



Directorate of
Intelligence

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C.B.

**Terrorism
Review**



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17 February 1983

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**Terrorism
Review**

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Comments and queries regarding this publication may be directed to the Research Director, Instability and Insurgency Center, Office of Global Issues, telephone

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International Terrorism in 1982: A Statistical Overview ¹

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The number of international terrorist incidents increased during 1982, and, as in previous years, US citizens and facilities were the favorite targets.

Worldwide

In 1982 we recorded 746 international terrorist incidents. This represents a 10-percent increase over the average number of incidents during the past five years. In 124 of these attacks 126 people were killed and 751 wounded, down slightly from 1981.

The categories of incidents recorded in 1982 were similar to past years. Bombings (325) remained the preferred type of operation. In addition, 22 kidnappings, 28 skyjackings, and 42 assassinations were recorded.

A total of 117 groups claimed credit for international terrorist incidents (including threats) in 1982. This is the second-largest total since 1968. (In 1980, 128 groups claimed credit for events.) Although these 117 groups represent 71 different nationalities, as in past years, Palestinians, Armenians, West Germans, and Central Americans were responsible for the majority of the incidents.

Incidents during 1982 were recorded in 93 countries, continuing the trend toward a greater geographic spread of international terrorism. A significant percentage of incidents, however, occurred in only a few countries; 108 incidents were recorded in West Germany, 52 in Italy, 50 in France, and 48 in the United States.

¹ The statistics in this article are drawn from our file of international terrorist events (FITE). We believe our data include details on most international terrorist events but inevitably some incidents and details will escape our attention. Aggregate statistics should be viewed as close approximations indicating levels of magnitude and not as precise fact.

Citizens from 63 countries were victims of these attacks, down slightly from 1981. As in past years, US citizens were a primary target. Other countries whose citizens were often victims included Turkey, Israel, France, and West Germany. Attacks or threats against these five countries accounted for more than 68 percent of all the 746 incidents.

Attacks Against the United States

A total of 385 terrorist incidents were directed against American citizens or property in 1982—more than in any other year since 1968 except 1978, when hundreds of attacks occurred in Iran. We recorded six kidnappings, seven assassination attempts, and 10 skyjackings involving Americans. Bombings of American property increased from 91 in 1981 to 160 last year, and threats against Americans rose from 29 to 75. Thirty of these incidents resulted in casualties. Five US citizens, including three in Paris, one in Turkey, and one in Guatemala, were killed and 10 were wounded. Damage to US property was recorded in 120 attacks.

Although attacks against Americans occurred in 78 different countries in 1982, 45 percent occurred in Western Europe, primarily in West Germany, Italy, and Greece. In all previous years, most of the attacks against the United States occurred in Latin America, but only 26 percent occurred there this past year.

US diplomats were once again primary victims, accounting for 38 percent of the incidents. Attacks against businessmen increased and accounted for 27 percent of the attacks. There were also 71 attacks against US military personnel, representing 18 percent of the total.

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Move Over, Brigades! [redacted]

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Recent activity by several relatively minor leftist terrorist organizations in Italy suggests that such groups may reemerge as security threats, especially since Italian counterterrorist successes over the past year have left the Red Brigades and the Front Line, the two leading leftist organizations, in disarray. [redacted]

Military reporting in late December indicates that threats are being circulated by another segment of Autonomia. [redacted]

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According to a US military report, Italian national police believe that leftist extremists in Bologna and Florence, who were previously peripheral members of radical organizations, have formed an active terrorist group, the Luca Mantini Brigade or Luca Mantini column. This small group, similar in name to one briefly active in 1974, attracted serious attention after a bank robbery near Florence in November. Two of the suspects have been tentatively identified as members of the organization. Thieves who stole a mimeograph machine from an office supply store also left behind evidence of membership in the group. From past experience, Italian police believe that the theft of a mimeograph machine is often the prelude to terrorist communiques, which, in turn, herald the arrival of a new group. Police believe the group may escalate its activities to more violent action. [redacted]

A third terrorist group, Armed Proletarian Power, was responsible for the most violent terrorist action in Italy in recent weeks—the kidnaping and murder of a female prison guard in Rome on 28 January. Some group members are currently on trial in Naples. The Armed Proletarian Power has threatened public officials, and, while the victim was hardly in this category, she was a symbol of the prison system, which has been a continuing target of other groups, most prominently the Red Brigades. [redacted]

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Should it prove that the Red Brigades have suffered irreparable damage, the Armed Proletarian Power and other relatively obscure groups are likely to escalate their attacks on Italian, NATO, and multinational interests. While the Brigades have been in the international limelight, the other leftist groups have received little publicity. Italy has, however, since at least the mid-1970s, produced a multiplicity of leftist terrorist groups. The official Italian count of the leftist groups has at times numbered well over 100. Although many of these were either fly-by-night groups or Red Brigades members using a false name, enough remain to keep the terrorist scene active in Italy. [redacted]

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Other terrorists recently more active include several segments of Autonomia, which, [redacted] is a confederation of extreme leftist groups that provides political support to operationally active terrorist organizations, especially the Red Brigades. [redacted] an Autonomia group in Padua has been disseminating leaflets opposing US multinational firms and Italy's role in NATO. The leaflets also call for a resumption of terrorist attacks against US "imperialism" and the Italian military. A leaflet distributed at the University of Padua blames the United States for the massacres at the Lebanese refugee camps, Sabra and Shatila, and implies that an operational and planning agreement already exists with Palestinian groups.

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PLO Likely To Retain Terrorism Ban [Redacted]

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Yasir Arafat is likely, in our view, to prevail against pressures from some radical PLO elements during the meeting of the Palestinian National Council in Algiers beginning 14 February and to maintain his ban against PLO involvement in international terrorism.

[Redacted]

policies, the majority of the two groups will follow their leaders in supporting Arafat.

[Large Redacted Area]

Arafat's longstanding position that international terrorism would undermine PLO political efforts to establish a Palestinian homeland has, in light of the Israeli incursion into Lebanon and the Shatila and Sabra camp massacres, been more seriously questioned. If the dissidents gain more support within the PLO; Arafat may face the choice of bending to radical demands and allowing at least some terrorist operations in order to maintain PLO unity and to keep some control over the radicals.

Judging from past activities, we believe the only PLO radical group that may be currently willing to mount international operations and that has the manpower, resources, and technical expertise to do so is Ahmad Jabril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command. The PFLP-GC has carried out operations for Syria and Libya in the past. Jabril is an ardent Palestinian nationalist and an experienced military leader. He is not an ideologue and prefers action to words. The last reported operation by the GC was the kidnaping and return to Libya of a Libyan exile in February 1981.

The most likely Palestinian groups to conduct international terrorist attacks are such radical groups not under PLO control such as Black June Organization (BJO), 15 May, and the PFLP-Special Command. These groups are ardently opposed to a negotiated settlement. In addition, Black June, which maintains offices in Damascus, has often carried out Syrian-ordered operations against Arafat and moderate PLO elements.

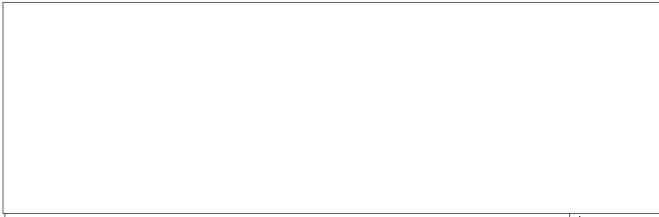
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[Redacted] Arafat is aware that the PFLP-GC, Popular Struggle Front (PSF), and Sai'qa, under Syrian and Libyan influence, aim to destroy PLO cohesion by pressing for a return to international terrorism. We believe that, while some members of George Habbash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Nayif Hawatmah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) advocate strong opposition to Arafat's

[Redacted] We believe that, if Arafat receives a clear mandate to enter into negotiations for the formation of a Palestinian entity and if Assad concludes that Syrian interests will be ignored, Assad may task BJO to assassinate Arafat.

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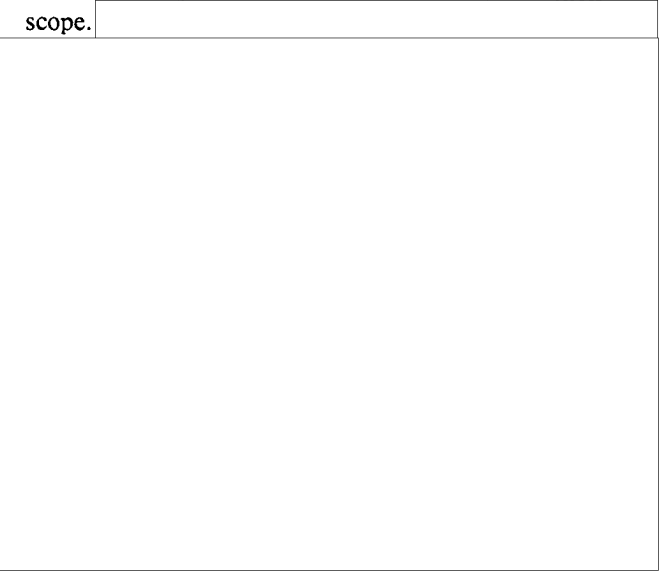
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Ara-
fat does not have unlimited time to demonstrate progress on the diplomatic track. It is our opinion that, if diplomacy fails to produce substantial change, Arafat will come under increasing radical pressure to return to international terrorism. Under these circumstances, a return to international terrorism is probable. We believe that, as a final option, Arafat may be making contingency plans for terrorist operations, in part to help ensure his control over terrorist activities if such operations are resumed. In such an event, his immediate objective would be to limit them in their scope.

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Special Analysis

Alleged Bulgarian Role in Italian Arms Smuggling Ring

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Summary

Since Italian authorities announced last November that they had uncovered an alleged arms-for-drugs ring in Milan, the Italian press has accused Bulgaria of actively supporting international terrorism and organized crime by running an international smuggling network. Bulgaria plays a prominent role on the international gray arms market and may be involved in the Milan case, if not as the buyer and seller of weapons—as claimed in the Italian press—then at least as the facilitator of arms shipments from Italy to the Middle East.

released to the Italian media suggest that in addition to Stibam in Milan, Arsan owned or was associated with several other firms that served as fronts for arms trafficking. These include Arsan & Arsan of Istanbul, AREXPORT of Milan, Goth & Co. of Chiasso, Switzerland, and International Transport A. G. of Liechtenstein.

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The Milan Arms Ring

Italian authorities announced last November that they had uncovered what one official described as the world's largest illegal arms-trafficking organization. Investigating magistrate Carlo Palermo stated at a press conference in Trento that large quantities of sophisticated weapons—including some of US origin—had been sent to Iran and other Middle Eastern countries by the Milan-based import-export company Stibam International Transport, whose owner, Henri Arsan, was among those arrested. The arms were reportedly paid for with the proceeds of drugs sent to Italy from the Middle East for processing and resale in northern Europe and the United States.

According to the Italian press, papers found in Arsan's possession document a flourishing trade in arms between Milan and the Middle East. A US official who briefly examined these documents reported that they appear to show millions of dollars of narcotics transactions as well as transfers of helicopters, tanks, small arms, and grenades. The US official stated, however, that he did not have an opportunity to sufficiently examine the evidence to determine if all of the weapons were actually transferred or whether the documents consist merely of purchase offers contingent upon Arsan's being able to obtain the desired items. It is not unusual for small private firms like Stibam to enter into negotiations to supply advanced weapon systems, which they do not possess, in order to either abscond with the downpayment or gain access to a client who may also be interested in less sophisticated or more readily obtainable ordnance.

Although few additional details regarding the alleged transactions are available, the arrests of Eugenio Sacchi and Guisepppe Alberti—proprietors of an arms outlet in Milan—and Renato Gamba—owner of a large arms factory in Brescia—suggest that large quantities of small arms and munitions may have been illegally exported through Stibam. These individuals

Details

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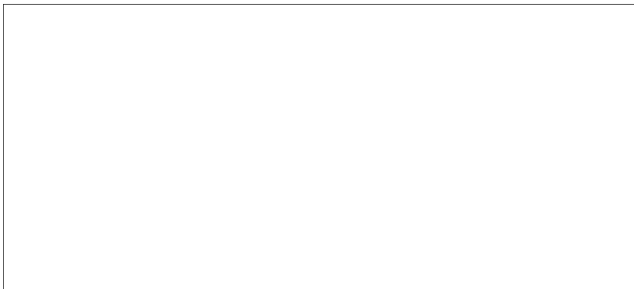
are all active in the legal small arms trade and have access to the required arms export authorizations. These documents could easily be altered and weapons diverted. According to press reports, Gamba has already admitted to having negotiated together with Arsan in early 1982 for the shipment of armaments worth over \$200 million to the Middle East. [redacted]

Alleged Bulgarian Connections

Although denying any connection between the investigation into possible Bulgarian complicity in the attempted Papal assassination and the Stibam arms-for-drugs case, the Italian magistrate told reporters that Bulgaria is a key contact point for arms trafficking. Either by coincidence or design, the results of this two-year investigation into arms smuggling were made public on the same day that the magistrate in charge of the Agca case announced the arrest of a Bulgarian airlines official in Rome for complicity in the attempted assassination of the Pope. Speaking before Parliament on 20 December 1982, moreover, the Italian Minister of Defense acknowledged that Italian intelligence services were investigating alleged Bulgarian involvement not only in arms trafficking but also in terrorism and drug smuggling. Although over 200 Italians, Turks, Syrians, and Yugoslavians have been indicted, no Bulgarian nationals have been implicated to date in connection with the Stibam arms-for-drugs investigation. [redacted]

Bulgarian Involvement on the International Gray Arms Market

Although the Italians may not be able to conclusively link Bulgaria to the Milan ring, Bulgaria has long



been a stalwart in the gray arms market. [redacted]

[redacted] Bulgaria acquires huge quantities of Western and Bloc arms that are either incompatible with or far in excess of its own domestic needs. In return for badly needed hard currency, many of these arms are subsequently sold for a profit by KINTEX—a Bulgarian state-controlled foreign trade enterprise—to Third World governments or private brokers throughout the Middle East and Africa. [redacted]

Although we do not know whether Bulgaria supplies weapons directly to terrorist groups, small arms initially purchased by KINTEX have been discovered in the possession of both European and Middle Eastern terrorists. According to defense attache reporting, for example, 9-mm Browning pistols captured from terrorists in Turkey in 1977 have been traced to an arms deal concluded earlier that same year between Argentina and Bulgaria. These weapons, which were manufactured in Argentina under Belgian license, had been purchased with Bulgarian end-user certificates stating that they were intended for Bulgarian internal use only. Moreover, Bulgaria manufactures some of the ordnance traded. Analysis of markings from six RPG-7 rocket-propelled antitank grenades captured from Red Brigades terrorists in 1982 in Italy, for example, indicates that they were assembled in Sopot, Bulgaria. [redacted]

In addition to buying and selling weapons, Bulgaria also earns hard currency by expediting the flow of arms across its borders. This activity, in fact, may predate Bulgaria's role as an arms dealer. [redacted]

[redacted] Bulgaria charged a fee for all military items transiting its borders en route from Czechoslovakia to the Middle East. [redacted]

[redacted] claimed in 1973 that a group of Syrians located in Sofia would arrange with Bulgarian authorities to expedite the flow of arms between Western Europe and Turkey in return for a fee paid in American dollars. [redacted]



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Routes and Methods

To move weapons undetected across international borders, Bulgaria takes advantage of the 1959 Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods, [redacted]

[redacted] Under this agreement, members of the Geneva-based International Road Transport Union (TIR) are entitled to send trucks bearing TIR license plates on international haulage routes. These trucks are sealed at their departure point and are not subject to customs or police checks until they reach their declared destination. According to a recently published Bulgarian trade journal, Bulgarian TIR trucks can reach every part of Europe, the Middle East, and some African territories. [redacted] For longer hauls, ships of foreign registry are loaded with arms and munitions at the Bulgarian ports of Varna and Burgas where KINTEX maintains large warehouses. [redacted]

[redacted] in 1977, for example, a Greek Cypriot freighter, listed as carrying machinery destined for Ethiopia from Bulgaria was captured in the Bosphorus Strait with over \$1 million worth of smuggled Bloc arms including several thousand rocket rounds, 799 rocket launchers, 400 star-light scopes, and 60 canister-type explosive devices. The ship's master reportedly stated that Bulgarian assault craft escorted this vessel from Burgas until it left Bulgarian territorial waters. [redacted]

Bulgaria apparently also facilitates arms shipments via civilian aircraft. [redacted]

[redacted]

The Impact on Arms Trafficking

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Whether the Italians are successful in documenting Bulgarian involvement in the Milan arms trafficking ring, the supply of arms and munitions reaching 25X1 terrorists, insurgents, and embargoed nations throughout Europe and the Third World will continue. Bulgaria is only one of several Eastern Bloc nations active on the international gray arms market. [redacted]

[redacted] Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and, to a lesser extent, East Germany and Poland also sell 25X1 arms and munitions to earn badly needed hard currency. Inasmuch as the prime motivation behind such sales is financial, in our estimation these transactions will continue regardless of the outcome of the Stibam case. [redacted]

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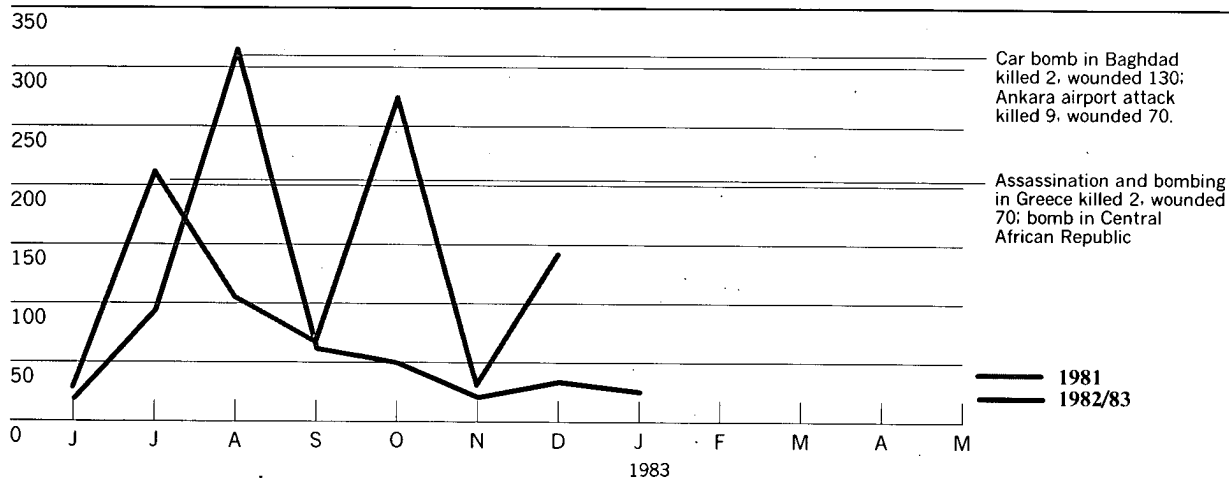
Statistical Overview

Type of Victim of International Terrorist Attacks, July 1982-January 1983 ^a

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Total
Total	73	90	50	56	45	42	27	383
Government officials	4	5	1	0	2	2	4	18
Diplomats	36	47	30	34	22	19	15	203
Military	8	10	9	13	6	10	4	60
Business	13	13	4	2	11	7	0	50
Private parties, tourists, missionaries, and students	7	2	5	3	2	3	3	25
Other	5	13	1	4	2	1	1	27

Geographic Distribution of International Terrorist Attacks, July 1982-January 1983 ^a

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Total
Total	73	90	50	56	45	42	29	383
North America	6	8	2	6	1	4	2	29
Latin America	17	11	11	18	14	7	9	87
Western Europe	25	37	24	22	20	18	6	152
USSR/Eastern Europe	1	2	3	3	3	0	0	12
Sub-Saharan Africa	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	5
Middle East and North Africa	13	24	5	3	3	4	5	57
Asia/other	10	6	4	3	4	9	5	41

^a Figures for the most recent months are subject to change as additional data are received.Deaths and Injuries Due to International Terrorist Attacks
1981 and 1982/83

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Chronology

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- This chronology includes significant events, incidents, and trends in international terrorism. It provides commentary on their background, importance, and wider implications.* [redacted] 25X1
- 25 January 1983** **Peru: Leading Terrorist Apprehended** 25X1
- Police arrested one of the senior members of the Shining Path organization in Lima, Julio Vladimir Casanova Rodriguez. Casanova, a former professor in Ayacucho, helped found the group [redacted]
- [redacted]
- 28 January 1983** **Lebanon: PLO Security Headquarters Bombed** 25X1
- [redacted] an explosion leveled PLO Security Headquarters in the Syrian-controlled area of the Bekaa Valley. At least 53 bodies have been recovered. The blast may have resulted from a car bomb. Two groups, the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners and the previously unknown Lebanese Cedar Force to Free Lebanon From Lebanese Terrorists, claimed responsibility. The building reportedly also housed the headquarters of the rejectionist PLO group, the Popular Struggle Front. [redacted] 25X1
- Late January 1983** **Syria: Pressuring Arafat** 25X1
- As part of an apparent Syrian effort to intensify political pressure on the PLO in connection with the Palestinian National Congress, which opened in Algiers on 14 February, two Palestinian surrogates of the Damascus regime issued thinly veiled death threats against PLO Chairman Arafat. In interviews published on 27 and 28 January [redacted] spokesmen for the Black June Organization and Sai'qa labeled Arafat's recent contacts with Jordan as treason to the Palestinian cause and said he should suffer the same fate as that of a number of assassinated Middle Eastern leaders. While both statements were phrased in indirect terms—the Syrian press later issued a denial from Sai'qa that theirs was a death threat—the meaning was clear to the PLO leadership, which tightened security for the Algiers meeting. There have been rumors in recent months that the Syrians and radical Palestinians would attack PLO officials should there be progress toward a negotiated Middle Eastern settlement involving Jordan. Syria probably does not feel its interests sufficiently threatened to support such operations. [redacted] 25X1
- Djibouti: Hijackers Detained**
- The authorities have officially detained three Palestinians who hijacked an Aden-Damascus South Yemeni airliner on 20 January. This action followed Western protests regarding reports that the hijackers had been provided hotel accommodations and permission to layover in Djibouti. The PLO, moreover, has disowned the hijackers, who may be subjects of Syrian arrest warrants. [redacted]

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2 February 1983**Spain: Antiterrorist Patrol Attacked**

In Ordiza ETA/M claimed credit for an attack on an antiterrorist security patrol, in which one government officer was killed. The attack resulted in the withdrawal of government representatives from discussion with Basque ETA/M officials on an end to terrorist violence. [REDACTED]

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4 February 1983**Spain: Explosion at US Embassy**

An explosion in front of the main entrance to the US Embassy in Madrid caused no casualties and only minor damage. Early police speculation is that the explosion was caused by a crude projectile, which struck a car parked in front of the Embassy. No group has claimed credit. If the explosion was caused by a rocket, we believe Basque terrorists probably were not involved, as rockets are not known to be in their arsenal. [REDACTED]

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5 February 1983**Spain: Bank Attacked; Several Casualties**

In Bilbao ETA/M claimed responsibility for bombing a bank during business hours. Although a preexplosion warning was telephoned, three people were killed and 10 wounded. ETA/M said the attack was conducted because the bank rejected extortion demands. Some 500 people demonstrated to protest the bank bombing. [REDACTED]

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Lebanon: Car Bombing of Palestine Research Centre

The Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners claimed credit for the car bombing of the Palestine Research Centre in West Beirut. Radio reports indicate 10 dead and 40 wounded. The PLO office in the Centre probably was the target. The Libyan News Agency was also damaged. The Front has claimed credit in the past for attacks against PLO, Jewish, and US targets. [REDACTED]

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6 February 1983**West Germany: Arson Against Airport Construction Company**

In Frankfurt offices of an engineering company involved in construction of a new runway at Frankfurt Airport were set afire. Slogans left behind indicate the Revolutionary Cells were responsible. RZ has been engaged in a longstanding campaign against runway construction. [REDACTED]

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7 February 1983**Honduras: US Embassy Threatened**

In Tegucigalpa police security discovered a primitive pyrotechnic rocket device aimed at the US Embassy Annex and set to detonate within the hour. Had the device not malfunctioned, police estimate damage would have been relatively minor and confined to the building. [REDACTED]

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9 February 1983

West Germany: Dev Sol Proscribed

Interior Minister Zimmerman announced that the radical leftist Turkish terrorist group Revolutionary Left or Dev Sol and an affiliated organization were illegal in West Germany. Ten Dev Sol members are being held in connection with the occupation of the Turkish Consulate General in Cologne in early November.

11 February 1983

Spain: "Iraultza" Attacks US Firm

In Bilbao the terrorist group "Iraultza" claimed credit for the attempted bombing of a US firm. This group previously bombed three US offices in Bilbao on 22 December 1982.

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12 February 1983

India: US Embassy Attacked

In New Delhi a US-made 3.5 rocket was found undetonated adjacent to the US Embassy compound. The identifying markings had been removed. The rocket was safely detonated by Indian authorities after examination. No group has claimed responsibility.

Spain: Terrorists Attack Industrialist

In the Basque town of Tolosa, terrorists with automatic weapons seriously wounded an industrialist and killed his wife. Shells found at the scene indicate the attackers were from ETA/M.

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