

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

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Middle East-North Africa: Situation Update as of 15 July 2012

15 July 2012

Syria: The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights claimed 115 people—including 50 civilians—were killed yesterday across Syria

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[Redacted]

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UN observers yesterday visited the village of Al Taraymsah, [Redacted] A UN spokeswoman later said a wide range of weapons were used in the attack on the village—including artillery, mortars, and small arms—and that specific groups and houses, mainly of defectors and activists, were targeted. The spokeswoman said the UN observers would return to the village today, [Redacted]

UN officials on Saturday reported that 800 refugees arrived in Lebanon in the past week and that more than 30,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon were receiving aid, [Redacted] 549 Syrians crossed into Turkey yesterday.

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The spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross yesterday said that the internal armed conflict has spread beyond Homs, Hamah, and Idlib, a change from its previous stance that the unrest was localized to those three areas [Redacted]

- Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday publicly called the violence in Al Taraymsah an “attempted genocide” and a sign pointing to the end of the Syrian regime [Redacted] Similarly, Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki condemned the violence in Al Taraymsah and urged a peaceful solution to the crisis in Syria [Redacted]
- French President Francois Hollande yesterday said there was still time to find a solution to the crisis in Syria and urged Russia to stop blocking UN Security Council efforts, [Redacted]

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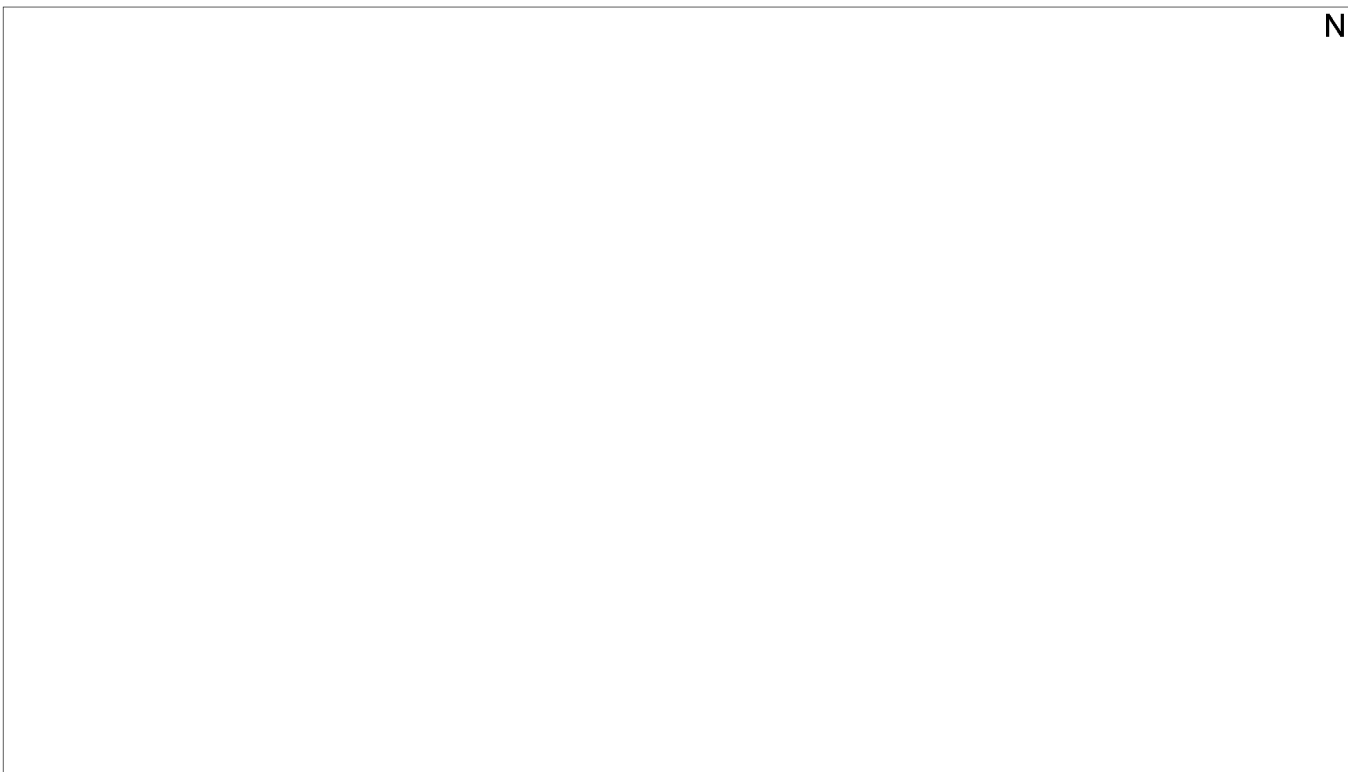
(U) This report was prepared by the CIA Middle East Task Force. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Task Force [Redacted]

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North Africa and Middle East Situation Report (U)



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