



# NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE (IPS)  
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## TERRORISTS HOLD OPEC MINISTERS HOSTAGE.

DEC. 21 (IPS)--FIVE TERRORISTS WHO INVADED THE OPEC MINISTERIAL MEETING IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA THIS MORNING CONTINUE TO HOLD THE ENTIRE BUILDING WHERE THE TALKS WERE IN PROGRESS INCLUDING 60 TO 70 HOSTAGES, AMONG THEM 11 OPEC MINISTERS.

ACCORDING TO EAST GERMAN SOURCES, TWO SECURITY GUARDS AND A MEMBER OF THE IRAQI DELEGATION WERE KILLED DURING THE TERRORISTS' ASSAULT.

THE ATTACK CAME ONE DAY AFTER THE SOVIET UNION HAD HANDED SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER A NOTE REITERATING THE USSR'S CALL FOR A GENEVA CONFERENCE.

THE GROUP, CALLING ITSELF THE ARM OF THE ARAB REVOLUTION, HAS ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE -- WHICH WAS FOUND IN A TOILET AT THE GENEVA HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS -- CENSURING THOSE ARAB STATES WHICH INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GENEVA TALKS, AND CALL FOR A NORTHERN FRONT TO INCLUDE IRAQ, SYRIA AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION. THE COMMUNIQUE SINGLES OUT FOR ATTACK THE U.S., IRAN, EGYPT, AND THE SINAI AGREEMENT, AND COMPLAINS THAT THE 1973-74 OIL EMBARGO ENDED TOO SOON.

THE TERRORISTS REPORTEDLY HAVE ORDERS NOT TO NEGOTIATE, BUT THE ALGERIAN DELEGATE TO THE OPEC CONFERENCE, OIL MINISTER ABDESSALAM, HAS BEEN RELEASED TO ACT AS A GO-BETWEEN FOR TALKS. CBS REPORTS LATE TODAY THAT ALGERIA HAS OFFERED LANDING RIGHTS TO A GROUP OF HOSTAGES WITH THE TERRORISTS SHOULD THEY CHOOSE TO GO TO ALGIERS. IRAQ IS ALSO INVOLVED IN MEDIATING THE SITUATION.

## SOVIETS TO U.S.: CONVENE GENEVA CONFERENCE NOW!

DEC. 21 (IPS)--THE USSR HAS DELIVERED A MESSAGE TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT REITERATING ITS CALL FOR THE RAPID CONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE MIDEAST, ACCORDING TO YESTERDAY MORNING'S STIMME DER DDR. A SIMILAR SOVIET REQUEST WAS MADE IN THE FALL.

THE SOVIET MESSAGE, DELIVERED TO SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, STATES THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS READY TO ENTER INTO BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE U.S. TO PREPARE THE CONFERENCE, AND EMPHASIZES THAT ONLY A COMPREHENSIVE POLITICAL SOLUTION WILL MAKE POSSIBLE A PERMANENT MIDEAST PEACE.

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SPECULATION ON VIENNA TERRORISTS IDENTIFY FOCUSING ON KISSINGER.

DEC. 21 (IPS)—SPECULATION ON WHO IS BEHIND THE TERRORISTS WHO SEIZED THE VIENNA LOCATION OF THE OPEC MINISTERIAL MEETING TODAY IS MORE AND MORE FOCUSING ON NATO INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES, AND THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER IN PARTICULAR.

THE GROWING SUSPICION ABOUT KISSINGER'S ROLE COMES DESPITE A FLOOD OF REPORTS EMANATING FROM GENEVA THIS MORNING, AND CIRCULATED IN THE WESTERN BROADCAST MEDIA, THAT THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION WAS RESPONSIBLE.

BUT THIS SPECULATION APPEARS TO HAVE SHIFTED AFTER THE PLO TODAY ISSUED A STATEMENT STATING THAT IT HAD NO ROLE IN THE ATTACK, AND THAT THE ATTACK WAS THE WORK OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM AND ZIONISM TRYING TO "UNDERMINE OPEC" AND "SABOTAGE THE STRUGGLE OF THE THIRD WORLD FOR EQUAL JUSTICE," ACCORDING TO STUTTGART NEWS SERVICES.

THE NAME OF THE NOTORIOUS NATO AGENT "CARLOS" IS NOW WIDELY LINKED TO THE SPECULATION. ACCORDING TO REUTERS, IRAQI OFFICIALS HAVE IDENTIFIED "CARLOS" AS BEING INVOLVED, AND A STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCE TOLD IPS THAT IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE TERRORISTS INCLUDE LATIN AMERICANS SPEAKING FRENCH AND THAT "CARLOS" MAY BE AMONG THEM.

WESTERN DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY PRECEDED OPEC TERRORIST ATTACK.

DEC. 21 (IPS)—THE MIDEAST WAS THE SCENE OF FEVERISH WESTERN DIPLOMATIC MOVEMENTS PRIOR TO TODAY'S ATTACK ON THE OPEC MINISTERIAL MEETING IN VIENNA.

KISSINGER EMISSARY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE ALFRED ATHERTON ARRIVED IN CAIRO TODAY, TO MEET WITH EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT AND FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY. ACCORDING TO WINS RADIO IN NEW YORK, ATHERTON HAS ALREADY VISITED JORDAN, SYRIA, AND SAUDI ARABIA, AND PLANS TO GO TO ISRAEL TOMORROW.

AT THE SAME TIME, ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON REPORTEDLY MADE A "SECRET" WEEKEND TRIP TO GENEVA, ACCORDING TO AN ACCOUNT PUBLISHED IN THE WEST GERMAN PRESS TODAY.

MEANWHILE, AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BIELKA IS IN ISRAEL FOR A THREE-DAY VISIT, ACCORDING TO UPI.

AUSTRIA DECLARES EMERGENCY IN TERRORIST SEIZURE OF OPEC MEETING.

DEC. 21 (IPS)—AUSTRIA'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY HAS DECLARED A STATE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY AS TERRORISTS CONTINUE TO HOLD 11 MINISTERS FROM OPEC COUNTRIES AND OTHERS HOSTAGE AT A VIENNA BUILDING WHICH WAS THE SITE OF AN OPEC MINISTERS MEETING. THE GOVERNMENT HAS SEALED THE AREA AROUND THE BUILDING

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WITH TROOPS, CLOSED THE AIRPORT, AND CALLED AN EMERGENCY PARLIAMENTARY SESSION ON THE CRISIS, ACCORDING TO ADN, THE DDR NEWS SERVICE.

THE AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTER HAS BLAMED THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION FOR THE TERRORIST ATTACK, DESPITE A PLO DENIAL.

AL AHRAM SUPPORTS SOVIET/EGYPTIAN RELATIONS.

DEC. 21 (IPS)—A RECENT ARTICLE IN AL AHRAM, THE SEMI-OFFICIAL CAIRO DAILY, NOTES THAT IN SPITE OF CRISES IN SOVIET/EGYPTIAN RELATIONS, THESE RELATIONS HAVE NEVER BROKEN OFF BECAUSE EGYPT HAS SEEM FROM EXPERIENCE THAT -- BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF ITS SYSTEM -- THE SOVIET UNION IS THE FIRST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD TO STRETCH OUT THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP TO OTHER PEOPLES AND GIVE THEM MORAL AND MATERIAL AID WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED.

AL AHRAM, ACCORDING TO THE DEC. 19 PRAVDA, GOES ON TO SAY THAT THE PRESENT CHILL IN FRIENDSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT CORRESPOND TO THE NATIONAL POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND MILITARY INTERESTS OF EGYPT. IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF BOTH EGYPT AND THE SOVIET UNION TO COORDINATE THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PROGRESS IN ESTABLISHING A JUST AND FIRM PEACE IN THE MIDEAST AND ALSO FOR THE SAKE OF PUTTING AN END TO THE UNILATERALLY CONDUCTED U.S. POLICY OF STEP-BY-STEP DIPLOMACY AS IT HAS TURNED INTO A THREAT TO THE UNITY OF JOINT ACTIONS OF THE ARABS.

TITO PRAISES FRIENDLY YUGOSLAV/SOVIET RELATIONS  
IN PERSONAL MESSAGE TO BREZHNEV.

DEC. 21 (IPS)—YUGOSLAVIAN PRESIDENT JOSIP BRONZ TITO, IN A TELEGRAM TO CPSU GENERAL SECRETARY LEONID BREZHNEV, SAID: "I WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY SATISFACTION WITH THE SUCCESSFUL AND ALL-ROUND DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOCIALIST FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND THE USSR, AND BETWEEN THE LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS OF YUGOSLAVIA AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH YOU PERSONALLY HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO. I AM CERTAIN THAT OUR MUTUAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP SUCCESSFULLY IN THE INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLES, PEACE AND SOCIALISM IN THE WORLD." THE TEXT OF THE TELEGRAM WAS PRINTED IN THE YUGOSLAV DAILY POLITIKA DEC. 19.

JOSEPH KRAFT: "NOW IS THE TIME TO EASE TENSIONS WITH RUSSIA."

DEC. 21 (IPS)—SYNDICATED COLUMNIST JOSEPH KRAFT TODAY CALLED FOR A NEW STRATEGIC ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND USSR, AND NOTED THAT "UNLESS THERE IS A RELAXION OF TENSIONS, THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE OF TENSIONS WITH A FAR GREATER RISK OF WAR." KRAFT'S ARTICLE, DATELINED MOSCOW, APPEARED IN THE BALTIMORE SUN, AND STRESSED THE URGENT NEED TO CURB "VERY EXPENSIVE AND LARGELY INDECISIVE RIVALRIES," PARTICULARLY IN "THE CASE OF THE NUCLEAR WEAP-

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ONS FIELD." ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS "DO NOT GUARANTEE THAT THE RUSSIANS WILL BE THE GOOD GUYS IN ANGOLA...BUT ARE WORTH DOING IN THEMSELVES BECAUSE THEY FREE UP RESOURCES THAT BOTH COUNTRIES NEED ...IT SEEMS CLEAR TO MEE THAT UNLESS STABLE AGREEMENTS ESTABLISHING PARITY ARE REACHED, THE RUSSIANS WILL CONTINUE TO DRIVE HARDER AND HARDER FOR MILITARY POWER," WRITES KRAFT.

NATO CLAIMS URGENT NEED FOR NUCLEAR PLANES IN EUROPE.

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, WEST GERMANY, DEC. 21 (IPS)--ACCORDING TO TODAY'S NEW YORK TIMES, NATO OFFICIALS HAVE STATED THAT THE REPLACEMENT OF THE CURRENT F-4 PHANTOM FIGHTER WITH THE MORE SOPHISTICATED F-15 WILL WEAKEN THE FIGHTING POWER OF NATO BECAUSE THE F-15 DOES NOT CARRY NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND THE F-4 DOES. NATO OFFICIALS, INCLUDING GENERAL ALEXANDER HAIG, ARE REPORTED HASHING OUT VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES FOR REDEPLOYMENT OF OTHER AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING UP TO 60 F-111 BOMBERS, TO EUROPE FOR WHAT NATO OFFICIALS CLAIM TO BE AN "URGENT NEED" FOR NUCLEAR CARRYING CAPACITY.

DAILY TELEGRAPH CALLS MOLUCCAN SEIGE "STAGE-MANAGED".

DEC. 21 (IPS)--IN A MANNER STRIKINGLY SIMILAR TO THE PRE-ARRANGED CONCLUSION OF A 6-DAY LONG TERRORIST SEIGE STAGED IN LONDON TWO WEEKS AGO, THE "ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH MOLUCCAS" HAVE CORDIALLY ENDED THEIR 15-DAY LONG SIEGE OF THE INDONESIAN CONSULATE IN AMSTERDAM. TWENTY-FIVE HOSTAGES WERE RELEASED UNHARMED.

ACCORDING TO THE LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH OF DEC. 20, THE END OF THE AMSTERDAM SEIGE WAS "STAGE-MANAGED LIKE A MAJOR CIVIC EVENT WITH A TIMETABLE AND PROGRAMME ARRANGED IN ADVANCE BETWEEN THE POLICE AND TERRORISTS THE NIGHT BEFORE." AMONG THE VIP GUESTS AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE TOWN MAYOR AND OTHER LOCAL DIGNITARIES. MEANWHILE, IN THE STREET OUTSIDE THE CONSULATE WERE 300 POLICEMEN WITH CARBINES AND SUBMACHINE GUNS FOR "CEREMONIAL FUNCTION" ONLY.

IMF FORCING PORTUGAL TO DEVALUE ITS CURRENCY BY 30 PERCENT.

DEC. 21 (IPS)--THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO IMPOSE AN AUSTERITY PROGRAM ON ITS POPULATION WHICH INCLUDES CURRENCY DEVALUATION AND PAYING MORE FOR IMPORTS, AS PREREQUISITES FOR QUALIFYING FOR AN IMF LOAN. "THE GOVERNMENT WILL REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION (BECAUSE) THIS IS ONE OF THE CONDITIONS SET BY THE IMF FOR GRANTING A LOAN TO PORTUGAL," ACCORDING TO TODAY'S NEW YORK TIMES.

THE LOAN FOR ONLY \$160 MILLION, "REPRESENTS ONLY ONE MONTH'S IMPORT COSTS," REVEALED YESTERDAY'S LONDON FINANCIAL TIMES. THE FINANCIAL TIMES PEGS THE PROPOSED DEVALUATION AT 30 PERCENT, AND SAYS THAT PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS ARE AGAINST SUCH A MOVE. THE DEVALUATION WILL SERIOUSLY REDUCE ONE OF PORTUGAL'S MAIN SOURCES OF REVENUE -- REMITTANCES FROM ITS WORKERS ABROAD.