

46 (b)(3) Top Secret -- Approved for Release: 2019/01/17 C05977317 FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

25 February 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

As evidence mounts that Arab terrorists are responsible for sabotaging two Israel-bound airliners, the Israeli Government may add direct retaliation to its diplomatic representations. (*Page 1*)

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ARAB STATES - ISRAEL

In regard to the crash of the Swiss airliner on the same day, spokesmen for the several associations of fedayeen groups have been categorical in denying over-all fedayeen responsibility. They have, however, dodged the point of a specific retraction by the PFLP General Command, the terrorist group that initially claimed credit for the bombing. The US Embassy in Amman doubts whether the group ever explicitly disowned the claim.

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Thus far, the Israeli Government has bent all its efforts toward engendering international action against an international threat, drawing on the worldwide revulsion against the two incidents. Should diplomatic efforts be unavailing, however, the Israeli instinct for retaliation could take the form of a counterblockade against civil airports in the Arab states.

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5

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