

neighborhood. Be aware of wrong-number phone calls.

Caution

Avoid going out alone at night. Move in a group of four or five persons. This makes seizure of a pre-selected victim difficult, increases the chance of kidnappers being identified and quickly pursued.

Get your own taxis. When leaving a hotel in the evening, do not phone the desk to order a taxi. Take the first cab in line.

Hire tour guides through the hotel or at a recognized travel agency. Do not accept the services of anyone who approaches you on the street.

If a street disturbance occurs near you, leave quickly. It could be a distraction to cover your kidnapping.

Keep the initiative. When you make your own plans, rather than follow the lead of strangers, it is difficult for someone to lure you into a trap.

Some Useful Hints

Once you perceive something unusual that may mean you are under surveillance, what do you do? First, consult your company security officer.

Avoid unusual dress.

Drive a car that blends readily in local traffic.

Vary your route to work on a random basis.

Vary your times of departure and arrival at home and at work.

Make a mental note of possible sanctuaries along your regular routes where you might get help or protection if you were being pursued: police or fire stations, hotels, gas stations.

POINTERS ON SKYJACKING

Everyone who has read detailed accounts of skyjacking, especially in the Middle East, can appreciate the limited options for any kind of action by those taken hostage. A well-trained political hijack team can be ruthless. Resistance of any kind is just about hopeless.

The individual hostage can only comply with instructions and try not to attract undue attention.

The frequent air traveler should review the cards and papers he normally carries on his person. Anything that indicates reserve military status, Jewish faith, or any other affiliation likely to agitate the political terrorists of our time might best be put in checked baggage.

CRIMINAL SEIZURE

Three Rules For Survival

If you are seized alone or with others in a public place and the gunmen barricade themselves against the police, you can help yourself in several ways. For example, you should:

1. POSE NO THREAT
2. PLAN TO GET REST
3. HESITATE TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS

Response To Fear

The general rule for ordinary people is never to resist an assailant who has a gun pointed at you. Some persons instinctively strike out; others just freeze. In either case, you risk being hurt and perhaps killed. You should make up your mind now that, if the occasion ever arose, you would simply follow orders.

Remember that your attacker is probably as excited as you are. He is likely to respond violently if he senses resistance, and he has the advantage of being psychologically prepared as well as armed - which you are not. Once you get past these initial and very dangerous few minutes, you can take some time to recover control and assess the situation.

Living With Your Captor

The isolation and common peril shared by hostage and captor on the barricade situation often creates a mutual bond between them. After a few hours of stalemate, with heavily armed police "out there" pointing their weapons in your direction, you are likely to fear them more than the wretch or wretches who have taken you prisoner. This is particularly true if the gunmen do not threaten or abuse you, which is more often than not the case.

Your strategy should be to conserve your strength and sleep, if possible, during the long periods of inactivity typical of barricade-hostage standoff. Then be ready to seize the opportunity to escape if the captors drop from exhaustion, as they sometimes do. Be reassured by the fact that, with rare exceptions, hostages have survived this sort of experience unharmed.