



FBI

POLICE BULLETIN

November 7, 1973

GUERRILLA GROUP CLAIMS DOWNING OF POLICE HELICOPTER

A group calling itself the August Seventh Guerrilla Movement (ASGM) has claimed responsibility for the October 2 sniper attack on a police helicopter which claimed the lives of two Oakland, California, officers. The pilot of the helicopter was shot in the face and four bullet holes were found in the aircraft, shot down while responding to an armed robbery alarm.

"Communique No. 2," from the ASGM dated October 2, but not postmarked until October 8, was sent a San Francisco newspaper, claiming: *Our forces attacked and destroyed an armed police copter patrolling the city of Oakland sky, resulting in the immediate death of two city troops. The weapons used were two thirty caliber carbine automatic rifles, fired from stationary positions on the ground at the armed copter spying on the city from an altitude of about five to six hundred feet.*

The first communique from the ASGM, sent the news media in July, called for the release of the San Quentin Six and flying them to Cuba or Algeria. The "San Quentin Six" are charged with murder in the August 21, 1971, prison escape attempt by George Jackson. The name August Seventh Guerrilla Movement may refer to the Marin County Courthouse escape attempt by San Quentin inmates on August 7, 1970, which resulted in several deaths, including that of a judge held hostage. The Black Panther Party newspaper of August 11, 1973, claims this incident gave birth to the "August 7th Movement."

A third communique from the ASGM, dated October 4, referred to the commandeering of a taxicab that took place on that date, and a fourth message, anti-drug in content and addressed to the President and "all other pushers of genocide," was found October 8 between the bodies of a black male and a white female, reportedly a known drug pusher and a prostitute. The two had been shot to death.

The *Berkeley Barb* newspaper of October 26 - November 1, 1973, printed "Communique No. 5," dated October 25, from the ASGM. This message detailed the three actions claimed by this group: the "execution" of the two officers in the helicopter, the commandeering of the taxicab to demand a taxi strike in support of the San Quentin Six, and the "execution" of a "dealer in heroin and his companion."

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This last communique then quoted urban guerrilla theoretician Carlos Marighella to the effect that *the fundamental means for attaining power is revolutionary war* and the message concluded with a call for the "oppressed" *to take arms and to overthrow the presently corrupt government by force of violence.*