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U.S. INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS

Olympic Terrorists Linked to Al Fatah

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American and Israeli intelligence analysts are now in substantial agreement that the Black September group of Arab terrorists, organizer of the Munich massacre, is an integral part of Al Fatah, the "official" Palestinian guerrilla organization.

Despite misgivings in informed circles here that intelligence about an underground organization like Black September is inherently unreliable, the group is now accepted to be the "dirty arm" of Fatah—carrying out assassinations and other operations over which the parent organization can claim no control.

"That is a pretty good description," a U.S. official remarked recently of the Israeli claim that Black September is a "cover" for Fatah operations. "These people don't exist in a vacuum."

The agreement is not merely academic. The Israelis relied heavily on their claim that Black September is as "official" as Fatah to justify Friday's air attacks on 10 guerrilla bases in Syria and Lebanon.

'International Action'

The fact that U.S. intelligence chimes in with this view gives added weight to the U.N. Security Council veto the United States cast Sunday night to kill a resolution condemning the Israeli raid but omitting any mention of the Munich terrorist operation which left 11 Israelis dead.

In a parallel move over the weekend, Secretary of State William P. Rogers sent messages to some 120 nations around the world urging their cooperation in the "most severe international action" to snuff out future terrorist attacks.

The Rogers' message was directed expressly at Palestin-

ian guerrilla operations, but Arab states such as Egypt, Syria and Iraq, with which the United States does not have formal diplomatic relations, were among the countries receiving it.

The Rogers message is part of a high-profile Nixon administration campaign to press for international intelligence cooperation to help track down Black September and other Arab terrorist groups in their suspected cells in Western Europe.

Last week the State Department announced formation of a special ad hoc committee including the CIA, state and the FBI to pool intelligence on Palestinian terrorist operations. A parallel committee to consult with foreign governments represented here was also announced, and some 50 embassies were contacted late last week.

There seems no doubt intelligence coordination between the administration and the Israelis is already well advanced, at least on the question of the terrorists and how to deal with them.

During the weekend, for instance, the Israeli military took special pains to place in the hands of the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv reconnaissance photographs showing the results of Friday's raids.

The object, according to a well-placed source here, was to assure the Americans that the bombing raids, which in several instances were aimed at targets close to Palestinian refugee camps hit suspected guerrilla encampments only and avoided civilian casualties.

Radio Broadcasts

This assurance was seen as an important factor in the administration decision to veto Sunday's anti-Israel resolution in the United Nations — only the second U.S. veto in the history of the world body.

Equally important, it may be assumed, is the U.S. intelligence assessment that Black

September — despite its recent history of operations in Western Europe—has direct relations with Al Fatah's "official" headquarters in Beirut, Cairo and Damascus.

The Israelis now conclude that this relationship is a matter of cold, hard fact — known "for sure." They cite monitoring of Fatah's official radio broadcasting organ, Sawt al Assifah (Voice of the Whirlwind), and its consistent functioning as Black September's chief source of publicity.

Still more important, according to sources here, was the more recent disclosure that two Palestinian girls convicted in Israel only last month in the abortive hijack of a Sabena airliner to Tel Aviv in May were designated Black September operatives only after they were recruited and trained for the hijack operation.

Revealed at Last Minute

Both girls, Therese Khalsa and Rima Aissa Tannous, disclosed in interrogation after their capture that their enrollment as members of Black September was revealed to them only at the last minute before they boarded the target aircraft.

Operations attributed to Black September by Fatah radio have included: the assassination of Jordan's premier, Wasfi Tell, in Cairo last November; the attempted assassination of Jordan's ambassador to Great Britain in London last December; sabotage directed against a natural gas storage area in Amsterdam, and an electronics plant and oil pipeline near Hamburg, all last February; the murder of five alleged Jordanian agents at Cologne last February; the May 8 Sabena hijacking; and last week's attack on the Israeli Olympic team at Munich last week.