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*Weekly Situation Report*  
*on*  
*International Terrorism*

FBI review completed

DOJ Review Completed.

DIA review(s) completed.

State Dept. review completed

DO WSRIT 76-014

6 April 1976

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# WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

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6 April 1976

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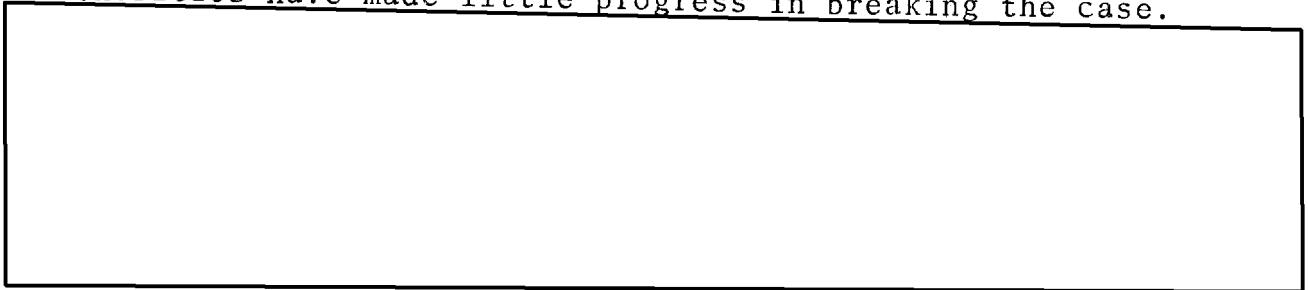
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Niehous Still Captive

It has been approximately six weeks since William E. Niehous was abducted from his home in Caracas, and Venezuelan authorities have made little progress in breaking the case.



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On 31 March a spokesman for Owens-Illinois stated that the demands of the kidnapers boiled down to three, that the terrorists' manifesto be published, that food be distributed to the poor, and that Owens-Illinois employees be given a bonus. He further commented that the company is locked in on two of the demands. First, the government will not allow the publication of the manifesto, and second, the unions at the Owens-Illinois factories voted not to accept the bonus. The spokesman was hopeful that the kidnapers would come around to demanding a ransom so that the company could negotiate with more flexibility.

The kidnapers have sent several communiques to Mrs. Niehous, company executives and the press. One local television station was shut down for three days because it reported a contact between one of its executives and a self-styled spokesman for the kidnapers who claimed that Niehous would be executed. Because of the way in which this contact was made, it is now believed to be a hoax.

As it now stands, Niehous, his family, and Owens-Illinois are caught in the middle of a battle of wills between a frustrated and unyielding government on one hand and a clever and thus far anonymous group of kidnapers on the other. Unless one side backs down from its hardened position, Niehous could remain a captive for some time to come.

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Another Attack Against Soviets in New York

The latest terrorist attack directed against Soviets in New York by the Jewish Armed Resistance was the firing of two rifle shots into the Soviet mission to the United Nations in the early morning hours of 2 April. One shot entered a ninth-floor apartment occupied by a couple and child. Another shot hit the brickwork of the building. No one was injured. Police found a 22-caliber rifle fitted with scope and home-made silencer one block away. Three unexpended rounds and two empty shell cases were also found with the rifle.

[REDACTED]

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The Associated Press and United Press International both received calls from an anonymous male who read a statement from the Jewish Armed Resistance concerning the shooting incident. The statement protested the U.S. support for detente and the Soviet detention of Marina Tiemkin, a Jewish teenager. It also contained a threat "to do to Russian children in New York the same things being done to Jewish children like Marina Tiemkin." The Jewish Defense League issued a statement applauding the shooting incident.

The Soviets have presented a strongly worded protest note on this latest attack against them in the U.S. The Soviets said they view this shooting attack as an attempt on their ambassador's life in a political sense, since the ambassador and his wife live in the targeted building. (The ambassador and his wife are still recovering from a serious auto accident and are not presently residing in their apartment.) The New York City police and the FBI are investigating this shooting.

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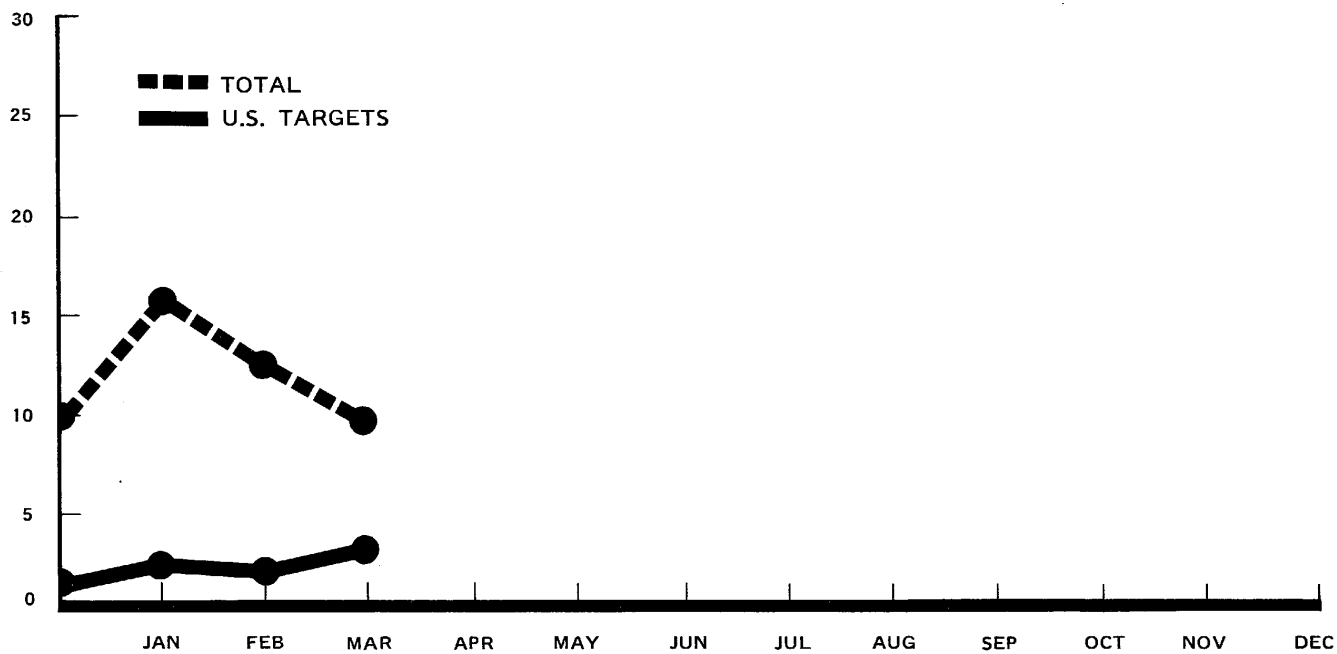
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INCIDENCE OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS  
AS LISTED IN WEEKLY SITUATION REPORTS — 1976



NOTE: THIS GRAPH DOES NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT ALL INCIDENTS RECORDED IN TAB A DURING THE ABOVE PERIOD, AS INCIDENTS WHICH LATER PROVE NOT TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL SCOPE ARE OMITTED FROM THE MONTHLY TOTAL.

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CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

Date: 29 March 1976

Attempted Bombing of Swedish Consulate

Place: West Germany, Dusseldorf

A bomb was tossed through the second-floor window of the office building housing the Swedish consulate in Dusseldorf on 29 March. The bomb exploded in the offices of a German firm. The Swedish consulate is located on the first floor but flies its flag from the second floor. The police speculated that the attack may be in protest against the imminent trial of the terrorists who seized the West German embassy in Stockholm.



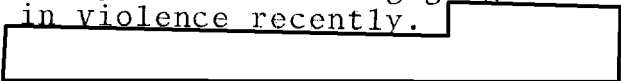
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Date: 31 March 1976

Pan American Airlines Office Bombed

Place: Turkey, Ankara

A bomb exploded outside the entrance to the Pan American Airlines office in Ankara on 31 March, causing extensive property damage but no serious injuries. No group has claimed credit for the bombing; however, the Turkish People's Liberation Army and related radical student groups have been engaging in violence recently.



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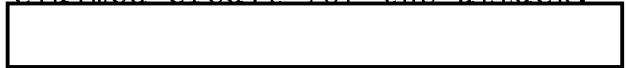
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Date: 2 April 1976

Shots Fired Into Soviet Mission to the United Nations

Place: United States, New York

Two shots were fired into the Soviet mission to the United Nations on 2 April. One entered a ninth floor apartment occupied by a couple and child; the other shot hit the brickwork of the building. No one was injured. The Jewish Armed Resistance claimed credit for the attack.



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Date: 2 April 1976

American Express Office Bombed

Place: Greece, Athens

A smoke bomb detonated at the American Express office in Athens on 2 April, causing limited damage. Afterwards, American Express received several telephone calls regarding two additional bombs allegedly planted at the office; however, no devices were found. Police are investigating.



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Date: 3 April 1976

Several Bombs Explode in Bogota

Place: Colombia, Bogota

A bomb exploded at the First National City Bank in Bogota on 3 April. This was one of a series of bombings that weekend. It is not known who is responsible.



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TAB B—Terrorists Intears  
and Plans

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I. Terrorist Threats and Plans:

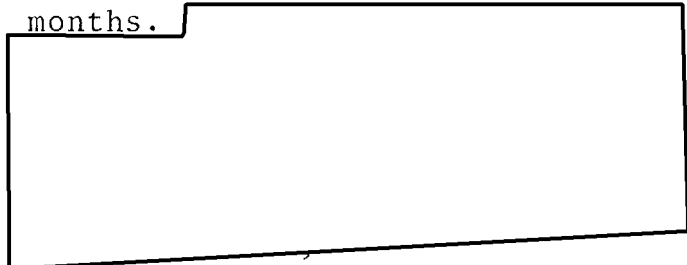
Western Hemisphere, Including the United States

Target: Haitian Official    \*\* A group of Haitians in New York, who belong to the National Liberation Movement, are planning terrorist acts to demonstrate their opposition to the Duvalier regime in Haiti, according to an FBI report. The Haitian consul in New York reportedly is a specific kidnap target. The kidnapping is to take place sometime within the next nine months.

Place: United States, New York

Date: Unknown

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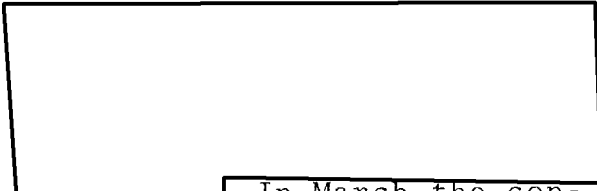


Target: Costa Rican Establishments

Place: United States

Date: Unknown

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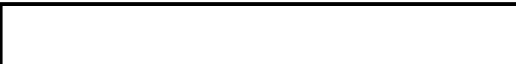


In March the consul in Miami received a threat that his car would be bombed if Cuban exile Orlando Bosch were not released from prison in Costa

\*\* Indicates a new threat reported for the first time.

\* Indicates a revision of a threat reported in previous issues.

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Rica. The consul received a second letter on 3 April which claimed that he would pay for having turned over Bosch to the Dominican Republic so he could be returned to the U.S.

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Target: PLO Official  
Place: United States, New York  
Date: Current

On 23 March a PLO observer to the United Nations received a telephone call from an anonymous male who said that in a few days he would be killed.

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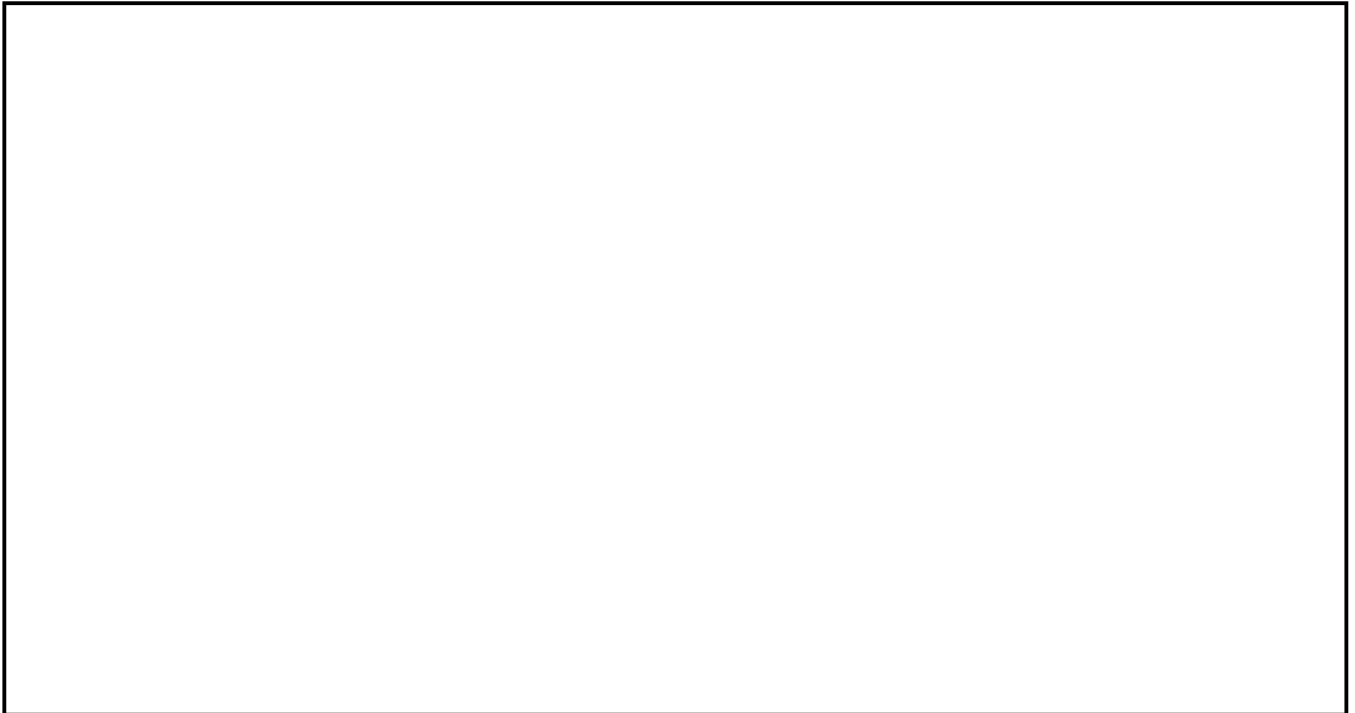


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Target: U.S. CITIZEN  
Place: Argentina,  
Cordoba  
Date: Late April 1976

\*\* The mother of a U.S. citizen residing in Cordoba received an extortion threat on 26 January when an unidentified caller threatened that her daughter would be killed if he were not paid \$50,000 by 24 April. The mother has only recently advised authorities in the U.S. of this threat. The State Department considers this a serious threat and has informed the embassy in Buenos Aires. 

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No significant terrorist threats were reported during the period 31 March - 6 April 1976 for the following areas:

IV. Africa

V. Far East

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TAB C—Potential Terrorist  
Targets

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Distribution: Mr. Robert A. Fearey  
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Assistant Chief, International Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget

Mr. Daniel J. Mozeleski  
National Security Council Staff

Mr. Herbert H. Kaiser, Jr.  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment,  
Safety and Consumer Affairs  
Department of Transportation

Mr. James Robinson  
Criminal Division  
Department of Justice

Mr. Richard D. Parsons  
Associate Director of the Domestic Council

Mr. Herbert K. Reis  
Legal Advisor  
United States Mission to the United Nations

Mr. J. Robert McBrien  
Special Assistant for Special Legislation  
and Projects  
Department of Treasury

Mr. Thomas W. Leavitt  
Assistant Director, Intelligence Division  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

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Central Intelligence Agency

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## WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

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Basques Kidnap Two Spanish Policemen in France (Page 12)

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ARTICLES

Unwelcome Guests at Qadhafi's Doorstep

The hijackers who commandeered a Philippine Airlines jet on 7 April finally reached Benghazi, Libya on 13 April. The final outcome is still uncertain, as the hijackers have not reached an agreement with Libyan authorities. The domestic PAL flight was hijacked 500 miles south of Manila on the morning of 7 April. The hijackers, armed with pistols and hand grenades, overpowered a military security detail at the airport and forced their way aboard the plane. The twin-engine jet had 70 passengers, including one American and some Japanese and Chinese citizens, and a crew of six. The crew was ordered to fly the plane to Manila international airport, where the hijackers made their demands--the release of four political prisoners, \$300,000 in ransom, and a flight "westward." The leader said the demands were non-negotiable.

The hijackers set a deadline of two hours and threatened to kill the passengers if demands were not met. The political prisoners were brought to the airport without the knowledge of the hijackers, and two of them talked to the hijackers by radio. The hijackers wanted the prisoners to fly out with them, but the four refused to leave.

The hijackers said they were members of the Moro National Liberation Front, a group fighting for the establishment of an independent state in the predominately Muslim southern region of the Philippines. The personal identities of the hijackers are unknown.

On the afternoon of 8 April the passengers were allowed to disembark but 14 crew members and the vice-president of PAL, a naturalized U.S. citizen, were retained as hostages. The hijackers reportedly were given a bag of money. The plane then departed.

The hijacking was the seventh in Philippine history, six involving PAL aircraft. The government up to this point had an excellent record for stopping hijackers before they could depart the country. The presence of foreigners among the passengers probably was one of the factors causing the government to yield in this case.

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The plane was refueled in east Malaysia, but the authorities would not allow the hijackers to get off the plane, which was surrounded by 200 policemen and three armored cars. The next stop was Kuala Lumpur, where the plane was reluctantly allowed to land, refuel and take food aboard. On each leg of its flight the aircraft departed for an unspecified destination, as no country would give it advance permission to land. The original plane was a short-haul BAC-111 and carries a limited supply of fuel, so it had to make frequent stops for refueling.

The plane landed next in Bangkok but could not continue the flight due to mechanical difficulties. The aircraft needed a new tire and other equipment which was not available in Bangkok. According to press stories, the Thais almost persuaded the hijackers to release their hostages and did succeed in getting them to surrender their hand grenades. The Philippine government eventually dispatched a longer range DC 8 to replace the disabled jet and allow the hijackers to continue their journey. The hijackers and hostages changed planes during darkness to prevent any hostile action by Thai authorities. The plane then continued on its flight toward Libya, which the hijackers said was their destination. Permission was not obtained for refueling enroute, but the pilot landed at Karachi, Pakistan without permission. After refueling and spending the night, the plane made the last leg of its trip to Libya without any indication that it would be welcome. As of noon on 13 April, the hijackers had not left the plane. They were demanding to see Libyan President Mu'ammur Qadhafi, who apparently was not willing to meet with them. The head of PAL's office in Rome, who was in contact with the Benghazi airport, told the press that the hijackers had refused a Libyan request that they leave the plane and free the hostages. The Libyans also insisted at one point that the gunmen allow the plane to be refueled and leave Libya. The hijackers refused this request also, and the dispute has not been solved.

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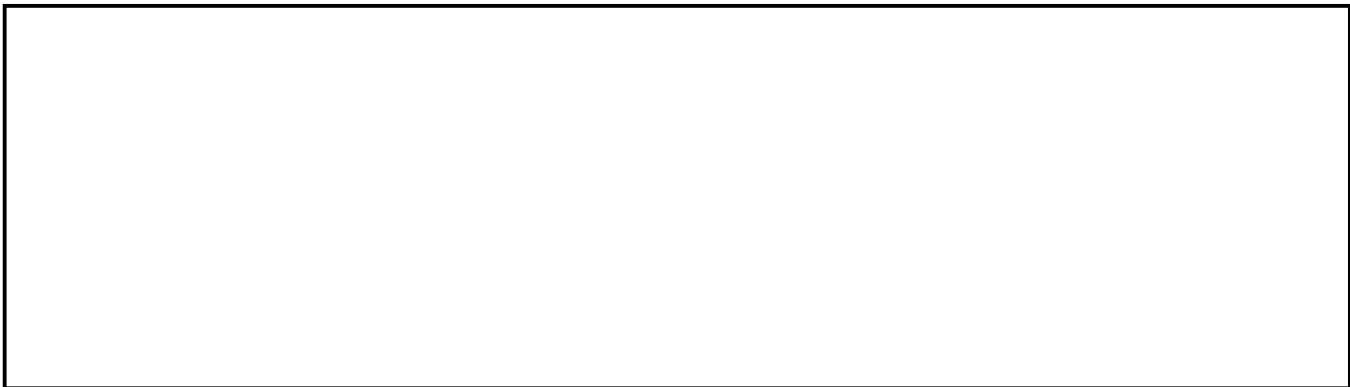
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Niehous Kidnappers Make Final Demands

During the past week an attempt by Owens-Illinois to break the deadlock with William Niehous' kidnappers resulted in a rift between Owens-Illinois and the government of Venezuela. Owens-Illinois tried to comply with two of the kidnappers' demands by publishing the terrorists' original communique in the New York Times, the London Times and Le Monde, and by paying each of its Venezuelan employees a bonus equivalent to US \$116. The Venezuelan government, which was still maintaining a hard line toward the kidnappers, became extremely upset and retaliated by initiating expropriation of Owens-Illinois assets in Venezuela. Negotiations between Owens-Illinois and the Venezuelan government concerning the expropriation are still continuing.

On 10 April Niehous' abductors released what they called their "final offer with regard to the conditions that would bring about the immediate freedom of Mr. William Frank Niehous in complete mental and bodily health." In the communique, the terrorists continued to demand that Owens-Illinois reach a compromise with the Ministry of Interior so that the kidnappers' 28 February communique as well as the 10 April communique could be published locally. Additionally, they demanded an unspecified sum of money to pay for the purchase of bags of food and other social assistance for the poor, to cover the expenses for Niehous' imprisonment, and to provide a "bond" as a guarantee that Niehous will not intervene in Venezuela's internal affairs. The communique also says that Owens-Illinois will be informed later as to the channels through which the ransom is to be paid. The press speculates that the ransom may run as high as US \$2.3 million.

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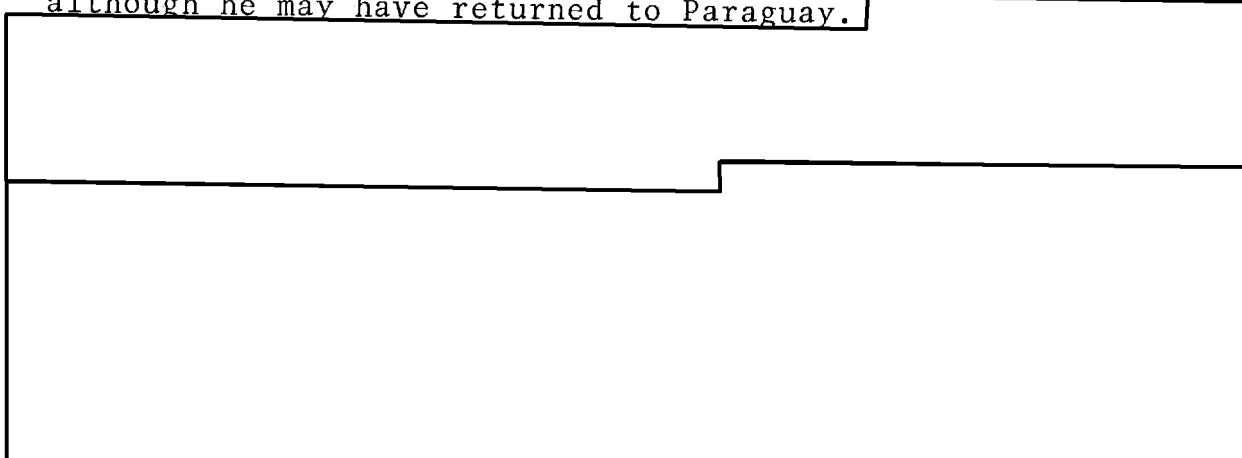


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Paraguay Arrests Terrorist Suspects Returning from Argentina

In early April Paraguayan security officers arrested, more than 70 persons suspected of receiving terrorist training in Argentina, according to the U.S. embassy in Asuncion. Those arrested included five Argentinians and one Uruguayan, as well as Paraguayan citizens. The round-up began when a known Paraguayan Communist was apprehended on 3 April as he attempted to enter Paraguay from Argentina. He provided information that led to other arrests. The authorities learned from these first prisoners that some 200 Paraguayan terrorists were in the process of moving back to Paraguay, most of them leaving Argentina in the wake of the recent coup there. They were said to be organized into several cells of around 20 to 25 persons each. Some of the arrests involved shoot-outs, and at least one terrorist leader and a policeman were killed.

The Ministry of Interior released a press statement on 7 April which claimed that the terrorists were members of the "Organizacion Politica Militar," linked to extremist groups in Argentina. The leaders were identified as Juan Carlos DaCosta del Castillo, described as a university agitator, who was killed in a shoot-out with the police, and Miguel Sanmarti Garcia, a Spanish Jesuit priest. According to other embassy information, Sanmarti was expelled from Paraguay in 1974 and is believed to be in Barcelona, Spain, although he may have returned to Paraguay.



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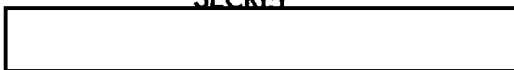
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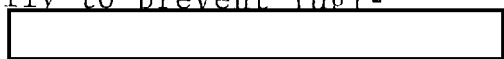


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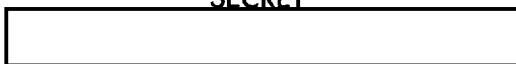
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According to the embassy, Paraguayan authorities have assigned special guards to a number of foreign diplomatic missions, ostensibly for their protection. There is widespread belief in the diplomatic community, however, that these guards have been assigned primarily to prevent fugitives from seeking diplomatic asylum.



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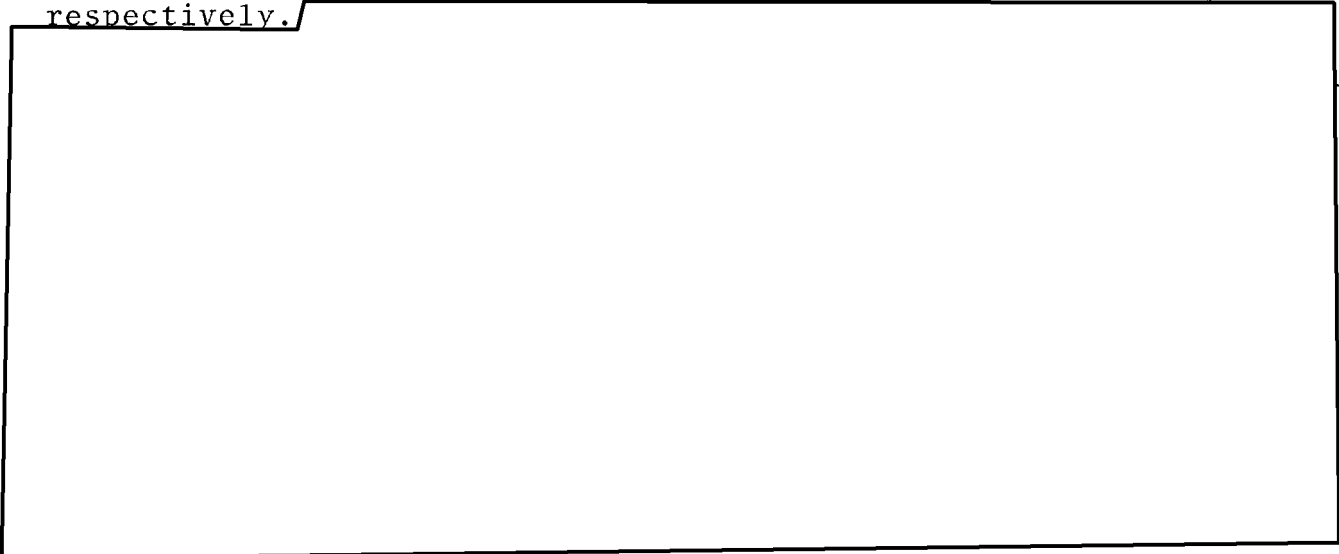


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Eritrean Insurgents Delay Release of American and British Hostages

During March there were indications that the Eritrean Popular Liberation Forces were about to release the two American civilian technicians and a British honorary consul who were kidnapped in Asmara, Ethiopia last July and October, respectively.

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An Associated Press story filed from Beirut on 8 April has complicated the problem. This story asserts that the PLF is demanding a ransom of three million dollars for the two Americans, James Harrell and Steven Campbell, and an additional unspecified amount for Basil Burwood-Taylor, the British honorary consul. The PLF has threatened to kill the three hostages if the money is not paid by the end of April, according to AP.

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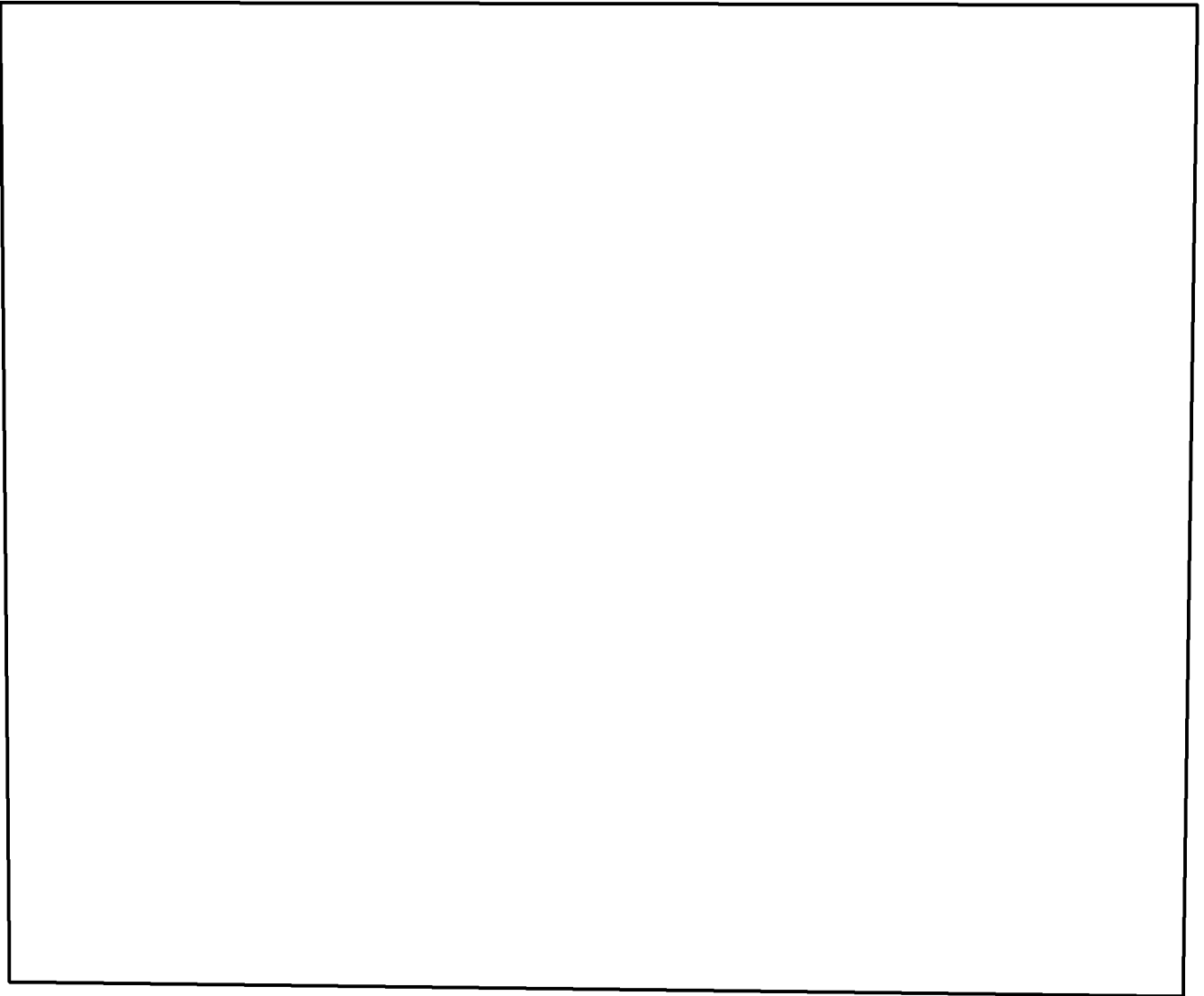


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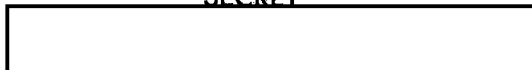
Has the PFLP Returned to the Fold?

At least a temporary rapprochement apparently has taken place between Yasir Arafat, chief of Fatah and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and George Habbash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. This new relationship between the previously antagonistic leaders was proclaimed publicly in Beirut on 30 March, and they posed together for news photographers. (The PFLP withdrew from the PLO executive committee in September 1974 out of unhappiness with Arafat's relatively conciliatory position on Palestinian involvement in Middle East peace negotiations.)

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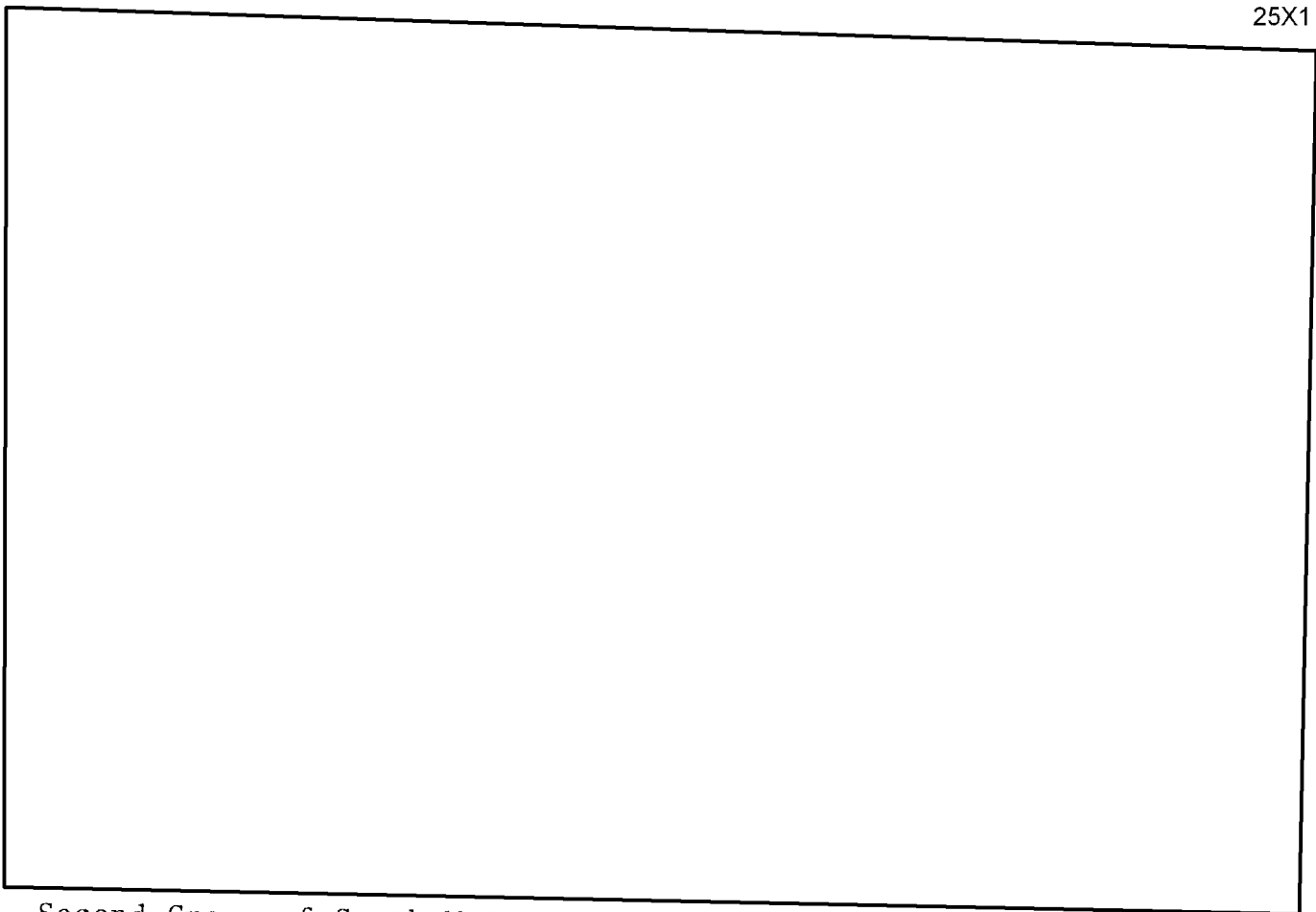
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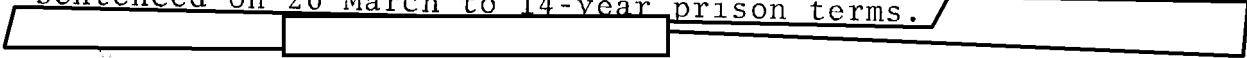
Second Group of South Moluccans Sentenced in The Netherlands

On 8 April a Dutch court imposed six-year prison terms on seven South Moluccan terrorists who seized the Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam last December.

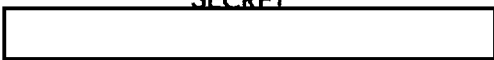
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[redacted] The terrorists held 25 persons hostage in the consulate for 16 days before surrendering. In their trial, all pleaded guilty to charges of illegal deprivation of liberty, threatening to kill hostages, and illegal possession of firearms--charges which carried a total maximum sentence of 16 years. Another group of South Moluccans, who hijacked a train a few days before the consulate attack and killed three of their hostages, were sentenced on 26 March to 14-year prison terms.

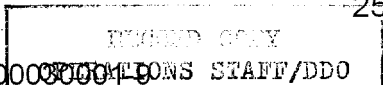
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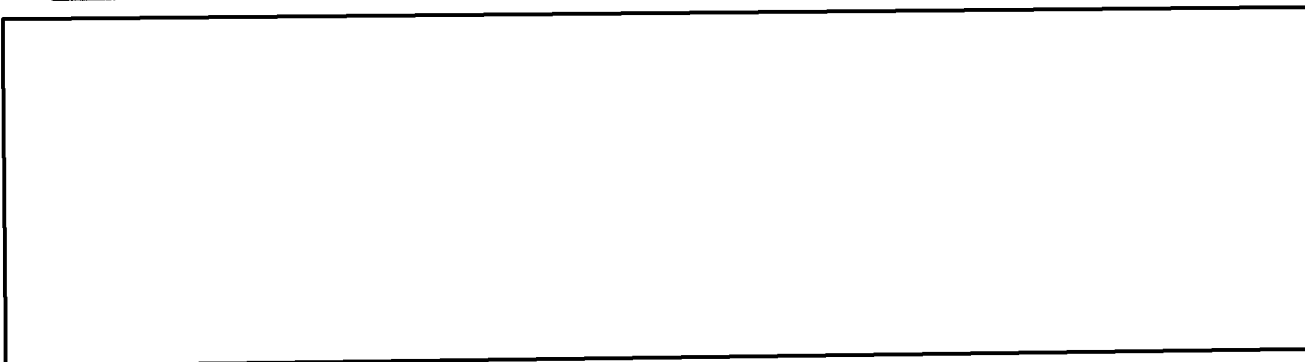
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German Anarchists Sentenced for 1972 Attack on U.S. Officers' Club

On 2 April 1976 a West German couple, Siegfried and Karin Mahn, were sentenced to 18 months in prison. The Mahns, members of the anarchist 2 June Movement, were convicted of involvement in a bombing attempt against the Harnack House, a U.S. officers' club in West Berlin, in April 1972. 

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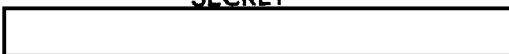
Basques Kidnap Two Spanish Policemen in France



Spanish newspapers have commented that this is the first time the French have acted so aggressively against Basque terrorists, and it may indicate the beginning of an anti-ETA campaign that could mean the end of an ETA safe haven in France. The Spanish are taking a hard line with the terrorists and will not negotiate with them. Even the Basque citizenry has been moved against the terrorists with the recent execution of a wealthy industrialist by his ETA kidnapers. 

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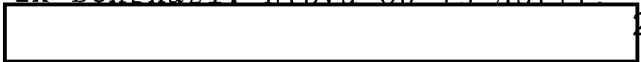
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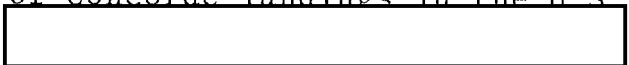
CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

Date: 6 April 1976 Philippines Airlines Air-  
Place: The Philippines, craft Hijacked  
 Manila A Philippines Airlines (PAL)  
 jet was hijacked 500 miles  
 south of Manila by three mem-  
 bers of the Moro National  
 Liberation Front. In Manila,  
 the 70 passengers were ex-  
 changed for crew members and  
 a PAL vice president as hos-  
 tages. After several inter-  
 mediary stops, the plane  
 landed at Bangkok, where the  
 Philippine government provided  
 another plane because of me-  
 chanical difficulties. On 12  
 April the plane left Bangkok  
 for Libya, stopping in Karachi  
 to refuel. The plane arrived  
 in Benghazi, Libya on 13 April



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Date: 11 April 1976 U.S. Consulate Firebombed  
Place: France, Nice Two Molotov cocktails exploded  
 at the main entrance to the U.S.  
 consulate in Nice, causing prop-  
 erty damage but no injuries. A  
 local newspaper article claimed  
 an extreme right-wing national-  
 ist group threw the firebombs in  
 retaliation for the boycotting  
 of Concorde landings in the U.S.



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TAB B—Terrorists Threats  
and Plans

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I. Terrorist Threats and Plans:

Western Hemisphere, Including the United States

Target: PLO Official                      On 23 March a PLO observer to  
the United Nations received  
Place: United States,                      a telephone call from an  
New York                                      anonymous male who said that  
Date: Current                                      in a few days he would be  
killed.

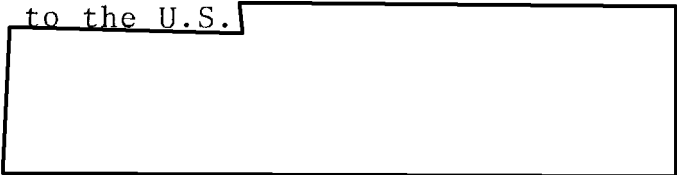


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Target: Costa Rican                      Accion Cubana, a group of  
Establishments                                      anti-Castro Cuban exiles,  
Place: United States                                      has discussed bombing the  
Costa Rican consulate in  
Date: Unknown                                      Miami or other Costa Rican  
targets. In March the con-  
sul in Miami received a  
threat that his car would  
be bombed if Cuban exile  
Orlando Bosch were not re-  
leased from prison in Costa  
Rica. The consul received  
a second letter on 3 April  
which claimed that he would  
pay for having turned over  
Bosch to the Dominican Repub-  
lic so he could be returned  
to the U.S.



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\*\* Indicates a new threat reported for the first time.

\* Indicates a revision of a threat reported in previous issues.

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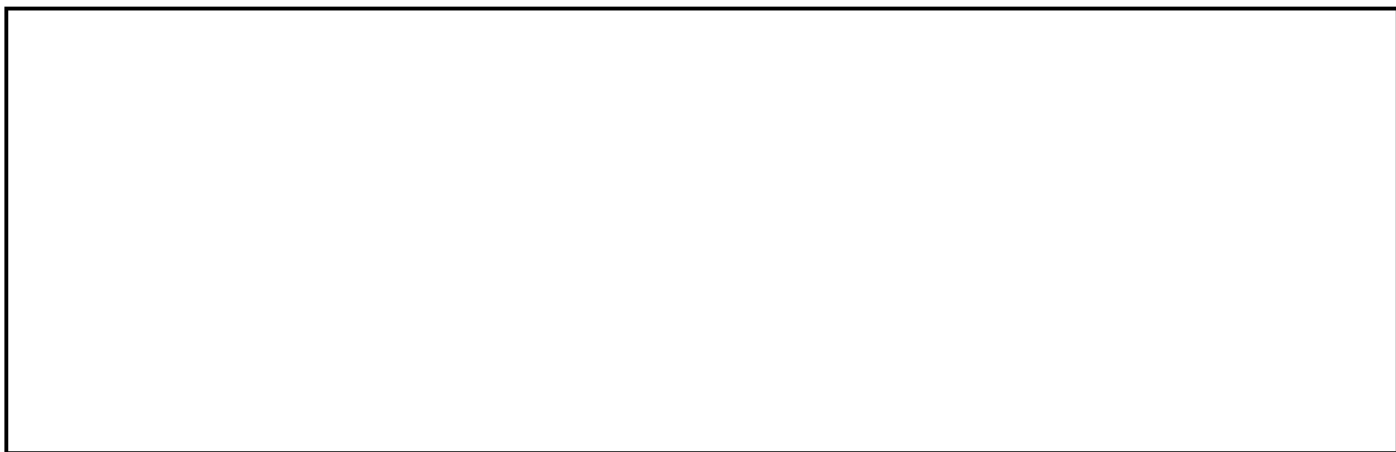


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Target: U.S. CITIZEN

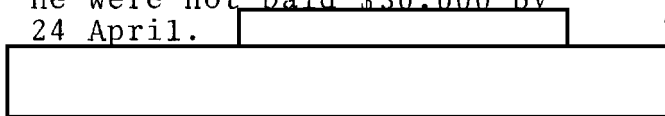
The mother of a U.S. citizen residing in Cordoba received an extortion threat on 26 January when an unidentified caller threatened that her daughter would be killed if he were not paid \$50,000 by 24 April.

Place: Argentina, Cordoba

Date: Late April 1976

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[Redacted]

Target: Soviet Ship  
Place: United States  
Date: 13-17 April 1976

\*\* The FLNC and the Brigade 2506, both anti-Castro Cuban exile groups, have been planning an operation to take place before 17 April, according to an FBI report. The FBI source speculated that the operation would be an attack against a Soviet ship off of Houston, Texas. (A Soviet ship was attacked off the Anguilla Cays Islands in February by the FLNC.)

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[Redacted]

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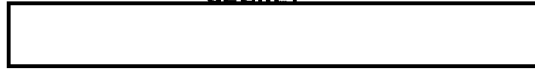
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13 APR 1976

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No significant terrorist threats were reported during the period 7-13 April 1976 for the following areas:

IV. Africa

V. Far East

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TAB C—Potential Terrorist  
Targets

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United States Mission to the United Nations

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and Projects  
Department of Treasury

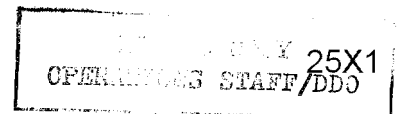
Mr. Thomas W. Leavitt  
Assistant Director, Intelligence Division  
Federal Bureau of Investigation



Central Intelligence Agency

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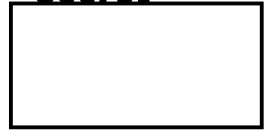
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*Weekly Situation Report*  
*on*  
*International Terrorism*

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20 April 1976

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20 APR 1976

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ARTICLES

Libya Accepts Philippine Hijackers

The record setting 8,800-mile, eight-day Philippine Airlines hijacking came to an end with the release of the hostages and the surrender of the three hijackers to Libyan authorities on 14 April. The DC-8 with the released hostages later flew to Rome, prior to returning to the Philippines. The \$300,000 ransom that reportedly was paid for the release of the original passengers in Manila apparently remained in the possession of the hijackers. The chief of PAL's Rome office flew to Libya to assist in the negotiations, as the Philippine government has no diplomatic representative in Libya.

Libyan authorities had refused to accept the hijackers for 26 hours but finally agreed to grant them political asylum when the latter threatened to blow up the aircraft with themselves and the hostages on board. Libya's Arab Revolutionary News Agency later denied that the hijackers had been granted asylum and reported that they were undergoing interrogation.

In exchange for the DC-8 aircraft and its ten-man crew provided in Bangkok, the hijackers had released ten PAL personnel--the crew of the BAC-111--as well as the hijackers' supply of hand grenades and explosives. PAL vice-president Igoa and the BAC-111 pilot, Captain Santos, had been retained as hostages.

The hijackers claimed to be members of the Moro National Liberation Front, but a Front spokesman in Cairo stated that his organization was not involved in the hijacking. The four "political prisoners" whose release was one of the hijackers' demands are well-known personalities with no apparent connection to the MNLF. Philippine officials have identified one of the hijackers as a former army sergeant who had been convicted of murder and escaped from prison on 16 March. The hijackers may have expediently adopted the Muslim rebels' cause in an effort to gain acceptance and support of Muslim countries which might not otherwise be available to them. At this stage, it appears the motive for the hijacking was simply to escape Philippine control.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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Final acceptance of the hijackers appears calculated to show Libyan humanitarianism in saving the lives of hostages. The hijackers' threat to blow up the aircraft was somewhat hollow in view of the fact that they surrendered their explosives in Bangkok. The Libyans managed to show disapproval of hijacking [REDACTED]

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The Philippine hijackers are expected to join the already large colony of hijackers and other terrorists currently being sheltered in Libya. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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NOTES

Trial Set for Stockholm Terrorists

The Duesseldorf criminal court has fixed 6 May as the date for the opening of the trial of the West German anarchists who attacked the FRG embassy in Stockholm in April 1975. The four defendants are charged with murder (two members of the embassy staff were killed), taking of hostages, and attempted extortion of the federal government. The attack was an unsuccessful attempt to force the release of members of the Baader-Meinhof gang. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] A special building has been erected for the trial, designed to give maximum security. It provides 126 seats for spectators. [REDACTED]

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Turkey Claims Arrest of Terrorists Associated with Carlos

An Istanbul newspaper reported on 14 April that Turkish authorities have discovered a secret terrorist organization which has established connections with the notorious "Carlos" (Ilich Ramirez Sanchez). The press story claims that 10 persons have been arrested. Police allegedly first arrested a worker named Omer Cimener, who lived in an Istanbul suburb, on suspicion of illegal activity. He told the police that he had been working abroad and had come to Turkey on a secret mission. During a preliminary investigation various documents were found, including some supposedly linking the group to Carlos. Among them are letters addressed to Carlos by Libyan Chairman Mu'ammur Qadhafi, "constituting some kind of assurance to anarchists involved in certain incidents, to the effect that they could take refuge in Libya." The exact nature of the evidence and the names of the people arrested have not yet been disclosed, and it is believed some leaders of the terrorist organization remain at large and are being sought by special police squads.

None of the details of this press story have yet been confirmed. While a genuine connection with Carlos cannot be ruled out at this time, it is possible that the Turkish authorities are using his name in order to give a more sinister appearance to a strictly internal dissident group.

[REDACTED]

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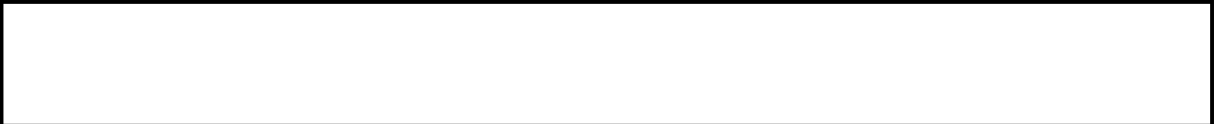
Cuban Exiles Attack Fishing Boats and Discuss Future Terrorist Operations

Cuban exiles based in Miami attacked two Cuban fishing boats in the Florida straits on 5 April, killing one crewman with machine-gun fire. According to the 20 April Washington Post, Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro made an angry protest when he addressed a 19 April rally celebrating the Bay of Pigs victory. Castro threatened to call off the anti-hijacking agreement if U.S.-based Cuban refugee groups continue attacks against Cuban fishing boats. He claimed that such attacks are "a flagrant violation of the anti-hijacking agreement," and insisted that the authors of the attack must be punished.

In early April, according to an FBI source, several Cuban exiles who are members of the Cuban National Liberation Front (FLNC) in Puerto Rico discussed possible terrorist activities with Miami FLNC members. Among the operations under consideration are the purchase of a small, fast boat to use in attacks on Soviet vessels traveling near Puerto Rico (until things "cool off" in Miami); the kidnapping of prominent businessmen in San Juan in order to collect ransoms; assassination attempts against the Cuban ambassadors in Canada and Peru; and the bombing of a Cuban plane in Panama.



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CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

Date: 5 April 1976

Cuban Fisherman Killed

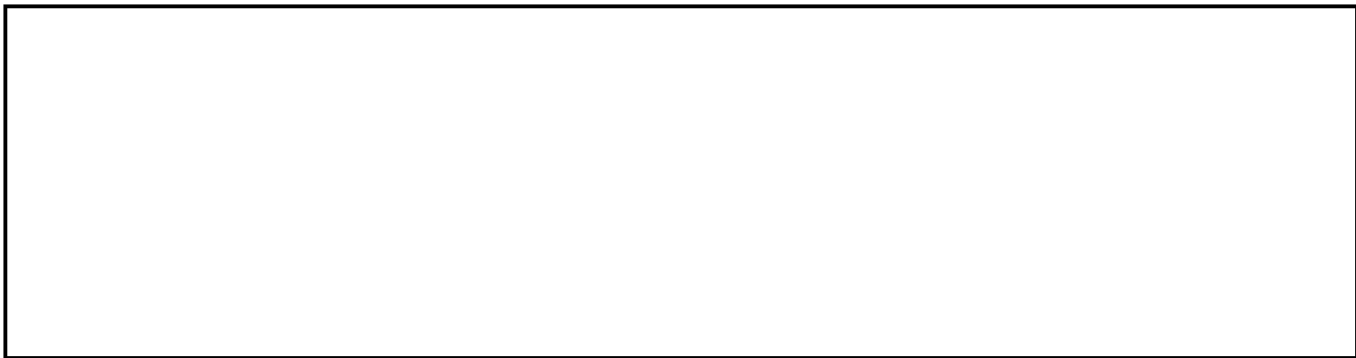
Place: U.S., Straits  
of Florida

A Cuban fisherman was killed during a machine-gun attack on two Cuban fishing vessels in the straits of Florida. Cuban exiles in Miami have claimed credit. 



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TAB B—Terrorists Threats  
and Plans

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I. Terrorist Threats and Plans:

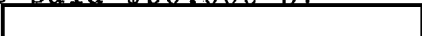
Western Hemisphere, Including the United States

Target: U.S. CITIZEN

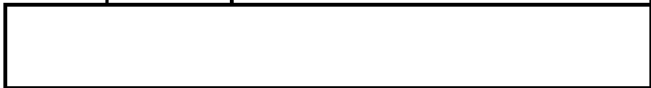
The mother of a U.S. citizen residing in Cordoba received an extortion threat on 26 January when an unidentified caller threatened that her daughter would be killed if he were not paid \$50,000 by 24 April.

Place: Argentina, Cordoba

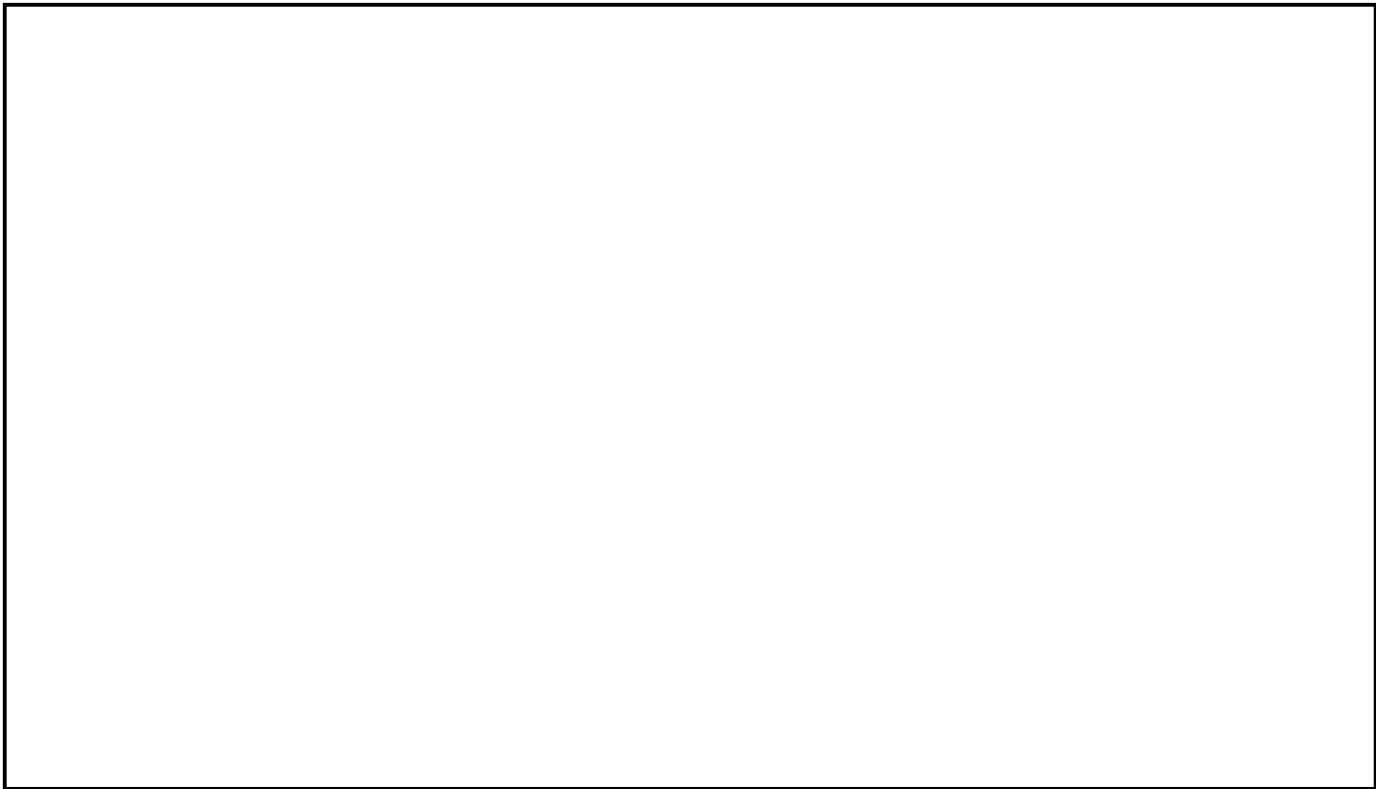
Date: Late April 1976



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\*\* Indicates a new threat reported for the first time.

\* Indicates a revision of a threat reported in previous issues.

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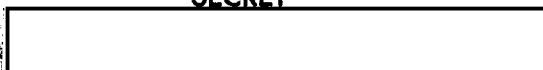
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No significant terrorist threats were reported during the period 14-20 April 1976 for the following areas:

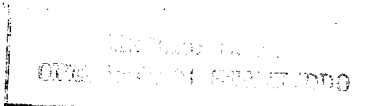
- III. Middle East
- IV. Africa
- V. Far East
- VI. Worldwide

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TAB C—Potential Terrorist  
Targets

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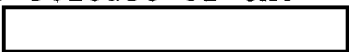
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Target: Stockholm Terrorists' Trial

Place: West Germany, Duesseldorf

Date: 6 May 1976

The trial of the West German anarchists who attacked the FRG embassy in Stockholm in April 1975 will begin 6 May. A special building has been erected for maximum security. (See Notes.) While no threats have been reported, it is possible that FRG anarchists or allied groups abroad might attempt a terrorist operation to force the release of the defendants.



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[Redacted]

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Mr. Thomas W. Leavitt  
Assistant Director, Intelligence Division  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

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*Weekly Situation Report*  
*on*  
*International Terrorism*

DIA review(s) completed

State Dept. review completed

DOJ Review Completed

FBI review completed

DO WSRIT 76-017

27 April 1976

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# WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

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27 April 1976

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Cuban Embassy in Lisbon Bombed (Page 3)

Post-Mortem on Philippine Hijacking (Page 4)

### Notes:

Slight Progress in Niehous Kidnapping Case (Page 7)

TAB A - Chronology of Significant International Terrorist Acts

TAB B - Terrorist Threats and Plans

- I. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Western Hemisphere, Including United States



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III. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Middle East

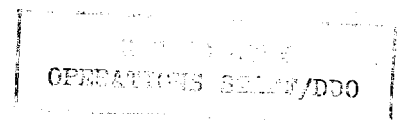
IV. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Africa

V. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Far East



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ARTICLES

Current Trends in Argentine Terrorism

The military take-over in Argentina has not resulted in a decline in terrorist activity. Most observers on the scene feel that after an initial drop-off following the coup, terrorist operations have once again reached the precoup level. Most of the activity has centered around shoot-outs between the terrorists and the police and military. The terrorists are also conducting an assassination campaign which is primarily directed against police, security and military officials, although some businessmen have been targets as well.

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The attacks against businessmen differ from previous campaigns in that the terrorists are currently murdering the businessmen rather than kidnapping them for ransom. For example, on 13 April, the two-man bodyguard team for the Argentine administrative manager of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company was ambushed and killed by the Montoneros while the bodyguards waited to escort their boss to work. On 14 April, the Argentine marketing manager for the Chrysler Corporation was machine-gunned to death when he answered his door. Attacks on businessmen have not been confined to foreign targets, so it does not appear that this campaign is directed specifically against foreign businesses.

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For the past two years, the main objective of the major Argentine terrorist organizations has been to provoke a military coup. Now that the coup has taken place, the terrorists' main aim is to provoke harsh repression, polarize the population and thus set the stage for revolution and civil war, which the terrorists theorize they will win. Further, the terrorists can widen their base of international support if they can equate the actions of the Argentine junta with the actions of the Chilean junta and thus score propaganda points for their cause by utilizing the theme that the military government is suppressing human rights.

What all this means for the near future is hard to say. If their current provocation campaign does not succeed, the terrorists may start to concentrate on more formal operations against higher-level, difficult targets such as government officials or foreign diplomats. These operations could be either assassinations or kidnappings. The probability of a major kidnapping operation will become greater if the government captures key terrorist leaders.

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Cuban Embassy in Lisbon Bombed

A sophisticated plastic explosive charge was detonated at the Cuban embassy in Lisbon, Portugal on 22 April. Two Cubans were killed and five Portuguese were seriously wounded. There was extensive property damage as well. Portugal had been experiencing numerous terrorist attacks in recent weeks prior to the general elections held on 25 April. Initial speculation about who might be responsible for this bombing centered on the Portuguese Liberation Army (ELP), a right-wing extremist group, or returnees from Angola. On 24 April the Lisbon press reported that an anonymous caller said a group named "Portuguese Anti-Communist Movement" (MAP) had bombed the Cuban embassy. The caller said that members of the secret police who had been in Angola were involved in MAP, and he did not want the wrong people, such as the ELP, blamed for the bombing. MAP's purpose, he said, is to fight communists and socialists allied with them.

United Press International in Miami received a letter on 23 April from the "Secret Army of Cuba" which claimed credit for the bombing, ". . . in tribute to the suffering and heroic Angolan nation, victim of . . . mercenary soldiers sent by the bloody tyranny of Fidel Castro." Nothing is known of such a group. While Cuban exile organizations have previously bombed some Cuban missions in Europe, it is likely in this case that Cubans in Miami wrote the letter after hearing of the bombing.

Shortly after the explosion, the Cuban ambassador claimed the CIA and reactionaries were responsible. Additional security forces were provided to key embassies in Lisbon, including the U.S., because the Foreign Ministry had received several anonymous calls warning that more bombs would go off. However, none did. The only retaliatory action was the gathering of a small group of young people at the U.S. embassy who shouted anti-U.S. slogans. They did not remain long and no incident occurred.

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Post-Mortem on Philippine Hijacking

Rafael Igoa, the executive vice-president of Philippine Airlines who was a hostage during the recent hijacking of a PAL plane, related his experiences to officials of the U.S. embassy in Manila. [REDACTED] He said that in return for a larger aircraft to take them to the Middle East, the hijackers agreed during the delay in Bangkok to surrender their two hand grenades and to return most of the ransom money when they reached Libya. Igoa brought \$250,000 back to the Philippines, the hijackers having retained \$50,000 so they would have something to live on. The hijackers gave some of their money to the stewardesses so they could go shopping in Bangkok's airport store.

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Igoa doubted there was any way the Philippine authorities could have stopped the hijacking in Manila. While he did not believe the hijackers would blow up the aircraft while they were in it, he was convinced they would not hesitate to shoot the passengers if their plans were thwarted. In Bangkok, PAL personnel delayed repairs to the BAC-111, which had a malfunctioning automatic pilot and a worn-out tire. They offered to provide the DC-8 [REDACTED]

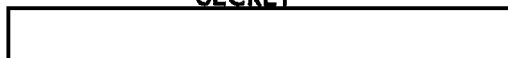
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[REDACTED] When the latter arrived in Bangkok, however, the hijackers became suspicious and refused to release the entire crew of the BAC-111. They accepted only the pilot, navigator and two mechanics from the crew that brought the DC-8 to Bangkok. Igoa said these [REDACTED] were unwilling to "jump" the hijackers when the opportunity presented itself. The original crew members who made the entire flight developed friendly relations with the hijackers and managed to win their confidence.

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Igoa said authorities at the control tower in Benghazi, Libya refused formal permission to land but provided sufficient information so that the crew was able to bring the plane down. Only Igoa was allowed to disembark and confer with Libyan officials. He was questioned by a number of civilian and military officials, who wanted to know who the hijackers were and why they chose Libya. Igoa told them that Libya had a reputation for giving asylum to hijackers. The Libyans said they would refuel the aircraft, but it must depart with the hijackers on board. They hinted, however, that this decision could be appealed to higher authority.

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The rest of the negotiations took place by radio between the hijackers in the DC-8 cockpit and the control tower. The hijackers were interrogated in the Maranao language by a Filipino in the tower. When the Philippine minister and PAL representative in Rome arrived at Benghazi airport, they found the PAL aircraft surrounded by troops, fire-fighting equipment and ambulances. Igoa believes the Libyans staged this show to make the Filipinos believe the plane was about to be blown up, so that the latter would formally request the Libyans to grant asylum to the hijackers in order to prevent loss of life. The Filipinos did not take this bait, and the Libyans finally agreed of their own accord to accept the hijackers. Igoa believed he had almost succeeded in persuading the hijackers to surrender and return to the Philippines.

Igoa said the leader of the hijackers was a young deserter from the Philippine Constabulary, about 25 years old and of Christian background, although he expressed sympathy for the struggle of the Moro National Liberation Front. He was intelligent and tactful. The other two were uneducated Muslims who simply followed the instructions of the leader.



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NOTES

Slight Progress in Niehous Kidnapping Case

A few new developments have occurred in the case of William E. Niehous, the American executive of Owens-Illinois who was kidnapped in Venezuela on 27 February. His captors sent another message to Mrs. Niehous on 15 April, repeating earlier demands that their two political communiques be published locally. (One of the communiques has been published in some leading foreign newspapers. [redacted]

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[redacted] Police officials told the press that the amount of ransom demanded has now risen to the equivalent of about \$3.5 million. On 17 April Caracas police arrested a man calling the Niehous residence from a downtown telephone, and they have since arrested three other persons making similar calls, all of whom are being questioned.

According to press reports, during the weekend of 18 April Venezuelan security forces raided a guerrilla camp in the mountains about 200 miles east of Caracas where they speculate Niehous may have been held earlier. An arms cache and some subversive literature were found. The Minister of Interior refused to confirm or deny that this raid had any connection with the Niehous case. He reiterated the Venezuelan government's opposition to negotiations with the kidnappers or payment of a ransom. [redacted]

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CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

Date 14, 17, 21 April 1976

Place: Italy, Florence Rome

Wave of Terrorist Attacks in Italy  
 The Armed Communist Formations, a new name among Italian extremist organizations, claimed credit for the 14 April fire-bombing of the Texaco Oil Company offices in Florence. The same group claimed credit for severely wounding the Italian president of Chevron Oil Italiana in Rome on 21 April. Chevron is a subsidiary of Standard Oil of California. A Molotov cocktail was thrown at the Spanish consulate in Florence on 17 April.

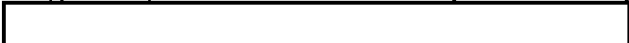


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Date: 22 April 1976

Place: Portugal, Lisbon

Cuban Embassy Bombed  
 A powerful bomb exploded at the Cuban embassy, killing two Cubans and seriously injuring five Portuguese. Extensive property damage was incurred. While the responsibility has not been definitely determined, it is believed Portuguese right-wing extremists or embittered returnees from Angola placed the bomb.



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Date: 22 April 1976

U.S. Bank Bombed

Place: Greece, Athens

A bomb exploded at the Athens branch of the First National City Bank.



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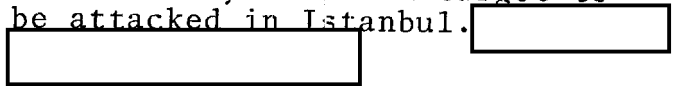
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Date: 23 April 1976

American School and Iran Air Office Bombed

Place: Turkey, Istanbul

A bomb exploded at the entrance to the American Language and Trade Institute, a private girls' school funded by the American Board Mission and the YWCA, and another bomb exploded at the Iran Air ticket office. Damage at the airline office was extensive, and four people passing by were injured. Damage at the school was negligible. No group has claimed responsibility for the bombings. The bombing of the Iranian airlines might be connected with the Shah of Iran's visit to Izmir. The school is the first non-military American target to be attacked in Istanbul.



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TAB B—Terrorists Threats  
and Plans

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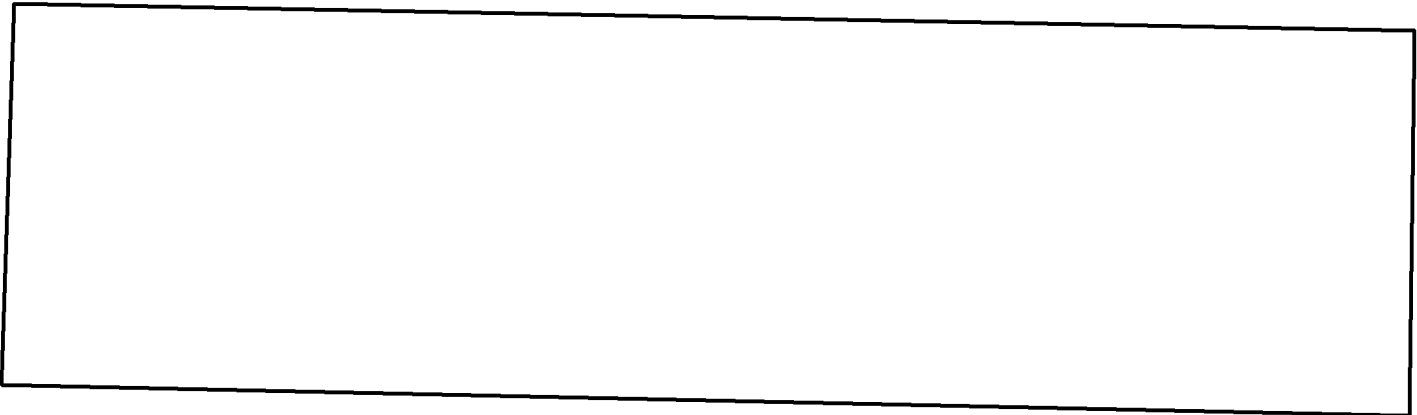


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I. Terrorist Threats and Plans:

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Western Hemisphere, Including the United States



Target: U.S. CITIZEN  
Place: Argentina,  
Cordoba  
Date: Late April 1976

The mother of a U.S. citizen residing in Cordoba received an extortion threat on 26 January when an unidentified caller threatened that her daughter would be killed if he were not paid \$50,000 by 24 April



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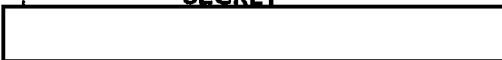
\*\* Indicates a new threat reported for the first time.

\* Indicates a revision of a threat reported in previous issues.

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III. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Middle East

Target: U.S. AMBASSADOR      \*\* The U.S. ambassador in Dacca received an anonymous letter in which the writer threatened the ambassador's life if the U.S. continued to provide foreign aid.

Place: Bangladesh, Dacca

Date: Unknown

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However, security measures have been increased.

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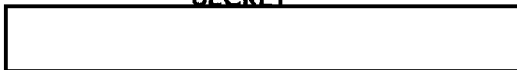
No significant terrorist threats were reported during the period 21-27 April 1976 for the following areas:

IV. Africa

V. Far East

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TAB C—Potential Terrorist  
Targets

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Target: Stockholm  
Terrorists' Trial

Place: West Germany,  
Duesseldorf

Date: 6 May 1976

The trial of the West German anarchists who attacked the FRG embassy in Stockholm in April 1975 will begin 6 May. While no threats have been reported, it is possible that FRG anarchists or allied groups abroad might attempt a terrorist operation to force the release of the defendants. 

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