



Director of
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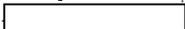
Contents



France-Iraq: Aircraft Sale Goes Ahead 2



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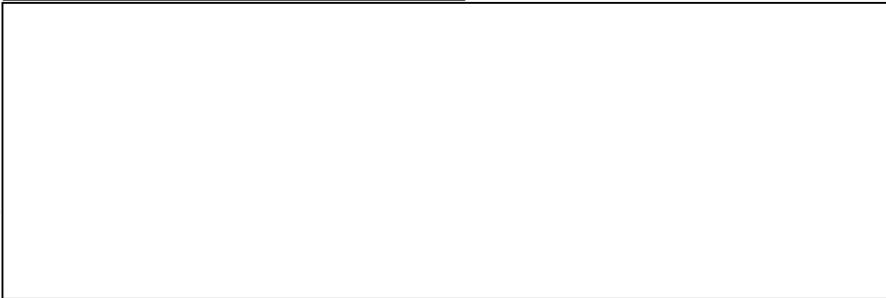
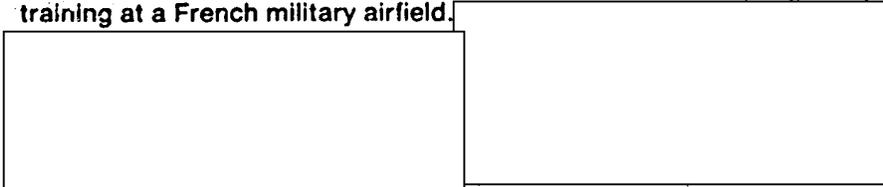
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FRANCE-IRAQ: Aircraft Sale Goes Ahead



French press reports on Monday stated that Iraq will take delivery of the aircraft at the end of this week, when Iraqi pilots complete training at a French military airfield.



Comment: If the French were to impose a short delay, they would attempt to use the time to assuage concerns of their allies and Gulf states that Iraqi strikes on Iranian oil facilities would widen the war in the Gulf. If the French believed an Iraqi capability of this type were the key to bringing Iran to the negotiating table, they would be unlikely to place restrictions on Iraqi use of the aircraft.

