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Central  
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Iran-Iraq: Tehran's Offensive Expands

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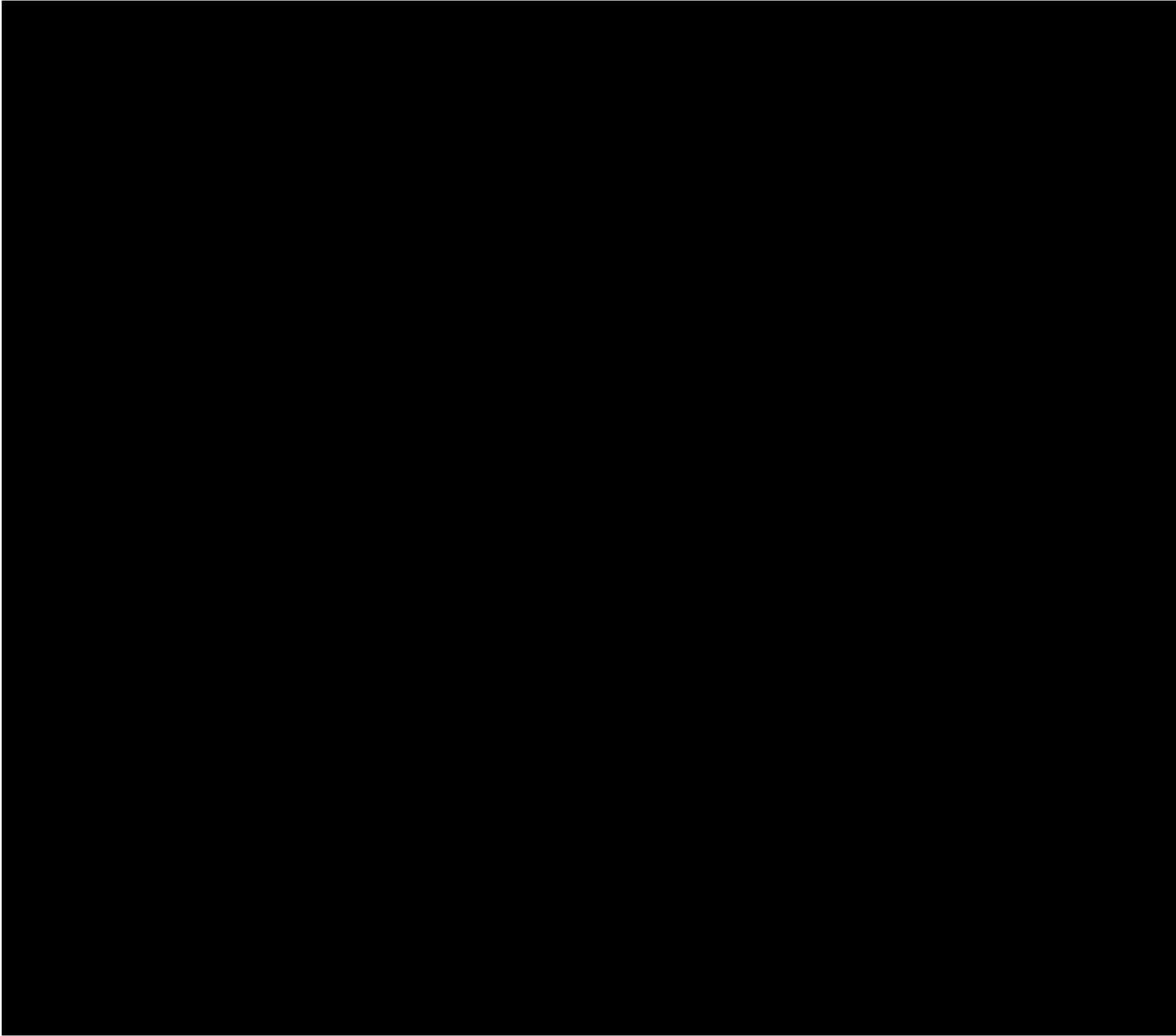
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IRAN-IRAQ:

### Tehran's Offensive Expands

*Iran has continued its offensive in northeastern Iraq by launching a major attack along the southern bank of the Darband-i Khan Reservoir, according to Iranian press reports. Iranian forces, in strength, were reported to be 3 miles (5 kilometers) from the dam near Salim Pirak yesterday morning and in control of the heights overlooking the town and the road leading to the southwest. Iranian aircraft are said to have flown numerous sorties to interdict Iraqi reinforcements attempting to move south toward Salim Pirak.*

Iran continued to hit border areas this weekend with intensive artillery and rocket fire, according to press reports. Iraq has responded by hitting Tehran with at least four missiles and Estahan with two missiles. At least one Iranian missile hit a densely populated area in Baghdad yesterday, reporting. Iraq has now launched at least 115 missiles and Iran as many as 41 in the current "war of the cities."

**Comment:** If Tehran's claims are true, Iranian forces are in excellent position to capture Salim Pirak, the dam, and possibly cross to the west bank of the reservoir north of the dam.

Iran has probably altered its missile strategy and now appears to be focusing on the more heavily populated areas of Baghdad rather than the traditional military and economic targets on its outskirts. Tehran is retaliating for scores of Iraqi missile attacks on populated areas and intends to inflict as much damage as possible to Iraqi morale.

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