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**Collection:** Sims, Robert B.: Files, 1983-1985  
(Press Secretary, Office of the)

**SERIES:** IV: SUBJECT FILE

**Folder Title:** TWA Hijacking/Hostages, June 1985  
(5 of 9)

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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** Sims, Robert: Files

**Withdrawer**

RBW 3/3/2011

**File Folder** TWA HIJACKING/HOSTAGES (5 OF 9)

**FOIA**

F97-046/4

**Box Number** CF0467

WILLS

47

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
106229	TALKING PTS.	RE. TWA #847	1	6/27/1985	B1 B3
106230	PAPER	RE. COVERAGE OF HIJACKING	7	ND	B1
106231	STATEMENT	DRAFT ON RELEASE OF HOSTAGES	2	ND	B1
106232	GUIDANCE	RE. PRESS AND RELEASE	2	ND	B1
106233	NOTES	RE. TWA #847	1	ND	B1
106234	CABLE	DAMASCUS 04002	2	6/27/1985	B1
106235	REPORT	RE. HIJACKING	1	6/27/1985	B1
106236	MEMO	ROBERT MCFARLANE TO RR RE. MTG. W/BEIRUT HOSTAGE FAMILIES	2	6/27/1985	B1
106237	LIST	RE. MTG. W/RR	2	ND	B6

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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106238	CABLE	TEL AVIV 09578	2	6/27/1985	B1

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and speaks  
send to Sims/at white house...

"the 6th fleet is operating on the high seas beyond 12 nautical miles from the coast of Lebanon. we intend to act in accordance with all rights and freedoms we enjoy under customary international law."

--

~~SECRET~~

Bob Sims

5136

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

June 26, 1985

~~SECRET~~

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: OLIVER L. NORTH  
HOWARD R. TEICHER

SUBJECT: Talking Points for Senate Update on Hijacking  
of TWA #847

Tomorrow at 2:15 p.m. you are scheduled to update Senate members (Room S-407) on the current situation with regards to the hijacking. Talking points for your use are attached at Tab I.

On June 19, you provided a similar brief for approximately 70 members.

The current State Department update is attached at Tab II.

Ron Sable concurs.

RECOMMENDATION

That you use the talking points at Tab I during your briefing.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Don Fortier  
Bill Martin  
Rod McDaniel  
Jock Covey  
Bob Sims

~~SECRET~~

Declassify: OADR

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED  
Sec.3.4(b), E.O. 12958, as amended  
White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2006  
BY NARA RW, DATE 3/3/11

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S/S 8518933 /  
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

5136


June 26, 1985

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT C. MCFARLANE  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Update of Official Reaction to the Hijacking

Attached is an update of official and press overseas reaction to the hijacking of the TWA. The information is current as of 12:00 Noon today.

  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

As stated.

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DECL: OADR

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Dept. of State Guidelines, July 21, 1997  
BY RW NARA, DATE 3/3/11

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## Bush urges cooperation to deter terrorist acts

By William Beecher  
Globe Staff

BONN — International terrorism and strategic defense research dominated Vice President George Bush's consultations yesterday here with both government and opposition leaders.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl departed from a luncheon program that called only for perfunctory greetings to address the TWA hostage crisis and other recent terrorist acts.

"This challenge will not bring the modern states down to their knees, but will find them able ... to take the necessary action with a sense of proportion and with prudence," Kohl declared.

"Please tell the president ... the Germans are prepared to lend you a helping hand."

In his remarks, Bush pointed out that both Israel and the hijackers of the TWA flight had violated international law: Israel when it took several hundred Shiites across the border as its troops withdrew from Lebanon, and the hijackers when they took TWA passengers as hostages. But, he quickly added, "we are not in the business of" linking the release of the Shiites for freeing the passengers.

Sources said that if President Reagan decides to exercise some harsh measures in the hostage crisis, the vice president would be expected to brief foreign leaders in his remaining stops in the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Switzerland and Great Britain and seek their support and cooperation.

Diplomats here provided an example of the kind of thing that might be helpful in apprehending and punishing known terrorists.

They noted that the United States knows the names of the two Lebanese Shiites involved in

the hijacking and that after the hostages have been released, there will be tremendous American interest in bringing them to justice.

If Interpol, the International Police Organization, worked out means to quickly identify the men whenever they travel outside Lebanon and if states like West Germany adjust their laws and procedures, the men might be apprehended and speedily extradited to the United States for trial on hijacking and murder, the diplomats said.

Bush said the antiterrorism task force charter given him by Reagan just before he started on his seven nation, 10-day European tour was to better coordinate all elements within the federal government, to actively solicit the counsel of experts and to seek greater cooperative efforts with friendly governments.

One thing that can be done, Bush told reporters at a news conference here, is to significantly tighten airport security. Another would be to exchange intelligence more effectively with friendly states. A third would be to try to work out common plans to preempt terrorist plots.

Bush also talked about US strategic defense research.

The Germans are expected later this week at a European summit meeting in Milan, Italy, to announce plans to put significant funds into a French-sponsored plan called Eureka to press advanced research into such fields as high powered computers, lasers, robotics and artificial intelligence systems.

Bush said he does not consider Eureka as competitive with Star Wars research and said he hopes European countries and companies will participate in both projects.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Bob Sims

SYSTEM II

90727

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

June 27, 1985

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: OLIVER L. NORTH  
DONALD R. FORTIER  
HOWARD R. TEICHER  
JAMES P. COVEY

HRT

SUBJECT: Public Affairs Materials on Release of American Hostages

Attached at Tab I, per your request, is a draft Presidential statement for use upon release of the American hostages. At Tab II is a proposed addition to the terrorism insert for the President's Chicago speech. Q&A's are attached at Tab III. These include our modifications, and we have directed the State task force to dispatch the Q&A's per your instructions (0200).

RECOMMENDATION

That you approve the public affairs material contained in this package.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments

Tab I - Presidential Statement  
Tab II - Proposed Presidential Speech Insert  
Tab III - Contingency Press Guidance (Q&A's)

cc: Bob Sims  
Bill Martin  
Rod McDaniel

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify: OADR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Sec.34(b), E.O. 12958, as amended  
White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2006  
BY NARA RW, DATE 3/3/11

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106231	STATEMENT  DRAFT ON RELEASE OF HOSTAGES	2	ND	B1

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ADDENDUM TO INSERT FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH IN CHICAGO

(This Passage Should Immediately Precede the Terrorism Insert)

I was gratified to learn of the release of thirty-nine Americans who have been held hostage by terrorists in Lebanon. Americans everywhere can share in the relief of the freed hostages and their families. We can be satisfied, too, that our firmness paid off. It is also a day, however, on which Americans must renew their resolve to fight terrorism and to obtain the release of the seven Americans kidnapped in Lebanon over the past year and half who, along with nationals of other countries, continue to languish in captivity. Their captivity is intolerable. It cannot continue. Efforts to secure their freedom will not cease.

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106232	GUIDANCE  RE. PRESS AND RELEASE	2	ND	B1

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106233	NOTES  RE. TWA #847	1	ND	B1

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106235	REPORT  RE. HIJACKING	1	6/27/1985	B1

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## GUIDANCE ON ILLINOIS HOSTAGES

June 27, 1985

The President is traveling to Congressman George O'Brien's district. Since the hijacking occurred, Congressman O'Brien has taken to the House floor during "one minutes" every day to remind his colleagues that there are "not only 40 hostages (39 now), there are 47." Father Lawrence Martin Jenco is one of the 7 taken hostage prior to the hijacking of TWA 847.

In addition, President Reagan visited St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, in Geneva, Illinois, on April 15, immediately following his plans for tuition tax credits at McCormick Place in Chicago. He was greeted by 5,000 people at St. Peter's. The pastor of St. Peter's, Father McLoughlin, is one of the hostages.

Three Roman Catholic parishes heavily involved in this situation because many of their parishoners were on a trip to the Holy Land. They are keeping a vigil by lighting new candles for every hour the hostages have been held.

The communities have adopted a theme of yellow ribbons. They are everywhere--on lightposts, trees, people's lapels.

Following is a list, by Congressional District, of the people being held by the terrorists:

### REPRESENTATIVE JOHN GROTBURG

--Father James W. McLoughlin, 45, pastor of St. Peter's, Geneva. Has been on TV. Author of the letter from the hostages to President Reagan. Grew up in Deerfield, Illinois. His mother, Loretta, 73, was also on the plane but was one of the first released.

--Father Tom Dempsey, 49, pastor of St. Patrick's in St. Charles. Has been pastor there 7 years, a priest for 24 years. Athletic and outgoing.

--Simon Grossmayer, 57, of Algonquin. Was on board with his wife, Elaine. She has been released. Manager of the General Store in Barrington. Eucharistic minister in the church, visits the sick and elderly. A member of St. Margaret Mary parish.

--Peter Hill, tour agent who has been taking tour groups to the Holy Land for 15 years. Protestant. Midwest manager of Good News Travel Agency. Camera buff. Son, Paul, 32; Daughter, Roxanne, 28; Daughter, Dr. Nina Hill, 35, a speech therapist in New York City.

### REPRESENTATIVE PHIL CRANE

--Grant Elliott, 27, of Algonquin. Grew up in Marengo. Works for Precision Twist Drill Company. A convert to the church, a member of St. Margaret Mary's and an active member of the Knights of Columbus.

REPRESENTATIVE PHIL CRANE (cont'd)

--George Lazansky, 53, of Algonquin. President of Algonquin State Bank. Wife, Joanne, is a nurse, was on the plane and was released in Beirut. Together, they volunteer in the Lake in the Hills ambulance service. He has lived in St. Margaret Mary's parish for 47 years; they have been married for 27. Three children--Thomas, 26; Peter, 25; and Michael, 24.

--Ken Anderson, 62. Wife--Lorraine. Superintendent of the Elmhurst Construction Firm. Amiable, values his privacy. Daughter, Karen, of the Madison, Wisconsin.

--William Darris, of Arlington Heights. Works for Weber Marketing Systems. Distributes labels, marketing materials.

Vice President for International Affairs. Has 3 adult sons. Easygoing, reputation for looking out for the other guy.

REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE O'BRIEN

--Raymond R. Johnson, 62, of Aurora. Retired truck driver. Wife, Margaret, released in Algiers. She is still in Paris. Saved his pennies to fulfill his goal of visiting the Holy Land. Very active in church. Son getting married July 6.

--Father Lawrence Martin Jenco, 50, Director of Catholic Relief Services in Beirut. Was one of the original 7 taken prior to the latest hostage situation. Has a very large extended family and they have been active about visiting Capitol Hill; they have seen officials in the State Department, Members of Congress, Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Lugar, even Jesse Jackson.

The President will meet with his relatives, Joe Jenco and Andy Mihelich.

REPRESENTATIVE LYNN MARTIN

--Kurt Carlson, of Rockford, President of Carlton Roofing Systems (a family firm in Love Park). Active in the Rockford Boy's Club; sponsors several Little League baseball teams. Oldest of 6 children. Has wife and 17-month-old daughter in Rockford. His name did not appear on the letter sent to the President.

Q: What's our reaction to the proposal of four House committee chairmen to negotiate an international treaty on terrorism?

A: We would, of course, like an opportunity to study the proposal in detail before offering a definitive response to it. I would note that there are already a number of treaties in existence, in the areas of aircraft hijacking, aircraft sabotage, attacks on diplomats, and hostage taking, under which parties agree that offenders will be extradited or their cases submitted for prosecution. In addition, the US has over 100 bilateral extradition treaties with foreign nations, and we have been for some time now engaged in an effort to update and strengthen these treaties to make them more effective instruments against all forms of crime, including terrorism.

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B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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TWA HIJACKING/HOSTAGES (5 OF 9)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 27, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: BUD McFARLANE  
FROM:   
BOB SIMS  
SUBJECT: Meeting with Departmental Spokesmen

Larry Speakes will meet at 3:30 P.M. today in the Roosevelt Room with spokesmen from the White House Press Office Staff, State, Defense, Transportation and FAA to make the points outlined in the attached talking points, with which Oliver North concurs.

Would appreciate your review of the talking points.

Larry would also like you or John to drop by, if you think it worthwhile, to reinforce his message and to make whatever policy points you care to make. Could you join around 3:45?

Attachment

### TALKING POINTS

1. All of you are in a position to be asked about the hijack situation in your role as press contact for your Department.
2. Purpose of this meeting is to ensure that we work as a coordinated team throughout the duration of this situation.
3. First, I want to make two points:

(1) The President is personally determined to achieve the safe return of the 39 TWA passengers and crew and the seven other Americans who have been abducted in Lebanon during the past year.

(2) He will not compromise with international terrorism and is determined to do his best to put a stop to it; not just to resolve this current situation.



4. Our policy yesterday and today has been to say "the proper solution is the prompt release of all the hostages" and to decline comment beyond that. Secretary Shultz' speech last night referring to the 46 Americans who are held in Lebanon and my briefings today are as far as we want to go.
5. This policy continues and applies to each of you, even on what may be your specific issues. I cannot over-emphasize the importance of your cooperation on this -- it is vital, and we want no slip-ups.
6. This applies not only to your statements on the record, but also to background discussions. If you have friends in the media and you just have to take the call for your long-term professional relationship, then take the call and say "I can't help you on that." and don't! Not even if they ask you whether to be in town this weekend -- you can't help them, one way or the other. They are hungry, and things will get worse as the journalists begin to panic from lack of hard news or even comment.

7. Furthermore, we want you to be in close touch with your White House point of contact, or Bob Sims or me, whenever you have a news situation that deals with this. Also be in touch with State and with each other, as necessary. If we have developments that may involve you, we'll try to include you in our daily State/Defense/CIA/NSC Conference Call at 11 AM, or set up special conference calls as necessary.
8. Also, don't move out on things your Department policymakers want you to do without coordination. In some cases, they may want to move more rapidly than the White House wants to move. We must control freelancing -- for example, we had a State Department press guidance today about the possibility of stopping a flight of a certain airline into the U.S. No decision has been made on that, and we just don't want to talk about it until that is approved. Also, we had a question today in our briefing about making international terrorists subject to special legal action, something which -- if decided on as an initiative -- should be announced properly at the proper level of government, not leaked.


9. In short, right now, we need to talk to our policy makers and to each other, but not to the press. This calls for the highest level of professionalism, and we expect that of each of you.
10. Our plans here are to stay in close touch with Bud McFarlane for policy guidance. We know we will have public attention to the President's trip to Chicago tomorrow. He will have a private meeting there with at least 11 hostage families, including the family of Father Jenco, who is one of the seven who've been missing for a longer period of time than the TWA hostages. We would also expect him to have an insert to his speech on tax reform to focus on the overall problem of international terrorism. We also know that the Vice President, ending his trip to Europe, will be on "Face the Nation" this Sunday from Paris. We don't plan to have any other Administration officials on TV during this period.
11. Thank you for coming over -- I've asked a few of you to stay behind and join me in my office to discuss another subject, but now I'd be glad to deal with any questions you may have.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 28, 1985

MEETING WITH THE FULL CABINET

DATE: July 1, 1985  
LOCATION: Cabinet Room  
TIME: 2:00 P.M. (60 Minutes)  
FROM: ALFRED H. KINGON 

I. PURPOSE

To brief the Cabinet on the hostage situation.

II. BACKGROUND

This meeting has been scheduled to provide a briefing for the Cabinet on the hostage crisis that began on June 14 and the effects of terrorism on airport and airplane safety. Bud McFarlane will give an overview of the hostage/-terrorist situation. George Shultz will discuss diplomatic efforts for the release of the remaining hostages and Elizabeth Dole will brief the Cabinet on airport and airplane safety. Finally, following up on your Saturday radio address, Bud will lead a discussion on possible ways to limit espionage.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Members of the Cabinet and Senior White House Staff.

IV. PRESS PLAN

None

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

You will open the meeting and call on Bud McFarlane, George Shultz and Elizabeth Dole to brief the Cabinet.

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E.O. 12356: N/A  
SUBJECT: TEXT OF VICE PRESIDENT BUSH'S STATEMENT AT

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PAGE 02 OF 03 BONN 8970

DTG: 010444Z JUL 85 PSN: 022737

FRANKFURT ARRIVAL OF FORMER AMERICAN HOSTAGES

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S  
STATEMENT AT RHEIN-MAIN AIRPORT UPON THE ARRIVAL OF THE  
39 TWA PASSENGERS RELEASED FROM CAPTIVITY IN BEIRUT.  
JUNE 30.

-

2. BEGIN TEXT:

"OUR PEOPLE ARE BACK. THEY'RE SAFE AND SOON THEY'LL  
BE HEADING HOME TO THEIR FAMILIES. THROUGH THE DAYS OF  
YOUR ORDEAL AMERICANS BUILT A SPECIAL PLACE IN THEIR  
HEARTS FOR YOU - HOPING, PRAYING EACH DAY FOR YOUR SAFE  
RETURN. YOU'RE BACK AND AMERICA DID NOT COMPROMISE HER  
PRINCIPLES TO GET YOU BACK. FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS  
JOINED TO HELP YOUR FAMILIES IN THEIR TERRIBLE ORDEAL OF  
WAITING - SHOWING THE BEST OF AMERICA. AND TODAY AS THE  
NEWS OF YOUR RELEASE FILLS THE AIR, WE JOIN YOUR  
FAMILIES IN WELCOMING YOU. AT TIMES, FATE REACHES DOWN  
AND TOUCHES A GROUP OF PEOPLE AND YET, SOMETIMES FATE  
BRINGS TRAGEDY AND SUFFERING. WHEN THE TWA FLIGHT 847  
WAS HIJACKED YOU DISPLAYED CHARACTER AND SPIRIT. YOU  
ENDURED THIS CRUEL AND PAINFUL EXPERIENCE WITH COURAGE.  
YOUR COUNTRY IS PROUD OF YOU. BUT THERE WAS TRAGEDY AS  
WELL IN THE BRUTAL MURDER OF ROBERT STETHEM. I STOOD  
WITH HIS FAMILY WHEN HE RETURNED TO HIS FINAL REST AND  
SAW THE DIGNITY AND SORROW OF HIS MOTHER AND FATHER.  
THEIR SON WAS A HERO WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE OF HIS  
COUNTRY. AND TODAY, SOMEWHERE IN LEBANON, OTHER  
AMERICANS ARE STILL PRISONER. AND EVEN IN THE JOY OF  
YOUR SAFE RETURN CIVILIZED PEOPLE EVERYWHERE CONDEMN THE  
ACTION OF THOSE WHOSE CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR CAUSES THEIR  
ORDEAL TO CONTINUE. TO THEIR FAMILIES WHO CANNOT SHARE  
IN THE JOY OF THIS MOMENT, KNOW THAT OUR HEARTS ARE WITH  
YOU AND THAT WE CONTINUE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO SEEK

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PAGE 03 OF 03 BONN 8970

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THE SAFE RETURN OF YOUR LOVED ONES. I AM VERY PROUD TO  
BE HERE. PROUD OF ALL OF YOU. PROUD TO SERVE WITH A  
PRESIDENT WHO SHOWS COURAGE, PATIENCE AND WISDOM IN  
USING THE STRENGTH AND POWER OF OUR GREAT NATION.  
WELCOME HOME. GOD BLESS AMERICA." END TEXT. ARNOLD

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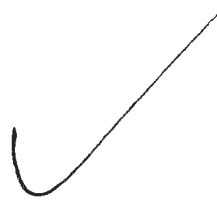
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FOR: AMBASSADOR MIKE NEWLIN

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP (BUSH, GEORGE )  
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR BENJEDID

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE  
BUSH TO PRESIDENT CHADLI BENJEDID. QUOTE:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

I HAVE JUST GREETED THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES, AS THEY LANDED  
IN WEST GERMANY. IT WAS A JOYFUL OCCASION FOR ALL  
AMERICANS, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU AND YOUR TIRELESS  
DIPLOMATS FOR THE PART THEY PLAYED IN BRINGING THIS  
EPISODE TO A HAPPY CONCLUSION. WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL  
FOR ALL THAT ALGERIA DID, AND BELIEVE THAT WHAT YOU  
DID ENCOURAGED OTHERS TO STEP FORWARD.

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UNFORTUNATELY, THE PROBLEM OF TERRORISM HAS NOT BEEN SOLVED. BUT I DRAW GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE FACT THAT WE HAVE SUCH STAUNCH FRIENDS AS YOU, WHO ARE SO HELPFUL IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS ONE.

AGAIN, MY DEEPEST THANKS TO YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT.

SINCERELY,  
GEORGE BUSH  
UNQUOTE.  
MARESCA  
BT

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DEPT FOR OPSCENTER TASK FORCE

E O 12356 NA  
TAGS PIER, PREL, CASC, EAIR, LE, US  
SUBJECT: BARRI INTERVIEW WITH NBC JUNE 27

JUNE 28 BEIRUT PRESS QUOTES THREE REMARKS MADE BY NABIH  
BARRI IN A JUNE 27 NBC INTERVIEW:

A. "THEY (THE HOSTAGES) COULD BE IN AN EMBASSY OR IN  
THE U.S. ... I THINK IN 72 HOURS IT COULD BE OVER IF THE  
AMERICANS HELP."

B. "I AM LESS PESSIMISTIC AND MORE OPTIMISTIC. THERE  
ARE POSITIVE SIGNS. BUT THINGS HAVE NOT YET BEEN  
FINALIZED."

C. "I WANT THEM (THE AMERICANS) TO REPEAT WHAT THEY  
HAVE SAID BEFORE. TO CONDEMN ISRAEL." THIS REPORTEDLY  
WAS IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION WHETHER HE WANTED THE U.S.  
TO PUT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF THE  
ATLIT PRISONERS.

BARTHOLOMEW  
BT

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