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STAFF NOTES:

Middle East Africa South Asia

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SC No. 05347/74
April 24, 1974

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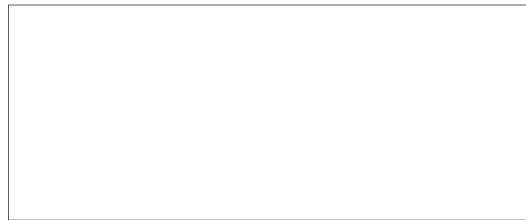


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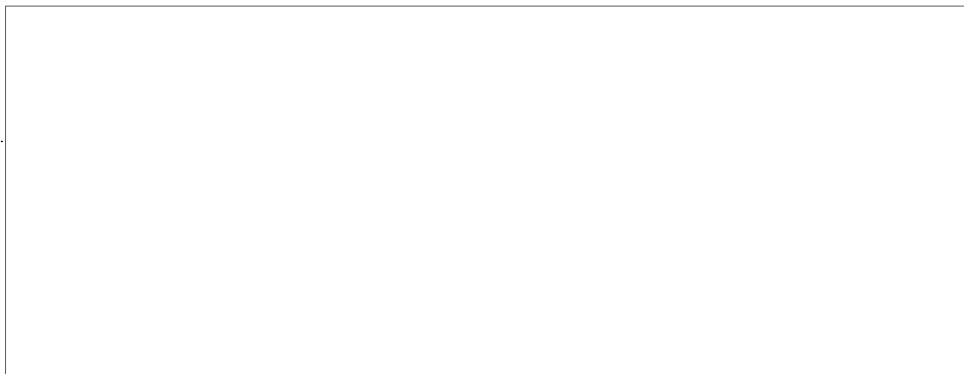


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MIDDLE EAST - AFRICA - SOUTH ASIA

This publication is prepared for regional specialists in the Washington community by the Middle East - Africa Division, Office of Current Intelligence, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

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NR Record

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Cyprus*First Terrorist Incident Since General Grivas' Death*

On April 22, a group of 30-35 armed masked members of the EOKA-B, the Greek Cypriot guerrilla organization, entered the village of Larnaca and beat with tire chains and clubs several of Archbishop Makarios' supporters; seven of them were hospitalized. The incident was the first raid carried out by EOKA-B since its leader, General Grivas, died last January. It has provoked renewed efforts by the Cyprus government to control the remnants of Grivas' organization, which seeks the union of Cyprus with Greece (enosis) and has been faction-ridden since the death of Grivas.

After Grivas' death, Makarios freed 123 Grivas men from prison and offered amnesty to some 70 wanted terrorists. Probably prompted as much by a leadership struggle as by the trauma of Grivas' death, EOKA-B announced in February that it was temporarily suspending operations. The organization has been divided over strategy and tactics, with the majority apparently favoring political action rather than terrorism.

No new leader has yet emerged. Stavrou Stavrou, a recently released prisoner who considered himself Grivas' heir apparent, may have been expelled from EOKA-B. The organization believes he gave information to the government that led to widespread arrests of EOKA-B members in late 1973 and 1974. [REDACTED] Stavros Zakos, a Famagusta businessman, is reportedly now emerging as the EOKA-B head. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] an unidentified Greek army officer has been sent by Athens to Nicosia to assume command of EOKA-B. This officer is apparently not Brigadier General Dertilis, who returned to Greece earlier this month after a three-week stay in Cyprus.

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Athens' role and motivations remain murky and probably hold the key to the future of EOKA-B. The organization has made no statement regarding the recent terrorist incident, and it may have been the work of smaller more radical groups within EOKA-B who are tired of the leadership struggle and willing to take independent action. [REDACTED]

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