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**Collection:** North, Oliver: Files  
**Folder Title:** Terrorist Attacks - Rome/Vienna  
12/27/1985 (3)  
**Box:** 48

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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

**Withdrawer**

DLB 9/20/2007

**File Folder** TERRORIST ATTACKS-- ROME/VIENNA 12/27/1985 (3 OF 4)

**FOIA**

F95-023-4

**Box Number** 48

WILLS, DAVID

5

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
43061	CABLE	#301034Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B6
43060	REPORT	SITUATION ROOM NOTE, RE: REACTIONS TO ROME, VIENNA AIRPORT ATTACKS <i>R 7/31/2019 M1443/1</i>	1	12/30/1985	B1
43062	CABLE	#301113Z DEC 85 <i>R 7/31/2019 M1443/1</i>	2	12/30/1985	B1
43063	CABLE	#301155Z DEC 85 <i>R 7/31/2019 M1443/1</i>	2	12/30/1985	B1
43064	REPORT	SITUATION ROOM NOTE, RE: RESPONSIBILITY FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS IN ROME AND VIENNA	1	12/30/1985	B1
43065	CABLE	#301307Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1
43066	CABLE	#301511Z DEC 85	1	12/30/1985	B1
43067	CABLE	#301548Z DEC 85 <i>R 7/31/2019 M1443/1</i>	3	12/30/1985	B1
43068	CABLE	#301635Z DEC 85 <i>R 7/31/2019 M1443/1</i>	1	12/30/1985	B1

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

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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43069	CABLE	#301644Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1
43070	CABLE	#301729Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1
43071	CABLE	#301751Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1
43072	CABLE	#301755Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1
43073	CABLE	#301806Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1
43074	CABLE	#302123Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1
43075	CABLE	DUPLICATE OF #43074	2	12/30/1985	B1
43076	CABLE	#302309Z DEC 85	3	12/30/1985	B1

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**WASHFAX RECEIPT**  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**B**

S/S #

1232

*C*

003941

MESSAGE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CLASSIFICATION UNCC No. Pages 1  
FROM: J Collins S/S 648 8448 7221  
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Extension) (Room number)  
MESSAGE DESCRIPTION Press Guidance

TO: (Agency) NSC DELIVER TO: SIT Room Extension \_\_\_\_\_ Room No. \_\_\_\_\_  
NSC BOB PEARSON \_\_\_\_\_

FOR CI

REMARKS:

Receipt

CALIE

WHSR HANDLING SLIP		TIME STAMP
Poindexter	<u>C</u>	SENT TO LA
Fortier	<u>C</u>	
Thompson		
Martin	<u>C</u>	
Pearson	<u>C</u>	
Bohn	<u>C</u>	
<u>North</u>	<u>C</u>	
<u>Regan</u>	<u>C</u>	
<u>VP</u>	<u>C</u>	- Sent to <u>RAUM Springs</u>
<u>STARK</u>	<u>C</u>	- Sent to <u>Beeville</u> TX
NSC/S		LDX/TTY APPROVAL : _____
REMARKS : <u>Teicher</u> <u>C</u> <u>Djerjian</u> <u>C</u> <u>McDaniel</u> <u>C</u> <u>Small</u> <u>C</u>		
C: Copy O: Original F: FYI S: Should See C/H Copy Hand Delivered C/T: Contacted via Phone		

QUEST ☒ COMMENT ☐

PEARSON ON

transmission TO

*[Handwritten signature]*

12/29/85

Q. On one hand you are calling for restraint in response to the terrorist acts in Rome and Vienna, on the other hand you reserve the right for states to respond to terrorism. How do you explain this contradiction?

A. There is not a contradiction. We have always been firmly opposed to an escalating cycle of violence which contains the seeds of broader and more devastating hostilities. In that context, we have urged and will continue to urge all states to avoid taking actions which only feed that cycle.

At the same time, it has been and remains our firm policy that terrorism cannot go unanswered. We have always retained the right to respond to terrorist acts in an appropriate, measured and focussed way.

In one case we want to avoid a widening of conflict and hostilities and the dangers that poses. In the other, terrorists should know that we have the option of responding in a direct and ~~discrete~~ <sup>precise</sup> manner to their barbaric acts.

Wang 02256e



43060  
1

~~SECRET~~  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SITUATION ROOM NOTE

December 30, 1985

SECRET

Reactions to Rome, Vienna Airport Attacks

While circumstantial evidence indicates the Abu Nidal terrorist organization was behind Friday's attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports, the surviving Rome terrorist had evidence implicating a group called the Martyrs of Palestine organized the operation in retaliation for Israel's raid on PLO facilities in Tunisia.

- o The two attacks occurred almost simultaneously, indicating they were the product of thorough planning and focused leadership.
- o The PLO has denied responsibility for the operations, and it claims it is seeking the perpetrators to put them on trial.

A number of countries have condemned the attacks, including Egypt, Jordan, and Tunisia.

- o Moscow referred to the terrorists as "bandits."
- o Libya's Major Jallud, second to Qadhafi, was apparently "surprised and displeased" when he learned of the Rome airport attack.

Israeli officials, while holding the Italian and Austrian governments responsible for these incidents, have vowed to seek out and punish the terrorists responsible.

- o Egypt's Defense Minister has asked us to remind Tel Aviv that Egypt and Sudan are pledged to mutual defense in case Israel is contemplating a strike at the PLO in Sudan.
- o Saudi media charge that Israel engineered the airport attacks to provide justification for striking at the PLO.

Meanwhile, our embassies in Austria, Iraq, North Yemen, and Saudi Arabia have presented or will present demarches on these incidents. We are working with the Saudis to prepare UN Security Council statement condemning these acts. (S)

Khartoum 8277; Cairo 2439; Vienna 8168; Baghdad 4475; Sanaa 8330; Riyadh 1720; various press sources

~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED BY MULTIPLE SOURCES  
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M1443 #43060

BY AW NARA DATE 7/30/9

~~SECRET~~

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DLB 9/20/2007

*File Folder*

TERRORIST ATTACKS-- ROME/VIENNA 12/27/1985 (3 OF 4)

*FOIA*

F95-023-4

WILLS, DAVID

*Box Number*

48

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<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i>	<i>No of</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i>
	<i>Document Description</i>	<i>pages</i>		<i>tions</i>

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43061 CABLE

2 12/30/1985 B6

#301034Z DEC 85

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~~SECRET~~

# WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01 OF 02 TUNIS 1902  
SIT167

DTG: 301113Z DEC 85 PSN: 015793  
TOR: 364/1226Z

DISTRIBUTION: NORT PUBS SIT /004

43062

OP IMMED  
UTS8116  
DE RUEHTU #1902 3641114  
O 301113Z DEC 85  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2873

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 8442  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN 2085  
AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0582  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO 4002  
AMEMBASSY ROME 2982  
AMEMBASSY SANAA 0697  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 1722  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1655  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0343

~~SECRET~~ TUNIS 11902

EXDIS

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PREL, PTER, IS, US  
SUBJECT: TERRORIST ATTACKS IN ROME AND VIENNA

REF: STATE 392921

1. (S) CHARGE TELEPHONED MFA SECRETARY OF STATE MAHMOUD MESTIRI DECEMBER 28 TO URGE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT CONDEMNATION OF TERRORIST ATTACKS IN ROME AND VIENNA, PER REFTEL. MESTIRI EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH OUR POINTS AND SAID THAT GOT WAS WORKING ON THE MATTER AT THAT VERY MOMENT. MFA WAS DRAFTING CONDOLENCE LETTERS TO ITALIANS AND AUSTRIANS WHICH WOULD EXPRESS CONDEMNATION OF THE TERRORIST ATTACKS, AND WAS CONSIDERING RELEASING TEXTS FOR PUBLICATION. CHARGE UNDERLINED THAT A FIRM, DIRECT CONDEMNATION WOULD HAVE THE GREATEST BENEFITS. MESTIRI CONCLUDED BY AFFIRMING THAT GOT WOULD DEFINITELY DO "SOMETHING," BUT INDICATED HE COULD NOT BE MORE SPECIFIC AS MATTER WAS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. AS MESTIRI DID NOT VOICE CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE ISRAELI RETALIATION, CHARGE DID NOT TAKE INITIATIVE TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION.

2. (U) LATER SAME DAY, OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY TAP ISSUED PRESS RELEASE REPORTING THAT FONMIN CAID ESSEBSI HAD SENT MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE TO HIS ITALIAN AND AUSTRIAN COUNTERPARTS, IN WHICH "HE REAFFIRMS THE TOTAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT WITH RESPECT TO SUCH ACTS, WHICH CAN IN NO WAY HELP PROGRESS OF THE CAUSE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, TO WHICH TUNISIA REMAINS ATTACHED." THIS ITEM WAS PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER 29 PRESS, BUT FULL TEXT WILL NOT BE MADE PUBLIC, ACCORDING TO MFA SOURCE. MEDIA, MEANWHILE, HAVE PLAYED UP PLO CONDEMNATION OF THE ATTACKS, TAP STATEMENT THAT FALSE TUNISIAN PASSPORTS WERE USED IN VIENNA, ALONG WITH OTHER UNIVERSALLY NEGATIVE COMMENT. (DETAILS OF LOCAL REACTION BY SEPTTEL.)

3. (S) COMMENT: WHILE GOT FIRMLY DISAPPROVES OF THESE

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR m1443 #43062  
BY LW NARA DATE 1/30/19

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~~SECRET~~

3

## WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 02 TUNIS 1902

DTG: 301113Z DEC 85 PSN: 015793

SENSELESS TERRORIST ACTS, IT UNFORTUNATELY REMAINS  
RETICENT ABOUT GETTING TOO FAR OUT FRONT PUBLICLY.  
TUNISIANS NO DOUBT WANT TO AVOID BECOMING CAUGHT UP  
BETWEEN PALESTINIANS AND ISRAELIS, AND ARE PARTICULARLY  
SENSITIVE SINCE THE OCTOBER 1 ISRAELI RAID ON TUNIS  
TO AVOID ANY STANCE WHICH MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS BEING  
SOFT ON ISRAEL AND THUS BE EXPLOITED BY DOMESTIC OPPOS-  
ITION AND ARAB EXTREMISTS AGAINST GOT. ALSO, WE NOTE  
ISRAELIS ARE BLAMING ARAFAT, WHO AS FAR AS WE KNOW IS  
STILL IN TUNIS (AND WHO HAS PUBLICLY DENIED PLO COM-  
PLICITY), AND GOT MAY BE JITTERY ABOUT ANOTHER POSSIBLE  
ISRAELI RETALIATORY OPERATION. CHARGE SCHEDULED TO SEE  
MESTIRI AGAIN DECEMBER 31 AND WILL DISCUSS THE MATTER  
FURTHER.

ANDERSON  
BT

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

# WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 5687  
SIT165

DTG: 301155Z DEC 85 PSN: 015792  
TOR: 364/1225Z

DISTRIBUTION: NORT PUBS SIT /004

43063

OP IMMED  
STU0824  
DE RUFHAD #5687 3641156  
O 301155Z DEC 85  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2002

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE 0702  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 1933  
AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE 1636  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 1968  
AMEMBASSY SANAA IMMEDIATE 1325  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE 0538  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 3073  
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 0440  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0325  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0533  
AMEMBASSY DOHA IMMEDIATE 3729  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE 4038  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE 5057  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT IMMEDIATE 4624  
AMEMBASSY RIYADH IMMEDIATE 2466

~~SECRET~~ ABU DHABI 05687

EXDIS

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PTER, PREL  
SUBJECT: DECEMBER 29 MEETING WITH JUSTICE MINISTER:  
- ROME AND VIENNA TERRORIST ATTACKS

REF: STATE 392921

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AMBASSADOR TOOK OCCASION AT DECEMBER 29 MEETING ON UAE'S OWN, SPECIFIC ABU NIDAL PROBLEM (REPORTED SEPARATELY) TO EXPRESS TO JUSTICE MINISTER ABDALLAH MAZROUI OUR CONCERN OVER LIKELIHOOD THAT ROME AND VIENNA AIRPORT TERRORIST ATTACKS COULD NOW TRIGGER FURTHER VIOLENT MIDDLE EAST EPISODES. AMBASSADOR NOTED USG URGING RESTRAINT ON ISRAEL, BUT ALSO OBSERVED THAT PAST EXPERIENCE INDICATED ISRAELIS WOULD CHOOSE NATURE OF ANY RIPOSTE ALL BY THEMSELVES.

AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. IS NEITHER AWARE OF WHAT ISRAEL'S RESPONSE MIGHT BE, NOR IN A POSITION TO CONTROL ISRAELI EMOTIONS WHICH WERE RUNNING HIGH. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, USG WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF DEFENSE AGAINST TERRORIST ACTS. HE ALSO CITED WAVE OF UAE PRESS EDITORIALS DECEMBER 29, ALREADY ASSUMING A U.S. -INSPIRED ISRAELI COUNTER-STRIKE.

3. ALTHOUGH STRESSING THAT HE WAS "COUNSELING RATHER THAN DEMARCHING," AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED MINISTER SHARE OBSERVATIONS OF CONCERN OVER CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS WITH OTHER UAE LEADERS AND REMIND THEM OF THE VALUE OF CALMNESS IN FACE OF MOUNTING EMOTIONS ON ALL SIDES. US/UAE RELATIONS

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NLRR M1443 #43063  
BY FW NARA DATE 7/1/99

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

## WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 02 ABU DHABI 5687

DTG: 301155Z DEC 85 PSN: 015792

SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED ALWAYS TO FALL CAPTIVE TO EVENTS  
IN THE LEVANT.

4. MINISTER AGREED THAT RENEWED CYCLE OF VIOLENCE IS NOW  
LIKELY. ISRAEL WILL RETALIATE, HE SAID, AND ADDED HE  
KNEW U.S. WOULD SUPPORT ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO RETALIATE, EVEN  
THOUGH STRAINS IN U.S. RELATIONS WITH ITS MODERATE ARAB  
FRIENDS WOULD RESULT. NEVERTHELESS, MINISTER SAID, HE  
WAS MORE THAN READY TO USE HIS VOICE TO COUNSEL HIS CLOSE  
FRIEND, ABU DHABI CROWN PRINCE SHAIKH KHALIFA, AND OTHER  
UAEG LEADERS AGAINST LETTING POSSIBLE ADVERSE DEVELOP-  
MENTS PUSH EMOTIONS AHEAD OF GOOD SENSE.

5. COMMENT: MINISTER OF JUSTICE MAZROUI IS A REGULAR  
AND TRUSTED INTERLOCUTOR OF EMBASSY ON A WIDE RANGE OF  
ISSUES. HE HAS EAR OF HIGHEST LEVELS OF LEADERSHIP AND  
CAN BE COUNTED ON TO CONVEY OUR POINTS AND, WE FEEL SURE,  
TO COUNSEL CALMNESS. MAZROUI EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL  
FEELING THAT MODERATE ARABS SIMPLY MUST BEGIN TO SPEAK  
OUT MORE FORCEFULLY AGAINST TERRORISM. THIS DOES NOT, OF  
COURSE, MEAN THAT THE UAEG WILL ABANDON ITS PRACTICE OF  
LYING LOW AND MASKING ITS TRUE, CONSERVATIVE FEELINGS,  
IF STORM OF MORE STRIDENT ARAB RHETORIC IS BLOWING.  
NONETHELESS, LIKELIHOOD OF FURTHER UNPLEASANTNESS ARISING  
OUT OF ROME/VIENNA OUTRAGES COMPELS US TO EMBARK NOW ON  
SOME DAMAGE CONTROL EFFORTS. WE HOPE THESE MIGHT SERVE  
TO DILUTE AT LEAST SOME OF THE ANGER AND FRUSTRATION WE

ARE DOOMED TO FACE IF FALLOUT FROM ANY ISRAELI RETALIA-  
TION HITS TRADITIONAL LARGE, SLOW TARGET WHICH ARAB  
MODERATE CAMP UNFORTUNATELY CONSTITUTES. END COMMENT.  
LUMSDEN  
BT

~~SECRET~~



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43066 CABLE

1 12/30/1985 B1

#301511Z DEC 85

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# WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01 OF 02 ATHENS 4490  
SIT190

DTG: 301548Z DEC 85 PSN: 016080  
TOR: 364/1605Z

DISTRIBUTION: NORT PUBS SIT /004

43067

PRIORITY  
STU1544  
DE RUEHTH #4490/01 3641549  
P 301548Z DEC 85  
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6040

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN 2959  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO 5437  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 5950  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 2737  
AMEMBASSY ROME 0347  
AMEMBASSY PARIS 7263  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA 6056

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 ATHENS 24490

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PTER, PLO, GR  
SUBJECT: GREEK-PLO CONSULTATIONS ON TERRORISM

1. (~~SECRET~~ -- ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. ON DECEMBER 30, THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY (ANA) REPORTED THE RECENT VISIT OF HAYEL ABDEL HAMID, "MEMBER OF THE AL FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE," AND THREE OF HIS COLLEAGUES, TO ATHENS FOR MEETINGS WITH THE LOCAL PLO REPRESENTATIVE (MASSOUD GHANDOUR). ON THE SAME DAY, SEC GEN TSIMAS OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND PUBLIC ORDER VOLUNTEERED TO BRIEF THE DCM ON THE TRUE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT.

3. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, TSIMAS SAID THAT, SINCE THE RECENT CAIRO DECLARATION IN WHICH YASSIR ARAFAT PRONOUNCED HIMSELF AS OPPOSED TO TERRORISM BEYOND HIS OWN BATTLEGROUND, THE ABU NIDAL ORGANIZATION HAD STEPPED UP ITS TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY WHEREVER THE PLO HAS OFFICES. AS A CONSEQUENCE, TSIMAS HAD ASKED GHANDOUR TO ARRANGE FOR A VISIT OF A SENIOR PLO OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY MATTERS, WITH THE RESULT THAT HAYEL ABDEL HAMID, WHOM TSIMAS LIKENED TO A PLO MINISTER OF INTERIOR, ARRIVED IN ATHENS ON DECEMBER 26 FOR CONSULTATION.

4. ACCORDING TO TSIMAS, THE PLO VISITOR DESCRIBED ABU NIDAL AS AN EXTREMIST WHO HARMED THE CAUSE OF THE PLO AND ITS MOVE TOWARD GREATER COOPERATION WITH JORDAN. CONSEQUENTLY, THE PLO WISHES TO COOPERATE WITH OTHERS IN FIGHTING ABU NIDAL TERRORISM ABROAD. TSIMAS SAID THAT HAYEL ABDEL HAMID PROMISED TO ADVISE THE GREEK GOVERNMENT ON A REGULAR BASIS OF ANY INFORMATION DEVELOPED CONCERNING THE TRAVEL OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS TO ATHENS, DRAWING ON WELL-PLACED SOURCES THE PLO HAS IN ARAB COUNTRIES. TSIMAS WAS ALSO TOLD THAT ABU NIDAL WAS NOW LOCATED IN LIBYA AFTER SUCCESSIVE STAYS IN IRAQ AND SYRIA, ALTHOUGH HE STILL HAS

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## WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 02    ATHENS 4490

DTG: 301548Z DEC 85    PSN: 016080

CONFEDERATES RESIDING IN THOSE TWO COUNTRIES.

5. ACCORDING TO TSIMAS, THE TALKS WERE CUT SHORT BY THE AIRPORT ATTACKS IN ROME AND VIENNA, WHICH FOCUSED THE ATTENTION OF HAYED ABDEL HAMID ON WAYS TO GET BACK HOME AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. (HE FLEW TO CAIRO LATE ON DECEMBER 29 ON OLYMPIC AIRWAYS.) HE AND TSIMAS AGREED TO MEET AGAIN BUT DID NOT SET A DATE.

6. TSIMAS SAID THAT THE GREEK PRESS WILL BE INFORMED OFFICIALLY THAT THE VISIT WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING TERRORISM. AS HE EXPLAINED IT, THE GOG WANTS ABU NIDAL AND OTHERS TO KNOW THAT IT IS FULLY ENGAGED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISTS. (SUCH AN ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE TO THE PRESS BY ALTERNATE MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND PUBLIC ORDER TSOURAS ON DECEMBER 30, SHORTLY FOLLOWING THE MEETING WITH TSIMAS.)

7. TSIMAS TOLD THE DCM THAT HE CONSIDERS COOPERATION WITH THE PLO TO BE USEFUL, ADDING THAT THE PLO HAS AGENTS WITHIN ABU NIDAL'S GROUP. AFTER NOTING THAT INFILTRATION WORKS BOTH WAYS, THE DCM ASKED TSIMAS WHETHER THE PLO WAS COOPERATING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM WITH OTHER EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS AS WELL. TSIMAS SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PLO HAD CONCLUDED

AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND THAT IT CONSULTED WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN CAPITALS WHERE THE PLO ESTABLISHED OFFICES, SUCH AS ROME AND VIENNA.

8. IN AN INTERESTING TWIST, TWO AFTERNOON DAILIES REPORTED DECEMBER 30 THAT AN OLYMPIC AIRWAYS PILOT REFUSED TO TAKE OFF ON HIS DECEMBER 28 ATHENS-CAIRO RUN BECAUSE FOUR PLO OFFICIALS WERE AMONG THE 257 PASSENGERS AND THUS MADE THE AIRCRAFT VULNERABLE TO AN ISRAELI RETALIATORY ATTACK. (THIS PROBLEM WAS APPARENTLY OVERCOME IN TIME FOR THE NEXT DAY'S FLIGHT.)  
BT

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PAGE 01      ATHENS 4490      DTG: 301548Z DEC 85      PSN: 016082  
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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN 2960  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO 5438  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 5951  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 2738  
AMEMBASSY ROME 0348  
AMEMBASSY PARIS 7264  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA 6057

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 02 OF 02 ATHENS 24490

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PTER, PLO, GR  
SUBJECT: GREEK-PLO CONSULTATIONS ON TERRORISM

9. COMMENT: WE CANNOT JUDGE THE USEFULNESS OF THE INFORMATION GIVEN BY TSIMAS AND WE SUBMIT IT FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH. WHAT IS NOTABLE (AND CONSISTENT WITH WHAT WE ALREADY KNEW) IS THAT THE GOG PUTS GREAT STORE IN ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PLO AND IN THE PLO'S PROFESSED ABJURATION OF TERRORISM. ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO PROTECT TSIMAS AND THE INFORMATION HE PROVIDED. END COMMENT.

10. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT AS DESIRED. KEELEY  
BT

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01 TUNIS 1943  
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AMEMBASSY CAIRO 4006  
AMEMBASSY PARIS 8937  
AMEMBASSY ROME 2985  
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA 0922  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0345  
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TUNIS 11943

TERREP

E. O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PTER, ASEC, TS, LY  
SUBJECT: GOT SAYS TUNISIAN PASSPORTS USED IN VIENNA  
- ATTACK WERE CONFISCATED AND/OR LOST IN LIBYA

REF: TUNIS 11910

1. ACCORDING TO JOURNALISTS WHO ATTENDED DECEMBER 30 PRESS CONFERENCE AT MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, GOT PRODUCED THREE TUNISIANS WHOSE NAMES MATCH PASSPORTS USED BY THREE TERRORISTS IN VIENNA. ALL THREE TUNISIANS WERE WORKERS EXPELLED BY LIBYA SINCE AUGUST. TWO HAD THEIR PASSPORTS CONFISCATED PRIOR TO EXPULSION; THE THIRD REPORTED HIS PASSPORT LOST IN LIBYA IN 1977.

2. MININT SPOKESMAN AVOIDED JOURNALISTS' ATTEMPTS TO GET HIM TO IMPLICATE LIBYANS IN VIENNA TERRORIST ATTACK, SAYING HE WAS ONLY PRESENTING FACTS TO SHOW THAT NO TUNISIANS WERE INVOLVED. HE ALSO REFUSED TO ANSWER QUESTION ABOUT TUNISIAN PASSPORT USED BY TERRORIST OMAR MARZOUKI IN MALTA EGYPTIAN HIJACKING.

3. COMMENT: ASSUME FULL TEXT OF CONFERENCE WILL BE REPORTED TOMORROW AND WE WILL PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS.  
ANDERSON  
BT

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43071	CABLE  #301751Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1

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43072	CABLE  #301755Z DEC 85	2	12/30/1985	B1

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