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Deny Cover Sheet in toto citing FOIA exemptions (b)(3).

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National Intelligence Council

24 December 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Alton G. Keel  
Acting Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs

FROM: Charles E. Allen  
National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism  
Director, DCI-Hostage Location Task Force

SUBJECT: DCI-Hostage Location Task Force Report

Attached is my report for the period 21-24 December 1986 on the status of US hostages in Lebanon. Key points in this report are:

-- The Revolutionary Justice Organization has released Aurel Cornea, one of the four Antenne-2 television technicians taken hostage by the Lebanese extremist group on 8 March 1986 in West Beirut. Two of the four crewmembers had previously been freed. With Cornea's release, Jean-Louis Normandin will be the only Antenne-2 employee still in captivity. In addition to Normandin, three other French hostages are still held hostage in Lebanon--two diplomats and a journalist. L

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-- We obtained no significant information on the location or the condition of US hostages this week. L

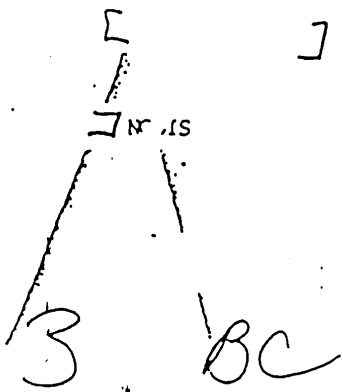
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The Department has requested Ambassador Rodgers address his request to the highest levels of the French Government.

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-- Terry Waite, who was planning to visit Beirut this Christmas in his continuing effort to obtain the release of the American hostages, will not go due to the security situation there.

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Charles E. Allen

Attachment:  
Report As Stated

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SUBJECT: DCI Hostage Location Task Force Report

DCI/NIO/CT/Callen: [ ] (24 December 1986) b-3

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Director of Central Intelligence  
**HOSTAGE LOCATION  
TASK FORCE  
REPORT**

SPECIAL ACCESS REQUIRED

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<sup>*15*</sup>  
are denied in toto citing FOIA exemptions (b)(1)(b)(3).



[ ] In July 1986, he told the US Ambassador in Riyadh that Hizballah spiritual leader Muhamed Fadlallah had indicated the hostage captors might have dropped their demands for release of the 17 Da'wa prisoners. even implied he would pay a ransom for them, if money were what the captors demanded. (TSU) ] b-3

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FRENCH HOSTAGES

The French Government has successfully secured the release of another French hostage. The Lebanese extremist "Revolutionary Justice Organization" released French hostage Aurel Cornea today in Moslem West Beirut after more than nine months days of captivity. L

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Background on Release

The Revolutionary Justice Organization announced on 23 December that it would release a French hostage before Christmas. In making this announcement, it issued a statement to a Western news agency in West Beirut along with color photographs of two French Antenne 2 television technicians, Aurel Cornea and Jean Louis Normandin. The Revolutionary Justice Organization had earlier taken credit for the kidnaping of four Antenne 2 television technicians in March of 1986, two of whom were released on 21 June. The Organization also took responsibility for the release of French hostages Camille Sontag and Marcel Coudari on 11 November 1986. In addition, it has claimed responsibility for kidnaping US citizens Joseph Cicippio and Edward Tracy. ] b-3

The release of Cornea follows intense efforts over the last several weeks by the Chirac Government to secure the release of additional hostages. L

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The Revolutionary Justice Organization in its statement had demanded that France stop its assistance to Iraq saying the hostage issue had provided the opportunity for dialogue and now it was up to France to take advantage of "the situation." The statement--which credited Syrian, Algerian, and Iranian assistance in arranging the hostage release--added, the action would be in honor of "Holy Christmas."

Cornea is the fifth French hostage to be released in 1986.

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BRITISH HOSTAGES

UK Appeals For Release of Two Britons

British Charge d'Affaires in Beirut has called for the immediate release of two Britons missing, believed kidnaped, in Lebanon.

In a Christmas Eve appeal, in the independent An-Nahar and leftist As-Safir dailies, the Charge called on the kidnapers to free Britons John McCarthy and Alec Collett. McCarthy, 30, who works for Worldwide Television News, was kidnaped on 14 April 1986, two days after a US air raid on Libya. His abduction was claimed by a group called Revolutionary Commando Cells who claimed that they had executed McCarthy, [

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] Collett, 64, who was on a journalistic assignment for the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), was seized on March 25, 1985. The Revolutionary Organization of Socialist Moslems, a cover name for the Abu Nidal Organization, announced that Collett had been executed last April after the US bombing raid on Libya, [

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Lebanon: Turbulence in Christendom

The longstanding strains between President Gemayel and Lebanese Christian militia leader JaJa are reemerging and may lead to more violence among Christians, an eventuality which could have serious repercussions on the US Embassy personnel stationed at the Annex in East Beirut. According to the US Embassy, Gemayel is proceeding with plans to meet with Syrian President Asad despite strong opposition from JaJa. JaJa is rapidly losing control of his militia and that Gemayel's nephew, a longtime foe of JaJa, is allying himself with disgruntled militia elements against JaJa. Meanwhile, renegade pro-Syrian Christian militia leader Elie Hubyqqa is preparing a second attack on the Christian enclave in an effort to oust JaJa.

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Gemayel probably is attempting to use Damascus' declining fortunes in Beirut and South Lebanon to enhance his political stature in the Christian community. Loyal elements of JaJa's militia control areas

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Deny page <sup>8</sup>~~9~~ in toto citing FOIA exemptions (b)(1)(3).

~~ANNEX 1~~ ANNEX 2,

Page (s) <sup>1</sup> are denied in toto citing FOIA exemptions (b)(1)(b)(3).

Text of the First Revolutionary Justice Organization

In the Name of the Dear Almighty,

After we have sensed some serious steps by the French Government in the person of Jacques Chirac, towards correcting what has been thwarted by his predecessors, after we have been assured that the French Government intends to reconsider its previous mistakes, politically, economically and militarily; following various mediations by parties we respect and appreciate like the Islamic Republic and some allies in the front of resistance and confrontation such as Syria, Algeria and who have a role in this use. And as a result of some occurring changes on the attitude of the French, we announce the following:

- 1. The issue of the French and American hostages is not a basic axis of our policy, plans and activities. It is actually a means of subjection and taming of some governments and drawing their attention that we are still advising and alerting and call for comprehension and understanding. Their detention is one of the aspects of the dark future of the definite struggle, should the criminal twisted policies continue to be practiced on the suppressed peoples. We are not in a hurry to end this issue. It is the crisis of others gasp behind us and beg for the release of some whom we host. They are in an area burning with crises and tragedies because of some governments.
- 2. We appeal to all mediators to end the hostages crisis to understand the following and pay attention to it:
  - You are as progressive revolutions and vanguard movements for the liberation of peoples from imperialists. You are facing a difficult choice before the wounded people of Iraq, who is bleeding and on one is healing its wounds or easing its pain. YOU are before more than six million displaced persons and hundreds of thousands of martyrs as well as thousands of arrested persons. They ask and demand you. France is supporting Iraq and supporting Saddam with the most recent long-range planes and weapons annihilating a people which has suffered unprecedented calamities. What have you offered? What we have asked from everybody is to make France understand that we want to stop the support to Saddam. We put this question before you and possibly before the French.
- 3. What is needed from France is to abandon the American policy sphere. We are still in the phase of "moving the stick." We

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have not started with bloodshed and we hope we won't. A serious study of foreign policy is the way to escape difficult dilemmas from which France is suffering in the Middle East.

- 4. The issue of the hostages and their release is not the end. For us it is to move from the phase of struggle and peaceful negotiations to a relentless war, in which there would be no room for negotiations. The language of blood is what will prevail and we are anxiously waiting to end the hostages issue. We will teach the oppressors and tyrants, lessons with hot blood which no one would stop. From this point, we draw the attention to the fact that the hostages issue is a safety valve in the hands of the French and others, even in our hands. It is a chance for dialogue and discussions, after which there will be no other chances. This opportunity has to be seized to end this issue safely. We are willing to release the remaining hostages quickly in order to move either to peace or to war.
- 5. The French have started serious steps for a solution and we urge them for further progress. Do not fear America or Israel or others. (We urge) the French not to be ashamed of revoking mistakes for this is a virtue we honor and which we shall mark for the present government.

Finally, on the occasion of the Holy Christmas and to honor the occasion, and, according to the above, we announce that we will be releasing one of the French hostages soon, as a new initiative. We hope that the French will do what would encourage the release of the remaining. Otherwise the coming days will define what will happen.

Victory to the Oppressed Glory and Eternity to Martyrs  
The Organization of Revolutionary Justice.

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Text of Second Revolution Justice Organization Message

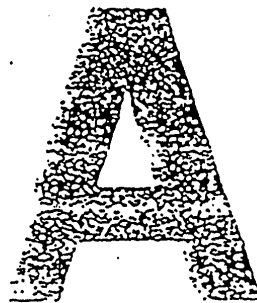
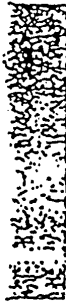
In the Name of the Dear Almighty

In accordance with the communique of this morning, one of the French hostages will be released during the next 48 hours. Thus, we ask France, again, to meet the obligations she knows well by answering our demands. We also ask Mr. (Jacques) Chirac to dispatch an envoy to Beirut. We also urge President Hafez el-Assad and the Islamic Republic to send envoys as well.

Victory to the Oppressed

Glory and Honor to the Martyrs

The Organization of Revolutionary Justice.



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