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ENVELOPE

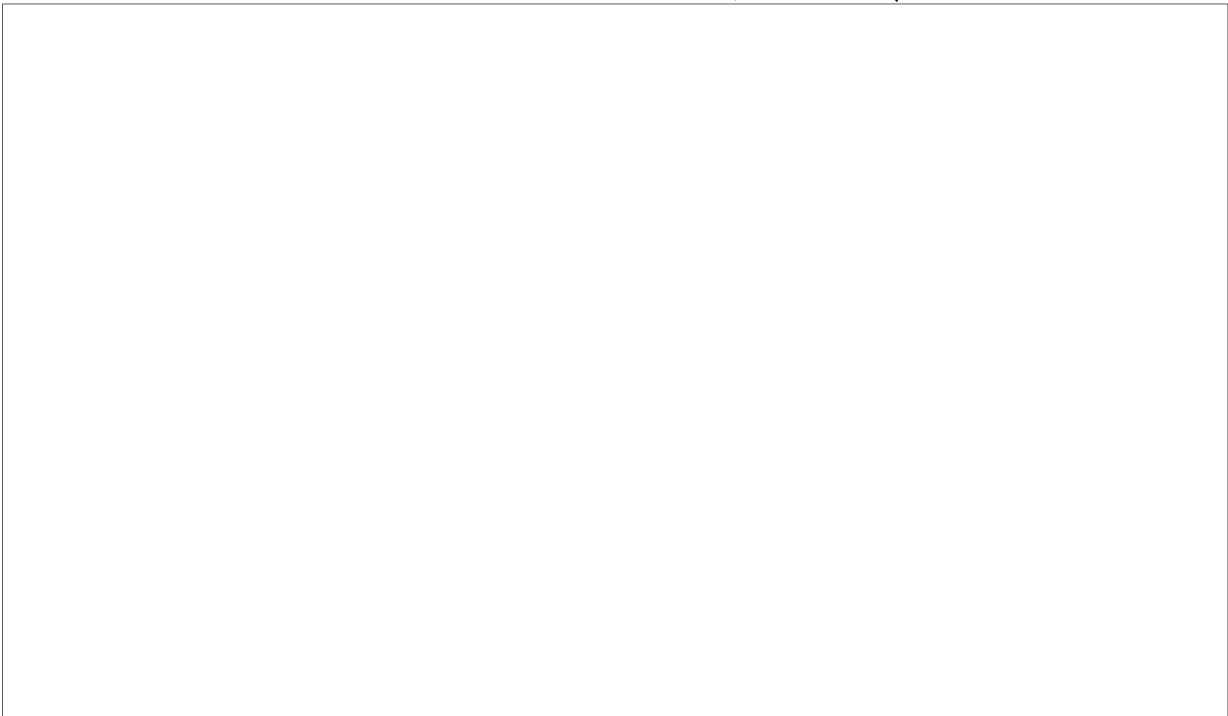
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WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL,
LEADER,
MILITARY, TERRORISM
SERIAL:EUR2015081851628123

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COUNTRY: IRAQ, SYRIA, TURKEY, UNITED STATES

SUBJ: (U) ISIL CALLS FOR 'CONQUEST OF ISTANBUL,' SLAMS ERDOGAN

SOURCE: Istanbul Hurriyet Daily News Online in
English. 1420 GMT 18
Aug 15 (U)
TEXT:

[INTERNET]

[OSC Transcribed Text]

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[Computer selected and disseminated without OSC editorial intervention] - --> A Turkish militant from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has called for the "conquest" of Istanbul, slamming President Recep Tayyip Erdogan for helping Western "crusaders," the "atheists" of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), as well as the Free Syrian Army (FSA) "secularists."

In the undated video shared on pro-ISIL social media accounts on Aug.

17, an unnamed militant is seen speaking fluent Turkish with sporadic recitation of Arabic prayers and Quranic verses.

While relating how Turks had accepted Islam centuries ago, he complains that "some of us started to worship tombs" as a photo showing Erdogan visiting an Islamic shrine is displayed on screen.

"Then the secularist Kemal Ataturk came... He forced Turkish people to deny their religion, as well as [imposed] secularism," the militant says.

Americans, Jews, crusaders, PKK, FSA, Saudis

The Arabic word "taghut," which means to "cross the limits, overstep

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boundaries," or "to rebel," is frequently used in the ISIL video, including in descriptions of Erdogan.

"Then the traitor Erdogan came. He did not rule by the laws of God. He befriended Americans; Jews; crusaders; atheist PKK members; Ataturk's secular friends, the FSA; and the apostate spies of the Saud family," he states.

The statement slams Erdogan for "opening Turkish lands to the PKK and FSA, and opening Turkish air bases to crusaders and their aircraft to protect the atheist PKK."

After accusing Erdogan of "becoming a servant primarily to protect his seat that he was about to lose," the militant calls on the "people of Turkey to revolt."

Reference to al-Baghdadi

"Let's hold the rope of the unshakable God and then, with the order of the believers' amir, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi - God protect him - who is descended from the Prophet's line, let's conquer Istanbul, which the traitor Erdogan makes every effort to deliver to the crusaders," he concludes.

Al-Baghdadi, the leader of ISIL, was recently accused of repeatedly raping U.S. hostage Kayla Mueller before her death, U.S. television reported Aug. 14.

A bomb that Turkish authorities blamed on ISIL killed 33 pro-Kurdish activists in southeastern Turkey on July 20.

Accusing Ankara of collusion with ISIL, PKK militants began attacks against the security forces.

Both security forces and PKK militants have been killed in clashes in Turkey in the past month, after Ankara launched large-scale strikes against the PKK and limited action against ISIL.

U.S. warplanes carried out their first air strikes on ISIL targets in Syria after taking off from the key Incirlik Air Base in southern

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Turkey on Aug. 12.

Joint anti-ISIL operations with the participation of Turkey is expected to increase in the coming days, as Ankara is waiting for requests by Washington to maintain full-fledged coordination with the expected aircraft.

August/18/2015 [Description of Source: Istanbul Hurriyet Daily News Online in English -- Website of English-language version of mainstream influential daily Hurriyet, owned by Dogan Media Group; URL: <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/>]

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