULF [REDACTED] THE IRAQIS HAVE FIELDIED TANKS THAT INCORPORATE LASER RANGEFINDERS (LRFS). [REDACTED]

SEVERAL MODELS OF IRAQI AIRCRAFT INCORPORATE LASER TARGET DESIGNATORS (LTDS). [REDACTED]

HAVE A GROUND-BASED LTD. [REDACTED]

THE IRAQIS ARE NOT KNOWN TO [REDACTED]

COMMENT:

WE ASSESS THAT:

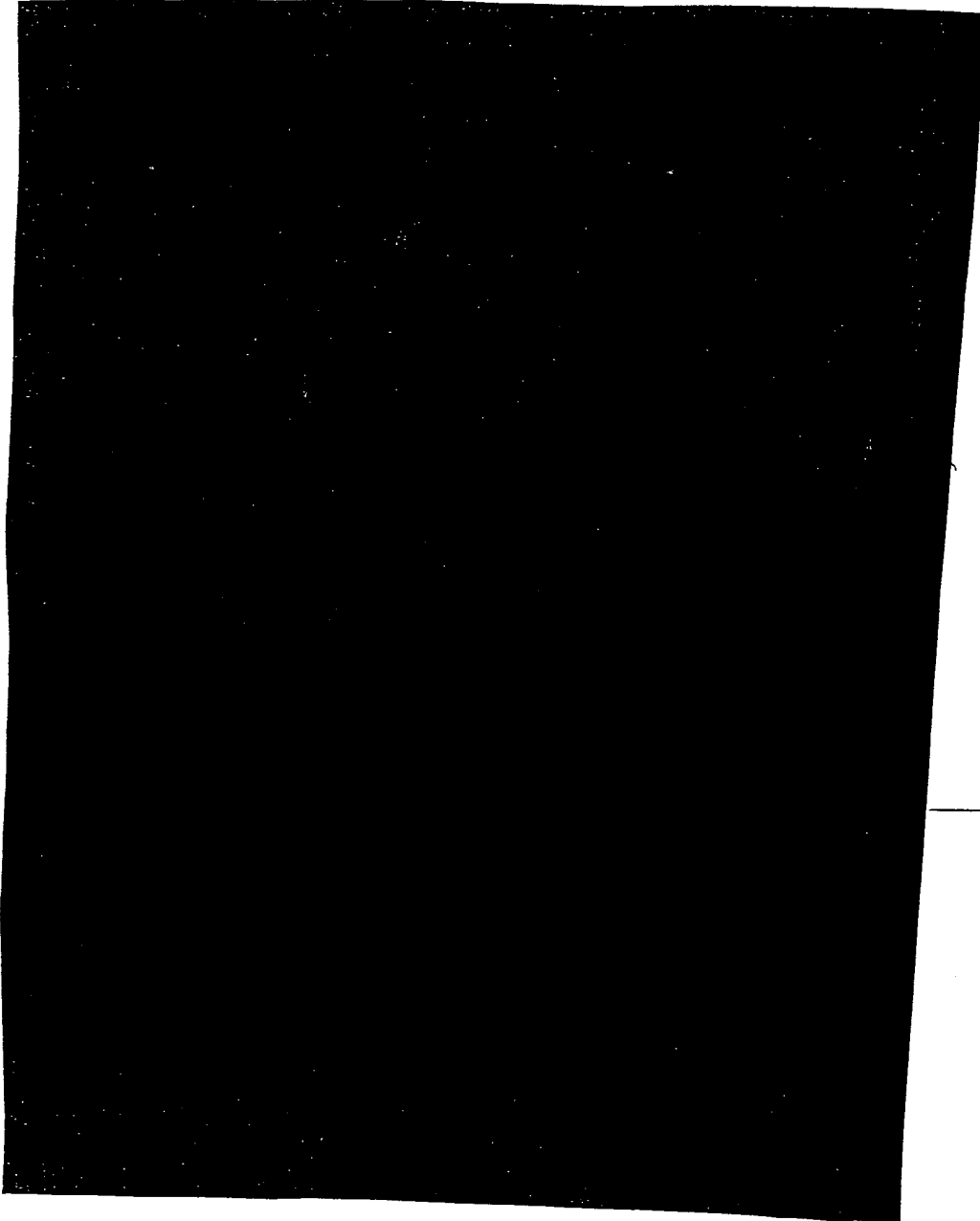
X -- THE PRIMARY EYE HAZARD FROM IRAQI FORCES EXISTS FROM THEIR TANK LRFS; AIRBORNE LTDS MAY ALSO POSE A THREAT. IN THE EVENT OF HOSTILITIES, US GROUND FORCES WILL BE THE MOST VULNERABLE. AIRCREWS OF HELICOPTERS ALSO MAY BE VULNERABLE IF IRAQI TANK CREWS USE LRFS TO ENGAGE THE HELICOPTERS WITH THEIR MAIN GUN, AS MANY ARMIES TRAIN TO DO. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT US SAILORS OR AIRCREWS OF HIGH-PERFORMANCE AIRCRAFT WILL BE EXPOSED TO HAZARDOUS LEVELS OF LASER RADIATION FROM IRAQI LRFS OR LTDS.

ADMIN

#4018

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SOLDIERS, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE LOOKING THROUGH A MAGNIFYING OPTIC SUCH AS M-19 7-POWER BINOCULARS. SINCE MOST IRAQI GROUND-BASED LRFS ARE INCORPORATED INTO TANKS, THE MOST LIKELY TARGETS TO BE IRRADIATED IN BATTLE WILL BE US ARMOR AND INFANTRY. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT FIXED-WING, HIGH-PERFORMANCE US AIRCRAFT WILL BE IRRADIATED BY THESE TANK LRFS. [REDACTED]



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~~TOP SECRET~~
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SECTION 3 OF 6

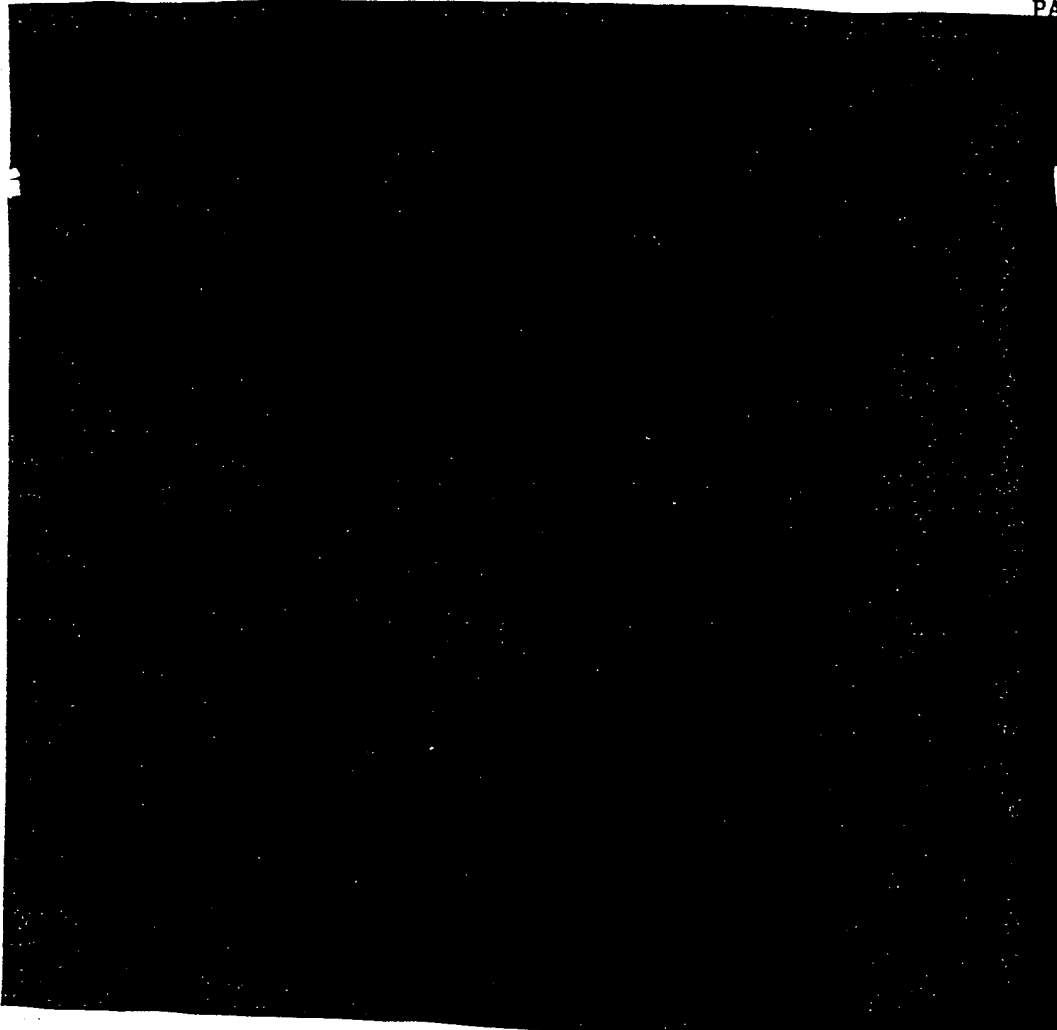
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SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND WEAPONS REVIEW CABLE,
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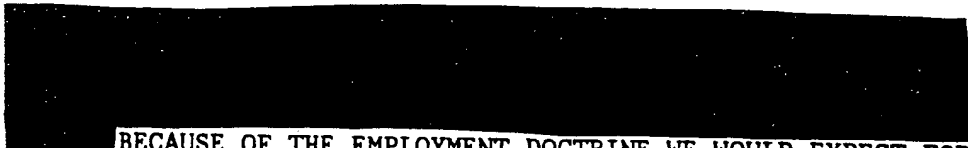
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THE EYE HAZARD FROM IRAQI LTDS-1-



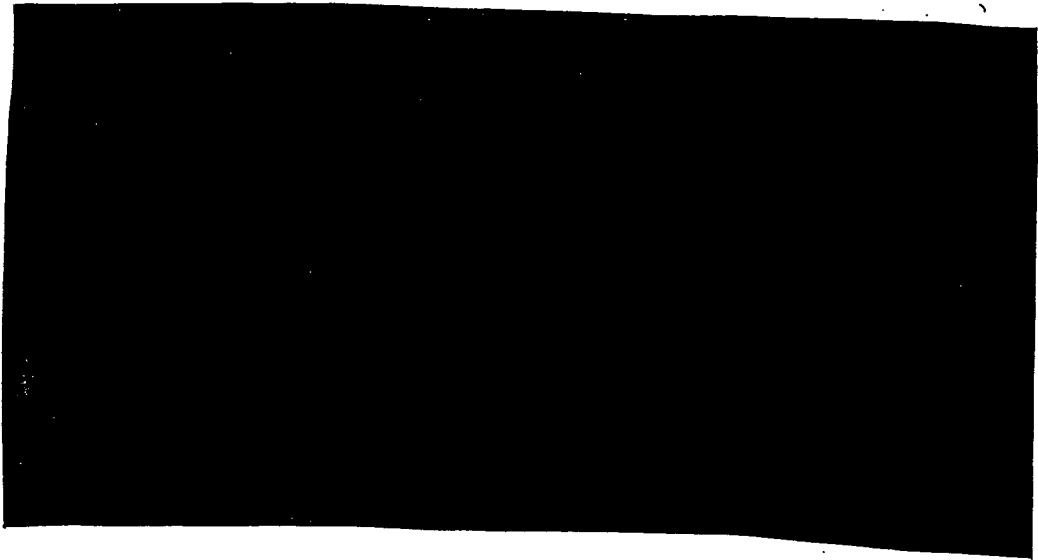
BECAUSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT DOCTRINE WE WOULD EXPECT FOR THE LTDS IN THE IRAQI INVENTORY, WE ASSESS THAT THEY PROBABLY WILL NOT PRESENT A SIGNIFICANT EYE HAZARD TO US FORCES:

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THUS, THOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE IRAQIS MAY HAVE DEVELOPED OR MODIFIED A LASER FOR USE AS A BLINDING WEAPON, THE [REDACTED] EVIDENCE AT THIS TIME PREVENTS US FROM PROJECTING THAT THE IRAQIS HAVE FIELDIED A DEDICATED LASER BLINDING WEAPON. [REDACTED]



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