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TO: CIA REP

TEXT

SUBJECT: WARNING AND FORECAST REPORT: SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (U)

1. THE FOLLOWING NIO/AF WARNING AND FORECAST REPORT IS  
FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION. APPROPRIATE US MILITARY  
OFFICIALS AND OFFICERS ARE AUTHORIZED REVIEW AND USE OF THIS  
MATERIAL WITHIN THEIR COMMANDS. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE  
VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS WARNING AND FORECAST REPORT ARE THE  
UNOFFICIAL VIEWS OF INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES.

2. AT THEIR MONTHLY MEETING ON 17 OCTOBER, INTELLIGENCE  
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES AGREED THAT:

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[REDACTED]

X--THERE IS STILL NO HARD EVIDENCE LINKING A SPECIFIC  
TERRORIST GROUP TO LAST MONTH'S BOMBING OF UTA FLIGHT 772.  
BECAUSE OF LAX AIRPORT SECURITY, SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA MAY BECOME  
MORE ATTRACTIVE TO TERRORISTS FOR SUCH ATTACKS AGAINST WESTERN  
TARGETS.

DISCUSSION:

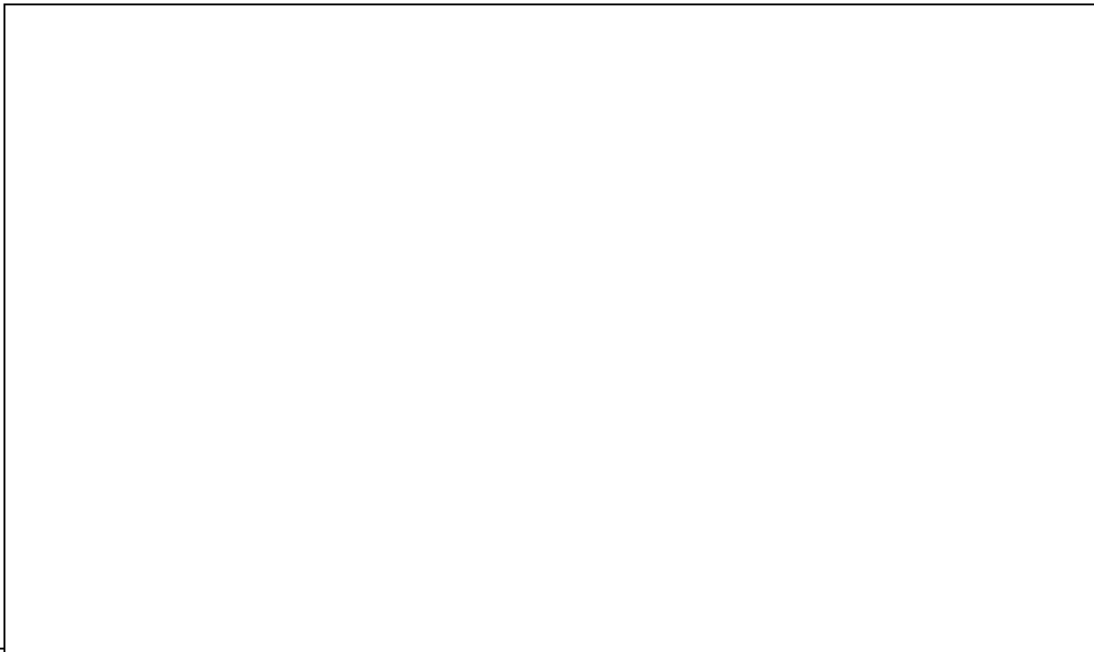
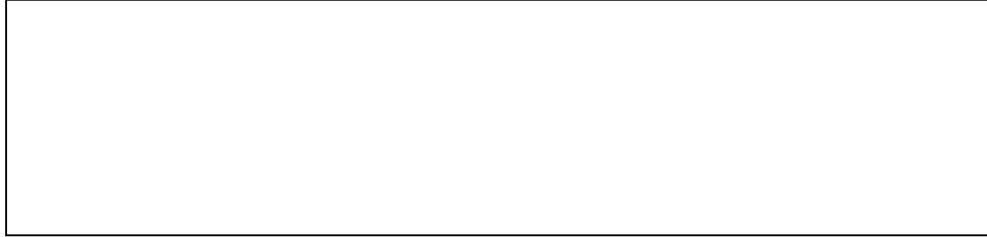
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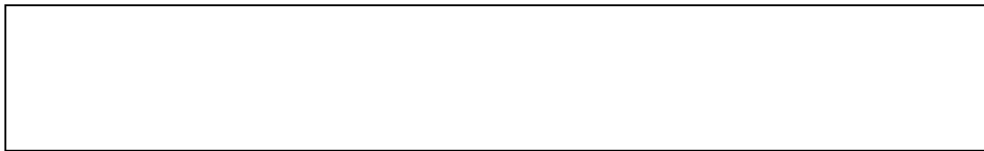
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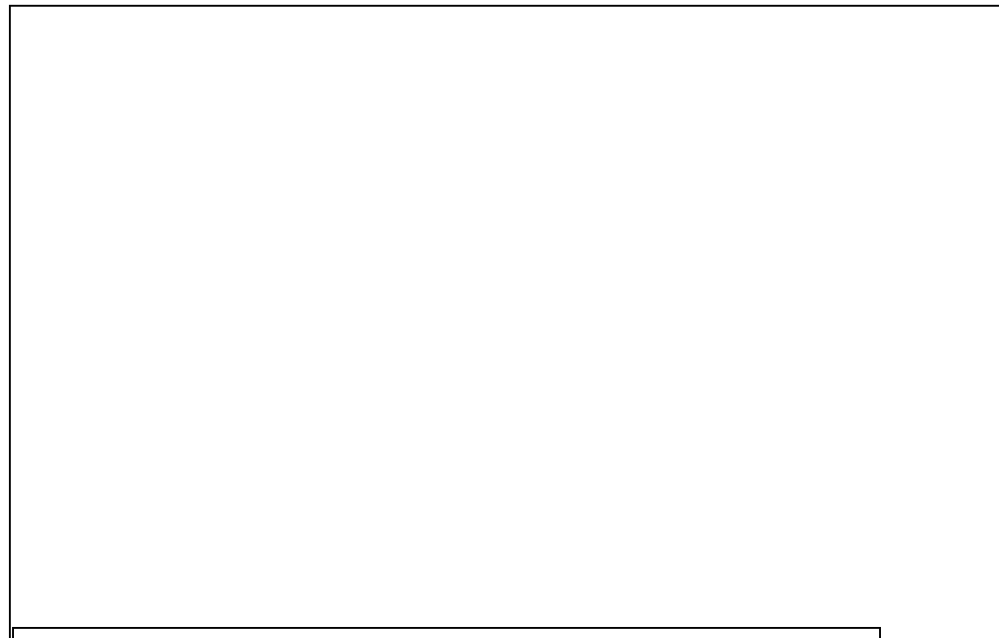
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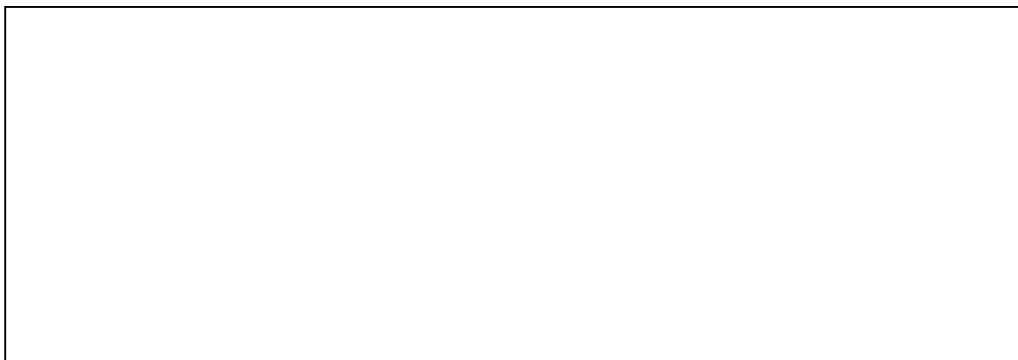
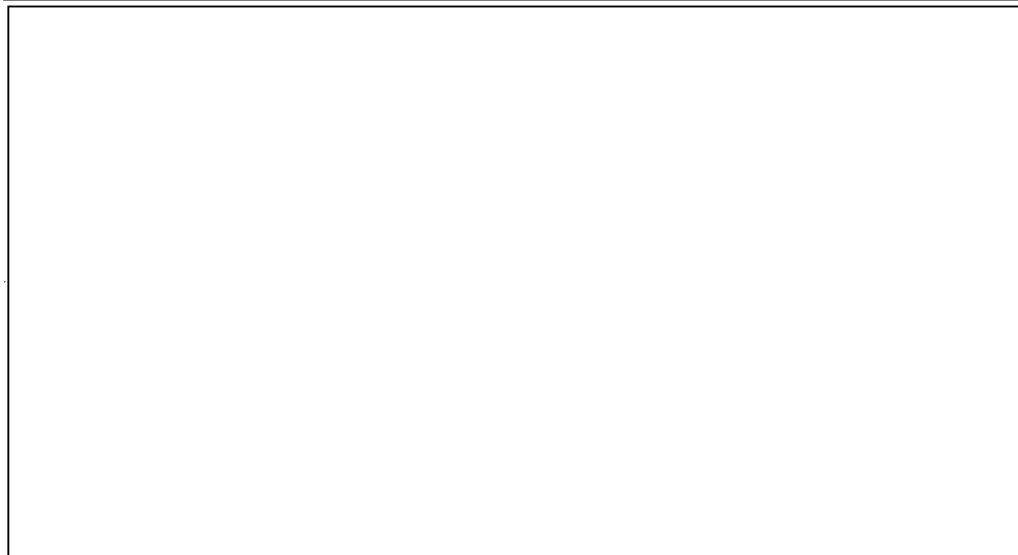
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TERRORISM: BOMBING OF UTA 772. PRESENTED BY DCI'S  
COUNTERTERRORISM CENTER

UTA FLIGHT 772 FROM BRAZZAVILLE TO NDJAMENA AND PARIS  
EXPLODED OVER NIGER ABOUT 40 MINUTES OUT OF NDJAMENA ON 19  
SEPTEMBER. ALTHOUGH [REDACTED] OFFICIALS CLAIM THE APPARENT  
LOCATION OF THE BOMB INDICATES IT WAS LOADED AT BRAZZAVILLE,

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WHICH HAS POOR AIRPORT SECURITY, THIS HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED WITH CONFIDENCE. THE DEVICE MAY HAVE HAD AN ALTIMETER TRIGGER SIMILAR TO THAT USED IN THE BOMBING OF PA103.

TWO CALLS--TO THE UTA OFFICE IN PARIS AND A PRESS OFFICE IN LONDON--CLAIMED CREDIT FOR THE ISLAMIC JIHAD. THE LONDON CALLER SAID THE BOMBING WAS IN RETALIATION FOR THE FRENCH ROLE IN THE ABDUCTION OF SHAYKH UBAYD. A SUBSEQUENT LETTER FROM THE CHADIAN RESISTANCE IN BEIRUT CLAIMED THE BOMBING WAS AIMED AT REMOVING THE FRENCH FROM CHAD.

THERE IS NO HARD EVIDENCE LINKING ANY GROUP TO THE BOMBING. PRIMARY SUSPECTS INCLUDE RADICAL SHIA ELEMENTS--INCLUDING HIZBALLAH--THE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE-GENERAL COMMAND, AND LIBYA. THE FORMER HAVE A NETWORK IN PLACE--INVOLVING SOME OF THE LARGE LEBANESE SHIA POPULATION IN WEST AFRICA--AND SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY BY LIBYAN OPERATIVES WAS OBSERVED BEFORE AND AFTER THE INCIDENT. LIBYAN INVOLVEMENT COULD INDICATE RESUMPTION OF LIBYAN SUBVERSION IN AFRICA BECAUSE IT IS AN EASY ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH TO STRIKE AT WESTERN TARGETS. THE INCIDENT HAS STRAINED FRENCH RELATIONS WITH CHAD AND CONGO, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF ALLEGATIONS OF LAX AIRPORT SECURITY.

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END OF MESSAGE

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