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Central Intelligence Bulletin

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FEDAYEEN: Arab terrorists hijack German airliner.
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GHANA: Relations with China (Page 6)



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FEDAYEEN: Arab hijackers last night forced a Lufthansa 747 airliner to fly from New Delhi to Aden in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

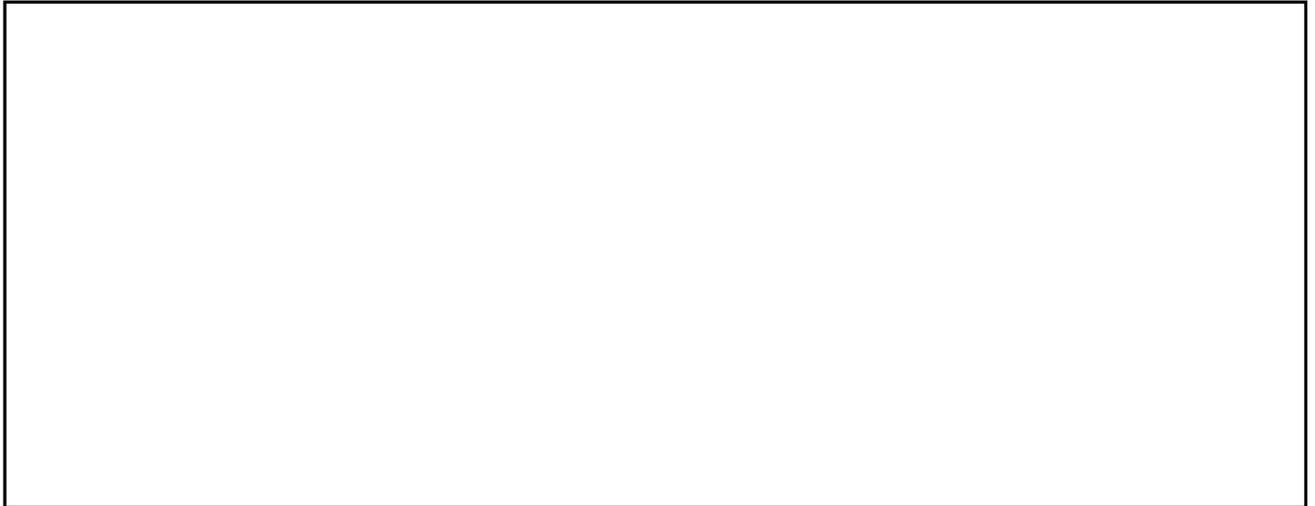
Among the several Americans on the passenger list of 188 was Joseph P. Kennedy III. The hijackers political affiliation has not been determined but officials of all of the major Palestinian resistance groups have on occasion spoken of striking at the interests of western countries that support Israel.

Two Fedayeen agents are currently being sought by West German police in connection with the murder of four Palestinians in Cologne two weeks ago, and the hijackers could be planning to hold the airline passengers as hostages for their safety.

[REDACTED]

The government strongly supports the Palestinian cause and has approved the idea of a negotiated Arab-Israeli settlement. It has no diplomatic relations with the United States. [REDACTED]

NOTES



GHANA: The new military government [redacted]

[redacted] appears to be moving rapidly toward a resumption of diplomatic relations with Peking. Relations with China were suspended by Ghana's first military junta shortly after the ouster of the pro-Communist Nkrumah regime six years ago. The financially hard-pressed government in Accra desperately needs foreign assistance and is likely to seek aid as a part of any agreement. Some \$37.5 million in Chinese aid commitments made during the Nkrumah era remain unused and could be the basis for a resumption of aid.

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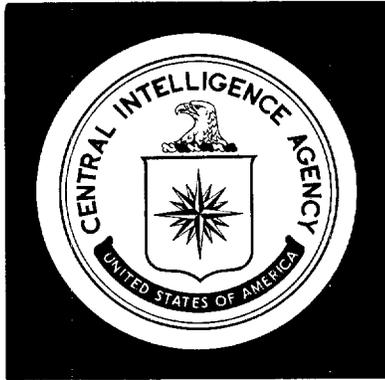
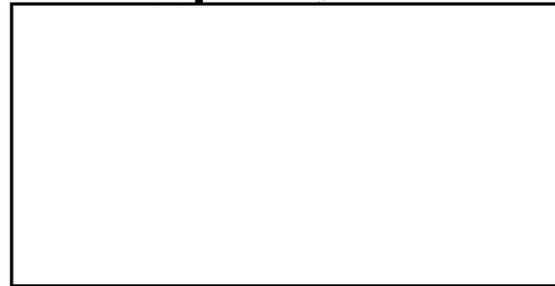
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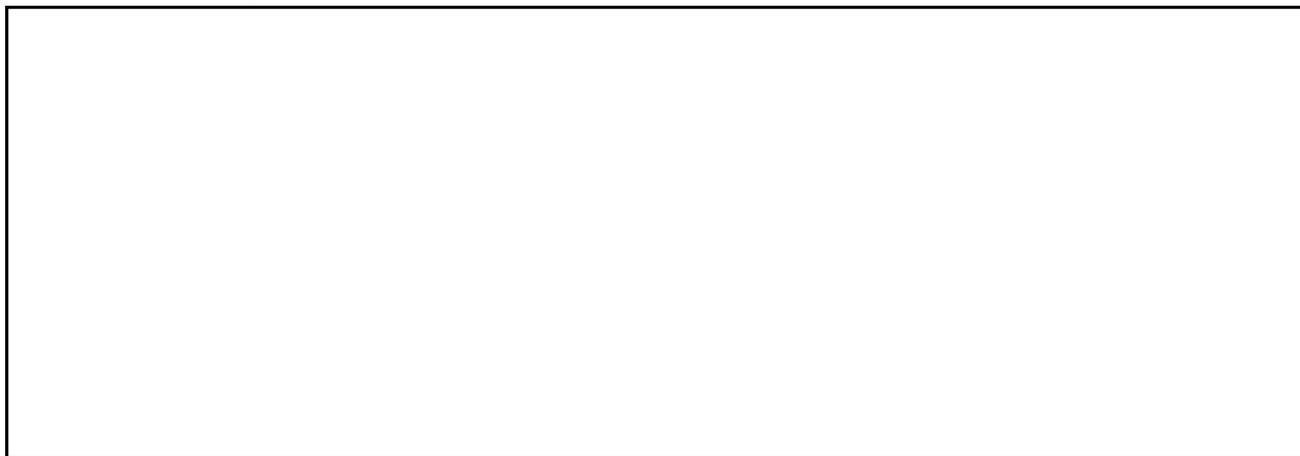
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QATAR: Sheik al-Thani ousted while out of country.
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CYPRUS: Situation report



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QATAR: The ruler of the Persian Gulf state of Qatar was deposed early this morning by his cousin, who is prime minister and heir apparent.

The coup occurred while Sheik Ahmad ibn Ali al-Thani was in Iran on a hunting trip. Soon after the change in government was announced by Qatar radio, the new ruler, Sheik Khalifa ibn Hamad al-Thani sought to solidify his position by raising the salaries of the public security forces and other civil servants, and by wiping out debts owed the government by citizens for low cost housing.

The two cousins had been at odds in the past, but the new ruler has been the dominant decision maker during the past few years; the ousted ruler preferring to spend most of his time out of the country. The ruling family is large and well armed. If he has not done so already, the new ruler will have to make certain that he has the support of the various branches of the family.

The small public security force, largely composed of Saudi bedouin mercenaries and Yemenis, has shown no sign of being a political force. It is commanded by Muhammad Mahdi--born Ronald Cochrane--a British convert to Islam. Qatar became an independent state in September 1971 when it ended its treaty relationship with the UK.

NOTE

CYPRUS: THE FAILURE OF THE GREEKS TO MOVE MILITARILY AGAINST PRESIDENT MAKARIOS HAS WON THE ARCHBISHOP VALUABLE TIME, AND ATHENS NOW APPEARS TO BE MOVING CAUTIOUSLY. GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER PALAMAS AT A RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE SAID THAT GREECE INSISTS UPON THE INDEPENDENCE OF CYPRUS, IMPLYING THAT ATHENS DOES NOT WANT A DIRECT MILITARY CONFRONTATION WITH MAKARIOS AT PRESENT. PALAMAS ALSO WARNED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WILL NOT TOLERATE "FOREIGN INTERVENTION." THE US EMBASSY IN NICOSIA BELIEVES PALAMAS' REMARKS PROBABLY WERE DIRECTED TOWARD TURKISH, US, AND UK EARS, BUT THE FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO COULD HAVE BEEN TALKING TO GENERAL GRIVAS.

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MAKARIOS HAS ASKED TO MEET WITH GRIVAS, AND THE US EMBASSY IN NICOSIA SUSPECTS THAT THE ARCHBISHOP MAY BE SEEKING A RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE GENERAL. MEANWHILE, THE SEMIANNUAL ROTATION OF TURKISH TROOPS TO CYPRUS IS SCHEDULED TO BE CARRIED OUT TOMORROW.

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