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*Weekly Situation Report*  
*on*  
*International Terrorism*

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The Weekly Situation Report on International Terrorism will not be published the week of Christmas. The next issue will be published 31 December 1974.

17 December 1974

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE

JUN 18 1997

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**PREPARED FOR THE CABINET COMMITTEE TO COMBAT  
TERRORISM AND ITS WORKING GROUP**

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Information for this publication is based on contributions from certain agencies represented on the Working Group of the Cabinet Committee to Combat Terrorism. The Working Group is composed of representatives from the Departments of State, Defense, Justice, Transportation and Treasury; the Domestic Council Staff; the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the National Security Council Staff; the Office of Management and Budget; the United States Mission to the United Nations and the Central Intelligence Agency.

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1.5(c)  
1.6(d)(1)

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## WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

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17 December 1974

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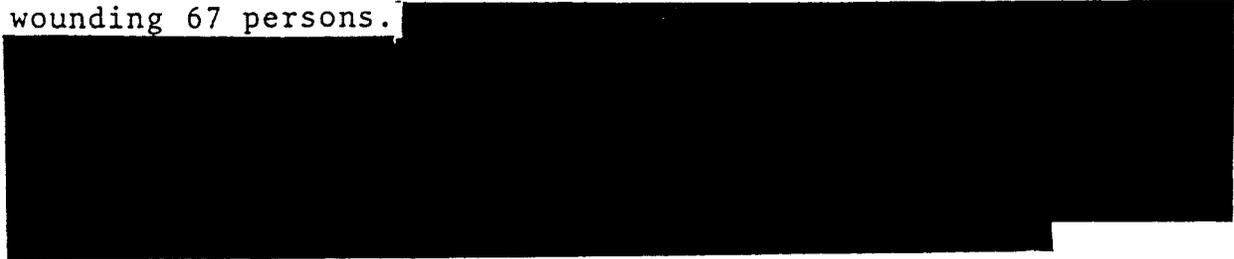
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New Series of Israeli-Fedayeen Terrorist Incidents



1.5(c)  
1.6(d)(1)

On 11 December a terrorist exploded handmade grenades in a downtown Tel Aviv theater, killing himself and two others and wounding 67 persons.



1.5(c)  
1.6(d)(1)

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for the Tel Aviv cinema attack and said the operation was in retaliation for the rocket attack against the PLO centers in Beirut. The PFLP added that the terrorist was the leader of a four-man team which was positioned inside Israel.



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[REDACTED]

1.5(e)  
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(Comment: If the PFLP claim that four other persons were involved is true, the terrorist could have received the explosives inside Israel.)

Fatah/PLO leader Yasir Arafat issued a press statement supporting the attack and threatening further retaliation if Israel carried out another operation.

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1.6(d)(1)

[REDACTED] although the PFLP has rejected PLO leadership, Arafat apparently found it expedient to associate himself with the attack in the wake of the Beirut rocket attack.

On 12 December, less than 24 hours after the Tel Aviv theater attack, four Israeli planes, apparently targeted against a Sa'iqa training area, bombed and strafed two Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut, killing one person and wounding 10 others and heavily damaging some installations. Most of the Palestinian population in the camps had been evacuated beforehand in anticipation of an Israeli reprisal attack. The Lebanese Defense Ministry said one of the Israeli planes was shot down, but the Israeli military command said all the planes returned safely.

The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv does not believe that the incidents were linked as a series of reprisal attacks, since each operation appeared to involve considerable advance preparation, but were more likely elements of psychological warfare in which each side reassured its own public and threatened the enemy. The Embassy believes that fedayeen organizations might have terrorists inside Israel ready for an immediate strike in response to an Israeli attack, but there is no confirmation of this.

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1.6(d)(1)

[REDACTED] The Embassy in Beirut believes the PFLP Tel Aviv attack was mounted primarily to pressure Arafat and the PLO to adhere more closely to a "revolutionary line" and probably reduced the prospect of interfedayeen clashes. The Beirut Embassy also thinks the Israeli raid will increase fedayeen terrorist provocations against Israel. (SECRET)

Relocation of Terrorist Leader Sabri al-Banna from Iraq to Libya

Sabri al-Banna (Abu Nidal), dissident Fatah terrorist leader who is a primary organizer of the Arab Rejection Front, has transferred his base of operations from Iraq to Libya, [REDACTED] (Banna was responsible for the seizure of the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Paris in September 1973 and for the hijacking of a British Airways jetliner at Dubai in November 1974. See the 19 September 1973 issue for a profile on Banna.) Banna, who received official Iraqi assistance in traveling to Libya, reportedly will reorganize the Libyan-based terrorist group of Ahmad Abd-al-Ghaffur, who was assassinated in Beirut in September, for the purpose of mounting operations from Libya into Europe and the Middle East. Iraq has relocated Banna in an endeavor to placate the moderate leaders and move closer to the Arab mainstream.

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1.6(d)(1)

[REDACTED]

On the one hand, the Libyans are assisting Fatah/PLO leader Yasir Arafat and the PLO with considerable financial aid, with the intention of eventually directing the PLO to operate actively against Saudi King Faysal and Egyptian President Sadat. On the other hand, Libya is actively encouraging the Arab Rejection Front groups, particularly Banna and the remnants of Abd-al-Ghaffur's group, as a counterforce to both the PLO and a peaceful settlement. (SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD THIS INFORMATION IS NOT TO BE INCLUDED IN ANY OTHER DOCUMENT PUBLICATION)

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NOTES

Possible Package Bomb at British Consulate in Buenos Aires

On 10 December a suspicious package was discovered at the office of the British Consul in Buenos Aires. The acting Consul noticed that the package was mailed with a postage meter strip from Beirut but the strip was not canceled and lacked customs stamps, and that the package was addressed to the Consulate's former address. The police bomb squad placed the package, along with a detonating charge, in a metal detonation box and then set off the charge. The resulting explosion damaged the offices and broke two windows. Fragments revealed that the package contained several books, entitled Kim Il Sung, which are readily available in Buenos Aires.

It is still not certain whether the package contained explosives or whether the damage was caused by the detonating charge. The police are being asked to continue their examination. (~~SECRET~~)

Private Plane Hijacked from Florida to Cuba

A lone gunman hijacked a twin-engine Piper Seneca plane in Tampa the night of 14 December and forced the pilot to fly him to Cuba, according to press stories. The plane landed in Havana at about 10:30 p.m. The hijacker, a middle-aged man using the name Robin Harrison, had chartered a single-engine aircraft from the Tampa Flying Service, but when he arrived at the airport he pulled a pistol and demanded the larger plane. The pilot, who returned to Miami on 16 December, said Cuban authorities took the hijacker into custody. They treated the pilot well, but the Tampa Flying Service was required to pay \$500.00 to the Cuban government before the pilot was permitted to leave. This is the first hijacking to Cuba since the signing of a treaty in February 1973 which requires Cuba to return U.S. hijackers or put them on trial. (UNCLASSIFIED)

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CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS

TAB A—Chronology of Significant  
International Terrorist Acts

Date: 15 December 1974

Place: Florida, Miami

Bahamian Offices Bombed.  
A bomb exploded in the Bahama Cruise Line offices, causing moderate damage but no injuries, according to the Miami police. The police believe an anti-Castro organization was responsible for the bombing. The Bahamas recently established diplomatic relations with Cuba. (See Section B-I.) (UNCLASSIFIED)

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I. Terrorist Threats and Plans:

Western Hemisphere, Including the United States

Target: Various Latin American Installations

Place: United States, Miami New York

Date: Current

A group identifying itself as "Young Nationalist Cuba" has sent identical threatening letters, dated 25 November, to the consulates of El Salvador, Colombia and Mexico in Miami, Florida, and to the Dominican Republic and Honduran representatives to the United Nations in New York. (See 3 December issue, page B-I-2.) (~~CONFIDENTIAL~~)

Target: Various Latin American Countries

Place: United States, Miami  
Bahama Islands, Nassau

Date: Current

\* The FLNC is planning operations against the twelve countries that recently voted to lift sanctions against Cuba, and against the Bahamas, which established diplomatic relations with Cuba. (See 10 December issue, page B-I-1.) The 15 December explosion at the Bahama Cruise Line office in Miami may be connected with this threat. (See Tab A.) (~~CONFIDENTIAL~~)

Target: Possibly Foreign-Owned Mining Companies

A dissident group in the Dominican Popular Movement is planning a terrorist campaign in

\*\* Indicates a new threat reported for the first time.

\* Indicates a revision of a threat reported in previous issues.

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and Plans  
Terrorists Threats

Place: Dominican Republic

Date: Christmas Season

the Cibao region of the Dominican Republic to take place during the Christmas season. Targets may include foreign-owned mining companies. (See 3 December issue, page B-I-4.)  
(~~SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~)

[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]

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(~~SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/CONTROLLED DISSEM/ THIS INFORMATION IS NOT TO BE INCLUDED IN ANY OTHER DOCUMENT OR PUBLICATION~~)

II. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Europe

Target: Aircraft  
Transporting  
Jewish Emigres

Place: Austria, Vienna

Date: February or March  
1975

\*\* An unidentified fedayeen group is planning an operation to shoot down a jumbo aircraft departing Vienna with Jewish emigrants to Israel. [REDACTED]

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1.6(d)(1)

[REDACTED] The operation allegedly is scheduled for February or March 1975 and is aimed at discouraging emigration to Israel. (SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

Target: Unspecified,  
Possibly Jewish  
Emigre Center

Place: Austria, Vienna

Date: Current

Salah Khalaf, head of the BSO, is planning to organize a series of international terrorist operations. The first incident reportedly will be an explosion in Vienna, using a bus, to protest continued Austrian assistance to Soviet Jewish emigres. (See 10 December issue, page B-II-1.) (SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/CONTROLLED DISSEM/THIS INFORMATION IS NOT TO BE INCLUDED IN ANY OTHER DOCUMENT OR PUBLICATION)

Target: Unknown

Place: Possibly West  
Germany

Date: Current

The Fatah leadership expects that the PFLP may mount a terrorist operation in West Germany. (See 3 December issue, page B-II-2.) (SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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(~~SECRET~~/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/  
NO DISSEM ABROAD/CONTROLLED  
DISSEM)

Target: U.S. SECRETARY  
OF STATE HENRY  
KISSINGER

The Cypriot EOKA-B resistance organization is planning to attack U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. (See 10 December issue, page B-II-1.)  
(~~SECRET~~/NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

Place: Unknown

Date: Unknown

B-II-2

III. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Middle East

<p><u>Target:</u> Hotel</p> <p><u>Place:</u> Israel</p> <p><u>Date:</u> Late December 1974 Early January 1975</p>	<p>The PDFLP is planning to take over a hotel in Israel in December or January and hold guests, presumably wealthy foreigners, as hostages. (See 26 November issue, page B-III-1.) (<del>SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM</del>)</p>
<p><u>Target:</u> USIS BUILDING Jordanian Post Office</p> <p><u>Place:</u> Jordan, Amman</p> <p><u>Date:</u> Current</p>	<p>Fatah is planning to plant bombs in the USIS building and the Central Post Office building, both in Amman, in the near future. (See 10 December issue, page B-III-1.) (<del>SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM</del>)</p>
<p><u>Target:</u> U.S. AIRCRAFT, CITIZENS AND INSTALLATIONS</p> <p>Israeli Aircraft, Citizens and Installations</p> <p><u>Place:</u> Unspecified</p> <p><u>Date:</u> Unknown</p>	<p>The hijackers of the BA jetliner from Dubai told their Tunisian interrogators that Sabri al-Banna's fedayeen group will probably undertake more hijackings, with U.S. and Israeli aircraft as targets. (See 10 December issue, page B-III-1.) (<del>SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM</del>)</p>

B-III-1

IV. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Africa

<u>Target:</u>	Foreign Diplomatic Personnel and Installations	The dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Addis Ababa received a telephone call from an un- identified caller threatening to kidnap several ambassadors and to blow up several embas- sies. The U.S. and British embassies have also received threatening letters, signed "Zapatistas" National Libera- tion Front. (See 10 December issue, page B-IV-1.) ( <del>CONFIDENTIAL</del> )
<u>Place:</u>	Ethiopia, Addis Ababa	
<u>Date:</u>	Current	

B-IV-1

V. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Far East

No terrorist threats were reported in the Far East  
during 11-17 December 1974

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DATE 11/18/74  
BY [illegible]

B-V-1

VI. Terrorist Threats and Plans: Worldwide

Target: GONP Courier  
Flight

Place Unspecified

Date: 24-25 December  
1974

\*\* A new organization of uncertain makeup, using the name "Group of the Martyr Ebenezer Scrooge," plans to sabotage the annual courier flight of the Government of the North Pole. Prime Minister and Chief Courier S. Claus has been notified and security precautions are being coordinated worldwide by the CCCT Working Group. (~~CONFIDENTIAL~~)

POTENTIAL TERRORIST TARGETS IN THE U.S. AND ABROAD

This is a list of persons and events, arranged chronologically, which might attract terrorist attack. The following symbols are used when applicable: \*\* Reported for the first time.  
\* Revision of report in previous issue.

Target: Former Prime Minister of Israel, Mrs. Golda Meir      Mrs. Golda Meir, former Prime Minister of Israel, is visiting New York City; Newark, New Jersey; and Montreal and Toronto, Canada. The Secret Service has protective responsibility.  
Place: United States, New York, New Jersey      (CONFIDENTIAL)  
Canada  
Date: December 1974 and early January 1975

Target: Hajj Pilgrims      The Hajj season, now underway, with many Moslems making a pilgrimage to Mecca, could be the occasion for terrorist acts, given the current high degree of dissension within the fedayeen movement.  
Place: Saudi Arabia, Mecca      (UNCLASSIFIED)  
Date: Through Late December 1974

TAB C-Potential Terrorist Targets

Distribution: Ambassador Lewis B. Hoffacker  
Special Assistant to the Secretary  
Department of State

General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for Safety and Consumer  
Affairs  
Department of Transportation

Mr. Robert F. Ellsworth  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
International Security Affairs

Mr. James M. Frey  
Deputy Associate Director for International  
Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget

Colonel Richard T. Kennedy  
National Security Council Staff

Mr. David R. Macdonald  
Assistant Secretary of Treasury for  
Enforcement, Tariff and Trade Affairs,  
and Operations

Mr. Kevin T. Maroney  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General  
Department of Justice

Mr. Herbert K. Reis  
Legal Advisor  
United States Mission to the United Nations

Mr. Geoff C. Shepard  
Associate Director of the Domestic Council

Mr. W. Raymond Wannall  
Assistant Director Intelligence Division  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

  
Central Intelligence Agency

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