WARNING: ATTN CIFM

SERIAL: AB2501223896

BODY

COUNTRY: SOMALIA

SUBJ: SOMALILAND PRESIDENT EGAH SPEAKS ON MYSTERIOUS BOMB BLAST

SOURCE: LONDON BBC WORLD SERVICE IN ENGLISH 1705 GMT 25 JAN 96

TEXT:

FROM THE "FOCUS ON AFRICA" PROGRAM

FBIS TRANSCRIBED TEXT THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THIS WEEK OF MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSIONS IN THE REMOTE EASTERN REGION OF THE SELF-DECLARED REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND. THEY APPARENTLY OCCURRED IN DECEMBER, BUT BECAUSE OF THE REMOTE NATURE OF THE AREA HAVE BEEN SLOW COMING TO LIGHT. THE BLASTS HAVE BEEN ATTRIBUTED TO VARIOUS CAUSES FROM UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS, UFO'S, TO ROCKET TESTS. WELL, SOMALILAND LEADER, MOHAMED EGAH, HAS BEEN LOOKING INTO THE

UNCLASSIFIED
MATTER. ON THE LINE TO HARGESA, TIMOTHY ECOTT ASKED HIM WHAT HE
THOUGHT HAD BEEN GOING ON.

BEGIN RECORDING. EGAL WE HAVE THESE MYSTERIOUS REPORTS FROM
OUR NOMADIC POPULATION THERE, AND THEN, I SENT A FOUR-MAN
COMMISSION, TWO DOCTORS, A VETERAN DOCTOR, AND ONE MINISTER, AND
THEY HAVE SUBMITTED TO US A REPORT, WHICH IS VERY, VERY ALARMING.
THEY SAID THAT THEY WENT THERE ALMOST A FORTNIGHT AFTER THIS THING
HAS TAKEN PLACE AND THEY FOUND MOST OF THE ANIMALS IN THE AREA ARE
STILL IN A SORT OF A DEMENTED STAGE. THEY WERE NOT GRAZING, THEY
WERE JUST STAMPED ALL OVER THE PLACE.

ECOTT YOU SAID THE ANIMALS WERE DEMENTED. WHAT ABOUT THE
PEOPLE LIVING THERE?

EGAL SOME OF THEM, WHO WERE VERY CLOSE TO THE AREA, HAVE GOT
SKIN RASHES, AND SOME OF THEM ARE HAVING VERY, VERY BIG PROBLEM.
THEY ARE ALMOST (?SHEDDING THEIR OUTER SKIN), THERE ARE WORDS
INDISTINCT BOILS ALL OVER THE PLACE, AND SOME OF THEM ARE HAVING
STOMACH ACHES, YOU KNOW, AND VERY UNUSUAL MOTIONS -- STOMACH MOTION
-- AND A LOT OF SYMPTOMS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. WE ARE SENDING BACK
SOME DOCTORS TO ACTUALLY EVALUATE THE HUMAN DAMAGE AND THE ANIMAL
DAMAGE THAT HAS BEEN DONE.

ECOTT DID ANYONE GET AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF WHAT THIS
EXPLOSION MIGHT HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY?

EGAL THE PEOPLE WHO WERE THERE, YOU KNOW, THE STORIES THEY TELL
IS THAT THEY HEARD NO NOISE. APPARENTLY WHATEVER EXPLODED WAS
MOVING AT A SUPERSONIC SPEED, BECAUSE THERE WAS NO PRIOR NOISE OR
ANYTHING LIKE THAT. YOU KNOW, THEY JUST HEARD A VERY, VERY, VERY
LOUD EXPLOSION WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE AND THE LIGHT, YOU KNOW, THE
LIGHT OF THE EXPLOSION IN THE AIR. THE AREA IS SO BIG THAT THEY
didn't HAVE THE CAPABILITY OR THE TIME TO INVESTIGATE THE WHOLE
GROUND AND TRY AND PICK UP ANY DEBRIS THAT MIGHT HAVE FALLEN. THEY
HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO THAT.

ECOTT WHATEVER YOUR AUTHORITY IS CLAIMING THAT THIS MIGHT HAVE
BEEN, SOME OF THE NEWS AGENCIES ARE TALKING ABOUT UFO’ S.

EGAL NO, NO, WE ARE NOT MAKING ANY CLAIMS OF THAT OR
ANY FANTASTIC CLAIMS LIKE THAT, YOU KNOW. WHAT WE THINK HAPPENED IS
THAT THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A MISSILE FIRED FROM SOMEWHERE, WHICH HAS
EXPLODED EITHER DELIBERATELY OVER OUR COUNTRY OR WHETHER IT HAS
EXPLODED INADVERTENTLY, WE CAN'T TELL. SO, WHAT WE ARE ASKING NOW,
PEOPLE LIKE THE ENGLISH, AND FRENCH, AND ESPECIALLY THE AMERICANS
WHO MONITOR THE WORLD, THEY MUST KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, YOU KNOW. THEY
DEFINITELY KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, THEY ARE MONITORING THE WHOLE WORLD,
RECONNAISSANCE 24 HOURS A DAY, YOU KNOW. AND THEY KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED. IF IT WAS SADDAM HUSAYN WHO FIRED THE MISSILE, IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN IN THE HEADLINES ALL OVER THE WORLD. BUT APPARENTLY
WHOEVER FIRED THE MISSILE IS STILL IN THE GOOD BOOKS OF THOSE WHO
KNOW, AND THEY DON'T WANT TO PUBLICIZE IT. BUT WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED TO US SO THAT AT LEAST WE WILL KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH IT.

ECOTT IS ANYBODY OFFERING YOU HELP TO INVESTIGATE AND TO LOOK
AFTER THE PEOPLE YOU SAY HAVE BEEN INJURED?

EGAL WELL, WE HAVE SENT IT -- YES -- TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY,
YOU KNOW. WE HAVE SENT IT TO THE BRITISH EMBASSY, WE HAVE SENT IT
TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY, AND WE HAVE SENT TO THE BBC, AND TO THE
REUTERS AND PEOPLE LIKE THAT, YOU KNOW. NOBODY HAS YET RESPONDED,
BUT WE HAVE MADE THE APPEAL AND WE ARE STILL MAKING IT. END
RECORDING

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