



REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. (U) EGYPT: ATTACK ON TOURIST BUS IN CAIRO.





A. (U) ON 8 JUNE, AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DETONATED BETWEEN A TOURIST BUS AND A PRIVATE VEHICLE TRAVELLING ON THE PYRAMIDS ROAD IN GIZA. AT LEAST TWO EGYPTIANS IN THE CAR WERE KILLED, AND AS MANY AS EIGHT BRITISH NATIONALS WERE INJURED ON THE BUS. REPORTEDLY, THE BOMB WAS THROWN FROM AN OVERPASS ON TO THE PYRAMIDS ROAD AS THE TOUR BUS PASSED. B. (C/NF) COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST ATTACK CLEARLY AIMED AT TOURISTS SINCE THE 11 APRIL ATTEMPT TO PLACE A BOMB ON A GERMAN TOURIST BUS. HOWEVER, AS WITH THE 26 FEBRUARY BOMBING OF THE WADI AL-NIL CAFE AND THE 21 MAY CAR BOMBING IN CAIRO, THERE WERE MORE EGYPTIAN THAN FOREIGN FATALITIES. THE ISLAMIC GROUP (IG), WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UPSURGE IN TERRORIST ATTACKS IN THE PAST YEAR, HAS NOT CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE INCIDENTS' ONE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THAT THE IG IS SO FACTIONALIZED THAT THERE IS NO CENTRAL LEADERSHIP TO DIRECT THE GROUP'S OPERATIONS' ANOTHER POSSIBILITY IS THAT THE DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF EGYPTIAN CASUALTIES HAS DISSUADED THE LEADERSHIP FROM CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTS THAT WOULD ALIENATE THEM FROM THEIR SUPPORT BASE IN THE GENERAL POPULACE C. (C/NF) INITIALLY, THE ATTACKS AGAINST TOURISTS INVOLVED THE USE OF AUTOMATIC WEAPONS OR MOLOTOV COCKTAILS. THE USE OF INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES SUGGESTS THAT THE MILITANTS ARE BECOMING LESS CONCERNED ABOUT INFLICTING INJURY TO BYSTANDERS IN THEIR ANTI-GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN. ALTHOUGH THE MILITANTS STILL HAVE NOT TARGETED ANY PARTICULAR NATIONALITY, THE COMBINATION OF MORE POWERFUL WEAPONS AND AN APPARENT DISREGARD FOR INADVERTENT CASUALTIES COULD RESULT IN ADDITIONAL INJURIES TO U.S. CITIZENS.

2. (U) WORLDWIDE: TERRORISM NOTES





Page 3 of 3

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