

Libya Crushes Plot, Links CIA

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DAMASCUS (Syria) — (AP) — A plot it said was financed and armed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and masterminded by a nephew of Libya's ousted King Idris I has been crushed by the Libyan government, the Egyptian Middle East News Agency reported yesterday.

A dispatch from Tripoli, Libya's capital, said confessions of 11 men arrested there described a 5000-man force of European and African mercenaries massed in the neighboring African republic of Chad for an invasion aimed at overthrowing revolutionary govern-

ment of Col. Muammar Qaddafi.

Kadafi ousted pro-Western King Idris I in September and the royal family has been living in exile. Kadafi's regime is pro-Egyptian.

The Egyptian agency said the mastermind was Prince Abed Abullah Al-Sanusi supported by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The dispatch said the counter-revolutionaries were armed with aircraft, armored cars, field artillery, rifles, machine guns, pistols and poison daggers used in Chad.

The weapons were purchased by the CIA in Switzerland, the dispatch quoted the

alleged confessions as saying.

Kadafi announced in a speech in Tripoli Friday night that his government had crushed a plot led by prominent figures of the ousted monarchy.

He claimed the plot was hatched by the Seif Ammanassr family, a powerful business family in the southern town of Lebha.

The agency said the plotters admitted to have planned to seize control of Sabha in southern Libya and proclaim a separate republic. The report said Western oil interests were involved.

The invasion was designed to be launched last month before the completion of the American withdrawal from bases in Libya.

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