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**ENVELOPE**

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WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL

SERIAL: IML2013080637505817

**BODY**

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1/21/2016 10:18 AM

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COUNTRY: IRAN

SUBJ: (U) IRANIAN COMMANDER: EGYPT COUP LED BY US

SOURCE: Tehran Fars News Agency in English 1020 GMT 06

Aug 13 (U)

TEXT:

[NEWS AGENCIES]

[OSC Transcribed Text]

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[Computer selected and disseminated without OSC editorial intervention] Iranian Commander: Egypt Coup Led by US

TEHRAN (FNA)- Commander of Iran's Basij (volunteer) Force Brigadier General Mohammad Reza Naqdi lashed out at the US for interfering in Egypt's internal affairs, and said Washington led the recent coup d'etat in the North African country which ousted democratically-elected President Mohammad Mursi. "They staged a coup in Egypt with the US support and imprisoned a person who was empowered by people's vote, and the US officials have been visiting the country regularly (since then)," Naqdi said, addressing Tehran University students Monday night.

Referring to the empowerment of Egypt's Army Chief General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi after Mursi, he said, "If Sisi can survive, one day we will read in his book that the US has directed the trend of the coup d'etat in Egypt and issued the orders to al-Sisi through video conferencing."

Egypt plunged into violence after the country's army ousted President Mursi, suspended the constitution, and dissolved the parliament on July 3. The military overthrow followed days of mass protests against

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Mursi.

The army also declared chief justice of Egypt's Supreme Constitutional Court, Adly Mansour, as interim president.

Later in July, the Egyptian Prosecutor General ordered the arrest of Muslim Brotherhood leaders, including the supreme leader of the group, Mohammed Badie, on charges of inciting violence.

Many people have been killed in violent clashes involving supporters and opponents of Mursi and security forces in the last few weeks.

[Description of Source: Tehran Fars News Agency in English -- Hardline semi-official news agency, affiliated with the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), headed as of 24 July 2011 by Nezameddin Musavi; <http://www.english.farsnews.com>]

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**ADMIN**

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