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## A Second Revolution in Egypt?

By [Jason Ditz](#)

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Violence has escalated in Cairo today, with Egyptian forces [killing at least 11 protesters](#) in Tahrir Square and raising concern that the military is looking to extend its power more or less permanently, and [bringing the convoluted election system into doubt](#).

So far, the junta is rejecting the notion of delaying the elections, [but is also responding to calls to give up its position of completely unchecked power by attacking demonstrators](#) in increasingly bloody crackdowns.

For protesters, who earlier this year withstood bloody attacks from the Mubarak-loyal police forces, the prospect of replacing the mostly military dominated dictatorship with an entirely military dominated dictatorship coupled with vaguely free elections for mostly powerless civilian positions doesn't sit well. This has raised the possibility of a second Egyptian Revolution.

The second revolution could be decidedly bloodier than the first, as the military mostly stayed out of Mubarak's efforts to kill protesters, beyond occasionally detaining and torturing protest leaders. With no more chances to use a revolt to increase their own powers, the junta's leadership is almost certain to resist efforts at a free, civilian run Egyptian society.