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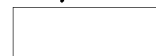


*Weekly Situation Report  
on  
International Terrorism*

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1 February 1978



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# WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

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Israeli Oranges Poisoned

According to an AP report of 1 February, Israeli-grown oranges injected with mercury have been discovered in the Netherlands and West Germany (FRG). Mercury is a poisonous liquid metal that can be fatal when ingested. A letter mailed from Stuttgart, West Germany, dated 21 January, said "It is not our aim to kill the population, but to sabotage the Israeli economy which is based on suppression, racial discrimination and colonial occupation." It was signed by "The Arab Revolutionary Army Palestinian Commando." In addition to the governments of the Netherlands and FRG the British, Swiss and Scandinavian governments have warned all citizens to beware of the poisoned fruit.

In southern Holland five Dutch children became ill and were hospitalized after eating the mercury-poisoned oranges last week. In the FRG the discovery was made after a man gave police a Jaffa orange found to contain "a pea-sized quantity" of mercury. This latter fruit was part of a consignment that had come from a Frankfurt market.

In Tel Aviv officials said the oranges were probably injected in Holland, where most Israeli fruit destined for West Germany is received.

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Belgian Industrialist a Victim of Criminal Kidnapers

Baron Edouard-Jean Empain, kidnaped from his chauffeur-driven car on 23 January [redacted] is being held by an unknown group that claims it has no political motive but is interested in a ransom variously estimated at between \$10 and \$20 million. 50X1-HUM

Police reported that the kidnapers sent Empain's family a handwritten letter from him, an identification card, and the tip of one of his little fingers. These had been left in baggage lockers in Paris train stations, and the family had been notified where they could be found. At the beginning of the week police reported that the negotiations with the kidnapers had reached the critical stage of precise discussions of how, where and when the ransom would be turned over. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

West Germany Signs Agreement on Disposition of Terrorists

On 21 January West Germany became the third country of the 20 member Council of Europe to sign an agreement designed to facilitate extradition of terrorists. The legislative bodies of Sweden and Austria ratified the document earlier. The agreement, which was passed unanimously by the Bundestag, requires that terrorists be either extradited or stand trial in the country where they have sought refuge. It also restricts the reasons a government may give for refusing extradition. Under the agreement crimes involving airliner hijackings, holding of hostages, and crimes in which dangerous weapons are used cannot be interpreted as being strictly politically motivated and, therefore, not subject to extradition. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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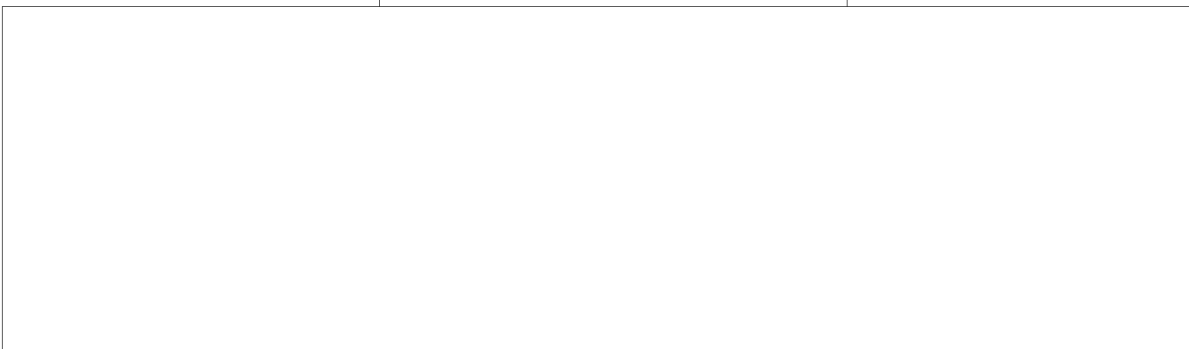
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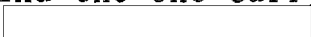
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Russian and Cubans Killed in Ethiopian Bombing

According to an unconfirmed Reuter report from Paris, on 12 January there was an assassination attempt against Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. The incident occurred as the President, visiting Cuban Defense Minister Raul Castro, and a Soviet general were riding in a car to Harar, the capital of the Ogaden region of Ethiopia. No one with the president was injured by the bomb which was thrown at the car, but several guards were killed, including five Cubans and a Russian. The guards had been traveling in a vehicle immediately behind the one carrying the Ethiopian leader and his guests. 

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Folkerts Faces Extradition

The state court in Maastricht, Netherlands, ruled on 24 January that West German terrorist Knut Folkerts can be extradited to stand trial in West Germany. Folkerts' attorney is appealing the decision. The terrorist is wanted in the FRG as a suspect in the assassination of Chief Federal Prosecutor Siegfried Buback in April 1977. Folkerts is currently serving a 20 year term for the killing of a Dutch policeman and for the attempted killing of another during a shootout last September in Utrecht. 

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1 February 1978

CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

Date: 25 January 1978

American-owned Van Attacked by  
Armed Men in Turkey

Place: Turkey, Izmir

On 25 January a van belonging to the U.S. military in Turkey was fired upon with automatic weapons as it was being driven on a mountain road near Izmir. An American enlisted man and two Turkish nationals, the van driver and a cook from the installation, were attacked by several men who searched the victims and the van before returning to their car. They fired more shots and fled. The American and the van driver were hospitalized with wounds; the cook received only minor injuries and was released after treatment. [REDACTED]

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Date: 26 January 1978

LAN-Chile Office Attacked in  
Buenos Aires

Place: Argentina,  
Buenos Aires

On 26 January the LAN-Chile office in Buenos Aires was the target of shots fired from a passing car. The Argentine Youth for Sovereignty claimed responsibility in a letter sent to the AFP. The letter stated this action was taken "to give another indication that the Argentine people will not cede one inch of (their) national territory." Damage was minor and there were no injuries. [REDACTED]

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1 February 1978

Date: January 1978

Oranges Injected with Mercury  
Discovered in Europe

Place: Netherlands  
West Germany

In late January five Dutch children became ill and were hospitalized after eating oranges imported from Israel which had been injected with mercury. In West Germany contaminated fruit was discovered to contain "pea-sized" amounts of mercury. In a letter to the German Health Ministry the Arab Revolutionary Army Palestinian Commando claimed responsibility for injecting the fruit with the poison to "sabotage the Israeli economy." 

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Czech Airliner Hijacked to Frankfurt

A lone hijacker forced a Czechoslovak Airlines (CSA) plane, enroute to Prague from East Berlin with 34 passengers and a crew of five, to fly to Frankfurt's Rhein-Main airport shortly after noon on 6 February. The hijacker, a 24-year-old Czech national named Vladislav Molnar, asked for political asylum, as did an East German couple accompanied by their small child. According to police, the hijacker carried a bag containing a dummy bomb, and slipped a threatening note to the pilot shortly after the Tupolev 134 took off from Schoenefeld airport. There were no injuries during the incident. Molnar was taken into custody on arrival at Frankfurt and the public prosecutor's office announced that an arrest warrant will be requested charging him with jeopardizing air traffic.

This was the seventh hijacking of a Czechoslovak airliner to West Germany since 1970 and the second time in four months that a CSA jet has been forced to fly to Frankfurt. In October two CSA employees commandeered a flight after it took off from the western Czechoslovak resort town of Karlovy Vary.

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Surviving Lufthansa Hijacker Leaves Somalia

Several Arab newspapers recently carried the story that Suhayla Sami Al-Sayih, the lone survivor of the Palestinians who hijacked a Lufthansa airliner in October, has been discharged from a Mogadiscio hospital and has gone to Baghdad.

According to one press report, she was freed after wadi Haddad threatened to stage an "anti-Somali" operation to force her release. Another paper merely stated that the West German government had not pressed Somalia for her extradition so she was allowed to return to Iraq.

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Threats by El Condor to Pressure Venezuelan Officials in Bosch Case

On 1 February United Press International, a Miami newspaper, and several Miami radio stations received a communique, typed in Spanish and signed by El Condor, which made a number of threats if Orlando Bosch's trial was not

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scheduled by Venezuela within the next 30 days. Included were threats against VIASA airlines and against Venezuelan President Perez. The life of a Cuban exile banker was threatened because he has contacted Cubans in and out of the United States. Baseball players who travel from the U.S. to Cuba via airlines to which the terrorists can gain access were threatened indirectly.

El Condor is a pseudonym of CORU, the Cuban exile terrorist organization. During January several attacks against VIASA and several Venezuelan consulates were carried out to influence the trial of Bosch in Venezuela.

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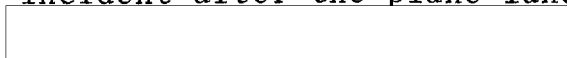
CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

Date: 6 February 1978

Place: Germany,  
East Berlin

Czech Plane Hijacked to Frank-  
furt

On 6 January an unarmed 24-year-old Czechoslovakian hijacked a CSA airline plane shortly after it took off from Schoenefeld airport in East Berlin. In a note to the pilot, the hijacker of the Prague-bound flight indicated he had a bomb in his briefcase and would detonate it unless the pilot flew to Frankfurt. The man surrendered to West German authorities without incident after the plane landed.



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[Redacted]



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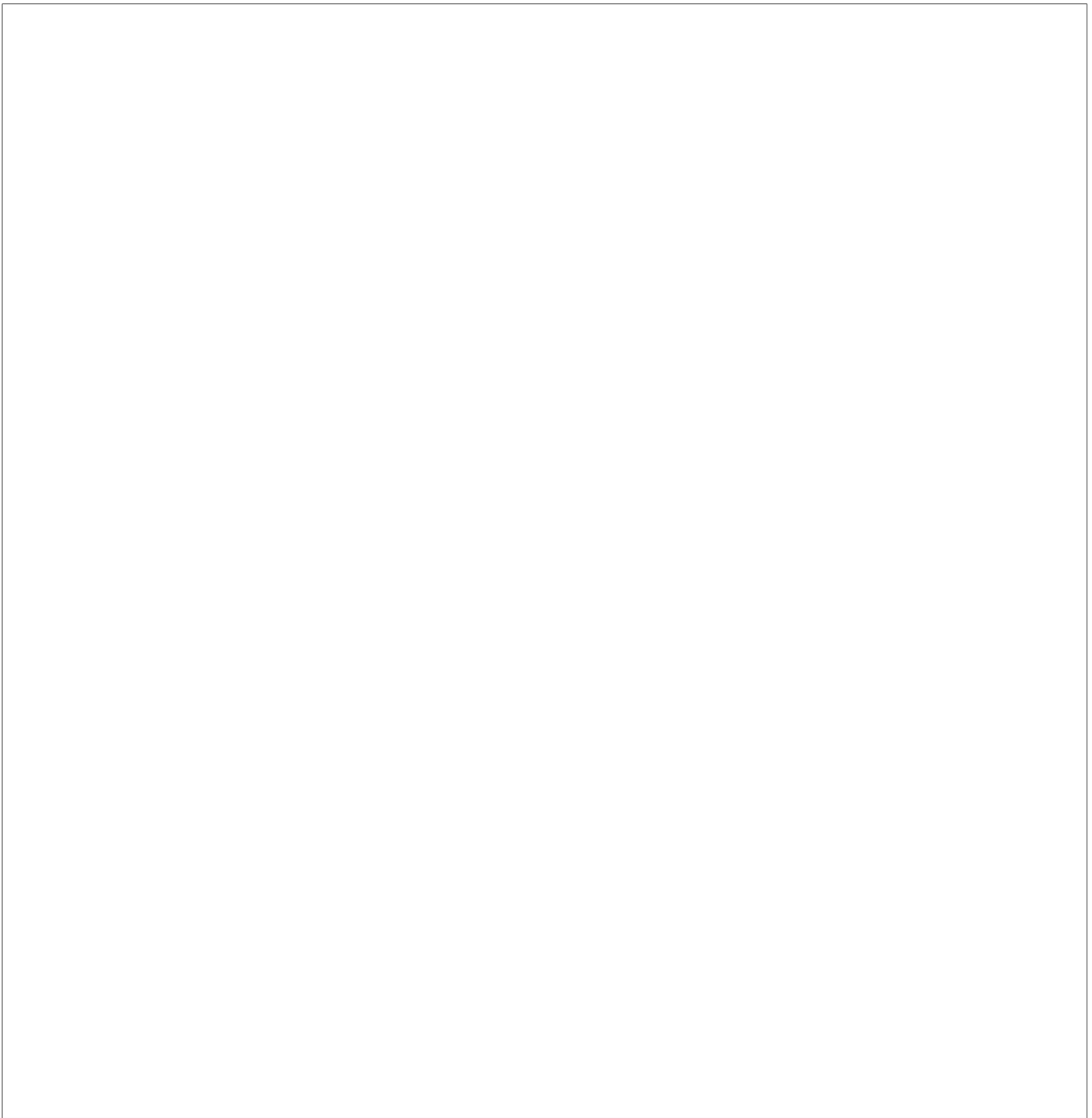
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Massive Trial of 2 June Movement Members

The Federal prosecutor of West Berlin has confirmed press reports that the trial of the Judge von Drenkmann murderers and the Peter Lorenz kidnapers is scheduled to begin in West Berlin on 11 April. On trial will be six male members of the 2 June Movement; they have been charged with murder, kidnaping, taking of hostages and bank robbery. The indictment reportedly runs to 150 pages; 600 witnesses will testify; the trial is expected to last one to two years; the six accused will be represented by 21 defense attorneys.

The murder of Judge von Drenkmann, president of the West Berlin Court of Appeals, by three members of the 2 June Movement, occurred almost three and a half years ago. 50X1-HUM Within four months of von Drenkmann's murder, the 2 Juners, none of whom had been apprehended, staged a more successful operation with the kidnaping of West Berlin CDU official Peter Lorenz on 27 February 1975.

After a week of negotiations, the West German government bowed to the demands of the terrorists, released five leading imprisoned West German terrorists and flew them to Aden with a substantial amount of spending money. 50X1-HUM

Two of these, Rolf Heissler and Ingrid Siepman, are still at large, wanted in connection with the 1977 murders of Ponto, Buback and Schleyer. 50X1-HUM

The modus operandi of the Lorenz kidnaping also served as a pattern in planning another operation led by a one-time member of the 2 June Movement, Norbert Kroecher. The operation, to be executed in Stockholm against a former Swedish minister, was thwarted by Swedish police in April 1977 when a series of police raids netted Kroecher and 17 other plotters of various nationalities. 50X1-HUM Kroecher, who was extradited to West Germany, had also been a suspect in the von Drenkmann and Lorenz crimes.

The six terrorists who will be on trial include the former alleged leader of the 2 June Movement, Ralf Reinders, age 25. The other five range in age from 22 to 35. German authorities had in late 1975 arrested a number of other suspects in these two crimes, but lost three of the women terrorists when they climbed out of a West Berlin jail in July 1976. Two of these (Juliane Plambeck and Inge Vielt)

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[REDACTED]

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also continue to be on the most wanted list of the West  
German Federal Criminal Office in connection with the 1977  
slayings of Ponto, Buback and Schleyer. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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NOTES

ERP Assault on Nicaraguan Embassy in San Salvador

The People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) has claimed responsibility for the 14 February bombing and machine-gunning of the Nicaraguan embassy in San Salvador. The attack occurred at 6:15 a.m., just after the ambassador had arrived for work. The guerrillas directed repeated bursts of automatic weapon fire at the building immediately prior to the detonation of a bomb. The embassy's doors were destroyed and its windows shattered. The ambassador suffered only a few scratches. Leaflets scattered at the scene castigated President Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua.

The ERP of El Salvador is a small organization with 25-35 activists. It was founded in 1970 and over the years has engaged in a full range of terrorist activities.

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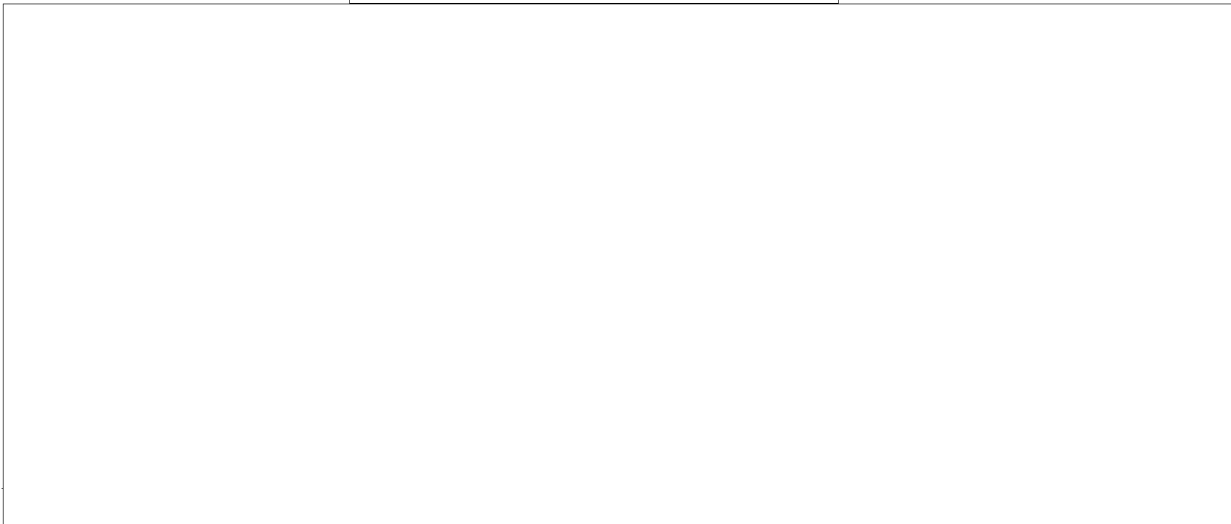
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Mean and Lean

West German terrorists Knut Folkerts, Christoph Wackernagel, and Gert Richard Schneider, all currently in prison in the Netherlands, have been on a hunger strike since 2 February. The three have refused food but are accepting water. Lawyers for the terrorists have stated that the purpose of the hunger strike is to protest their solitary confinement. The West German government is seeking extradition of all three.

Meanwhile, in Venezuela, Orlando Bosch is eschewing his food. Bosch, who is on trial for the bombing of a Cubana airliner in October 1976, has evidently been on the hunger strike for at least a week. He has been placed in a military hospital because of his weakened condition.

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CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

Date: 13 February 1978

Explosion Outside the Hilton Hotel in Sydney

Place: Australia,  
Sydney

Just after midnight on 13 February a bomb exploded outside the Sydney Hilton Hotel. Leaders of 12 countries attending the Commonwealth Conference of Asian and Pacific Nations were staying in the hotel. Though none of the foreign leaders was hurt, two garbage men were killed and nine policemen were injured. The garbage truck was damaged and numerous windows were broken along the street. A second bomb was found and safely detonated without incident.

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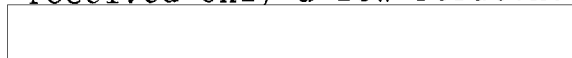
Date: 14 February 1978

Nicaraguan Embassy in San Salvador Bombed

Place: El Salvador,  
San Salvador

On 14 February the People's Revolutionary Army claimed responsibility for an attack on the Nicaraguan embassy in San Salvador. The embassy doors were destroyed and the windows shattered by guerrillas using explosives and machine gun fire. Ambassador Fornos, who was in the embassy, received only a few scratches.

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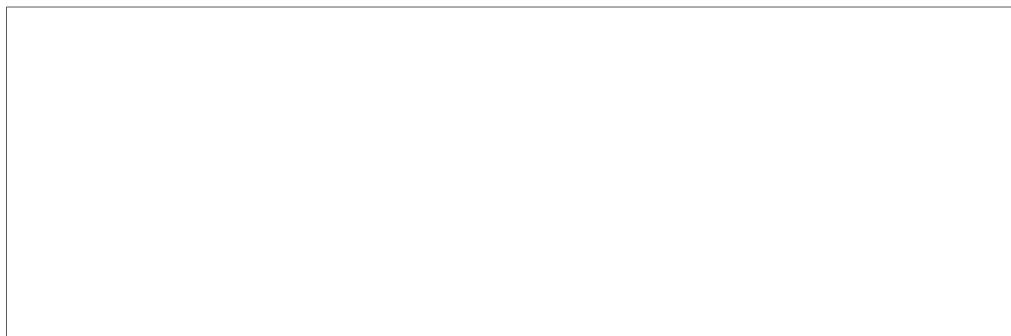
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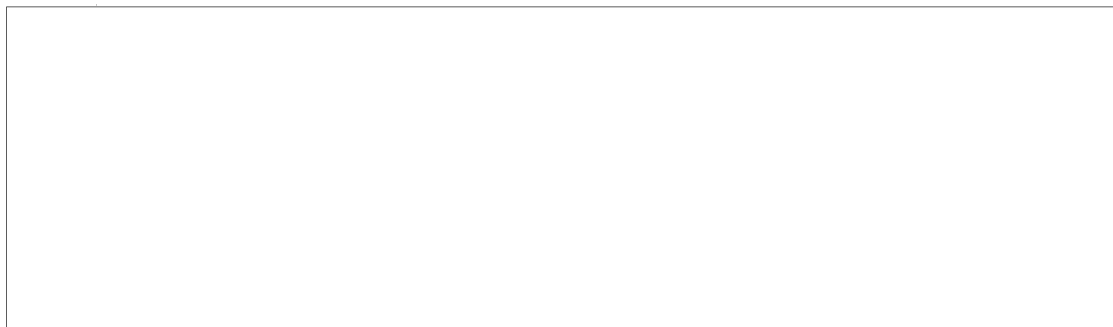
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NOTES

Egyptian Employees of International Organizations Attacked in U.S.

Three recent attacks against Egyptians in the United States have been the self-proclaimed responsibility of the Jewish Committee of Concern to protest the proposed sale of U.S. jet fighter planes to Egypt. On 5 February the home of an Egyptian employee at the UN was firebombed in Pelham, New York. On 15 February the Bethesda, Maryland, home of an Egyptian employed by the International Finance Corporation, an affiliate of the World Bank, was the target of a firebomb. Most recently on 21 February the home of a third Egyptian, the special advisor to the president of the World Bank, was attacked in Arlington, Virginia. In all instances attempts were made to set fires at the front of the homes. In the first two cases the front doors were damaged and in the latest attack the target was the garage; property damage in all three incidents was minor and no injuries were reported.

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Renamed Baader-Meinhof Gang Claims Credit for Bogota Blast

On 17 February a powerful bomb largely destroyed the Lufthansa Airlines office on the ground floor of a large hotel in Bogota, Colombia, but the pre-dawn blast caused no injuries. That same day, according to a French news service item in the Bogota press, the Baader-Meinhof gang claimed credit for the attack, warning that it "marks the beginning of a number of attacks against German and U.S. monopolies that plunder and exploit the world's oppressed peoples." The four-page communique also referred to the incident as a "small but significant attack." The communique was signed by the "Andreas Baader Brigade of the German Liberation Popular Front." Neither one of these titles is known to have been used previously.

Recent reports in the Colombian press about the presence of West German terrorists have been discounted. The names of the terrorists alleged to be in Bogota are the same as those appearing on the original most-wanted list of terrorists, widely circulated via Interpol by the West German Federal Criminal Office. Moreover, the reports listed the terrorists

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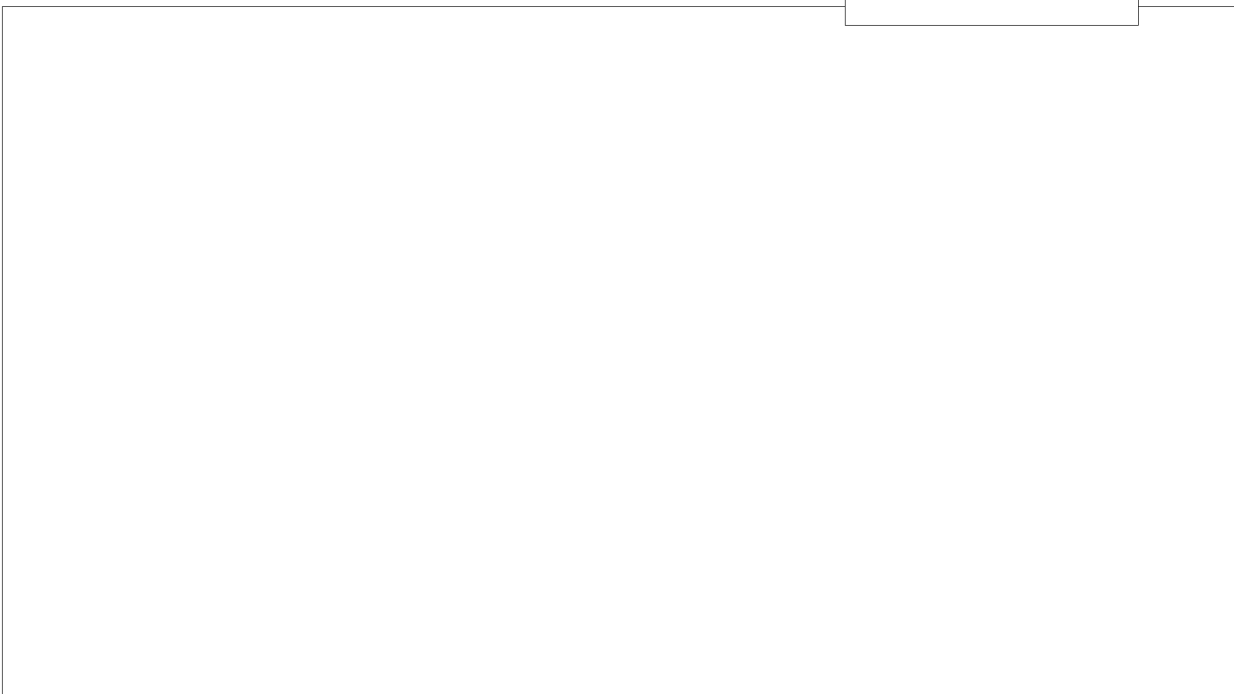
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in the same order as does the poster. The presence of any West German terrorists in Colombia or any other Latin American country has yet to be confirmed.

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New York State Sentences Three Croatian Terrorists

On 15 February the New York State Supreme Court handed down to three Croatian terrorists, who attacked the Yugoslav UN Mission in June 1977, sentences which are identical to those handed down by a federal court on 15 December. However, the state sentences will be served concurrently with those handed down by the federal court, which had found the three Croatians guilty of conspiracy to seize and hold as hostage the Yugoslav ambassador to the UN.

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The terrorists pleaded guilty to reduced state charges.

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The leader of the group is serving seven years for attempted kidnaping and three years for assault (concurrent sentences); one accomplice is serving five years for attempted kidnaping and five years for assault (concurrent sentences); the third terrorist is serving four years for attempted kidnaping.

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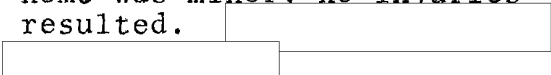


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22 February 1978

CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

Date: 15 February 1978 Egyptian's Home in Bethesda Firebombed  
Place: United States, Maryland, Bethesda On 15 February the home of an Egyptian official of the World Bank was firebombed. The Jewish Committee of Concern has claimed responsibility as a protest for the proposed sale of U.S. jets to Egypt. Damage to the home was minor; no injuries resulted.



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Date: 16 February 1978 Explosion at the USIS Building in Ankara  
Place: Turkey, Ankara On 16 February an explosion at the USIS building resulted in minor damage which was limited to broken glass. No injuries were reported. The incident took place following an unauthorized demonstration by local left-wing and right-wing groups.



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Date: 17 February 1978 Lufthansa Airlines Office in Bogota Bombed  
Place: Colombia, Bogota On 17 February an explosion damaged the Lufthansa office located in a hotel in downtown Bogota. Watchmen in a nearby building saw three persons at the office door about 4 a.m. No injuries were reported but

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22 February 1978

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frightened hotel guests were routed from their rooms.

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Date: 18 February 1978

Place: Cyprus, Nicosia

Terrorists Kill One and Take Hostages in Cyprus

On 18 February two gunmen shot and killed the secretary general of the African-Asian Solidarity Organization that was meeting in the Hilton Hotel in Nicosia, Cyprus. The pair took 30 hostages; 12 were released in exchange for safe conduct to Larnaca Airport. At the airport they negotiated for a plane to depart Cyprus. The plane, with a volunteer crew of four and 11 hostages, took off for what turned out to be a refueling stop in Djibouti, the only place that would permit the plane to land, and then returned to Larnaca. While negotiations were going on with the gunmen, Egyptian commandos attempted to storm the plane. A gun battle between the Egyptians and Greek Cypriot National Guardsmen erupted. During the melee the terrorists gave up and released the remaining hostages. The gunmen were charged with murder and an Egyptian request for their extradition has been rejected.

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22 February 1978

Date: 21 February 1978

Place: United States,  
Virginia,  
Arlington

Egyptian World Bank Official's  
Home Firebombed in Arlington  
On 21 February the home of an  
Egyptian official of the World  
Bank was firebombed. The  
Arlington home of the victim  
received minor damage when a  
burning gasoline can was thrown  
at the house. The Jewish Com-  
mittee of Concern has claimed  
responsibility for the incident  
in protest of the proposed sale  
of U.S. jet planes to Egypt.

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