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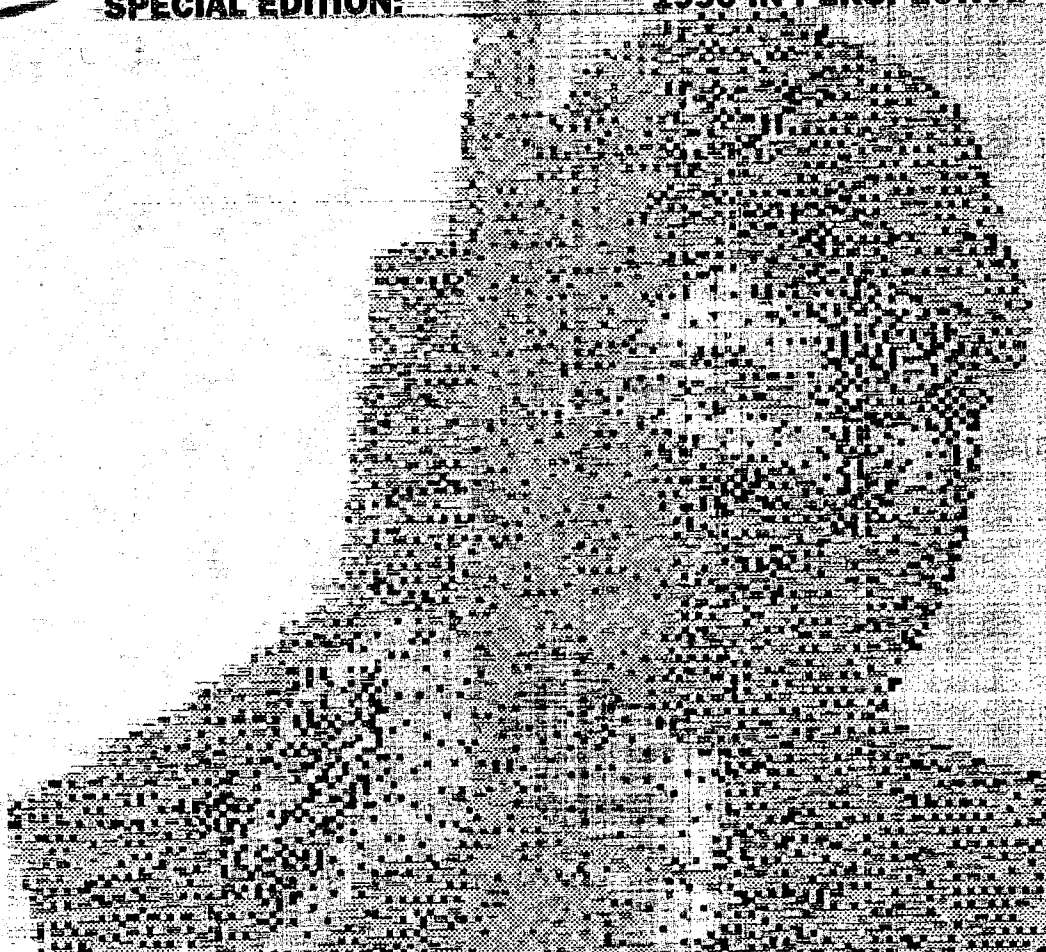


DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER

# TERRORISM REVIEW

SPECIAL EDITION: 1996 IN PERSPECTIVE



CIADI TR 97-001



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DI TR 97-001  
January 1997

Copy 0214

**National Security  
Information**

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Subject to Criminal Sanctions**

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Abbreviations**

NOFORN (NF)  
ORCON (OC)

Not releasable to foreign nationals  
Dissemination and extraction of information  
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[Redacted]

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**Terrorism Review** [Redacted]

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Special Edition: 1996 in Perspective [Redacted]

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Articles	International Terrorism in 1996: A Statistical View [Redacted]	Page	(b)(3)
	[Redacted] <i>CTC</i>	1	(b)(3) (b)(3) (b)(6)
	A total of 296 international terrorist incidents were recorded during 1996. Although the number of international terrorist incidents was down this year—and has declined to a rate of about 400 incidents per year over the past five years, as compared to an average of 600 during the mid- and late 1980s—the casualties from such incidents have climbed markedly. [Redacted]		(b)(3)
	[Redacted]		(b)(1) (b)(3)
	<b>HAMAS: Renewing Terrorist Threats</b> [Redacted]	13	(b)(3)
	[Redacted] <i>CTC</i>		(b)(3) (b)(6)
	The Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS) is again threatening to attack Israeli targets, despite the effective Israeli and Palestinian Authority security sweeps following the bombings in February and March 1996. Although the group's militant cells and infrastructure were unable to conduct operations during the last nine months because of the heightened security, its terrorist infrastructure probably survived the sweeps. The recent agreement on redeployment from Hebron may cause the group to put attack plans on hold, but HAMAS probably calculates that renewed Israeli stonewalling on the peace process will prompt the Palestinian public to support new attacks. [Redacted]		(b)(3)

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**Islamic Terrorism in Bosnia and Herzegovina: The Dog That Has Not Barked—Yet** [redacted] 17

[redacted] CTC, with contributions from [redacted]  
[redacted] CTC

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Foreign Islamic extremists continued to make inroads in Bosnia in 1996 but refrained from carrying out terrorist attacks against the Implementation Force (IFOR) and other Western interests there. Nonetheless, the threat to IFOR's successor, the Stabilization Force (SFOR), could rise if the Islamic extremists view the Western presence as a menace to their activities in Bosnia. [redacted]

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**Stopping Terrorists in Their Tracks** [redacted] 29  
*Collated by the CTC Editorial Staff*

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This section chronicles the capture, death, or conviction of seven terrorists in 1996. The information comes from open sources and contributions to the *Terrorism Review*. [redacted]

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**The Terrorism Diary for February and March** [redacted] 33  
*Counterterrorist Center*

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[Redacted]

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	<b>Chronology of International Terrorism</b> [Redacted] CTC	[Redacted] 35	(b)(3) (b)(3)
	<b>Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—December 1996</b> [Redacted] CTC	[Redacted] 39	(b)(3) (b)(3)
<b>Erratum</b>	[Redacted]		(b)(1) (b)(3)

*This review is published monthly by the DCI Counterterrorist Center. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Executive Editor on [Redacted]*

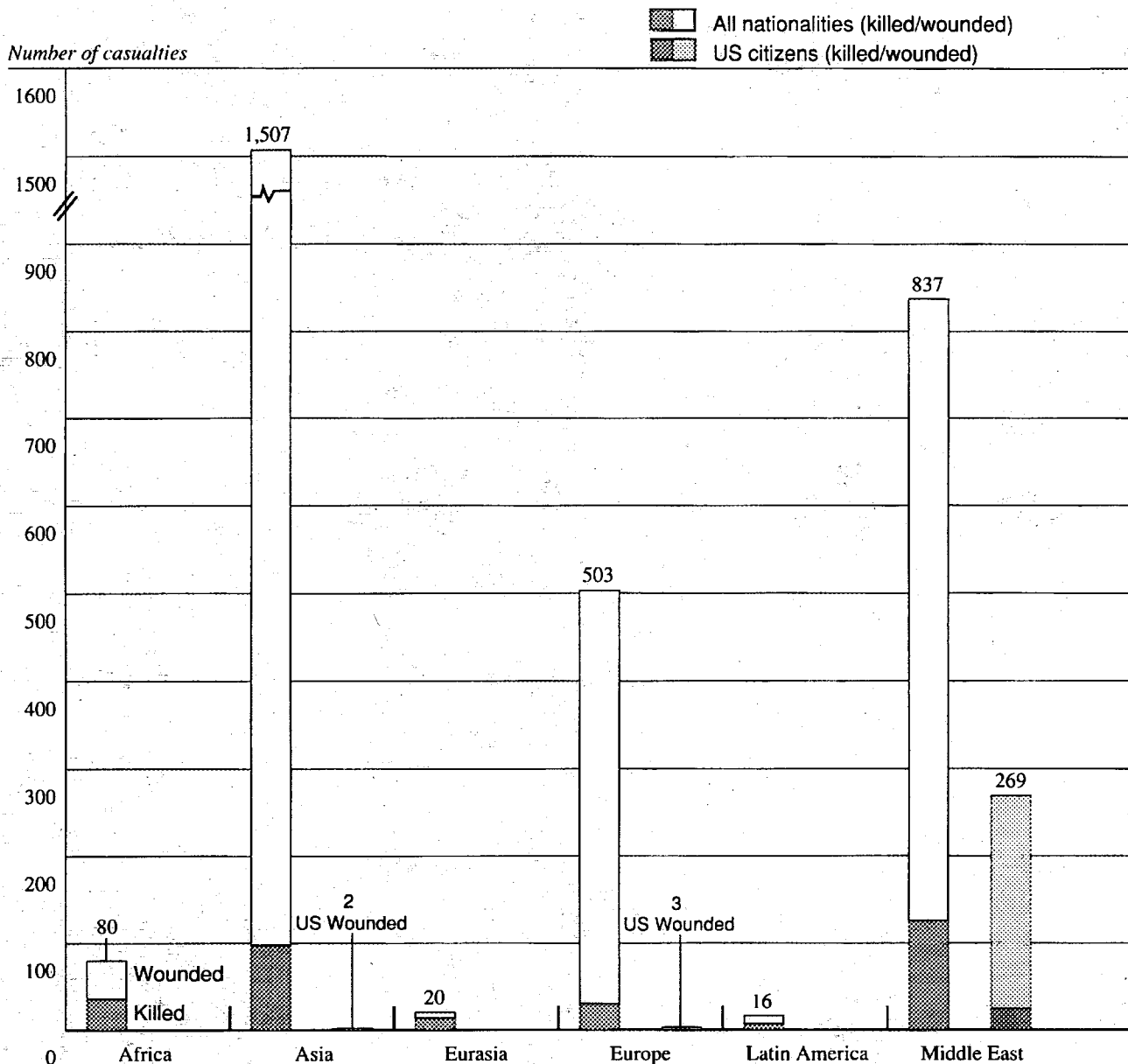
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*Information available as of 24 January 1997 was used in this Review.*

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### Casualties Worldwide in 1996 (U)

*Note vertical scale break*



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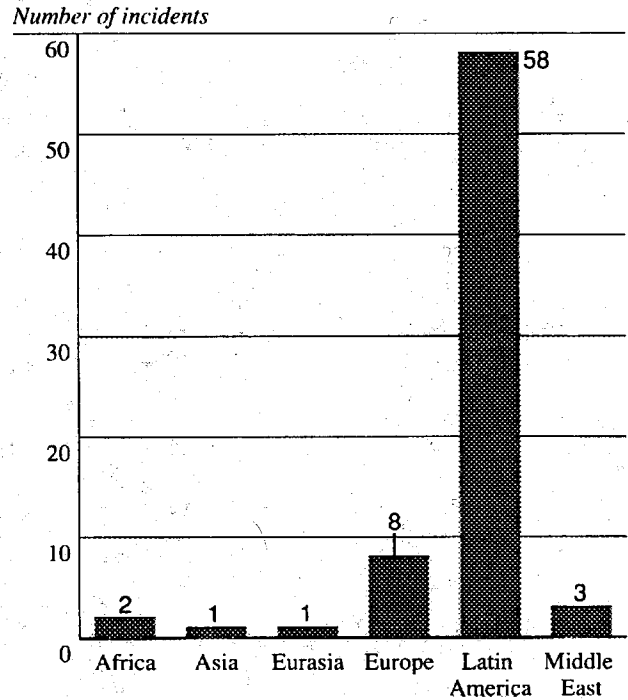
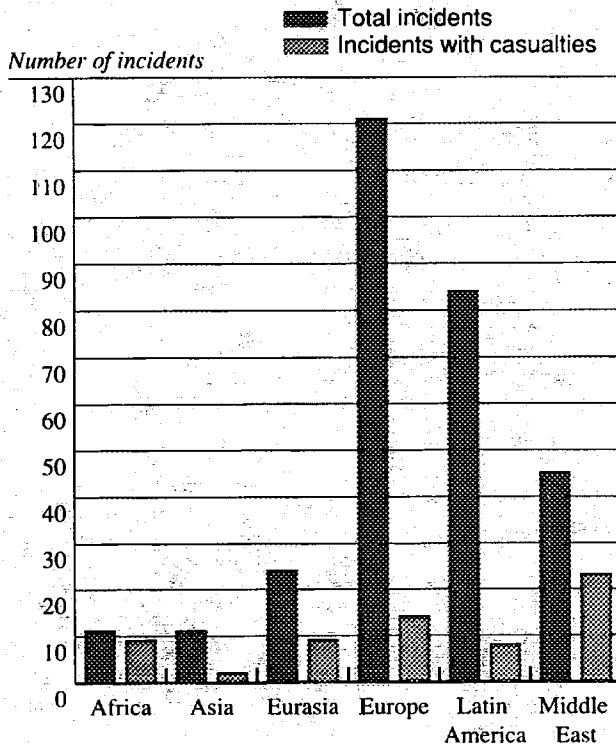
### International Terrorism in 1996: A Statistical View

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Incidents of International Terrorism 1996

Anti-US Incidents During 1996

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Although the number of international terrorist incidents was down this year—and has declined to a rate of about 400 incidents per year over the past five years, as compared to an average of 600 during the mid- and late 1980s—the casualties from such incidents have been climbing. A total of 296 international terrorist incidents were recorded during 1996, as compared with 440 during 1995, a decrease of 33 percent. The decrease was due, in large measure, to substantially fewer attacks by the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in Western Europe, especially in Germany. Nevertheless, Western Europe continues to rank first

as the favorite locale for terrorist activity, with 121 terrorist events. Latin America was the second-most-active region, with 84 incidents, followed by the Middle East with 45.

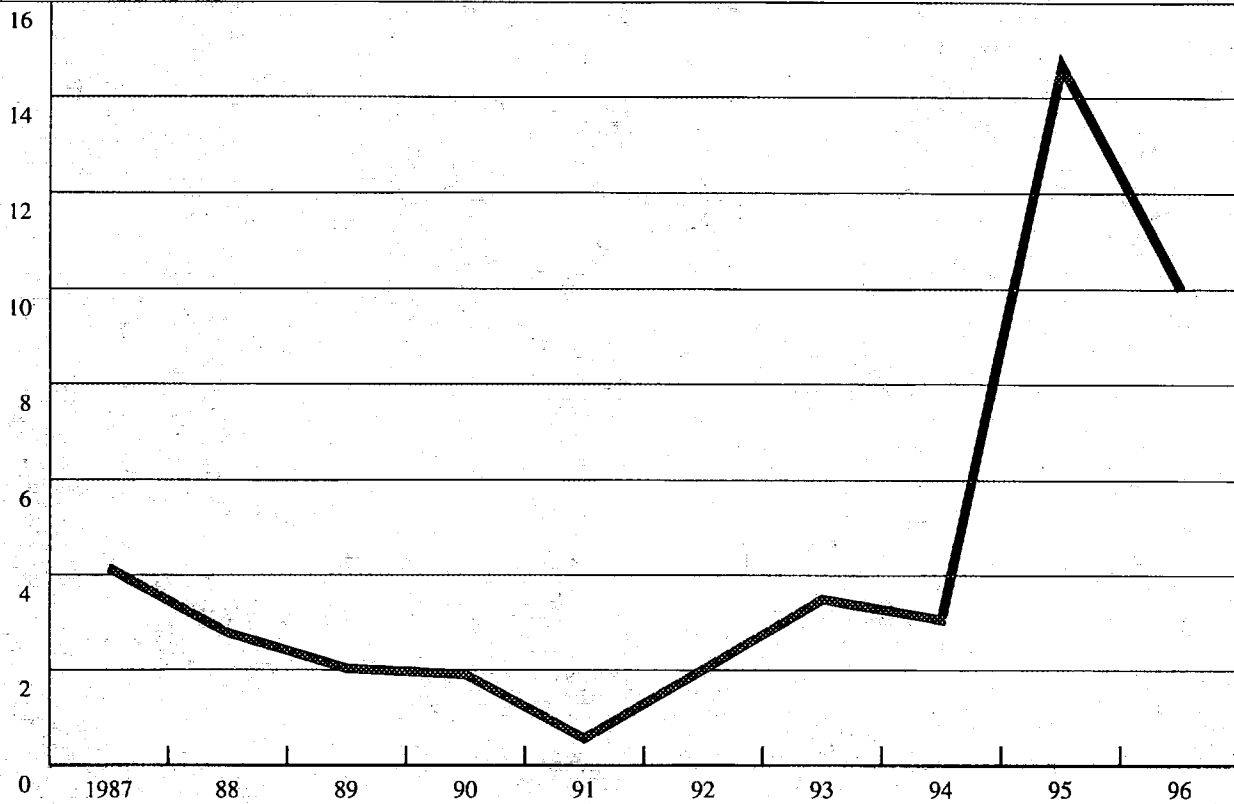
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The United States was targeted in 73 terrorist attacks worldwide, or 25 percent of the total, as compared to 99, or 22 percent of all incidents in 1995. Statistically, it was more dangerous for a US citizen in 1996 to be in the Middle East than in any other region—largely a

**Lethality of International Terrorism, 1987-96**

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*Number of casualties per incident*



[Redacted]

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result of the bombing at the Khubar Towers barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in June—but more US property was targeted in Latin America (mostly oil pipelines that US businesses operate jointly with Colombians), as has been the case during the past several years. As in 1995, there were no recorded incidents of international terrorism in the US during 1996. [Redacted]

The trends in casualties suggest incidents are becoming more lethal. Attacks in 1996 killed 311 persons and injured 2,652 others worldwide. These figures compare with 163 deaths and 6,291 injuries during 1995. US casualties during 1996 include 24 fatalities

and 250 injuries—about 10 percent of the total—as compared with 10 deaths and 60 injuries during 1995. Both years, the worldwide statistics have been skewed slightly by high casualty rates from a single incident: in 1996, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam bombed the Central Bank in Colombo, Sri Lanka, killing 90 persons and injuring 1,400. In 1995 some 5,500 persons were wounded during a nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway in March. Nevertheless, the overall totals indicate that fewer incidents are killing and injuring a greater number of individuals [Redacted]

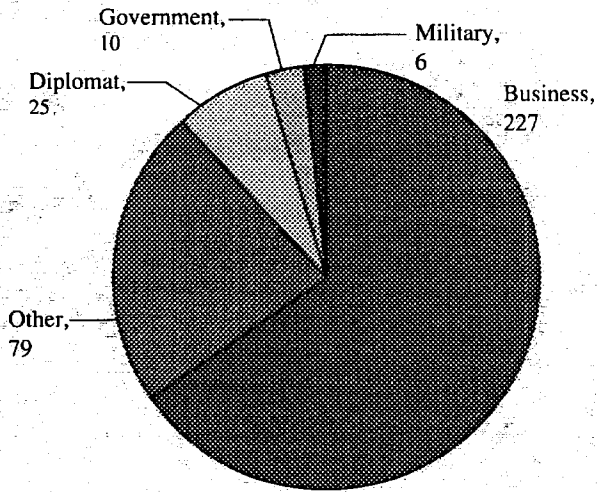
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**Types of Targets/Facilities 1996**

*Number of incidents*



The growing casualty figures are a result of both the choice of "softer" targets and the use of weaponry that is intended to cause mass casualties. Civilian targets are becoming increasingly popular, as terrorists have been thwarted by well-protected diplomatic and military targets (the hostage taking at the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima in December notwithstanding). In addition, the use of certain weaponry, such as the sarin gas in Tokyo and massive high-explosive vehicle bombs like the one used in Colombo, are augmenting the casualty toll  (b)(3)

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<sup>a</sup> Some incidents involved more than one type of target and therefore are counted twice

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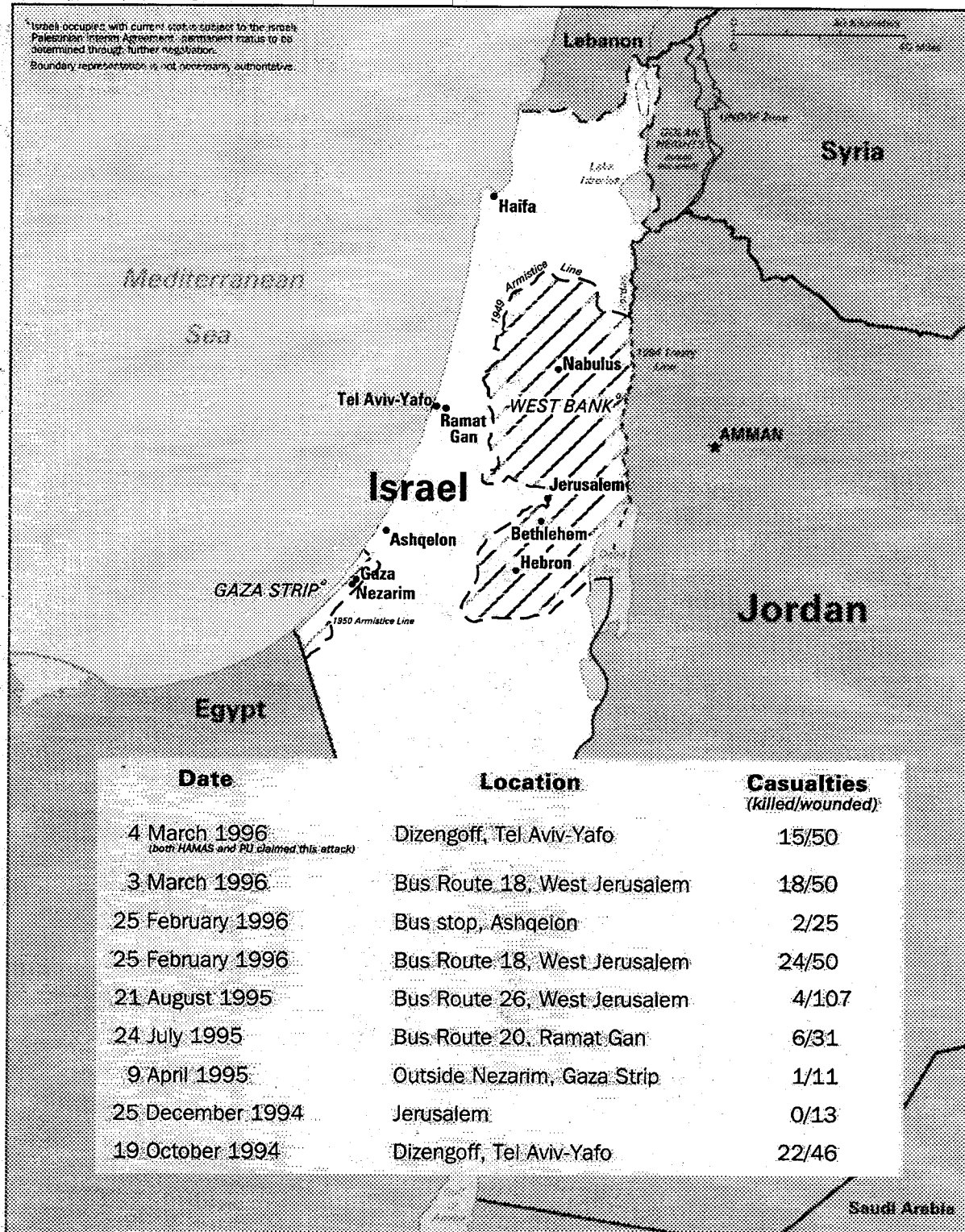






### HAMAS Bombings, 1994-96

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### HAMAS: Renewing Terrorist Threats [redacted]

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The Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS) is again threatening to attack Israeli targets, despite the effective Israeli and Palestinian Authority (PA) security sweeps following the bombings in February and March 1996. Although the group's militant cells and infrastructure were unable to conduct operations during the last nine months of 1996 because of the heightened security, its terrorist infrastructure probably survived the sweeps. The group also can draw on its cadres outside the territories to augment its terrorist cells, as well as those HAMAS members recently released from Palestinian detention. The recent agreement on redeployment from Hebron may cause the group to put attack plans on hold, but HAMAS probably calculates that renewed Israeli stonewalling on the peace process will prompt the Palestinian public to support new attacks. [redacted]

#### Ready To Strike Despite Continuing Police Pressure [redacted]

The PA and Israel have cooperated closely to disrupt the HAMAS terrorist infrastructure since the February and March bombings, arresting more than 1,000 suspected HAMAS supporters. [redacted]

[redacted] Nevertheless, HAMAS's terrorist capability has survived the police actions. [redacted]



In the past, HAMAS has withstood similar security sweeps because some of its leading militants avoided capture and because the group was able to draw on its

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#### Targets for HAMAS Attacks [redacted]

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[redacted] (b)(1)  
[redacted] the group has focused on buses and b, (b)(3)  
stops since October 1994. HAMAS has used disguised suicide bombers who have carried bombs in briefcases or duffel bags, or who have driven car bombs into buses or vehicle convoys. Security measures—guards on buses, rolling checkpoints—instigated since the bombings in early 1996 may, however, force HAMAS to try new tactics and/or new targets to avoid the police and security nets. [redacted] (b)(3)

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cadres outside the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, who returned to the territories and established new networks of terrorists: (b)(3)

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[redacted] (b)(3)  
[redacted] (b)(3)  
[redacted] (b)(3)  
[redacted] (b)(3)

- HAMAS probably has been able to build some new cells on the strength of the dozens of HAMAS (b)(1) porters—including some leading militants—wh (b)(3) had been arrested during the security sweeps last spring but were recently released from PA detention. [redacted] (b)(3)

HAMAS cadres in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank have the training and probably the materials to conduct ambushes, street shootings, and suicide bombings, despite the crackdown by the PA and Israel.

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HAMAS bombing of bus along the Jaffa Road in Jerusalem on 25 February. [redacted]



**The Volcano Is Rumbling** [redacted]

By December 1996, HAMAS militants were threatening publicly to renew attacks against Israel:

- On 13 December, Izz el-Din el-Qassam released a statement to an international news service that declared it was preparing for military operations to mark the anniversary of the murder of the group's bombmaker, Yahyah Ayyash, who was killed on 5 January 1996. HAMAS blames the Israelis for his assassination (see page 29).

- In early December, HAMAS political leader Khalid Mish'al claimed in a press interview that the Izz el-Din el-Qassam had not attacked since March because of the strong Israeli and Palestinian security operations against them but that the police could only hamper operations, not stop them. [redacted]

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Other information suggests that, in fact, HAMAS has been planning at least one terrorist operation:

- On 18 December, Israeli undercover border police arrested five HAMAS militants who were on their way to conduct an attack. [redacted] The five lived in Bethlehem and were arrested near that city.
- During the week of 22 December, the Israeli and PA services arrested a newly identified HAMAS cell that was planning an operation for early January to commemorate Ayyash's murder.

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**Timing Is Everything** [redacted]

HAMAS militants may believe that the Palestinian populace would approve of attacks at this time because of its growing frustration with the current Israeli Government. The Palestinians are angry about Prime Minister Netanyahu's policies of expanding settlements, the long delay in implementing the Hebron withdrawal, and the Israeli supreme court decision to allow the use of physical force during questioning of suspects. During his interview, Khalid Mish'al cited those factors as proof of continued Israeli antipathy toward Palestinians, saying "we believe that this aggressive nature can only be curbed by more resistance and jihad."

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- Leading Palestinian officials have denounced Israel's policies, and the PA's official spokesman has referred to the Israeli Government's recent decision

to provide financial incentives for settlers as a "direct call for violence" and a "declaration of war."

- HAMAS officials have announced that the Hebron withdrawal agreement that the PA concluded with the Israeli Government in January is unacceptable and "divides Hebron between Jews and the Palestinians for the first time in the history of the city; keeps the Ibrahimi mosque under the full control of the occupation soldiers . . . and places most of the old city of Hebron and more than 20,000 Palestinians under the mercy of the Zionists." [redacted]

HAMAS appears to be regaining among Palestinians support that had waned when the peace process was moving forward under the previous Israeli Government:

- HAMAS candidates won control of the student government of Al Najah University in Nabulus recently. [redacted] Arafat's supporters say they lost the elections because of widespread dissatisfaction with the peace process.

- The PA sanctioned a large HAMAS rally in Gaza in late December and another in Nabulus in January to mark the anniversary of the founding of the group,

[redacted]

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In the wake of the 15 January Hebron agreement, HAMAS militants may decide to wait for another provocation by the Netanyahu government before launching attacks in order to avoid angering the Palestinian public the way last winter's operations did. On 20 January a HAMAS member in Hebron told a journalist that the group would suspend the use of violence—particularly against settlers—in Hebron and would not confront the Palestinian Authority in that city. [redacted]

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*This article is* [redacted]

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Former Yugoslavia



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**Islamic Terrorism in Bosnia and Herzegovina: The Dog That Has Not Barked—Yet** [redacted]

(b)(3)

**Foreign Islamic extremists continued to make inroads in Bosnia in 1996 but refrained from carrying out terrorist attacks against the Implementation Force (IFOR) and other Western interests there. Nonetheless, the threat to IFOR's successor, the Stabilization Force (SFOR), could rise if the Islamic extremists view the Western presence as a menace to their activities in Bosnia.** [redacted]

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**Extremists Settle In** [redacted]

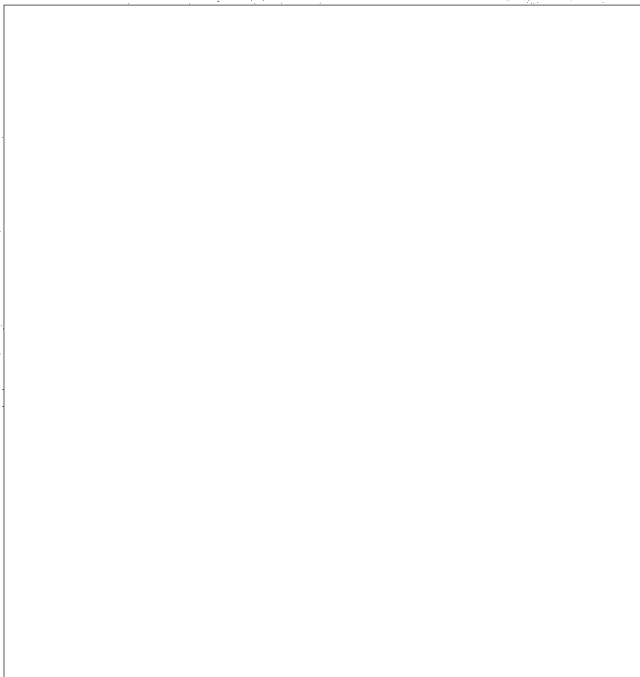
The threat to the Implementation Force from foreign Islamic extremists—which was particularly high following the sentencing of the Egyptian al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya's spiritual leader, Shaykh Umar Abd al-Rahman, to life in prison in January 1996—diminished somewhat over the course of the year. This decline was caused in part by the departure of the vast majority of foreign forces from Bosnia in accordance with the Dayton agreement. In addition, international terrorist groups with a presence in Bosnia, including al-Gama'at and Lebanese Hizballah, and state sponsor Iran focused primarily on building up their infrastructures and influence in the Balkan country rather than risk expulsion for carrying out terrorist attacks. [redacted]

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**Small-Scale Attacks by Probable Indigenous Elements** [redacted]

*The diminished threat did not leave Western interests in Bosnia entirely immune from terrorist attacks in 1996. Several low-level incidents occurred, the prime targets of which were international and multinational organizations assisting in the country's postwar transition. The perpetrators remain unidentified, but observers believe disgruntled members of the former warring factions are responsible:*

- [redacted] assailants threw a handgrenade at an office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on 19 December in Foca, damaging two cars.
- A grenade was tossed into an International Police Task Force (IPTF) vehicle in Southern Bosnia on 22 November, [redacted] There were no injuries.
- On 5 August, security officials in Sarajevo, tipped off by a telephone warning, defused a bomb in a building housing OSCE offices, [redacted]
- An assailant threw a handgrenade at a vehicle belonging to a member of the local OSCE office in Banja Luka on 28 July, destroying the car and damaging a nearby building.
- A grenade was thrown at an IPTF station in Grbavica on 18 July. There were no damages or injuries.
- A bomb exploded outside IPTF headquarters in Vlasenica on 12 July, damaging three vehicles and breaking some 30 windows in nearby buildings.

[redacted]

**Do Not Tread on Us** [redacted]

Although the Islamic extremists patiently endured the one-year deployment of IFOR, the extension of the international forces' presence in Bosnia into 1997 could increase the threat level if the extremists conclude that the forces' activities are endangering their

own security or goals. [redacted]

[Large redacted area]

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[redacted]

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~~Secret~~The Terrorism Diary for February and March 

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*Below is a compendium of February and March dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.*

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<i>1 February 1979</i>	<i>Iran.</i> Return of Ayatollah Khomeini to Iran from exile in Paris.
<i>1 February 1984</i>	<i>India.</i> Kashmir separatist leader Maqbool Butt executed.
<i>3 February 1963</i>	<i>Iraq.</i> Anniversary of Ba'th Revolution.
<i>4 February 1948</i>	<i>Sri Lanka.</i> Independence Day.
<i>4 February 1979</i>	<i>Iran.</i> Revolution Day.
<i>7 February 1997</i>	Quds Day or Jerusalem Day. Muslims protest Israeli occupation of Jerusalem. (Quds Day is commemorated on the last Friday of Ramadan, which in 1997 ends on 8 February.)
<i>8 February 1963</i>	<i>Iraq.</i> Revolution Day.
<i>14 February 1979</i>	<i>Iran.</i> Attack on US Embassy in Tehran; the Embassy was briefly occupied and the Ambassador briefly held.
<i>19 February 1980</i>	<i>Egypt, Israel.</i> Exchange of ambassadors.
<i>22 February 1969</i>	<i>Palestinians.</i> Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine founded.
<i>25 February 1991</i>	<i>Iraq.</i> Beginning of the ground war in Desert Storm.
<i>26 February 1993</i>	<i>United States.</i> World Trade Center bombing in New York City.
<i>2 March 1956</i>	<i>Morocco.</i> Independence Day (termination of Treaty of Fez).
<i>2 March 1977</i>	<i>Libya.</i> Establishment of Jamahiriyah (Masses' State).
<i>3 March 1878</i>	<i>Bulgaria.</i> Independence Day.
<i>3 March 1961</i>	<i>Morocco.</i> Accession of King Hassan to throne.
<i>4 March 1982</i>	<i>Colombia, United States.</i> Effective date of extradition treaty aimed at narcotics traffickers.
<i>6 March 1957</i>	<i>Ghana.</i> Independence Day.
<i>6 March 1975</i>	<i>Kurdish region.</i> Algerian accord between Iran and Iraq abandoning support for the Kurds.

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**10 March 1979** *Kurdish region.* Death of Kurdish leader Mulla Mustafa Barzani.

**11 March 1966** *Indonesia.* President Sukarno turns over power to Suharto.

**12 March 1968** *Gabon.* National Day.

**12 March 1880** *Turkey.* Birthday of Ataturk.

**12 March 1968** *Mauritius.* Independence Day.

**13 March 1979** *Grenada.* Coup d'etat by Maurice Bishop (National Day).

**14 March 1975** *Japan.* Chukaku-ha (Nucleus Faction) Secretary General Honda assassinated by rival radical groups.

**17 March** *Ireland.* St. Patrick's Day (National Day).

**20 March 1956** *Tunisia.* Independence Day.

**20 March 1981** *Colombia.* Death of M-19 terrorist Carmenza Londono (La Chiqui).

**21 March** *Turkey.* Kurdish New Year.

**22 March 1945** *Arab World.* Founding of Arab League (original members: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Syria).

**23 March 1956** *Pakistan.* Pakistan Day (founding of Islamic republic).

**25 March 1921** *Greece.* Greek Revolution Memorial Day (celebrating beginning of independence from Turkey).

**25 March 1932** *Iraq.* Independence Day.

**25 March 1975** *Saudi Arabia.* Assassination of King Faisal and accession of King Khalid.

**26 March 1971** *Bangladesh.* Independence Day.

**26 March 1978** *Egypt, Israel.* Peace agreement ratified.

**26 March 1970** *Libya.* UK Evacuation Day (day British forces turned over bases and departed).

**28 March** *Palestinians.* National Day.

**30 March 1974** *Turkey.* Death of terrorist Mahir Cayan, member of Turkish People's Liberation Party.

**30 March 1976** *Palestinians.* Day of the Homeland.



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~~Secret~~**Chronology of International Terrorism** [redacted] (b)(3)

*The following incidents were considered by the Intelligence Community's Incident Review Panel since publication of the previous issue of the Terrorism Review and were determined by the Panel to constitute international terrorism. Such incidents provide the basis for the State Department's Patterns of Global Terrorism, which is published annually as the US Government's official record of international terrorism.* [redacted] (b)(3)

**Africa****1 November**

**Sudan:** *A breakaway group from the Sudanese People's Liberation Army kidnapped three International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) workers when their plane landed in Wunrock.* The hostages, a US citizen, an Australian, and a Kenyan, were transporting five wounded Sudanese soldiers who had been released from a Red Cross hospital in Kenya. On 9 December the rebels released the hostages in exchange for ICRC supplies and a health survey for their camp. [redacted] (b)(3)

**27 December**

**Eritrea:** *Unknown assailants killed five Belgian tourists and their Eritrean driver as they returned to Asmara from a field trip.* No one claimed responsibility for the attack, but the Sudanese-supported *Eritrean Islamic Jihad* is suspected. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Asia****20 November**

**Philippines:** *Authorities detonated a bomb found in a bag in the arrival area of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.* No one claimed responsibility for the bomb. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Eurasia****1 October**

**Russia:** *Assailants attacked and killed a South Korean diplomat near the victim's apartment in Vladivostok.* No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(1)  
[redacted] (b)(3)

**8 December**

**Tajikistan:** *Guerrillas attacked a jointly owned Tajik-British gold mine in Darvaz, abducting four employees and causing an unknown amount of damage.* Two of the hostages were a Briton and a South African. The assailants occupied the mine for five days. After negotiations, the hostages were released on 28 December in the village of Childara. [redacted] (b)(3)

**12 December**

**Tajikistan:** *A mine placed in a Pakistani Embassy vehicle detonated in front of the Embassy in Dushanbe, destroying the vehicle and damaging the Embassy.* No one claimed responsibility for the attack. Tajik opposition forces or groups opposing the cease-fire agreement may be responsible. [redacted] (b)(3)

**17 December**

**Russia:** *Gunmen broke into a residential area for the ICRC in Novyye Atagi, Chechnya, shooting to death six ICRC staff employees while they were sleeping and wounding a seventh.* The victims included two Norwegians, a Dutch national, a Canadian, a New Zealander, a Spaniard, and a Swiss national. [redacted] (b)(3)

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- 19 December** *Bosnia-Herzegovina: An assailant threw a hand grenade at a regional office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, causing major damage to two vehicles.* One of the vehicles belonged to the international Implementation Force. No group claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)
- 20 December** *Tajikistan: An armed group stopped a convoy between Fayzabad and Gharm and seized 23 hostages, including seven UN military observers from Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, the UK, and Uruguay.* Tajik Government officials, former prisoners of war, and Tajik Islamic opposition members also were taken captive. The group claimed it was loyal to Rezvon Sadirov, a rebel leader who recently defected to the government. After releasing 21 hostages on 22 December, the group released one more hostage in exchange for the release of Sadirov's brother on 25 December. The last hostage was released later without any further demands. [redacted] (b)(3)
- 25 December** *Bulgaria: A bomb detonated outside the Serbian Embassy's consular section in Sofia, causing minor damage.* No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)
- Europe**
- 30 September** *Turkey: Assailants threw a handgrenade at the Eastern Orthodox Church's headquarters in Istanbul.* The grenade exploded in the garden, causing minor damage. The *Great Eastern Islamic Raiders-Front* claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)
- 15 November** *Greece: A small bomb detonated in Athens underneath the car of a Dutch Embassy employee, causing major damage to the vehicle but no injuries.* A group calling itself *The Revolutionary Front* claimed responsibility. [redacted] (b)(3)
- 17 November** *Turkey: A fire broke out at the Tozbey Hotel in Istanbul, killing 17 Ukrainians and wounding over 40 people.* The *Turkish Islamic Jihad* claimed responsibility on 23 November for the attack. [redacted] (b)(1)  
[redacted] (b)(3)
- 3 December** *France: A bomb detonated aboard a Paris subway train as it arrived at the Port Royal station, killing four commuters and injuring 86 others.* Casualties included Canadian, US, and Moroccan nationals. No one claimed responsibility. [redacted] (b)(1)  
[redacted] (b)(3)
- 19 December** *Greece: Unknown assailants bombed a Citibank office building in Athens, causing extensive damage to the facade, nearby vehicles, and surrounding buildings.* Authorities believe members or sympathizers of the *Revolutionary Organization 17 November* or the *Revolutionary People's Struggle* are responsible. [redacted] (b)(3)
- 20 December** *Italy: An improvised incendiary device detonated outside the Peruvian consulate building in Milan, causing minor material damage.* A note found at the scene hinted that the attack was perpetrated by the *Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA)*, but local authorities suspect Italian sympathizers of the Peruvian leftist group which is holding hostages in the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima, Peru (see page 38). [redacted] (b)(3)

26 December

**Greece: An incendiary device detonated outside an Athens Citibank branch office, damaging an automated teller machine.** An unknown group, the *Nucleus of Revolutionary Violence*, claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)

30 December

**Greece: A bomb exploded outside offices housing the Peruvian Embassy in Athens, injuring one person and causing minor damage.** The *Fighting Guerrilla Formation* claimed responsibility for the bombing, saying that the attack was an act of solidarity with *MRTA* rebels. [redacted] (b)(3)

Latin America

22 October

**Colombia: National Liberation Army (ELN) members attacked the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline near Araquita, causing a spill and igniting a fire.** [redacted] (b)(3)

7 November

**Colombia: Assailants hurled two explosive devices at a Mormon church in Tulua, causing minor material damage but no injuries.** The attackers left several pamphlets outside the church identifying themselves as *ELN* members and denouncing US efforts to reinstate an extradition treaty with Colombia. [redacted] (b)(3)

7 November

[redacted] (b)(1)  
(b)(3)

7 November

**Colombia: An explosive device detonated in Bogota near Colombia's national newspaper library, where representatives of the Nonaligned Movement were meeting in the library's auditorium.** The explosion damaged a library office but caused no injuries. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)

8 November

**Chile: Six hooded individuals hurled five Molotov cocktails inside a Mormon church on Cerro Navia, causing minor damage but no injuries.** No group claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)

1-2 December

**Colombia: On two consecutive days, suspected Colombian guerrillas dynamited two sections of the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline in the Arauca province, causing major oil spills.** The *ELN* is suspected [redacted] (b)(3)

11 December

**Colombia: Five armed men claiming to be members of the FARC kidnapped a US mining engineer in La Guajira Departamento.** The engineer was working for a company that is exploring methane gas in the region. [redacted] (b)(3)

**17 December**

**Peru: Twenty-three MRTA militants took several hundred persons hostage at a party given at the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima.** The terrorists entered the compound dressed as waiters and set off explosions and exchanged gunfire with police. Among the hostages were US officials; European, Latin American, and Asian ambassadors; other foreign diplomats and staff; several Peruvian Government officials; and a large number of Japanese businessmen. The group is demanding the release of all MRTA members currently in prison and safe passage for them and the hostage takers. The guerrillas released most of the hostages in December but are holding over 70 Peruvian and Japanese citizens.

(b)(3)

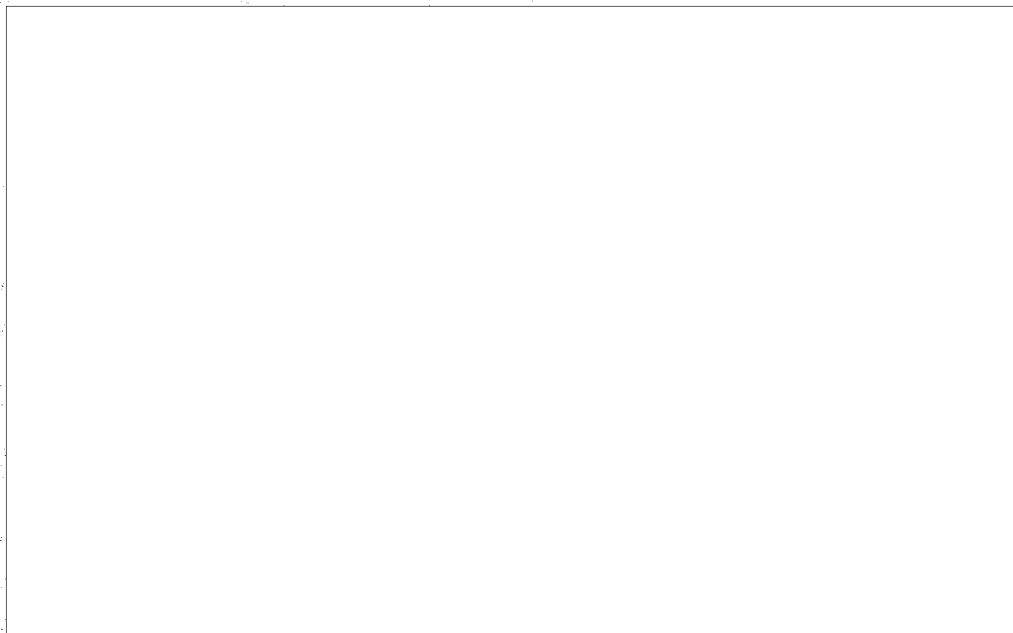
**Middle East**

**12 November**

**15 November**

**1 December**

**31 December**



(b)(1)

(b)(3)

~~Secret~~**Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—December 1996** [redacted] (b)(3)

*This description of incidents and situations is not meant to be a detailed accounting of all domestic terrorist incidents, but rather to provide an overview of indigenous terrorism worldwide.* [redacted] (b)(3)

**Asia****India**

A bomb exploded on a passenger train in Ambala on 2 December, killing 12 persons and injuring 39 others. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Pakistan**

A time bomb exploded outside a branch office of the National Bank of Pakistan in Karachi on 4 December, injuring 19 persons. No one claimed responsibility. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Sri Lanka**

On 17 December in Karaitivu a *Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)* suicide bomber on a motorcycle detonated a bomb against a police jeep, killing a police commando and wounding his driver. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Europe****Spain**

A bomb detonated in an Irun courthouse on 5 December, causing minor damage but no injuries. The *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* claimed responsibility. [redacted] (b)(3)

*ETA* forces threw three grenades at a San Sebastian civil guard barracks building on 18 December, causing minor damage to an outer wall but no injuries. Two persons were arrested. [redacted] (b)(3)

On 27 December assailants set fire to a police vehicle and two public buses in Bilbao, causing extensive damage but no injuries. Authorities suspect *ETA* youth sympathizers. [redacted] (b)(3)

*ETA* youth supporters threw several Molotov cocktails at a Hernani train station terminal, bank office, and several parked vehicles on 29 December, injuring a policeman and causing extensive damage. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Turkey**

Gunmen opened fire at the Dargecit Mayor's house on 9 December. The gunmen fled when security personnel returned gunfire. The *Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)* is suspected. [redacted] (b)(3)

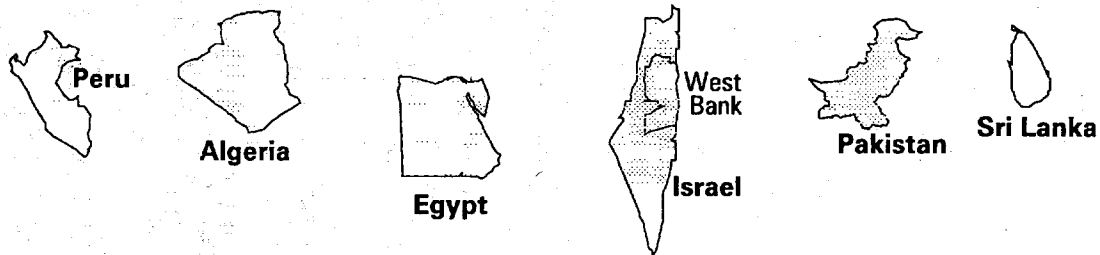
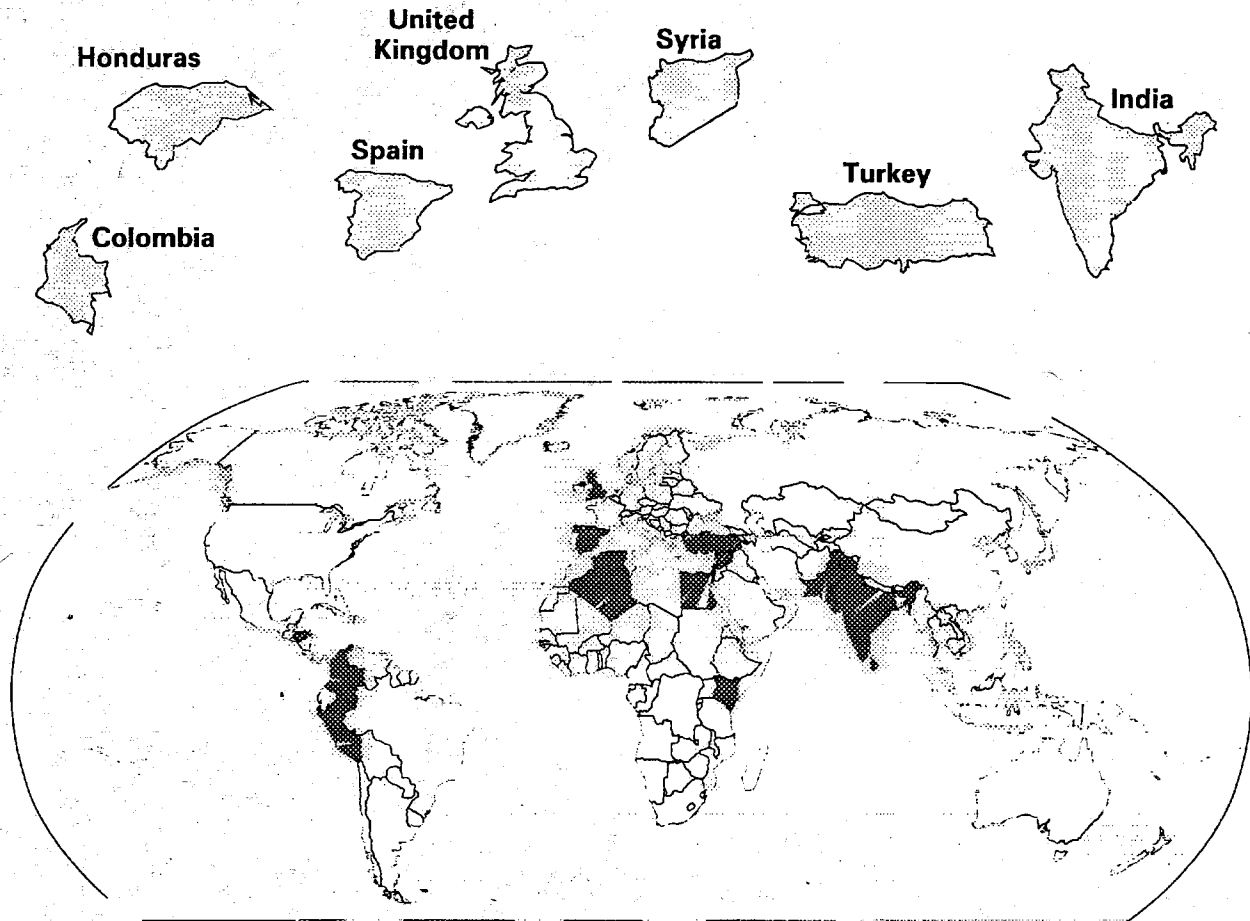
A bomb exploded next to a confessional booth inside a Catholic church in the district of Beyoglu in Istanbul on 17 December, causing minor damage. No one claimed responsibility. [redacted] (b)(3)

Five armed assailants abducted the brother of the Mayor of Lice on 30 December from his residence there. The *PKK* claimed responsibility on 2 January. [redacted] (b)(3)

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DI TR 97-001  
January 1997

**Incidents of Indigenous Terrorism During December 1996**

(b)(3)



Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.

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(b)(3)

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Two bombs exploded in Diyarbakir on 31 December. One was near a nightclub and the other was outside a billiard hall in a different part of town. No casualties were reported, and no one claimed responsibility for the attacks. [redacted] (b)(3)

**United Kingdom**

Unidentified gunmen shot and wounded a police officer on 20 December as he guarded a Democratic Unionist Party official visiting his son at a Belfast hospital. The *Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA)* claimed responsibility. [redacted] (b)(3)

A car bomb detonated in Belfast on 22 December, injuring a vocal *PIRA* supporter and causing minor damage. Loyalist paramilitary groups are suspected. [redacted] (b)(3)

Authorities defused an explosive device hidden on the car of a suspected *PIRA* official in Londonderry on 28 December after the device became partially detached from the car. Authorities believe loyalist paramilitary groups are responsible. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Latin America**

**Colombia**

On 17 December in Currulao Municipality, 10 *Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia* guerrillas bombed a market. No injuries or damage were reported. Army members opened fire, killing four guerrillas. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Honduras**

Authorities defused two bombs found at the Public Ministry Headquarters in Tegucigalpa on 3 December. No one claimed responsibility for the attack [redacted] (b)(1)  
[redacted] (b)(3)

**Peru**

A group of 50 *Sendero Luminoso* rebels used sticks and stones to kill five peasants in Abra De Porculla on 26 December. After a bus arrived they shot the bus driver in the head and set the bus on fire. They fled shouting "death to the informers." [redacted] (b)(3)

**Middle East**

**Algeria**

On 11 December suspected Islamic extremists killed 20 persons and injured seven others who were traveling on a bus in the Blida region. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Egypt**

On 19 December in Markaz Mallawi in Al Minya Governorate, unidentified gunmen shot and killed two policemen and wounded a third policeman and a civilian. *Al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya* may be responsible. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Israel**

A bomb exploded on 6 December near a high school bus stop at the exit from Ramla toward Lod, injuring a girl. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(3)

**Syria**

A bomb exploded on a bus outside a terminal in Damascus on 31 December, killing 22 persons and injuring 31 others. No one claimed responsibility for the attack [redacted] (b)(1) [redacted] (b)(3)

**West Bank**

On 11 December militants opened fire on a car at the Surda Junction near the Bet El settlement, killing two persons and injuring four others. The *Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine* claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted] (b)(1) [redacted] (b)(3)

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