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Message Text

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46
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-03 SCCT-01 SY-05 AID-05

DHA-02 IO-13 ACDA-07 USSS-00 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /116 W
---------- 057953
R 091250Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5916
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXADNRIA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 10651

PARIS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON WITH SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EG, LY
SUBJECT: LIBYANS CASTIGATED FOR CAIRO BOMBINGS

SUMARY: TWO TERROIST BOMBINGS IN CAIRO AUGUST 8 HAVE
CAUSED OUTRAGE AGAINST QUDHAFI AMONG PRESS AND POPULACE
AND CONSIDERABLE APPREHENSION. SECRUTIY AUTHORITIES HAVE OBTAINED
CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF LIBYAN SPONSORSHIP. INCIDENTS, WHICH INJURED
14 IN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAVE CONVINCED MANY EGYPTIANS THAT GOE IS
NOW BOTH JUSTIFIED AND REQUIRED IN IT OWN INTERESTS TO TAKE
WHATEVER STEPS ARE NECESSARY TO RID THE AREA OF THE
"LUNATIC" COLONEL. ADDITIONAL GOE CONCERN OVER STOCKPILES
OF SOVIET WEAPONS AND REPORTED SOVIET-MANNED BASES IN
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LIBYA MAY WELL LEAD TO MORE ACTIVE GOE POLICY AGAINST

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QADHAFI IN NEAR FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. ALL CAIRO DAILIES AUGUST 9 BANNER "LIBYAN" BOMBINGS
AT 1100 AND 1300 HOURS AUGUST 8 IN BATHROOMS ON FIFTH FLOOR
OF CENTRAL TAHRIR GOVERNMENT OFFICE COMPLEX HOUSING INTER ALIA
SOME OFFICES OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. EXPLSIONS WERE CLEARLY
AUDIBLE AT EMBASSY TWO BLOCKS AWAY AND CAUSED SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE.
GOE CLAIMS FIRST BOMB DESIGNED TO GO OFF IMMEDIATELY
TO ELIMINATE AGENT WHO PLACED IT. SECURITY AUTHORITIES
INSPECTED SITE, BUT HAD NOT DETECTED SECOND BOMB BEFORE IT
EXPODED TWO HOURS LATER. ALL 14
INJURIES CAUSED BY FIRST EXPLSION. ONLY ONE PERSON
IN CRITICAL CONDITION.

2. AUTHORITIES HAVE CONRETE EVIDENCE THAT LIBYAN
INTELLIGENCE BEHIND ATTACKS. 'AMAD AD-DIN ABU RAQIQ
SEIZED AFTER FIRST BOMB AND EMPLOYEES TRIED TO KILL HIM.
HE ALLEGEDLY CONFESSED THAT HE WAS GIVEN 1300 LIBYAN POUNDS
AND TWO TIME BOMBS BY LIBYAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER MAJOR
SAAD AL SHIBANI. 'AMAD RAQIQ SAID TO BE FROM AWLAD ALI
WESTERN TRIBE AND TO HAVE SPENT PAST YEAR IN LIBYA WHERE HE
WAS RECRUITED BY LIBYAN INTELLIGENCE FOR MONEY. BOMBS WERE TO
HAVE BEEN PLACED DURING JULY 20-25 REVOLUTION CELEBRATIONS.
RAQIQ LOST HIS EYESIGHT AND SUFFERED OTHER INJURIES WHEN
FIRST BOMB EXPLODED AS HE WAS SETTING IT.

3. PRESS LINKS BOMBINGS TO PREVIOUS LIBYAN BOMBINGS ON
CAIRO-ALEXANDRIA TRAIN, DAMANHUR, MERSA MATRUH, ALEXANDRIA
AND BEHEIRA. AHRAM EDITORIAL CASTIGATES LIBYA'S "LUNATIC AND
IDIOTIC COLONEL" FOR VAIN ATTEMPTS TO CAUSE DISTURBANCES IN
EGYPT AFTER HIS FAILURE ELSEWHERE. IT SAYS COLONEL IS
NO LONGER "ABSURD JOKE" AND PATIENCE IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE.
EDITORIAL ADDRESSES LIBYAN PEOPLE AND WARNS THAT IN UNLIKELY
EVENT COLONEL SUCCEEDED IN SOWING DISSENSION BETWEEN
PEOPLES OF TWO COUNTRIES, LIBYA'S SCHOOLS, FACTORIES AND
HOSPITALS WOULD ALL BE CLOSED DOWN AS EVERY EGYPTIAN
EFFORT TO HELP LIBYANS WOULD CEASE. WHILE EGYPT WILL
NOT RESORT TO COLONEL'S METHODS, EDITORIAL WARNS EGYPT IS
CAPABLE OF PUNISHING THE LUNATIC "WHOSE LIQUIDATION HAS
BECOME ONLY POSSIBLE REMEDY." AHMAD ZEIN IN KHBAR
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CASTIGATES QUADHAFI IN EVEN STRONGER TERMS FOR BLOODLETTING
THROUGHOUT ARAB WORLD. HE SAYS THAT WHAT QADHAFI HAS DONE
IN EGYPT COULD BE ANSWERED IN MUCH GREATER DIMENSIONS IN LIBYA,
BUT EGYPT REFUSES TO MAKE INNOCENT LIBYAN PEOPLE SUFFER
FOR ACTS OF "MAD RULER."

4. ALL PAPERS ALSO CARRY MENA ITEM THAT NUMAYRI RECEIVED
FORMER LIBYAN RCC MEMBER UMAR MUHAYSHI IN KHARTOUM

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YESTERDAY WHO CONGRATULATED HIM ON CRUSHING QADHAFI FINANCED
COUP ATTEMPT. MUHAYSHI AFFIRMED THAT LIBYAN PEOPLE ARE
CAPABLE OF GETTING RID OF QADHAFI'S "SICK LEADERSHIP" AND
DAY OF SALVATION NOT FAR OFF.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT OFFICIAL VERSION
THAT QADHAFI BEHIND THESE AND PREVIOUS TERRORIST TYPE
INCIDENTS IN EGYPT. PRESS INDIGNATION AGSINT THESE
OUTRAGES IS WIDELY SHARED BY POPULACE AS IS GROWING IMPATIENCE
WITH HAVING QADHAFI AS NEIGHBOR. INCREASINGLY SERIOUS TERRORIST
ATTACKS, TOGETHER WITH MOUNTING GOE CONFERN OVER LARGE
QUANTITIES SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT FLOWING TO LIBYA AND
REPORTS OF SOVIET SONCTROLLED BASES THERE (CAIRO 10583),
SUGGEST THAT GOE MAY NOW ENGAGE IN SOME SUBERSIVE
EFFORTS OF ITS OWN TO ELIMINATE QUADHAFI. MOST EGYPTIANS
WOULD SUPPORT SUCH ACTIONS AS JUSTIFIED AND NECESSARY.
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