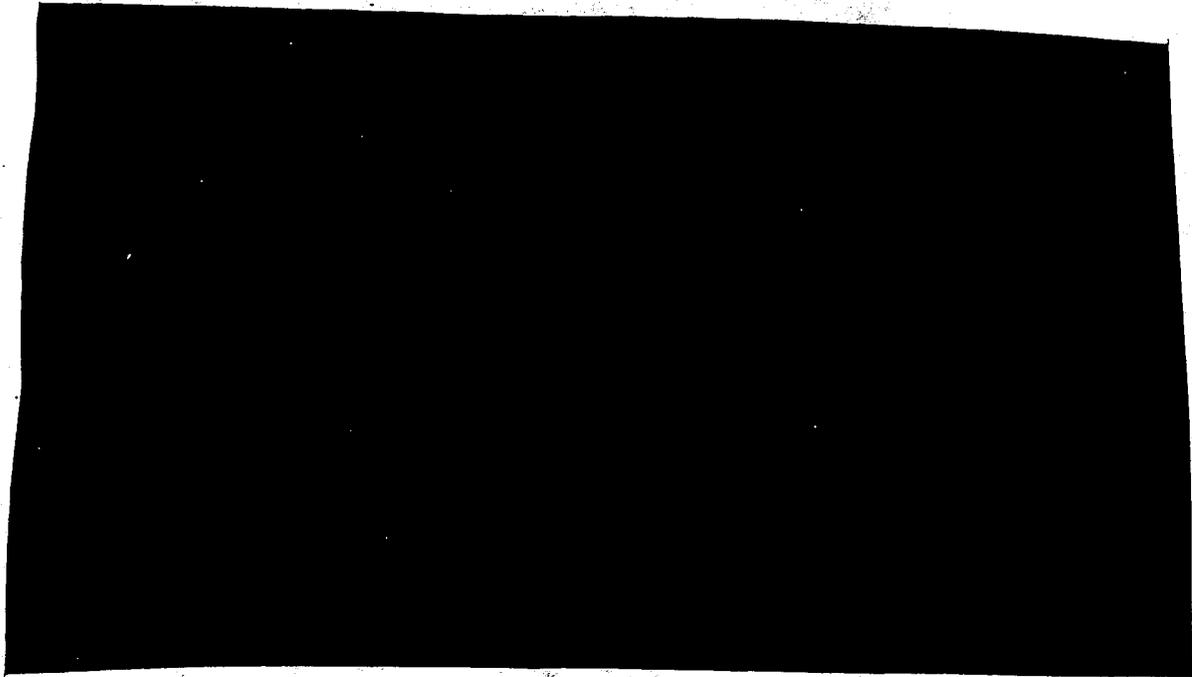


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KOS

Middle East Situation Report #17
(As of 1100 EST, 18 January 1984)

LEBANON/SYRIA



b1
b3

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-- The Syrians are less likely perpetrators than any of the several Iranian-backed radical Shia groups. ██████████

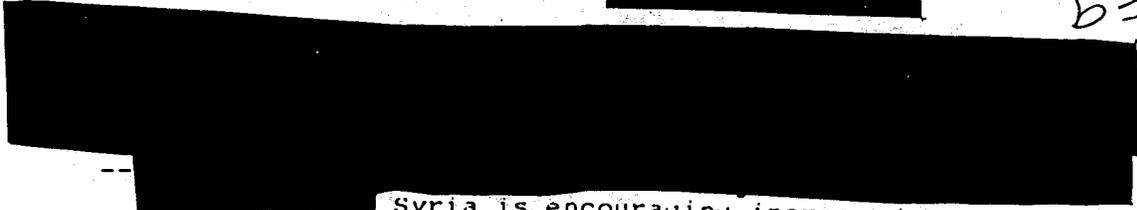
b3

Iranian officials, who vehemently oppose the Lebanese security plan, may have ordered the attack against President Kerr in the hope of further destabilizing the political situation in Beirut and blocking implementation of the plan. ██████████

b3

Kerr was the replacement for acting President David Dodge, who was kidnapped in July 1982 and held for a time in Iran before being released, reportedly at the request of Rifaat al-Assad, brother of the Syrian president. ██████████

b3



b1
b3

Syria is encouraging increased terrorist activity by groups under its direction against targets in Jordan. During October and November, the Syrian-supported Black June Organization attacked Jordanian targets in Amman and elsewhere.

b3



b3



b3



