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NPIC/IEG (3/82)

25 MARCH 1982

**IRANIAN AND IRAQI TROOP DISPOSITION**  
**DEZFUL/SHUSH AREA, IRAN**

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1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: A RECENT IRANIAN OFFENSIVE IN THE DEZFUL/SHUSH AREA HAS CAUSED THE IRAQI FORCES TO WITHDRAW AND REDEPLOY TO NEW POSITIONS.

2. (S/D) REMARKS: IRANIAN FORCES IN THE DEZFUL/SHUSH AREA WERE CONDUCTING MAJOR OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN TWO AREAS WEST OF THE KARKHEH RIVER, [REDACTED] AN IRANIAN FORCE CONSISTING OF NUMEROUS INFANTRY UNITS SUPPORTED BY MAJOR ELEMENTS OF AN ARMOR BRIGADE (PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS A MECHANIZED INFANTRY BRIGADE) AND ARTILLERY HAD ADVANCED 6 NM SOUTH AND 2 NM WEST FROM A POINT 21 NM WEST OF DEZFUL. THE OPPOSING IRAQI FORCE CONSISTING OF AN ARMOR BRIGADE WAS FORCED TO WITHDRAW AND REDEPLOY TO A POINT 31 NM WEST OF DEZFUL. SIMULTANEOUSLY, A SECOND IRANIAN OFFENSIVE OPERATION WAS LAUNCHED 10 NM SOUTHWEST OF SHUSH BY ANOTHER LARGE INFANTRY FORCE SUPPORTED BY MAJOR ELEMENTS OF AN ARMOR BRIGADE AND ARTILLERY. THIS FORCE HAD ADVANCED, ON TWO AXES, TO POINTS 10 NM AND 12 NM SOUTHWEST OF SHUSH RESPECTIVELY. OPPOSING IRAQI FORCES IN THIS AREA CONSISTING OF THREE BRIGADE-SIZE ARMOR UNITS AND ELEMENTS OF AN ARMOR BRIGADE WERE FORCED TO WITHDRAW TO NEW DEFENSIVE POSITIONS BETWEEN 1 AND 4 NM NORTHWEST OF THEIR PREVIOUS POSITIONS. (GRAPHIC 1 OF 5).

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(S/D) IRANIAN FORCES INVOLVED IN THE NORTHERN OFFENSIVE OPERATION INCLUDED MAJOR ELEMENTS OF AN ARMOR BRIGADE, ONE TANK COMPANY, ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY PLATOON, ONE ARMORED RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY, TWO M-109A1 SELF-PROPELLED GUN (SPG) BATTALIONS (GRAPHIC 2 OF 5), ONE M-107 SPG BATTERY, ONE FIELD ARTILLERY (FA) BATTALION, TWO FA BATTERIES, A SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT UNIT, AN ENGINEER UNIT, AND AT LEAST FOUR INFANTRY UNITS.

(S/D) THE IRANIAN FORCES INVOLVED IN THE SOUTHERN OFFENSIVE OPERATION INCLUDED MAJOR ELEMENTS OF AN ARMOR BRIGADE, AN ARMORED RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY, TWO M-109A1 SPG BATTALIONS,

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TWO FA BATTALIONS, A HELICOPTER UNIT, A SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT UNIT, A COMMAND POST, AND AT LEAST FOUR INFANTRY UNITS. THREE FORWARD AREA RESUPPLY POINTS (HELIPADS) WERE IN THE AREA APPROXIMATELY 19 NM SOUTHWEST OF SHUSH. THIRTEEN AH-1/UH-1 HELICOPTERS (NOT ALL ON GRAPHIC) WERE AT ONE OF THE RESUPPLY POINTS (GRAPHIC 3 OF 5). ADDITIONALLY, ONE BRIDGE REMAINED SPANNING A TRIBUTARY OF THE KARKHEH RIVER AT A POINT 11.3 NM SOUTHWEST OF SHUSH.

(S/D) IRANIAN FORCES, IN SUPPORT OF THE OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS, EAST OF THE KARKHEH RIVER INCLUDED ONE TANK COMPANY, ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY COMPANY, TWO M-109A1 SPG BATTERIES, TWO M-107 SPG BATTERIES, ONE FA BATTALION, TWO FA BATTERIES, A COMMAND POST, A SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT UNIT, TWO HEAVY LIFT UNITS, AND AT LEAST ONE INFANTRY UNIT. TWO PONTON BRIDGES HAD BEEN REDEPLOYED ACROSS THE KARKHEH RIVER

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AT POINTS 7.5 NM NORTH AND 3 NM SOUTH OF SHUSH RESPECTIVELY. SIX ADDITIONAL BRIDGES REMAINED SPANNING THE KARKHEH RIVER FROM A POINT 18 NM NORTH OF SHUSH TO A POINT 16 NM SOUTH-SOUTHEAST OF SHUSH.

(S/D) THE OPPOSING IRAQI FORCES, 31 NM WEST OF DEZFUL, CONSISTED OF ONE ARMOR BRIGADE AND ONE INFANTRY UNIT. LEAD ELEMENTS OF THIS IRAQI FORCE WERE DEPLOYED NEAR THE VILLAGE OF EMAMZADEH ABBAS.

(S/D) A SECOND IRAQI FORCE WHOSE LEAD ELEMENTS WERE REDEPLOYED APPROXIMATELY 19 NM NORTHWEST OF SHUSH, CONSISTED OF ONE ARMOR BRIGADE, ONE FA BATTALION, AND AN INFANTRY UNIT. THESE FORCES WERE REDEPLOYED ALONG A NORTHWEST-SOUTHEAST AXIS, REINFORCING THE ARMOR BRIGADE DEPLOYED TO THE NORTHWEST AND OPPOSING THE IRANIAN ADVANCE FROM THE NORTH.

(S/D) IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED WEST OF SHUSH INCLUDED ELEMENTS OF THREE BRIGADE-SIZE ARMOR FORCES, WHOSE LEAD ELEMENTS WERE DEPLOYED IN AN ARC FROM A POINT 5.5 NM NORTHWEST OF SHUSH TO A POINT 11.5 NM WEST-SOUTHWEST OF SHUSH. THREE FA BATTALIONS, ONE MULTIPLE-ROCKET LAUNCHER (MRL) BATTERY, ONE SA-6 BATTALION, AN ENGINEER UNIT, AND AT LEAST ONE INFANTRY UNIT WERE SUPPORTING THESE FORCES. THIS AREA HAD BEEN

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REINFORCED BY ELEMENTS OF ONE BRIGADE-SIZE ARMOR FORCE SINCE  
[REDACTED] THE IRAQI FORCES DEPLOYED IN THIS AREA WERE  
BLOCKING FURTHER IRANIAN ADVANCES FROM BOTH THE NORTHERN AND  
SOUTHERN OFFENSIVES AND WERE RECEIVING INCOMING ARTILLERY  
FIRE.

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(S/D) IRAQI FORCES WITH LEAD ELEMENTS DEPLOYED 15 NM WEST-SOUTHWEST OF SHUSH CONSISTED OF MAJOR ELEMENTS OF ONE ARMOR BRIGADE, ONE TANK BATTALION, ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY BATTALION, TWO FA BATTALIONS, AN MRL BATTERY, TWO SA-6 BATTALIONS, ONE HEAVY LIFT UNIT, ONE COMMAND POST, A HELICOPTER UNIT, AND TWO INFANTRY UNITS. ELEMENTS OF THIS FORCE WERE ATTEMPTING TO PREVENT ANY FURTHER IRANIAN ADVANCES FROM THE SOUTH. ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS OF THE ARMOR BRIGADE WERE PARKED IN CONVOY FORMATION NEAR A HEAVY LIFT TRANSPORT UNIT (GRAPHIC 4 AND 5 OF 5). THESE UNITS APPEAR TO BE DEPARTING THE AREA. ELEMENTS OF ONE ARMOR BRIGADE AND MAJOR ELEMENTS OF ONE MECHANIZED INFANTRY BRIGADE APPEARED TO HAVE DEPARTED THIS AREA [REDACTED] ADDITIONAL ARTILLERY SUPPORT FOR THESE FORCES, CONSISTING OF TWO FA BATTALIONS, WAS DEPLOYED APPROXIMATELY 25 NM WEST-SOUTHWEST OF SHUSH.

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