



GRID OF
INTERNATIONAL PRESS

NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

P.O. Box 1972, G.P.O.
New York, New York 10001
Editorial (212)279-5950
Customer Service (212)564-8529

GRID OF INTERNATIONAL PRESS ON THE DEC. 29 LA GUARDIA BOMBING AND RELATED TOPICS

The following grid is divided into two parts:

PART 1 *International press

PART 2 *Domestic (U.S.) press

PART 1 - International press

Stimme der DDR, German Democratic Republic, Dec. 30 --
An unusually strong commentary on the bombing stated: "Immediately after the attack the western press agencies stated that the Palestinians are the ones to blame, more precisely the PLO, even though the United Nations representative of the PLO energetically denied the allegation." "The date of the action is more than suspicious," the broadcast continued. "Rabin had just confirmed during the Christmas days that his country will never agree with a solution that implies the withdrawal of troops and that includes the PLO as negotiating partners. As music accompanying Rabin's declaration, in New York the bomb blows up. It explodes precisely now when there are signs of calming down in Lebanon after the months' long civil war."

L'Humanite, newspaper of the Communist Party of France, Dec. 31 -- "It is not by accident that this attack should have happened before the (UN) Security Council meeting to discuss the Palestine question and should have been carried out with the knowledge and insight of the American secret services."

Corriere della Sera, Italy, Dec. 31 -- Front page news article reports comments from witnesses and victims. A technician from TWA: "For an instant I thought that the airport had been bombarded. Those who were not killed and dismembered, were wounded gravely by the pieces of debris and glass that were ejected for over 30 meters."

Accompanying front page commentary states that this bombing distinguishes itself from previous cyclical bombings like the 1969-71 "weathermen" bombings and the 1974-75 Puerto Rican bombings in the fact that in this one there was the "deliberate lack of 'signature.'" Labels the event as "blind terrorism," and then explains that "Some American scholars note with increasing alarm the fact that the 'terrorist attitude' -- born as a harshened and degenerative form of the political struggle -- is now taking on a fearful 'autonomous physiognomy' and risks becoming the way out of an enraged and irrational protest which totally lacks any specific objectives of a political nature. Before such danger, modern society appears to be even more vulnerable than in the past precisely because of its technological development."

La Stampa, Italy, Dec. 31 -- A front page article gives an objective news report without emphasis on the emotional impact of the bombing. Reports that the Palestinians and the Puerto Ricans have disclaimed responsibility for the bomb. It then reports that according to police experts, there is no doubt that the bomb was prepared by experts. Ends by saying, "One cannot exclude that there will emerge in the next few hours the most romantic hypothesis, from the mafia to espionage, and a great deal of prudence will be necessary before accepting them for good. Nor does the American political climate justify suppositions of plots to create new tensions in the country."

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, West Germany, Dec. 31 -- An editorial entitled, "They Would Rather Shoot Than Help" states: "As the old year ends, and the new year begins,..Violence against the defenseless is bubbling as in an old-time witch's kettle, and the fear of violence is severely affecting hundreds of thousands." Although the latest round of terrorism has spared Germany, remember Stockholm was done by Germans to Germany. "In the terrorist insanity of our years, there is a lot of ordinary crime...but this does not explain it. So many of those who blackmail with quotes from Lenin on their lips, and kill, have created the excuse, through politically-guised collective acts of violence, and denigrate our times' claims to humanitarianism....this is how many have already become terrorists."

Frankfurter Rundschau, West Germany, Dec. 31 -- An editorial entitled "There are No Two Ways About It" states: "Bloody terror wants to accompany us into the New Year like a dark shadow... Presently it is unknown whether it was insane people or political fanatics. In this situation it is irresponsible to say rumors out loud and to make one group or another responsible, without

the slightest proof. We will have to live with terror. No words can get by this frightening insight. The question is, above all, how the people of the world, their governments, intend to live with terror. There are six terrorists in Algeria.... Tolerance against individual terror would destroy our concept of freedom. All the people in all countries of the world have to be clear about this....No one can take any more playing room..."

Daily Express, Great Britain, Dec. 31 -- In a story dated Beirut, the Express reports that "the bomb which killed 11 people at LaGuardia may have been planted by Arab terrorists. That is the opinion of Arab informants with access to Palestine guerrilla leaders in Beirut... suspicion rests with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)...Their denial is in doubt because of a warning issued by the PFLP shortly before the bombing....The PLO was warned not to take part in the UN debate..."

Le Soir, France, Dec. 31 -- Reports that there are "numerous split-offs" in the Palestinian movement and "it is not out of the question" that "one of these split-offs is responsible for the (La Guardia) bombing."

London Economist, Great Britain, Dec. 31 -- In its year end editorial, the Economist announces that 1976 will be a year of recession -- plus terrorist violence. If the ruling Social Democratic Parties in (West) Germany and Britain cannot control the left and the trade unions while implementing an "anti-terrorist discipline," the Economist warns, they will be replaced by right-wing forces.

Al Ahram, Egypt, Dec. 31 -- Suggests that Israel probably engineered the explosion of the bomb at LaGuardia for the purpose of creating difficulties for the Palestinians on the eve of the UN Security Council debate.

L'Aurore, France, Dec. 31 -- reports that forces linked to the "KGB" are responsible for the deadly bombing at LaGuardia.

L'Humanite, France, Jan. 1 -- Commenting on the L'Aurore report attributing the bombing to the KGB, the paper reports "the LaGuardia bombers are murderers, denounced by the PLO and rightly so...(Aurore) has immediately accused the KGB and as everybody knows, to say the KGB is to mention all the communists in the world...it (such statements) asserts that everywhere there is something wrong, the Communists are in the shadow manipulating the people throwing the bombs."

El Sol, Mexico, Dec. 31 -- An editorial commented that the recent terrorist bombing at LaGuardia airport in New York could only serve to lead a population "over-taken by ever-present fear" to demand forceful solutions in support of "hard-handed regimes." The El Sol editorial, entitled "Indiscriminate Terrorism," charged that "just as terrorism is often indiscriminate, it also brings with it indiscriminate repression."

Supposed terrorist agents will be searched for among the dissenters...against certain governments." The editorial concludes: "In this way, the authentic terrorists help repressive and anti-democratic regimes."

Kathimerini, Greece, Jan. 1 -- A front-page article headlined "Hints Against the CIA for the Bombing of LaGuardia Airport in New York," reported that the Palestine Liberation Organization had denied attempts by U.S. media to blame it for the bombing, and quoted a PLO spokesman in Beirut saying that "We express our surprise over the fact that today's operation took place under the nose of the American secret and security agencies."

Manchester Guardian, Great Britain, Jan. 3 -- Reporting on an upcoming meeting of Common Market Interior Ministers which will discuss terrorism, The Guardian quotes one unidentified British government source as stressing the need for increased political and police coordination between European governments: "We are dealing with a new type of criminal now. It is the developed world which is primarily affected. These new criminals are attempting to blackmail governments by making political demands on them... the sooner we have this conference the better."

PART 2 - Domestic (U.S.) Press

Associated Press, Dec. 29 -- A release put out minutes after the bombing concentrates on the gore and horror. An update two hours later features a full report of the alleged call attributing the bombing to the PLO and a short squib on the PLO's denial. A similar story is carried by United Press International and Reuters.

New York Times, New York Post, New York Daily News, Dec. 30 -- Front page articles, with pictures depicting the gore. The Post runs down lists of victims, pointing out how the bomb killed innocent people; mentions that the PLO may have done it, but that they denied it; another article sifts through the debris: a "pair of eyeglasses, a cane with a bloody handle, a jacket, a bottle of cheap wine..." Daily News featured nearly identical coverage. The Times carried the PLO denial but the emphasis of its articles was on the terror of the bombing and indicating that there are many groups or individuals who could have done it.

Baltimore Sun, Washington Post, Dec. 30 -- Same coverage as the New York press with the Post playing up the perfunctory nature of the denials by the PLO. Front page pictures with editorials warning on new outbreak of terrorism.

CBS, NBC, ABC (radio and television), Dec. 29, Dec. 30 -- The full blood and gore on the home TV screen, in coverage reminiscent of Vietnam war days. Close up shots of the bleeding injured bodies, rubble, etc. Both NBC and ABC played up confusion over who was responsible, indicating that several groups including the PLO or some other Arab terrorists might have done it. Both report the PLO denial in perfunctory fashion. While CBS' coverage was essentially the same on other aspects, it featured interviews with PLO representatives denying reports that they were responsible and condemning those who were, labelling them people who wished to hurt the Palestinian cause.

New York Times, Dec. 31 -- An editorial on the LaGuardia bombing calls for curbing "civil rights and individual privacy" as a measure against terror emanating from "so many groups" and "mad or vicious people." The same editorial attacks Algeria for freeing the OPEC terrorists.

St. Louis Post Dispatch, Dec. 31 -- An editorial on La Guardia warned that terrorism is on the rise and concludes by saying that "the bomb in the terminal will soon be nuclear."

St. Louis Globe Democrat, Dec. 31 -- Warned in an editorial on the LaGuardia bombing that terrorism will stop only if the "CIA is freed" from destructive Congressional scrutiny.

Milwaukee Journal, Dec. 31 -- Despite PLO denials, an editorial blamed the PLO for the bombing, theorizing that if the PLO did not do it the perpetrator was some group that was "inspired by the PLO."

Seattle Post Intelligencer, Dec. 31 -- Covered the LaGuardia bombing with full pictures of blood and gore in an issue filled with coverage of other terrorist attacks in Berkeley, Calif. and Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Philadelphia Inquirer, Dec. 31 -- covered the bombing with stories featuring information from unnamed FBI sources that the "PLO was still under suspicion." Quoted these sources as saying that "the population should expect more bombings" from the PLO and others.

Chicago Tribune, Dec. 31 -- Gave low keyed coverage of the bombing, reporting that the police still had no leads.

Chicago Sun Times, Dec. 31 -- An editorial entitled "Two Roads from Terror" warns that as "Americans ponder how to contain terrorism, they must keep in mind the dangers of a police state... You can elect to emulate the dictators of history and elect to impose the harshest of police states... (which would) be billed in the interest of all peoples even though it worked only in the interest of those in power...this is clearly unacceptable."

Chicago Tribune, Jan. 2 -- An article linked the LaGuardia bombing to the Algerian decision to release the terrorists who perpetrated the Dec. 21 raid on the OPEC meeting in Vienna. The article also discussed the Jenkins-RAND Corp. study "High Technology Terrorism," noting that it predicts an increasing wave of blind terrorism which may in some instances have connections to the Middle East and socialist countries.

New York Daily News, Jan. 4 -- The lead story of the Sunday edition (released Saturday night) reports that New York Police think that the bombing was done by "one lone psychopath;" reports that police are checking out clues, but making little progress.