



Director of  
Central  
Intelligence

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# National Intelligence Daily

**Tuesday**  
**25 September 1984**

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CPAS NID 84-225JX  
TCS 2925/84  
25 September 1984

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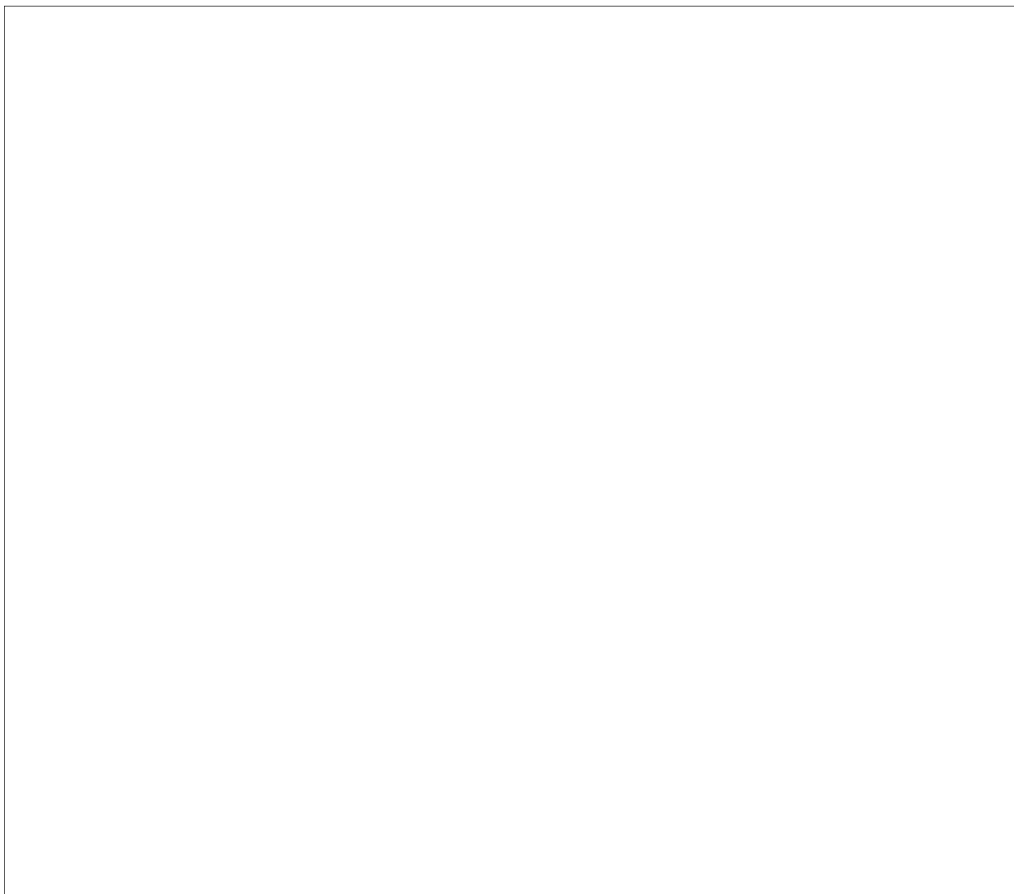
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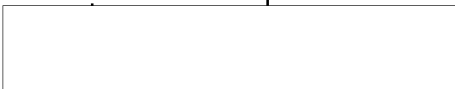
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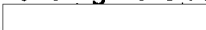
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**SYRIA-LEBANON-  
IRAN**

**Crackdown on Radical Shias**

***Syria appears to be moving against Iranian-backed radical Shia groups in Lebanon to prevent additional terrorist acts.*** 

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 a company of Syrian tanks facing the Shaykh Abdullah barracks in Ba'labakk, a major training and housing area for Iranian Revolutionary Guard units and Lebanese Shia extremist groups.  Syrian troops began encircling Revolutionary Guard positions near An Nabi Shit on Sunday. 

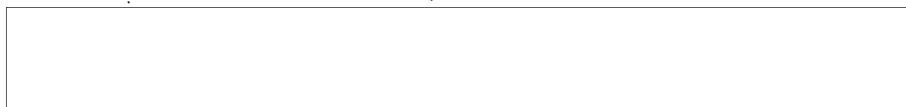
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Syrian troops have clashed with radical Shia fighters in eastern Lebanon several times since spring.  Syrian leaders recently decided to force extremist groups out of the Bekaa Valley despite appeals by Iranian officials. 

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**Comment:** The Syrian Government probably hopes to prevent further terrorist attacks at this time by restricting the Revolutionary Guard and the Lebanese Shia extremists, who use the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley as a staging area. Damascus supports efforts by the Lebanese Government to improve security in Beirut and no longer welcomes terrorist activities by the radical Shias. 

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The Syrians almost certainly believe they will need US assistance to end the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon. They presumably believe that terrorism against US personnel will discourage Washington from becoming more involved in diplomacy aimed at an Israeli withdrawal. 

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