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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Middle East and North Africa Situation Report as of 03 October

03 October 2012

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Syria/Fighting. At least three bombs this morning exploded in central Aleppo, killing at least 21 and wounding 66, mostly military personnel

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The blasts struck Saadallah al-Jabiri Square, near a military officers' club and a hotel,

The Al Nusra Front, the public face of Al Qa'ida in Iraq's Syria-based network, claimed responsibility for the attack,

Regime forces today carried out security operations in the town of Qudsaya, west of Damascus

Activists in the area reported regime forces cordoned off the town before striking it with artillery,

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(U) This report was prepared by the Office of Middle East and North Africa Analysis. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Chief, Middle East Task Force, MENA

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(b)(3) **Syria/Turkey:** Ankara has retaliated against the shelling from Syria into its territory by striking targets in Syria and may pursue other retaliatory measures, such as demanding the Syrians remove their artillery from the border. Three mortar rounds fell on the Turkish border town of Akcakale at about 1530 local time yesterday killing five civilians, and wounding at least nine others, two seriously, [redacted] The dead reportedly include a mother, her three children, and another woman; three of the wounded are reportedly police. This event marks the first time civilian Turks have been killed on Turkish territory from violence associated with the conflict in Syria.

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