



Director of
Central
Intelligence

(M)

~~Top Secret~~



CIA/CPAS

NIDC-84-02

National Intelligence Daily



Friday
2 March 1984

(b) (1)
(b) (3)

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JUL 2004

~~Top Secret~~

CPAS NIDC 84-051C

2 MARCH 1984

Copy 370

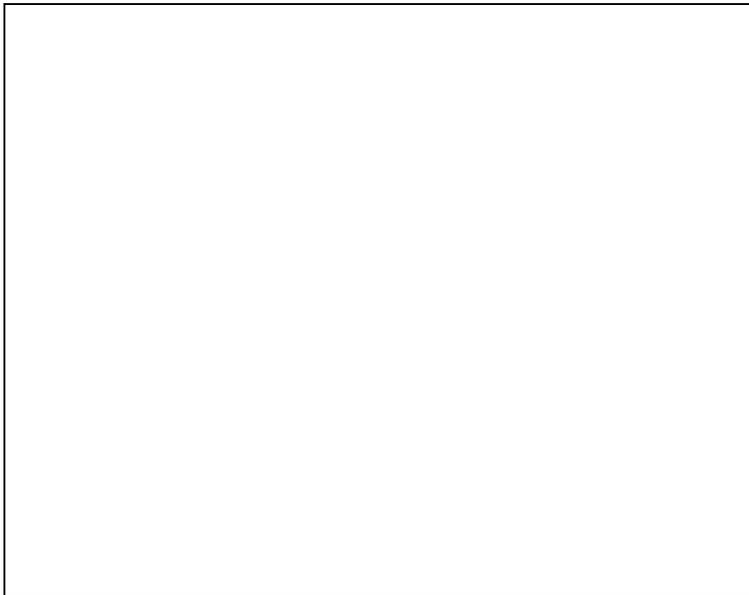
A

3 5

~~Top Secret~~



Iraq-Iran: Iranian Attacks Increase 1



~~Top Secret~~

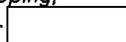


~~Top Secret~~



IRAN-IRAQ: Iranian Attacks Increase

Iran has launched what may be the initial phase of its major offensive at Al Basrah. Meanwhile, it is strengthening its air defenses protecting Khark Island. Morale problems appear to be developing, however, among the Iranian population and within the military.

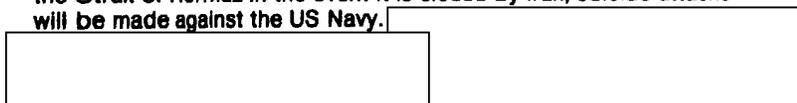


Situation in the Persian Gulf

//Iraq yesterday claimed to have sunk eight ships near Bandar-e Khomeyni.



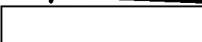
Tehran radio warned on Wednesday that, if the US tries to reopen the Strait of Hormuz in the event it is closed by Iran, suicide attacks will be made against the US Navy.



continued



~~Top Secret~~



~~Top Secret~~

[Redacted]

Comment: //Iran appears to be preparing its forces in case the fighting spreads into the Persian Gulf. The F-14s operating out of Bushire increase Iran's capability to protect Khark Island. The Iranian destroyers probably will not operate near the island, where they would be vulnerable to Iraqi air attack, but they are likely to be kept ready to threaten shipping in the strait. [Redacted]

The threat of suicide missions against US naval forces is a departure from Iran's previous position. Tehran had maintained that Western media reports that it was preparing such missions were propaganda inventions intended to prepare the way for an increased Western presence in the Middle East. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Iranian Morale

[Redacted]

Comment: Popular discontent with the war could become widespread in Iran if it fails to make major gains and the casualties from the latest battles become public. [Redacted]

~~Top Secret~~

[Redacted]

[Redacted]