SECRET NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/ORCON

ARTICLES

Assassins of U.S. Ambassador and Economic Counselor Identified

Ambassador Meloy, counselor Waring, and the driver Mughrabi were kidnapped and murdered by three members of the Socialist Labor Party, the Lebanese affiliate of George Habbash's wing of the PFLP, according to a reliable source. The three, all Lebanese citizens, were arrested by the PLO soon after the assassination.

The three stated that they had received orders from the PFLP leadership to carry out the operation, including the murders. They said that they did not know the motivation for the operation. They also said that Meloy and his companions were taken to the Ramlet Al Bayda area of Beirut after their capture and were killed there, not far from where their bodies were found. The embassy vehicle was then abandoned in the Sabra area of Beirut. Evidence indicates that only the Socialist Labor Party and its parent organization were involved in the operation. However the PFLP denied that it ordered the three Socialist Labor Party members to carry out the operation. (SECRET/NOFORN/NOCON-TRACT/ORCON)

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