

## ***The 1965 Embassy Bombing*** **by Judy Chidester**

*Judy Chidester joined the Foreign Service in 1960 at the age of 21. Her first tour was Amman, followed by Saigon. She was hired as a cryptographer and finished her career as an Information Management Officer. She served in the FS for 35 years, with five tours in the Middle East. Her favorite posts were Amman, Florence and Kigali.*

I have no photos to offer but an interesting aspect of the 1965 bombing. After the bombing, we in Communications stayed in the office to clean up and be ready for what we believed would be an onslaught of traffic. When we did leave we all walked down the steps and, from the bloody fingerprints on the walls, I believe everyone else did, too. We found out later that the building, built many years before with no beams but using pressure to keep things together, suffered no damage and one person was IN the elevator when the bombing occurred. It never stopped running. Funny how peoples' minds work in the aftermath of tragedy.