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Saturday, January 30, 1982

Turkish consul slain by terrorists in L.A.

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Rickover warns of nuclear holocaust

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Dozier rescued in raid



Brig. Gen. Dozier

PADUA, Italy (UPI) — Elite anti-terrorist police stormed a Red Brigades hideout and freed kidnapped U.S. Army Brig. Gen. James L. Dozier unharmed Thursday just as one of his captors was about to kill him with a gun pointed at his head.

"Stupendous operation," said Dozier, who told officials he thought he was about to die. "Just marvelous . . . I feel very good, very good indeed."

Officials said the 50-year-old general, held captive for 42 days, was in good condition at a U.S. military hospital in nearby Vicenza, where his wife Judith was flying to meet him.

Five Red Brigades terrorists — three men and two women — were arrested at the five-room Padua apartment where Dozier apparently had been held since his abduction from his Verona home Dec. 17.

No shots fired

Exuberant police said not a shot was fired in the entire operation, which took but 90 seconds from the moment 10 crack commandos wearing masks and bullet-proof vests broke down the door to the time a stunned Dozier, being freed from his bonds, cracked a smile.

One of the male terrorists was injured by a blow to the head and hospitalized.

In 11 bloody years of terrorism, Dozier was the first victim of the Red Brigades ever to be found

and freed alive. But if the commandos who saved him had taken even seconds longer, he might not have enjoyed that distinction.

As the assault squad burst through the door at exactly 11:36 a.m. (8:30 p.m. Thursday Japan time) one of the terrorists pointed a silenced pistol at Dozier, lying blindfolded and bound by chains in a tent erected in the second room, police said. One of the commandos grabbed the gun just as the terrorist was about to shoot, they said.

Fear it was his last minute

"At that moment, a gun was pointed at me and I didn't know if it would go off, if that was going to be my last minute," Dozier told U.S. Ambassador Maxwell Rabb in a phone conversation.

"He told me how nice it was to see the sun again, to be again a part of the world," Rabb said. "He seems to be in excellent health. Over the telephone his voice had a robust tone."

Rabb said Dozier, sporting a beard and dressed in the same blue track suit he was wearing when he was kidnapped, would stay indefinitely at the U.S. military hospital in Vicenza, site of a NATO air base, to undergo medical exams and spend time with his wife and daughter Cheryl, an Air Force lieutenant.

In Washington, jubilant White House and See DOZIER, Page 8

Dozier's wife: 'Our prayers are answered'

FRANKFURT, West Germany (UPI) — Mrs. Judith Dozier, wife of Brig. Gen. James Dozier, said Thursday her prayers for the release of her husband from captivity had been answered.

"We want to thank all the people in the world for their prayers and love," she said. "We believe in prayer and believe our prayers have been answered."

Mrs. Dozier and her daughter, Cheryl, an Air Force lieutenant, met reporters at the U.S. Army's V Corps headquarters in Frankfurt after she spoke to her husband in Italy by phone.

Mrs. Dozier, who was composed and in good spirits, did not answer questions, but read a prepared statement.

After the session with reporters she and her daughter drove to the U.S. Rhein-Main AB for a flight to Italy to join her husband in Vicenza, the site of a NATO air base.

A photographer at the V Corps session gave Mrs. Dozier a photo of her husband taken after his release and she posed with it, holding it up for photographers.

Mrs. Dozier arrived Jan. 15 in West Germany, where her daughter is stationed, and was staying with American friends.



Mrs. Judith Dozier and her daughter, Lt. Cheryl Dozier, hold a photo showing Gen. James L. Dozier, after he was freed from an Italian terrorist hideout. (UPI)