

[REDACTED]

**IRAQ: Arrest of President's Half Brothers**

4/NOV/83

//President Saddam Husayn has arrested his half brother Barzan and other family members and has begun a major purge of the Iraq security service that Barzan had headed.// [REDACTED]

//Two other half brothers and Khayrallah Talfah, the patriarch of the family, also have been arrested, [REDACTED] Security agents reportedly discovered that elements of Iraq's ruling Tikriti clan were beginning to plot to remove Saddam.// [REDACTED]

//Earlier reports had tied Barzan's removal to a family dispute. [REDACTED]

//The new director of the security service, General al-Fakhri, and his two newly appointed deputies—Saddam's son and son-in-law—have nearly completed a roundup of those loyal to Barzan, [REDACTED] Barzan had followers within civilian and military institutions, including the Republican Guard Brigades, as well as the security service. [REDACTED] gunfire on Monday within the presidential palace complex that houses the Brigades.// [REDACTED]

//Disarray in the clan and the security service weakens Saddam for the moment. He appears to be trying to stabilize the situation rapidly by giving important positions to a new set of close relatives and loyalists.// [REDACTED]

//The President's move could provoke an assassination attempt by supporters of Barzan still in the regime who fear for their positions. In any event, the turmoil will further lower morale within the government at a time when Iran is making gains on the northern battlefields.// [REDACTED]

Approved for Release  
Date June 1995