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# COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER COMMENTARY

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15 November 1995

## Riyadh Bombing: Islamic Movement for Change Threatens Further Attacks (U)

### Summary (U)



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### Goals and Threats of the IMC (U)

The facsimile outlines three goals that motivated the group to bomb US targets in Saudi Arabia:

- First, the IMC wants to "kick the Jews, Christians, and infidels from the purified lands of the Arabian Peninsula." The IMC claims to be following a deathbed admonition of the Prophet Muhammad in carrying out this action. It states that it will continue its attacks if Americans, and primarily US military personnel, do not leave the Arabian Peninsula.
- Second, the bombing was in retaliation for the imprisonment of Islamic leaders. The fax specifically mentions Shaykh Salman al-Awda and Dr. Safar al-Hawali, two popular activist preachers imprisoned by the Saudis last year. The group is demanding the immediate release of the preachers.
- Third, the group wanted to prove to the Saudi government that opposition elements can act with impunity inside Saudi Arabia. (U)



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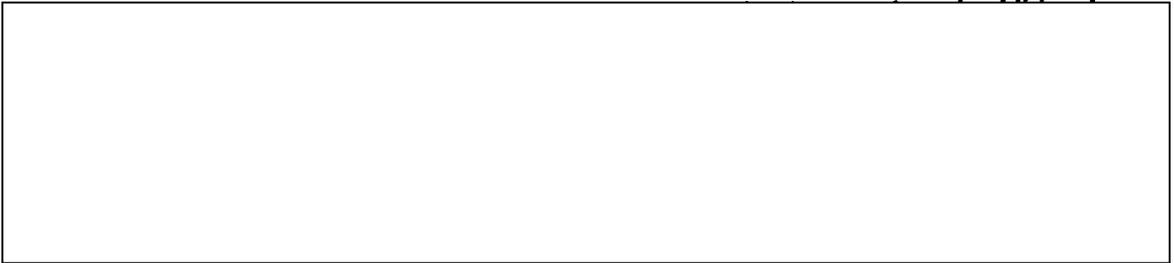
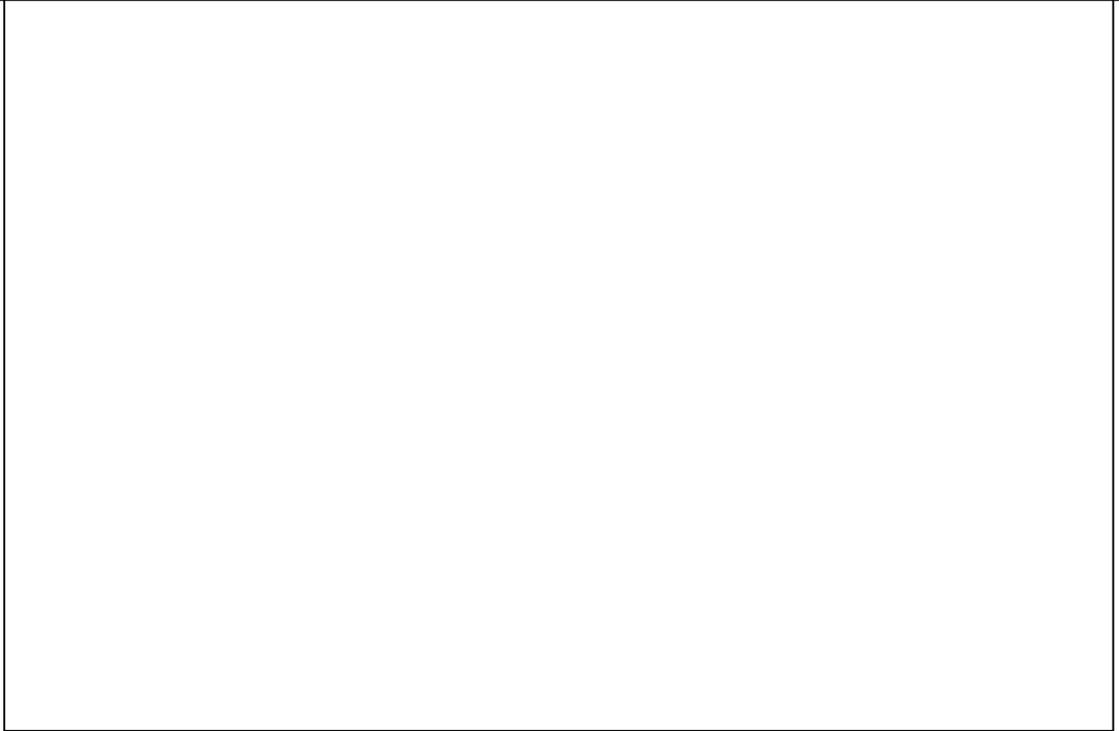
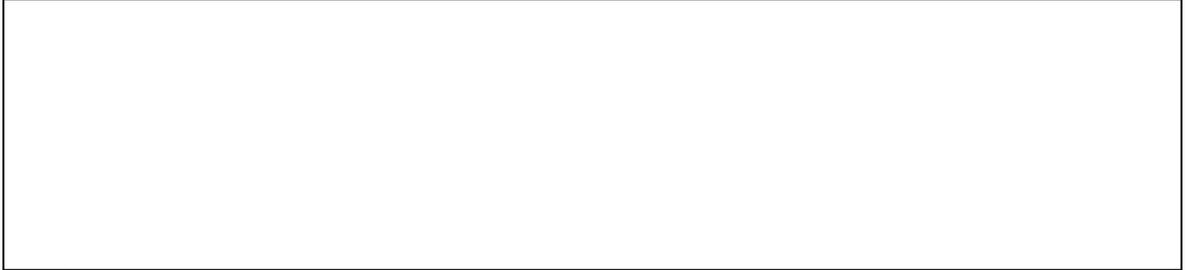
The IMC states that the Riyadh bomb was only the first of a series of bombings. It states that its future targets will be American civilians because it expects security will be stricter at US military bases. The group also promises to attack the Saudi royal family, both in Saudi Arabia and abroad, and threatens to make Saudi Arabia another "Egypt, Algeria, or France." Finally, the IMC promises to provide an "official letter" with details on how the IMC perpetrated the Riyadh bombing. (U)

**The Validity of the Claim (U)**

**What the Message Reveals About the Group (U)**

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