

SECRET

9

PRIME MINISTER

Hijacking of Kuwaiti Aircraft

As of 8 o'clock this evening, the aircraft is still on the ground in Tehran, and there are no signs of imminent departure.

Tehran Radio broadcast the hijackers' demands earlier today, following which a further 24 hostages were released. The hijackers are threatening to kill another US passenger and three more Kuwaiti diplomats.

The Americans have decided to hold back from a public campaign accusing the Iranians of complicity. They are not intending, for the time being away, any retaliatory action.

The American assault team will arrive in Cyprus this evening. It is quite substantial, and may well attract public notice. The Cypriot Government have been informed in strict confidence.

The Americans are enormously appreciative of the speed with which you agreed to their request.

ESD.

7 December, 1984.

SECRET



10 DOWNING STREET

CSP

- 1) Message passed to you at "House" today at 15.30

Mango.

6/12

- 2) ~~FLO~~ phoned to say it was Kuwaiti Consul & not US consul who was executed. No message of consolation drafted until situation cleared up!

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URGENT - CONSUL

NICOSIA, THURSDAY - THE U.S. CONSUL IN PAKISTAN WAS EXECUTED  
TODAY BY HIJACKERS HOLDING A KUWAITI AIRLINER AT TEHERAN AIRPORT, THE  
OFFICIAL IRNAIAN NEWS AGENCY IRNA REPORTED.

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6/2

MR POWELL

The Foreign Office believe it was the Kuwaiti Consul who was executed and not the US Consul. They are waiting for confirmation of this before preparing any draft messages. Apparently information about the incident is not too clear at the moment. FO will be in touch shortly.

3.55pm