Message Text

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PAGE 01  NICOSI 00545  151756 Z

47/10
ACTION  NEA-12

INFO OCT-01  EUR-25  ADP-00  IO-12  T-03  OMB-01  CIAE-00
DODE-00  PM-09  H-02  INR-09  L-03  NSAE-00  NSC-10  PA-03
RSC-01  PRS-01  SS-14  USIA-12  RSR-01  INRE-00  NEAE-00

/119 W
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P 151123 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO  SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7097
INFO  AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USDOCOSOUTH
USEUCOM
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
COMSIXTHFLEET

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CORRECTED COPY - LAST SENTENCE PARA 1

E. O. 11652:  N/ A
TAGS:  PINS PINT CY
SUBJECT:  GRIVAS INTENSIFIES TERRORISM AGAINST POLICE;  TWO
    BISHOPS LEAVE FOR ATHENS

REF:  Nicosia 535

BEGIN SUMMARY:  WITH RAIDS ON THREE MORE POLICE STATIONS
AND BOMBINGS OF SEVEN POLICE OFFICERS' HOUSES,  GRIVAS FORCES
HAVE MOVED INTO PHASE OF HEIGHTENED TERRORISM AND POLICE
INTIMIDATION.  BISHOPS OF KITIUM AND PAPHOS LEAVE FOR ATHENS,
REPORTEDLY TO DISCUSS THEIR DECISION DEFROCK MAKARIOS.  END
SUMMARY.
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1. ARMED MEN RAIDED THREE FAMAGUST DISTRICT POLICE STATIONS EARLY MORNING MARCH 15. BLOWING UP TWO BUT BEING DRIVEN OFF FROM THIRD. RADIO STATES FIRST RAID WAS CARRIED OUT BY TEN ARMED MEN AT PARALIMNI AT 3:45 AM LOCAL. AT 4:00 AM ANOTHER TEN MEN BLEW UP POLICE STATION AT STAVROS QUARTER IN FAMAGUSTA CITY. BOTH STATIONS WERE DEMOLISHED AND EMPTIED OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION. ALSO AT 4:00 AM SIX RAIDERS ATTEMPTED BREAK INTO PRASTIO POLICE STATION, BUT WERE DRIVEN OFF AFTER ENGAGING IN GUN BATTLE WITH POLICEMAN ON DUTY. NO CASUALTIES REPORTED AMONG POLICE OR BANDITS.

2. IN MOVE CLEARLY COORDINATED WITH POLICE STATION RAIDS, SEVEN POLICE OFFICERS’ HOUSES WERE BOMBED NIGHT OF MARCH 14-15. SLIGHTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT, THREE POWERFUL EXPLOSIONS OCCURRED IN LIMASSOL. TARGETS WERE HOUSES OF LIMASSOL POLICE CHIEF, DEPUTY CHIEF, AND SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE. IN PAPHOS FOUR EXPLOSIONS DIRECTED AT POLICE OFFICERS TOOK PLACE BETWEEN 1:00 AND 2:00 AM, DYNAMITE BEING THROWN AGAINST HOUSES OF PAPHOS POLICE INSPECTOR AND THREE SERGEANTS. EIGHTH EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE LAST NIGHT IN FAMAGUSTA, SERIOUSLY DAMAGING SHOP OF WELL-KNOWN GRIVAS SUPPORTER. BOMBS CAUSED NO INJURIES.

3. BISHOPS OF KITIUM AND PAPHOS LEFT BY AIR FOR ATHENS 9:00 AM MARCH 15. BISHOP OF KYRENIA SAID HE WOULD SEND REPRESENTATIVE FOR DISCUSSIONS IN GREECE. PRIOR THEIR DEPARTURE, PRESS SPECULATED THAT GREEK GOVT HAD INVITED BISHOPS IN IN ORDER TO DISCUSS THEIR DECISION TO DEFROCK ARCHBISHOP.

4. COMMENT: RENEWED TERRORISM MAY BE RESPONSE TO MAKARIOS’ PLANS TO PURGE POLICE OF GRIVASITES (NICOSIA 537), OR COULD BE EFFORT TO DRAMATIZE GRIVAS’ SUPPORT OF BISHOPS AGAINST ANY RETALIATORY MOVES BY ARCHBISHOP. IN ANY EVENT, ISSUE OF POLICE SECURITY IS NOW SHARPLY JOINED. POPPER
Subject: GRIVAS INTENSIFIES TERRORISM AGAINST POLICE; TWO BISHOPS LEAVE FOR ATHENS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, CY
To: NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ANKARA
ATHENS
LONDON
MULTIPLE
Type: TE