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CIA RDP96-00792R000700570001-8

# Terrorist Alert Issued to Americans in Beijing

Approved For Release 2001/03/07

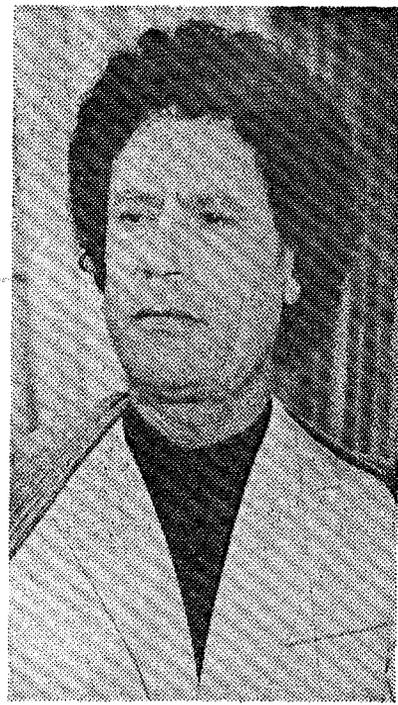
CHINA, From A25

The embassy notice to U.S. citizens said "there is no specific information as to when or where an attack might take place, but the embassy believes that this warning reflects a genuine threat and that American citizens . . . should take appropriate steps to protect themselves."

An embassy official said that information concerning the threat was provided to the embassy late yesterday by a "high-ranking representative" of the Chinese government.

U.S. antiterrorist officials in Washington reported a week ago that Gadhafi, using the cover of Palestinian and Japanese terrorist groups, had launched a sudden resurgence of terrorist attacks on American and western targets in the Middle East and elsewhere.

Libya maintains an embassy in



MOAMMAR GADHAFI  
... said to be aiding Japanese groups

Beijing. Other nations hostile to the United States, such as Iran and North Korea, also maintain embassies here, and the PLO has a small mission. Iranians are allowed to enter China without visas.

Officials interviewed by The Washington Post recently said the main suspected Libyan surrogate for terrorist activities appears to be Sabri Banna, the Palestinian terrorist known as Abu Nidal, who has been at odds with the PLO.

U.S. officials also said they believe that the Japanese Red Army terrorist group, with possible Libyan backing, was responsible for bombings directed against Americans in Naples and New Delhi in April and May.

After the notice was issued today, some American children were absent from a playground where they usually play.

Embassy officials said that despite the warning, they plan to hold a Fourth of July celebration.

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