

Roadside blasts kill 10 Egypt soldiers



Fifteen jihadists were also killed in the fighting, the military said in a statement. (file picture)

Cairo

Ten Egyptian soldiers were killed in two roadside bombings as they clashed with Islamic State group jihadists in the Sinai Peninsula, the military said yesterday.

Fifteen jihadists were also killed in the fighting, the military said in a statement, without saying when the incidents took place.

The military said the clashes broke out when soldiers raided "an extremely dangerous" jihadist hideout.

It said soldiers found a cache of explosives and bombs ready for use as well as grenades and ammunition.

The Islamic State group had said in a statement on Wednesday afternoon that it blew up two army vehicles during clashes south of the Sinai city of El-Arish.

The jihadists have killed hundreds of soldiers and policemen since the army overthrew Islamist president Mohamed Morsi in 2013 and cracked down on his supporters.

The attacks have mostly been confined to Sinai,

which borders Israel and the Palestinian Gaza Strip, but the jihadists have also struck elsewhere.

In October 2015, the group claimed responsibility for bombing a Russian airliner carrying holidaymakers from a south Sinai resort, killing all 224 people on board.

In August, the military announced it had killed the group's top leader in Sinai, identified as Abu Duaa al-Ansari, without providing further

details.

The group has been unable to replicate its strategy in Iraq and Syria of seizing population centres, with one attempt in 2015 ending with the army unleashing F-16 fighters to force them to withdraw from the town of Sheikh Zuweid.

They have also forced Coptic Christians to flee the peninsula after killing seven of them in El-Arish, after a bombing of a Coptic church in Cairo in December that killed 29 people.

Bahrain condemns attack

Manama

Bahrain yesterday strongly condemned the terrorist bombing in central Sinai Peninsula, urging close international coordination and cooperation to reinforce the world peace and security.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a statement condoled with the families of the martyrs and affirmed Bahrain's solidarity with Egypt in confronting all sorts of violence, extremism and

terrorism.

The statement also vowed support to Egypt's incessant endeavours to reinforce security and stability across Egypt.

The ministry while reiterating Bahrain's unflinching position in renunciation of terrorism urged "close international coordination and cooperation to reinforce world peace and security and to realise all peoples' aspirations for development and prosperity."

Indian man sentenced for spying

Abu Dhabi

A UAE court has sentenced an Indian expat to 10 years in prison followed by deportation for espionage, local press reported yesterday.

An Abu Dhabi appeals court found an unnamed

man guilty of "sharing sensitive information about movements of military ships" with an unspecified country, according to the *Gulf News daily*.

The United Arab Emirates last year sentenced an Indian

citizen to five years in prison for spying for his country, Gulf News reported at the time.

A number of other expatriates have been convicted of espionage in the UAE in recent years, including Pakistanis and Qataris.

Mubarak corruption: Court to probe again

Cairo

An Egyptian court ordered yesterday a renewed corruption probe into ousted president Hosni Mubarak, who has been cleared for release after almost six years in detention, judicial officials said. The court ruling to reopen the investigation after it had been dropped would not affect a prosecution decision to

release Mubarak after his acquittal in another case, the officials said.

Mubarak, 88, remains in a Cairo military hospital.

The new investigation centres around allegations that he, his wife, two sons and their wives received gifts from the state-owned *Al-Ahram* newspaper valued at about \$1 million.

An investigative judge had agreed in 2013 to drop

the probe after they paid back the amount, but the prosecution appealed.

He is also being investigated separately for illicit gain, but has not been referred to trial.

On March 2, Egypt's top appeals court had acquitted Mubarak of involvement in the killing of protesters during the 2011 revolt that toppled him.

AN Investment W.L.L.

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23 March 2017

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DISPATCH OF AN INVESTMENT W.L.L. OFFER DOCUMENT IN RELATION TO A VOLUNTARY UNCONDITIONAL OFFER TO ACQUIRE UP TO 33.1% OF THE ISSUED AND PAID UP CAPITAL OF BAHRAIN MIDDLE EAST BANK B.S.C. ("BMB") WHICH REPRESENTS ALL THE OUTSTANDING SHARES OF THE ISSUED AND PAID UP CAPITAL OF BMB (OTHER THAN THOSE ALREADY OWNED BY ANI AND THE PARTIES ACTING IN CONCERT WITH IT) IN CASH

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

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ANI hereby announces dispatch of the Offer Document, setting out, among other things, the detailed voluntary unconditional offer to acquire up to 33.1% of the issued and paid up capital of BMB which represents all the outstanding shares of the issued and paid up capital of BMB (other than those already owned by ANI and the parties acting in concert with it) in cash, an indicative timetable and procedures for acceptance in respect of the offer to BMB's Board of Directors on 23 March 2017. ANI had earlier announced its firm intention to make an offer dated 22 March 2017 to acquire up to 100% of the issued and paid up capital of BMB.

EXPECTED TIMETABLE OF THE OFFER:

Set out below is expected timetable of the Offer as extracted from the Offer Document. The timetable set out below is indicative only and any changes to the timetable will be announced.

Firm Intention of ANI Offer	22 March 2017
Receipt of the Offer Document	23 March 2017
Record Date	29 March 2017
Date of availability of Offer Document and the Board Circular to BMB Shareholders	30 March 2017
Offer Opening date	2 April 2017
Offer Closing date	16 April 2017
Offer Acceptance / Rejection Announcement	17 April 2017
Offer Settlement Date	20 April 2017
Resumption of trading in BMB shares	23 April 2017