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14 February 1983

DDI TALKING POINTS

Iran-Iraq: Current Situation

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The first phase of Iran's offensive on the Doveyrij River

front was a total failure.		
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-- The offensive began on the night of 6 February with an Iranian attack on the southern portion of the Iraqi lines

east of Al Amarah. 25X1 25X1

- -- On 9 February, Revolutionary Guards with limited regular infantry and armored support penetrated five kilometers behind the Iraqi lines. A subsequent Iraqi counterattack cutoff and surrounded the Iranians.
- -- As of 14 February the Iraqis still hold their original front lines east of Al Amarah.

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Apart from improvements in Iraqi intelligence and combat performance, the Iranian defeat stems from a number of factors:

-- Inadequate intelligence on Iraqi tactical dispositions.

-- Poor coordination between regular and irregular units.

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-- Severe material shortages that have caused sharp reductions in support from artillery and attack helicopters. Iranian fighter-bombers were not used for ground attack missions.

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	In his Friday prayer session, Khamenei	25X1
	took a typically hard line, reemphasizing Iran's	
	commitment to deal the Iraqis " final blow." He also	
	said that the "punishment of the aggressor is more	
	important to us than regaining" territories occupied by	
	Iraq, possibly leading to a misinterpretation of Iran's	
	position by diplomats in Tehran.	25X1

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Iran-Iraq War: Military Forces

OVERALL

	Iraq	Iran
Army regular troops irregular troops tanks APCs artillery	400,000 300,000 3,000 2,900 1,400	200,000 300,000 900 900 775
Air Force personnel operational fighter aircraft	17,000 250	50,000 70
Air Defense personnel operational SAM launchers (excluding SA-7s)	20,000 350	20,000 40
Navy personnel destroyers frigates missile boats	5,000 0 0 10	15,000 3 4 11

Forces on the Doveyrij River Front

	Iraq	Iran
Regular divisions	6	3
Personnel	120,000	150,000
Armored vehicles	1,000	550
Artillery	375	140

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SUBJECT: DDI Talking Points Iran-Iraq: Current Situation

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