

SEChronicle JAN 20 1976

Report on Identity Of Cyprus Slayers

Washington

U.S. intelligence officials learned the identity of the assassins of Rodger P. Davies, American ambassador to Cyprus, within an hour after he was shot in Nicosia on Aug. 19, 1974.

The killers are still serving on the Cypriot government security forces even though the assassination was recorded on commercial television news film and the identity of the slayers was reported to high Cypriot officials, according to intelligence sources.

An allusion to the Davies episode is made as a footnote to the still-secret report of the House intelligence committee. The report will be discussed at a closed session of that body today.

Intelligence sources said that shortly after the shooting, during an anti-American demonstration by primarily leftist Greek Cypriot demonstrators, definite information on the identity and affiliations of the assassins was being relayed through intelligence channels to Washington.

The investigations, based on eyewitnesses and later corroborated by ABC news film never shown publicly, indicated that the murder of Davies was carefully planned and carried out by members of the right-wing EOKA-B terrorist organization associated with Nicos Sampson. Sampson was installed briefly as Cyprus president after the overthrow of Archbishop Makarios on July 15, 1974.

Some members of the House intelligence panel want to know why the U.S. government did not insist on punishment of Davies' murderers. Officials who served on the U.S. embassy staff in Nicosia also were angered by the refusal of the administration to take stronger action.

There is no evidence that the Cypriot government itself, which was then headed by House Speaker Glafkos Clerides in the enforced absence of President Makarios, played any role in the assassination. Clerides was a personal friend of Davies.

Washington Post

Longer version, WXP, filed CIA (d).