

# *Triple Bomb Blasts Kill 30 in Eastern Libya*

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Tripoli, February 20 (RHC)-- At least 30 people have been killed and dozens others injured in triple bomb explosions that struck Libya's eastern port city of Derna. The simultaneous attacks on Friday targeted the police headquarters in ISIL terrorist group's stronghold al-Qoba, located 30 kilometers (20 miles) west of Derna. The ISIL has reportedly been winning a foothold in Libya, far from its battlefields in Iraq and Syria.

The bombings also targeted the home of the speaker of Libya's internationally recognized parliament, Aguila Salah Issa, and a gas station. Medical sources said the parliament speaker was not at home at the time of the bombings, adding that most victims of the bombings were at the gas station as motorists were queuing to fill their tanks.

Al-Qoba is controlled by retired General Khalifa Haftar, an autonomous military figure whose loyalists have been instrumental in protecting the internationally recognized government in the violence-wracked North African country.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the explosions; however, such deadly attacks bear the hallmark of ISIL militants who have battled the army for months in and around the eastern city of Benghazi.

Egypt launched air strikes against the ISIL Takfiri militants in Libya earlier this week in retaliation for the terrorist group's brutal beheading of 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians kidnapped in Libya.



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