



ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

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Moderator: David Brinkley. Panel: Sam Donaldson and George Will.
Subject: Hijacking.

Guests: Michael Ledeen, Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University; Admiral Stansfield Turner, former CIA director.

Brinkley: What do you think the Israelis should do?

Ledeen: Israel is now caught in a trap of their own devising when they released 1,000 terrorists in exchange for three Israeli prisoners of war a few weeks ago. They encouraged the Shiites to go ahead and do something like this, because if they can get 1,000 our for three why can't they get the remainder out for a bunch of Americans.

Turner: I think the Israelis should hold firm for a time. It's too early to cave in because of the precedent it would set. I think before the hostage crisis is over they will cave in and give the 700 up very likely, but let's hope we can do something else in the meantime, but I don't think the chances are good that will happen.

Will: How should we respond?

Turner: I think we should begin a crusade against terrorism. That would mean intensifying collaborative intelligence efforts all around the world. It would mean creating an international agency to inspect airports and declare them off limits and getting every free country to deny its airlines the right to fly to those airports -- like Athens -- if they don't have good security.

Ledeen: A lot of what is happening is because of years -- successive Administrations by now -- failing to respond to people who attack Americans, all of western civilization....We've got to respond to them, we have to attack them, and we have to bring pressure to bear on these governments.

Donaldson: Is it practical to think that thing can be stormed and with a minimum loss of life, people freed?

Turner: It became a less likely possibility when they put the 10 or 12 hijackers on board in Beirut....It still can be stormed. The cost is going to go up because of the increased alertness they can have.

Donaldson: Secretary Shultz, Mr. McFarlane, the National Security Adviser, have made it plain recently that we warned Iran that if this type of thing happened we were going to hold Iran responsible, if it was an organization linked to Iran, and we would retaliate against Iran. Now, they've shot one American, we don't know his identity. Is that enough, in your view, to trigger that kind of retaliation?

Turner: I think it is, if we can really identify this through intelligence sources with the government of Iran....If we can, I'd be in favor tomorrow of mining all the harbors of Iran....If we can, I'd be in favor of a military act, until they break the blockade.