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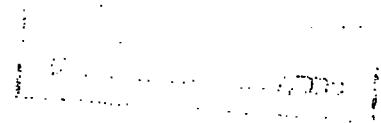


Weekly Situation Report
on
International Terrorism

DO WSRIT 76-017

27 April 1976

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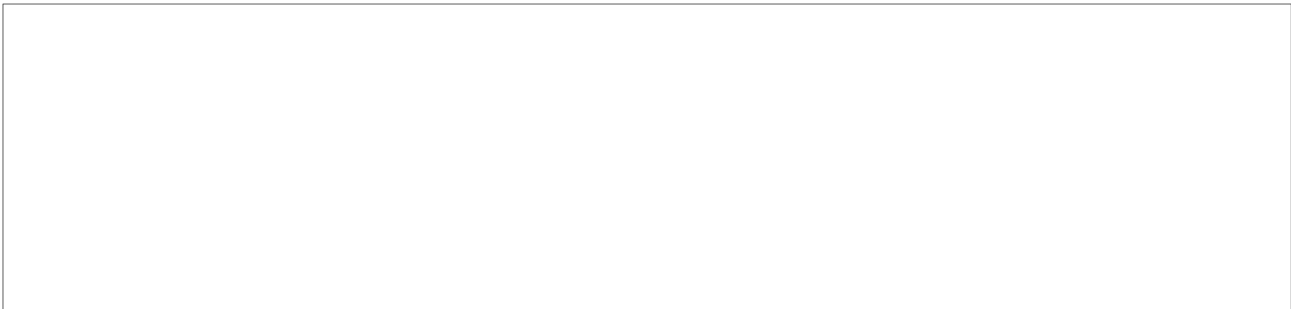
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WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

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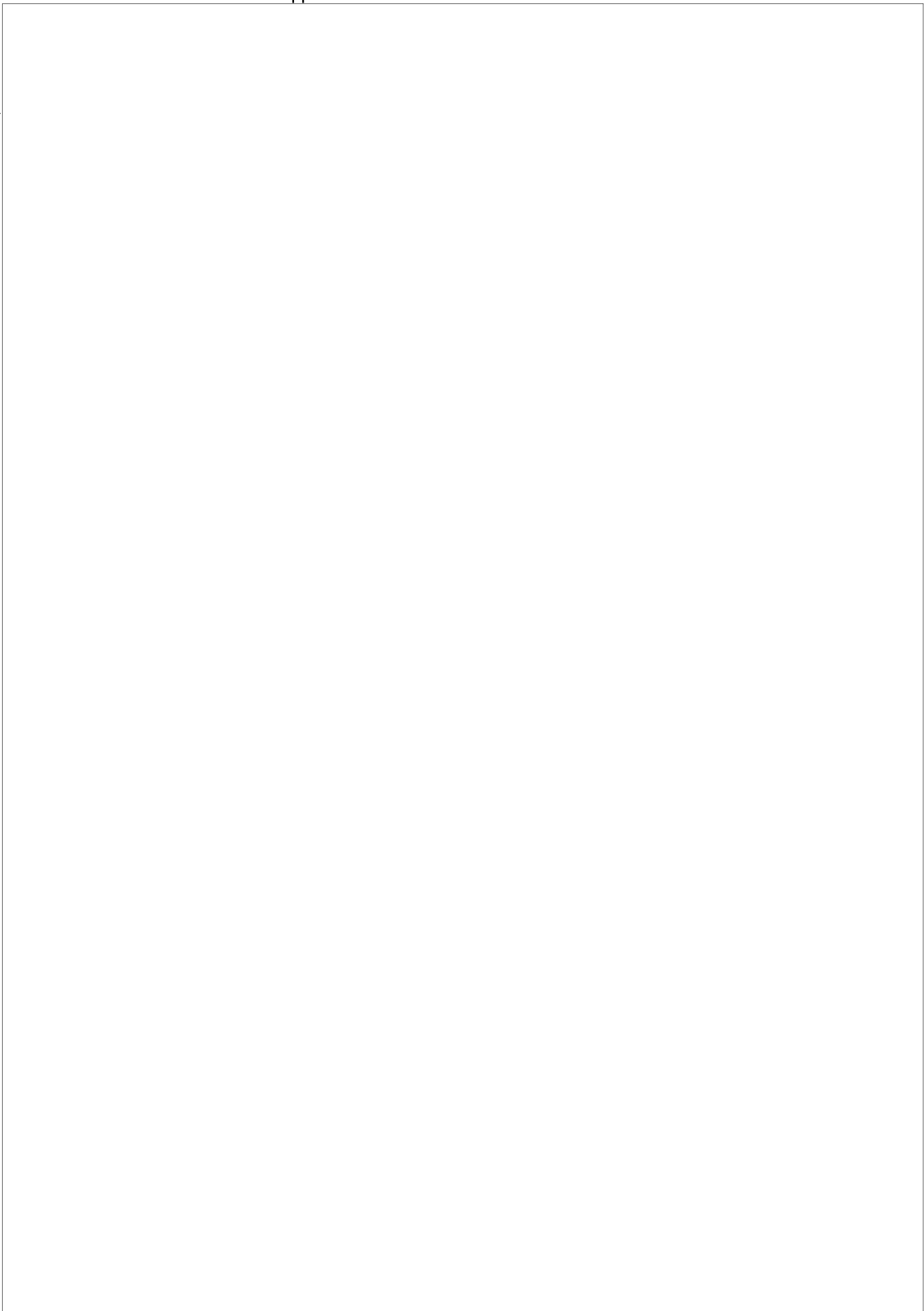
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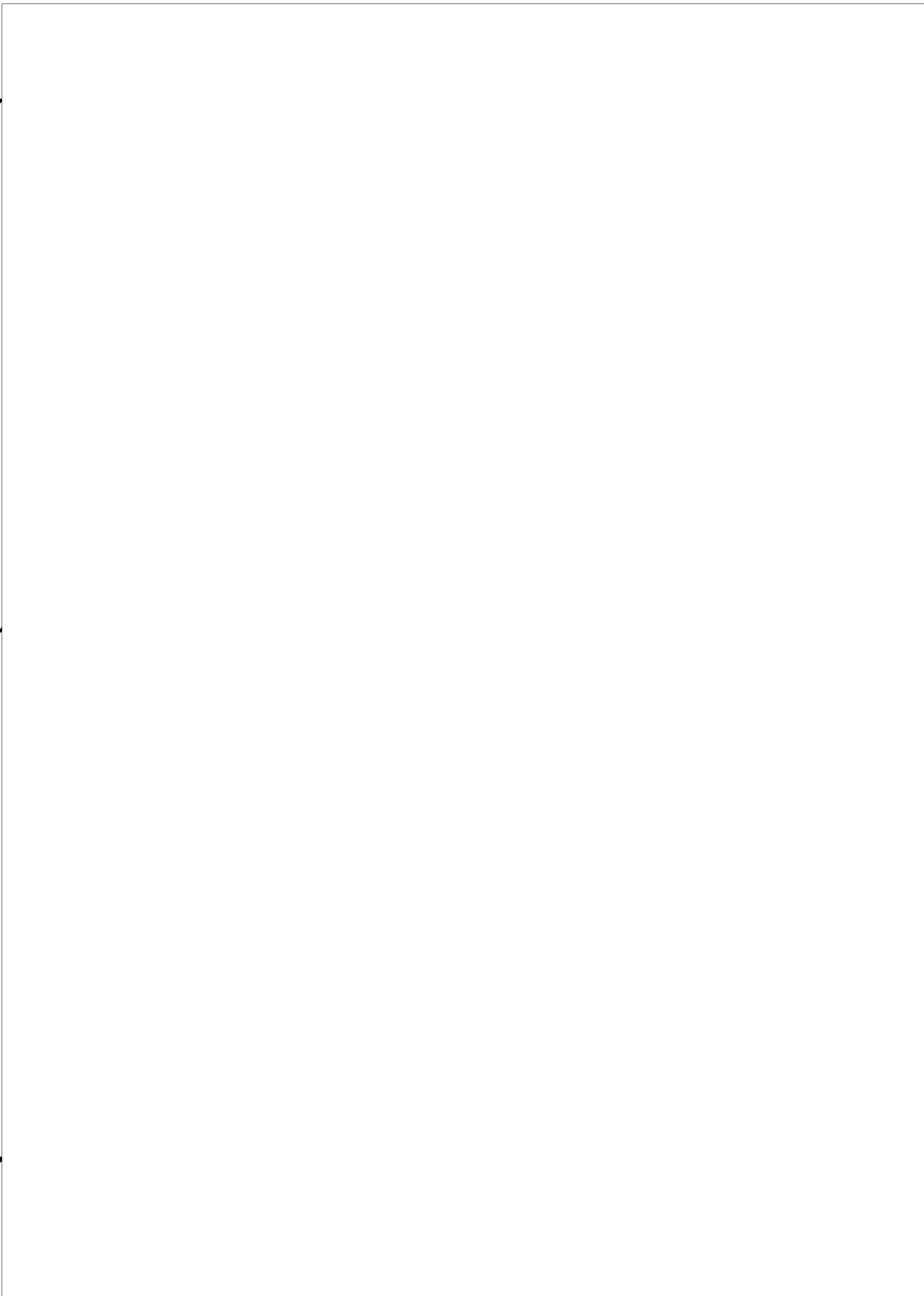
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NOTES

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. See the 13 April issue.) 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.

[Redacted] 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 kidnapers or payment of a ransom. [Redacted]

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