We must credit the Prime Minister, Andreotti, for having the courage to make his salutations to the Bonn government for its victorious raid against the terrorists...Italy is a country where terrorism is less well-organized than the West German terrorists, but Italian terrorism is equally ferocious and ruthless...It is obligatory to have scruples in periods of peaceful coexistence. But it is also necessary now to have an international law which will regulate the way in which we must defend ourselves from this form of civil war which is exploding within our borders, just as there are conventions for conducting war between nations.

England

The Times, London, Editorial, Oct. 19: "A Good Day for Germany"

...But that still leaves West Germany with an extremely disturbing experience to digest. In the past few weeks the centre has only just held, and it might not have held if the rescue had failed...Germany is still a country scarred by memories of the clash of extremes...the problem is to contain them. The task will be easier if West Germany feels contained within western Europe and recognized as the valued keystone that she is...

The Times, London. Statement mailed to the Times by the "Struggle Against World Imperialism Organization," Oct. 19

Between the two regimes in Bonn and Tel Aviv there is a close and special cooperation going on in military and economic fields, as well as in common political positions...Ponto, Schleyer, and Buback are mere examples of persons who have well served the old Nazism and are now practically executing the aims of the new Nazis in Bonn and the Zionists in Tel Aviv...

United States

Washington Post, Washington, D.C., "The Pressure—U.S. and Britain Aided Rescue—Carter Sent Plea to Somalis," by Milton R. Benjamin, Oct. 19

The United States and Britain played a major role in paving the way for West Germany's spectacular rescue of the 86 Lufthansa hostages, diplomatic sources disclosed yesterday...

Washington Post, "West German Commandos: Shirt-Sleeves and No Salutes," Oct. 19

...Military historians looked back to 1943 to find a German operation comparable to Operation comparable to Operation X-Ray—when Nazi SS commandos landed a glider atop an Italian mountain and rescued imprisoned dictator Benito Mussolini...

New York Times, Oct. 19: "3 Jailed German Terrorists Reported Suicides as Hostages from Hijacked Plane Fly Home—Deaths Cause Furor—Officials Unable to Explain the Presence of Pistols in Top-Security Cells," by Paul Hoffman

...the country voiced joy and relief over the spectacular rescue of the hostages. But this mood was soon overshadowed by shock at the announcement by officials that three members of the Baader-Meinhof gang had been able to kill themselves in their cells...The government expressed concern, and Franz Josef Strauss, the leader of the opposition Bavarian Christian Social Union, said the events at the prison "will have political consequences."

Anglo-American Strategist:

Terrorist Revenge In W. Germany Within Two Weeks

The following are portions of an interview this week with J. Bowyer Bell, Director of Columbia University's Institute on War and Peace. Mr. Bell is also a member of the International Institute of Strategic Studies, based in London, an institution with documented connections to international terrorist networks.

Q: Do you think the successful West German commando raid in Mogadishu will act as a deterrent to future terrorist hijackings?

Bell: On the contrary. What you will now have is a mutual escalation — nothing will deter the hijackers. The commando units reduce the chances of the terrorists getting away alive, true. But look at Mogadishu: all four hijackers had no papers and had no labels on their clothes. You don't cut the labels out of your clothes and you don't throw your papers away if you expect to succeed. They were quite aware of what the risks were. Nothing will deter them.

Q: Do you think they will continue in their present mode of hostage-taking?

Bell: Absolutely yes. Why, they've got the absolute, ideal media spectacular. Why change when you're winning? Remember, they won. This was a tremendously successful operation.

Q: They won?

Bell: Pick up the newspapers — all over the world — and look at how much newsprint they're getting. It was a success although the figures died. These people are interested in prominence and they got it.

Q: Do you forsee any terrorist revenge of the commandos' success?

Bell: Yes, yes. Of course, of course. I would say that they are going to kill somebody who is related to just what went on.

Q: Do you think that their targets might extend as far as Chancellor Schmidt himself or other high official?

Bell: It very easily could be. Whoever's vulnerable. Unlike the Israelis, the guy who ran this operation has his picture all over the papers with his name — you could find it in a phonebook. The wardens and the guards who are accused of murdering the prisoners. And any politician who moves at all is vulnerable.

Q: I believe Mr. Scheel came out chiding the terrorists a few days ago. Might he now be a target?

Bell: Whoever they can get to, and quickly. I would bet a reasonable amount of money that there is going to be a revenge operation in Germany sometime within the next two weeks.