

# Teenager's hijack ends in tears

8 May 80 *Canadian*

From Reuter in Lisbon

The hijacking of a Portuguese Boeing 727 ended in a tearful surrender yesterday when a 16-year-old student handed over an unloaded pistol and was taken away by police.

Rui Rodrigues seized the TAP aircraft on a domestic flight on Tuesday and diverted it to Madrid. All 83 passengers, many of them Scandinavian tourists, were released during the night.

Airline sources said that the high school student had at first demanded a \$10 million (£4.4 million) ransom and a flight to Switzerland, but during negotiations at Madrid with the Portuguese Ambassador, Joao Sa Coutinho, he gradually gave up his demands until all he wanted was to go home to Lisbon.

On his return, Rodrigues burst into tears when police arrested him and placed a black hood over his head to prevent the press from photographing him. His parents said he was obsessed with flying saucers, and had run away from home yesterday.

In a separate development, the Oporto daily, *Jornal de Noticias*, said it had received calls from a Left-wing urban guerrilla group claiming responsibility for the killing of a guard during an attack on two banks in a Lisbon suburb earlier this week. The claim came from the newly-formed April 25 Popular Forces.

It was the first time that the group, named after the date of Portugal's 1974 revolution, has claimed responsibility for any armed action.

OFO