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SUB
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OUTGOING

IMMEDIATE

FRP:

STAFF

OUTGOING

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MESSAGE

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PAGE 001
TOT: 080632Z FEB 85

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~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~
BRIEF 080632Z
TO: IMMEDIATE ROUTINE MEA BRIEF.

WNINTEL.

(NOFORN IN SLANTS)

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OUTGOING

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MESSAGE

MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA BRIEF FOR 8 FEBRUARY 1985.

FROM: DDI/O/CPAS.

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OUTGOING

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2. IN BRIEFS

1. LEBANON: SHIA MODERATES TURN TOWARD RADICALISM

//THE POPULARITY OF PRO-IRANIAN HIZBALLAH FUNDAMENTALISTS IS PUSHING SHIA AMAL LEADER NABIH BARRI TO ADOPT INCREASINGLY RADICAL POSITIONS. AT A WEST BEIRUT RALLY ON WEDNESDAY, BARRI PROMISED TO LAUNCH 50 SUICIDE ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAELI TROOPS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON AND TO PAY SALARIES TO ANTI-ISRAELI GUERRILLAS. WHICH ORGANIZED THE RALLY, DISPLAYED RADICAL

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MESSAGE

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Approved for Release

Date JUN 1999

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SHIA SYMBOLS SUCH AS POSTERS OF AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI ALONGSIDE THOSE OF BARRI.

b3 [REDACTED] // BARRI ALMOST CERTAINLY HOPES TO USE EXTREMIST RHETORIC AND FUNDAMENTALIST SYMBOLS TO STRENGTHEN AMAL'S POSITION AMONG THE SHIAS. THE RISING POPULARITY OF THE RADICAL MOVEMENT HAS BEEN ERODING SUPPORT FOR BARRI OVER THE PAST YEAR. MANY SHIAS REGARD AMAL AS INEFFECTUAL AND CORRUPT, BUT INCREASINGLY SEE THE HIZBALLAH AS COMMITTED TO SHIA GOALS IN LEBANON. BARRI NEEDS TO IMPROVE HIS FUNDAMENTALIST CREDENTIALS BEFORE THE AMAL POLITBURO ELECTIONS THIS SPRING. // **b3**

2. IN BRIEFS

MIDDLE EAST

-- // SAUDI KING FAHD AGAIN URGED MUSLIM JURISTS LATE LAST MONTH TO USE INDEPENDENT JUDGMENT IN DECISIONS ON MODERN PROBLEMS. . . WANTS FLEXIBILITY BY RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENT TOWARD MODERNIZATION. . . SUCH EFFORTS TO PREEMPT RELIGIOUS CONSERVATIVES WILL PLEASE TECHNOCRATS. // **b3**

-- // NORTH YEMEN HAS TENTATIVELY AWARDED DRILLING CONCESSION TO US OIL COMPANY. . . AREA OF 18,000 SQUARE KILOMETERS LOCATED WEST OF RECENT DISCOVERY BY ANOTHER US FIRM. . . WILL FURTHER STRENGTHEN NORTH YEMEN'S TIES TO US. // **b3**

-- // JORDANIAN PRESS SAYS PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECIDED TUESDAY AGAINST JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN PEACE INITIATIVE AT THIS TIME, THOUGH DIALOGUE WILL CONTINUE. . . KING HUSSEIN WANTED JOINT PROPOSAL BEFORE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT MUBARAK'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH. // **b3**

-- // IRANIAN CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER RAFSANJANI YESTERDAY CONFIRMED SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD TO VISIT TEHRAN SOON. . . PERSIAN GULF ARAB STATES HOPE ASSAD WILL SUGGEST MEDIATING END TO WAR. . . RAFSANJANI'S REMARKS, HOWEVER, INDICATE IRAN REMAINS AGAINST THIS. // **b3**

AFRICA

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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//ETHIOPIA FACES FOOD SHORTAGES IN CAPITAL DESPITE
GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO SHIELD URBAN POPULATION,
PROSPECT OF REDUCED RATIONS INCREASES POTENTIAL FOR
UNREST.//

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[REDACTED]

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OUTGOING MESSAGE

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