

Director of
Central
Intelligence

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: NOV 2004

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National Intelligence Daily

Saturday
8 October 1983

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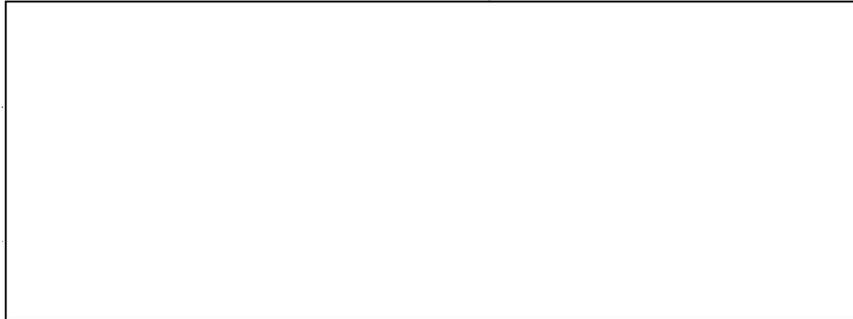
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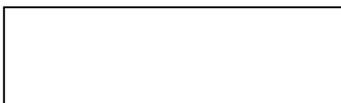
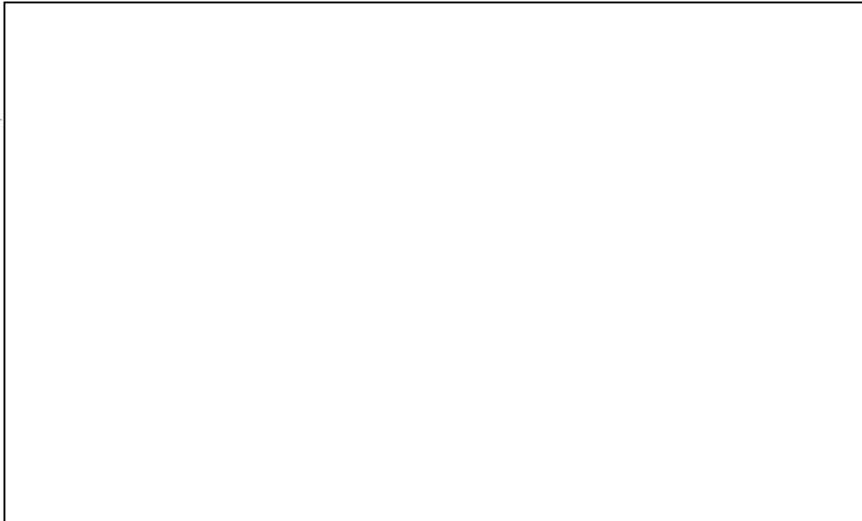


Contents

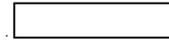


France-Iraq: Possible Aircraft Delivery

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FRANCE-IRAQ: Possible Aircraft Delivery

Five French-piloted Super Etendard fighter aircraft left an airbase in western France yesterday en route to Iraq, according to unconfirmed press reports. The aircraft reportedly are to fly to an undisclosed refueling stop on the Mediterranean, where Iraqi pilots are to take custody of them.



Comment: The Super Etendards probably will be ready for combat within a month of delivery. They are likely to be stationed initially at an airbase in northern Iraq, where most of France's advisers and logistic support facilities for the Iraqi Air Force are located. Once the aircraft are ready to begin operations over the Persian Gulf, they will be moved to a base in southern Iraq.



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