

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.4

NINW 969041  
By STVSW Date 4/10/88

POL 15-1 MOR  
in POL 23-9 MOR

Department of State

TELEGRAM



1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 067

8-17-72  
Rabat 3761

PAGE 01 RABAT 03761 170135Z

73-60  
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03  
RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 INRE-00 RSR-01 SCS-03 AID-20  
FBO-01 NIC-01 M-03 OC-06 OPR-02 T-03 SCA-01 A-01  
OMB-01 SY-03 /131 W

043856

O 170020Z AUG 72  
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6692  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE  
USINT ALGIERS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
USCINCEUR  
COMNAVTRACOM MOROCCO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ RABAT 3761

SUBJECT: ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF KING HASSAN;  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

REF: RABAT 3746.

1. WE HAVE SEEN THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING WHAT NOW APPEARS TO BE THE FAILURE OF ONE MORE DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE KING HASSAN FROM LEADERSHIP OF MOROCCO. KING HAS HAD WHAT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS MIRACULOUS ESCAPE. IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND HOW TRAINED FIGHTER PILOT, FLYING AS ESCORT, COULD HAVE FAILED TO SHOOT DOWN KING'S PLANE, ALTHOUGH ONE OF OUR MUSLO STAFF HAS NOTED THAT F-5 FIGHTER PILOTS HAVE NOT HAD MUCH OPPORTUNITY TO

2

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47

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

NYW 969041  
By STV/SW Date 6/10/88



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 RABAT 03761 170135Z

PRACTICE WITH LIVE AMMUNITION SINCE ATTEMPTED COUP  
AT SKHIRAT LAST YEAR.

2. IT NOW EVIDENT THAT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT  
CARRIED OUT BY SMALL ELITE GROUP OF FIGHTER PILOTS  
WITH SUPPORT AT LEAST SOME AIR FORCE ENLISTED MEN.  
LACK OF EVIDENCE THUS FAR OF ANY COLLUSION WITH ANY  
OTHER MILITARY OR CIVILIAN ELEMENTS SUGGESTS F-5  
SQUADRONS ONLY SELF-ASSIGNED MISSION WAS TO REMOVE  
KING. PRESUMABLY THEY GAMBLER THAT THE EFFECTIVE  
REMOVAL OF KING WOULD BE ACCEPTED BY REST OF MILITARY,  
INCLUDING OUFKIR, AND COUNTRY AT LARGE. (IT APPEARS  
THAT OUFKIR'S CLOSE FRIEND AMEKRANE, WHO HAS REPORTEDLY  
LANDED IN GIBRALTAR, WAS IN ON PLOT: RABAT 3760).

3. GAMBLE WAS LOST, AND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL HOW  
KING WILL REACT TO ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. ONE  
THING CERTAIN. FACT THAT US NAVY HAS PRESENCE AT  
KENITRA AND THE US AIR FORCE TRAINED MOROCCAN F-5  
FIGHTER SQUADRON IS LOST ON NO ONE AND COULD LIKELY  
HAVE EFFECT ON US MILITARY PRESENCE HERE. I HAVE  
ALREADY EMPHASIZED TO FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA  
THAT THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO US INVOLVEMENT - EVEN  
UNWITTING - IN WHAT WAS OBVIOUSLY ALL MOROCCAN AFFAIR.  
ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT I AM SEEKING  
SEE BENHIMA AGAIN TONIGHT TO FORMALLY CONVEY OUR  
SHOCK AND DISMAY AT ANY SUGGESTION THAT AMERICANS  
COULD IN ANY WAY BE INVOLVED IN AN ACTIVITY  
THREATENING THE SECURITY OF THE KING AND TO ASK  
GOM TO ACT PROMPTLY TO PREVENT FURTHER CIRCULATION  
SUCH RUMORS.

GDS  
DE TARR