

0737

The overall exemptions for this document are (b)(1) and (b)(3).



DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

~~SECRET SPOKE  
NOFORN~~

### SPOT COMMENTARY

CIA DI

SPCOM-SR-91-640

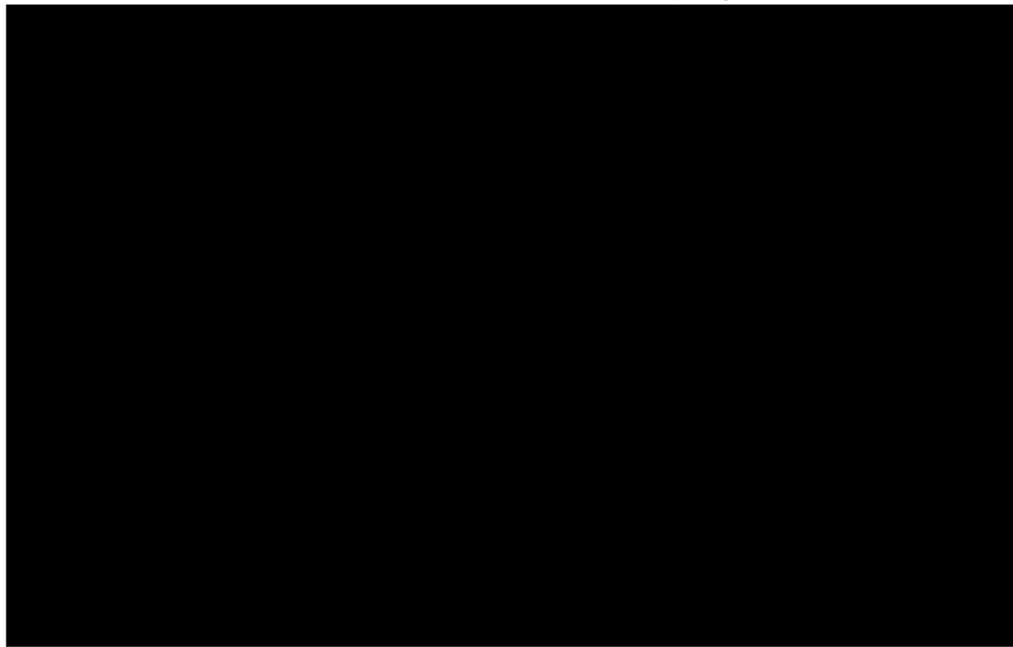
8 March 1991  
1500 EST

IRAQ-KUWAIT: SITUATION REPORT #640

Military Developments

Iraqi Insurrection Update

Government forces are consolidating their gains along the Tigris River [REDACTED]  
Fighting in Kurdistan appears to be intensifying.



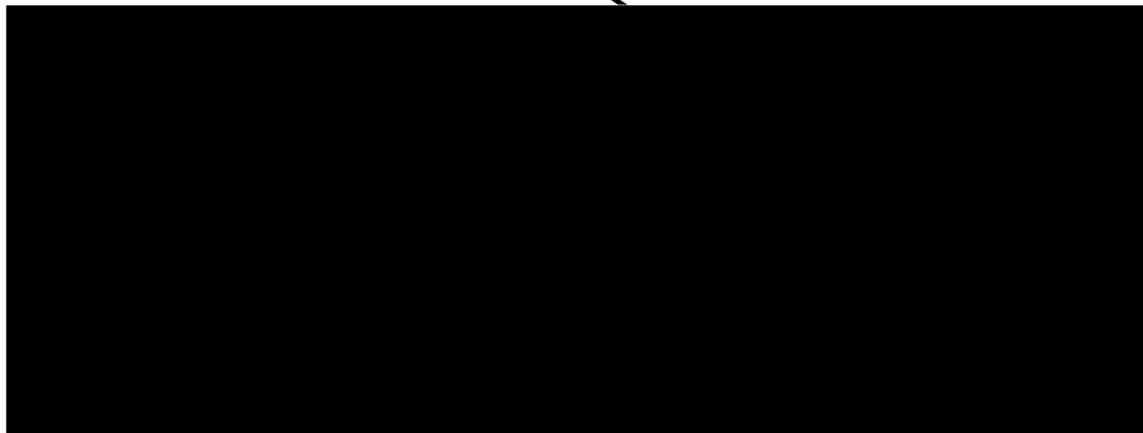
Prepared by:

[REDACTED]  
Senior Duty Officer, CIA Operations Center, [REDACTED]

~~NOFORN  
SECRET SPOKE~~

0738

~~SECRET SPOKE~~  
~~NOFORN~~



Political Developments

**Iraqi Opposition Groups to Meet**

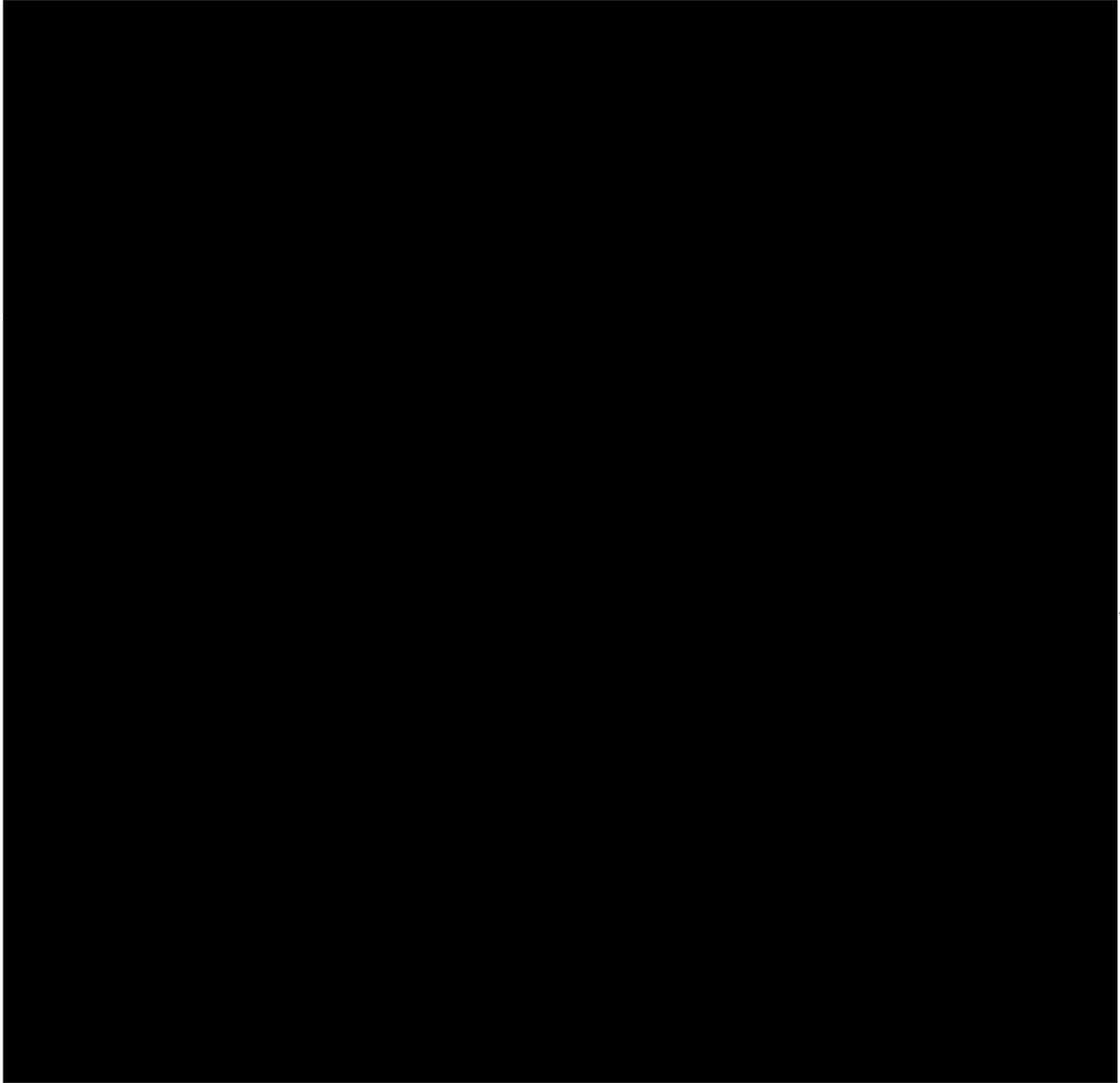
Representatives from all Iraqi opposition groups will hold a conference in Beirut during 10-12 March, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The meeting will include members of the Damascus-based Iraqi Opposition Front, the Iranian-hosted Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI)--whose largest component is the Iraqi Dawa Party--Kurdish groups, the [REDACTED] Movement for the Salvation of Iraq, "independents" like the Free Iraq Council, and ex-Ba'thists. The aim of the conference is to coordinate the activities of the disparate groups and develop a joint program. According to Lebanese press, Kurdish leader Talabani said the representatives would seek to expand the terms of an agreement signed last December by several of these groups with the aim of overthrowing Saddam Husayn. He also said the meeting may consider setting up a government-in-exile. [REDACTED]

Comment: Iraqi oppositionists apparently are trying to capitalize on the unrest in Iraq in hopes of further destabilizing Saddam. They probably will not make significant progress towards developing a unified opposition, however, because of the deep political, social, and ideological differences among them. They have not made much progress toward building an exile government or forming a National Assembly despite several months of effort, [REDACTED]

0739

~~SECRET SPOKE  
NOFORN~~



~~SECRET SPOKE  
NOFORN~~