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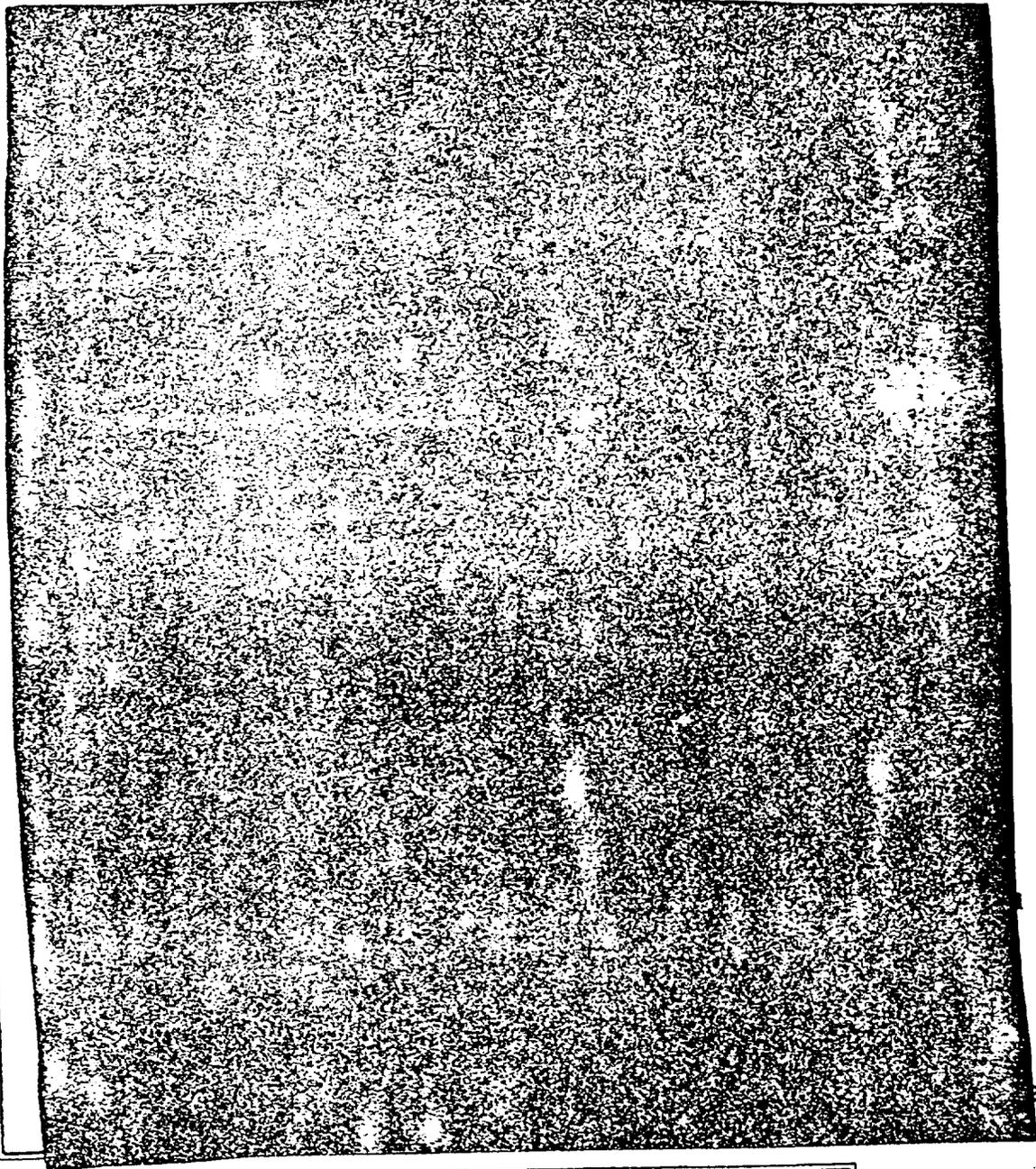
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

~~SECRET~~

# SPOT COMMENTARY

01 March 1991  
2300 EST

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IRAQ-KUWAIT: SITUATION REPORT #619



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OCT 1997

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[REDACTED]

### Political Developments

#### Saddam Considers his Options

Baghdad continues its efforts at damage control. The government-run media are featuring poetry lauding Saddam and the Army's "victory" over coalition forces which they claim forced the US to seek a ceasefire. According to a Jordanian press account, Iraqis are now blaming the Arabs for abandoning Baghdad.

Western journalists leaving Iraq in recent days report that popular grumbling against Saddam--uncharacteristic for security-conscious Iraqis--is growing louder, and [REDACTED] that anti-Saddam graffiti have appeared in the streets of some cities. [REDACTED] European press stories are repeating rumors that Saddam and his family plan to flee to Algeria, Mauritania, India, or the Soviet Union. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]