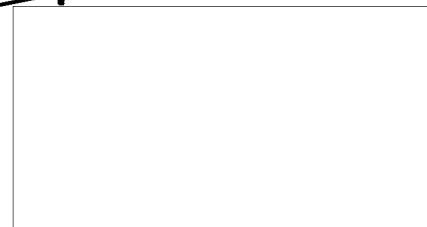




Director of  
Central  
Intelligence

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# National Intelligence Daily

**Saturday**  
**20 February 1988**



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CPAS NID 88-041JX

20 February 1988

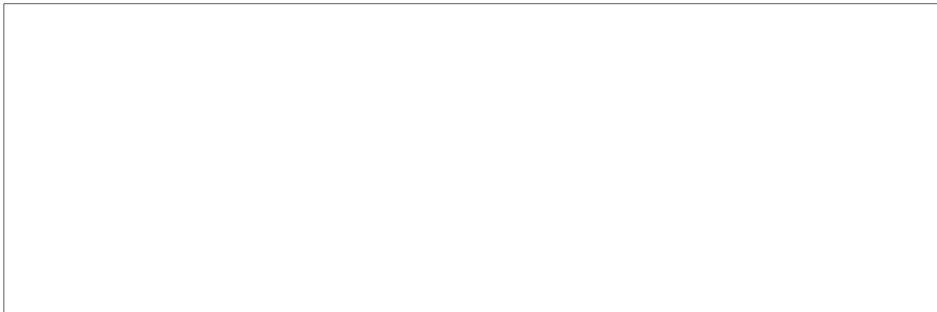
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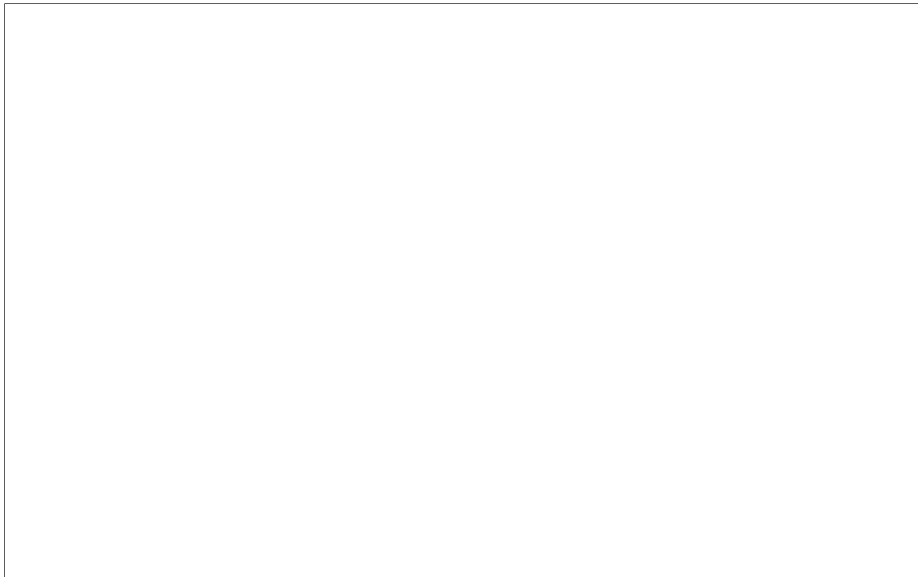
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[Redacted]

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**LEBANON: Hizballah Tied to Higgins Kidnaping**

[Redacted]

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(b)(3)

[Redacted] Hizballah headquarters in southern Lebanon on Thursday reportedly dictated a communique to its Beirut headquarters from an unknown source that took credit for the kidnaping in the name of the Islamic Revolutionary Brigades. Another communique issued yesterday by the Organization of the Oppressed on Earth contained copies of Higgins's identity cards and, like the first, accused him of working for the CIA. [Redacted]

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**Comment:** To disguise its involvement, Hizballah frequently uses covernames to take credit for kidnapings; it probably issued both claims of responsibility. The group frequently accuses its hostages of being spies to justify their seizure and continued detention. Hizballah probably seized Higgins because he was a prominent US target. The Shia Amal militia's efforts to free Higgins continue, but they are not likely to succeed [Redacted]

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[Large Redacted Block]

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[Redacted]

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