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**Terrorism
Review**



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9 June 1983

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GI TR 83-012
9 June 1983

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**Terrorism
Review**

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9 June 1983

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

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Does Fatah Rebellion Mean More Terrorism? 

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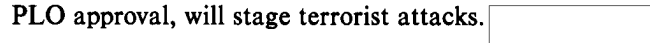
We believe that the recent mutiny of Fatah dissidents in the Bekaa Valley, which has helped to weaken Arafat's political position, and the enhanced influence of Palestinian radicals, supported by Syria and Libya, increase the possibility of Palestinian terrorism.



Arafat will probably want to avoid a total return to international terrorism and keep a PLO hand in any terrorist attacks hidden, for fear the adverse effects on the PLO's image would outweigh any gains. We believe, however, that at this time he is less able to influence the actions of Palestinian radicals. We judge that there is an increased likelihood that some of the pro-Syrian radicals may undertake terrorist operations to embarrass Arafat and frustrate US diplomacy in Lebanon, especially if Syria feels that its interests in the Golan Heights are not being addressed. Furthermore, there is always a substantial risk that individual terrorists, with or without Syrian or formal PLO approval, will stage terrorist attacks.

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There is fragmentary evidence that a Fatah operative was responsible for a grenade attack on US Marines in Lebanon and that Fatah elements may be planning more attacks on the Multinational Force (MNF). We cannot determine whether these activities—if conducted by Fatah operatives—have been countenanced by Arafat or are the work of renegades acting unilaterally.



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Some of the radical Palestinians may press for further attacks against the MNF, but the MNF's ability to provide at least some protection for Palestinian civilians in Lebanon may restrain Palestinian guerrillas from launching a concerted campaign.



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Arafat may be under pressure to appease leftists and militarists by permitting attacks against non-Israeli targets. He may hope that limited attacks would serve to placate radical forces and help ensure his continued leadership of Fatah and the PLO. Terrorism would therefore be designed to help improve PLO morale and to demonstrate that the organization, despite its weakened position, is still a factor to be reckoned with and has the potential to play a spoiler role in any peace process. Arafat may also be forced to give tacit approval to Fatah-sponsored terrorism to protect himself from being branded as insufficiently militant.



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**South Africa:
New Stage of ANC Terrorism?**

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The car bombing in Pretoria on 20 May 1983, which killed 19 and injured 217, may signal a change in terrorist strategy by the African National Congress (ANC). The car bomb exploded adjacent to the headquarters of the South African Air Force and across the street from the Directorate of Military Intelligence just before rush hour. The explosion razed 15 shops, damaged 35, and destroyed at least 30 cars. The ANC issued a statement claiming "Spear of the Nation," its military wing, carried out the operation. The authorities have been unable to apprehend the perpetrators and believe that they left the country within 48 hours of the attack

This was the first car bomb used in South Africa. Forensic analysis indicates that 30 to 50 kilograms of RDX plastic explosives was welded into a panel in the trunk of the stolen car. The timing device was more sophisticated than normally used; ANC bombs are usually either Soviet-made limpets or amateurish. The motor number of the stolen car had been removed in an effort to hinder identification.

The timing of the blast and the type of bomb used indicates that the ANC was willing to accept heavy civilian casualties, despite its claims that the attack was directed against a military target—Air Force Headquarters. The massive destruction of windows in the area, due to suction caused by the explosion and not the force of the bomb, created the same effect as lethal shrapnel. The ANC has for years attempted to avoid injuring civilians in its attacks. Communiqués in the wake of the 20 May operation, however, have stated that guerrillas now will concentrate on inflicting heavy casualties on government security forces. The Pretoria bombing could indicate that younger, more radical members of the ANC have gained a decisive influence over more cautious veterans, or the young militants might have acted independently.

the explosion

may have been the work of foreign terrorists hired by or working with the ANC. 25X1

The South African Government decided to retaliate. In the first use of their Air Force for a cross-border attack on suspected ANC installations, the South Africans on 23 May bombed a section of Maputo in which they alleged the following targets were located:

- A house where terrorist acts in the Transvaal were planned.
- Two logistic headquarters for supplying weapons and explosives. 25X1
- An ANC command headquarters where final briefings were given to trained members before infiltrating South Africa.
- "Main Camp," where terrorists were housed in transit.
- "September House," where rural terrorism for the Transvaal was planned.

According to the US Embassy in Maputo, however, tours by the diplomatic corps of the five targets suggest South African intelligence may have been dated. According to their report, all targets had been vacated by the ANC some time ago or were civilian.

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The ANC denied responsibility for a bomb that exploded under a car in downtown Bloemfontein two days after the airstrike. This bomb was relatively unsophisticated, and damage was limited. Although there were no injuries, the blast occurred at midday near an employment office for blacks. The ANC accused an extreme rightwing white group of perpetrating the incident to tarnish the ANC's image with blacks. 25X1

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Group Profile:
West Germany's Kexel-Hepp Group

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The Kexel-Hepp Group (named for its founders, Walther Kexel, 21, and Odfried Hepp, 25) is a rightwing West German terrorist group that West German authorities believe was responsible for sophisticated bomb attacks in December 1982 against US military personnel near Frankfurt in which two American soldiers were severely injured. These were the first incidents, German authorities say, in which Americans were the targets of rightwing terrorists. A

tip from a Frankfurt resident led police to an apartment hideout, where three members of the Kexel-Hepp Group (not including either Kexel or Hepp) were arrested in February 1983. Those arrested later confessed to the bombings. The police also suspect the group of staging a bank robbery in Ortenberg, Hesse, in November 1982. 25X1

Later in February, British police arrested Kexel southwest of London. Hepp, once a resident of West Berlin, remains at large; police confiscated his passport in December from a West Berlin apartment belonging to another known neo-Nazi, Andreas Hagen. German authorities most recently have speculated that he has escaped to the Near East. Since Kexel's arrest, the West German police have discovered several of the group's caches of money and ammunition; at those sites, solar igniters similar to those used in the Frankfurt-area attacks were found.

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Background

Kexel and Hepp were originally associated with separate rightwing terrorist organizations—Kexel with the People's Socialist Movement of Germany/Workers Party (VSBD/PdA) and Hepp with the Viking Youth, the VSBD/PdA, the Relief Organization for National Political Prisoners, the Black Forest Militant Unit, and the Hoffmann Military Sport Group. According to West German authorities, hardcore members of both the VSBD/PdA and the Sport Group received training from Fatah in Lebanon in the use of infantry weapons, explosives, and guerrilla tactics during 25X1 1980-81. Hepp had fled West Germany in October 1980 to train with the Sport Group just before he was to be brought to trial for neo-Nazi activities. he later became disillusioned with the Sport Group's leader, Karl-Heinz Hoffmann, who he claimed punished and even tortured members

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Odfried Hepp

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Walther Kexel [redacted] Stern ©

Federal Criminal Office in July 1982, Kexel and Hepp:

- Declared their "farewell to Hitlerism" and "all bourgeois forms of national socialism," especially the "fetishists of the so-called Nazi Movement."
- Stated their goal of carrying out an undogmatic liberation struggle that will ensure a continuation of the German people.
- Condemned those they called bourgeois nationalists for "flirting with the capitalistic West."
- Labeled the United States the enemy and accused it of occupying West Germany and mentally and spiritually suffocating the German people.
- Claimed to belong to neither the right nor the left and to be willing to welcome all supporters of their cause, even non-Germans.
- Declared that although they "accepted the power of Bolshevism," they want neither a Soviet-style German republic nor a US-style federal state, but a neutral Germany that would live in peace and friendship with the Soviet Union. [redacted]

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Despite the apparent ideological neutrality of some of their stated goals, all members of the Kexel-Hepp Group arrested so far have been known to the police as rightwing extremists and have maintained contact with former members of the now banned neo-Nazi Sport Group. [redacted]

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of the group. In June 1981 Hepp appealed to the German Embassy in Beirut to be returned to Germany. Hepp was subsequently convicted of membership in a criminal organization and of spreading Nazi propaganda and was sentenced to 16 months in jail. He was released from prison on probation [redacted]

In June 1982 Kexel and Hepp founded the Kexel-Hepp Group, with headquarters initially in Offenbach and later in Frankfurt. [redacted]

[redacted] Kexel was the leader of the group and Hepp was second in command. In a lengthy letter sent to the West German

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Special Analysis

Rightist Terrorism in
West Germany

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Rightist terrorism in West Germany is a direct descendant of Hitler's National Socialist Party, but it reemerged somewhat later than in Italy, where major postwar terrorism dates from 1969, and is less of a problem. The especially odious legacy of the Nazis has served to limit the appeal of neo-Nazi groups. The lack of significant Communist party activity in the Federal Republic has also deprived rightists of a traditional rallying point.

Extreme rightists vilify the Bonn government for its presumed acquiescence in the postwar division of Germany and for its toleration of "US occupation forces." They also attempt to portray Nazi concentration camps and the Holocaust as malicious fiction invented to discredit the Hitler regime. Like the Nazis, they strike against Jews and, more recently, "guestworker" groups like the Turks, all of whom they regard as threats to Germanic culture. Several terrorist groups posing as political movements have achieved a small degree of success in some quarters by exploiting slogans for the expulsion of foreigners from the country. In 1981 the West German security service reported almost 2,000 violations of the law and 92 incidents of violence by rightist groups.

Terrorist Groups

While several West German political groups support rightist terrorism or engage in sporadic acts of political violence, only three groups as predominantly terrorist organizations: the Hoffmann Military Sport Group (WSGH), the National Socialist Action Front (ANS), and the Kexel-Hepp Group.

West Germany:
Rightwing Terrorist Groups/Organizations

WSGH	Hoffmann Military Sport Group (Wehrsportgruppe-Hoffmann)	
AKON	Action for German Unity (Aktion Oder Neisse/Bund fuer Deutsche Einheit)	
DBI	German Citizens Initiative (Deutsche Buergerinitiative)	25X1
ANS	Action Community of National Socialists (Aktionsfront Nationaler Sozialisten)	
HNG	Relief Organization for National Political Prisoners (Hilfsorganisation fuer Nationale Politische Gefangene)	
KNS	National Socialist Combat League (Kampfbund Nationaler Sozialisten)	
WJ	Viking Youth (Wiking Jugend)	
NDAP	National German Workers Party (Nationale Deutsche Arbeiterpartei)	
VSBD/PdA	People's Socialist Movement of Germany/Labor Party (Volkssozialistische Bewegung Deutschlands/Partei der Arbeit)	
DVU	German People's Union (Deutsche Volkunion)	
IfA	Initiative for Restricting Foreigners (Initiative fuer Auslaenderbegrenzung)	
BBI	Citizens and Farmers Initiative (Buerger- und Bauerinitiative)	25X1
DA	German Action Groups (Deutsche Aktionsgruppen)	
NSDAP/AO	National Socialist German Workers Party/Foreign and Construction Organization (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei/Ausland- und Aufbau-Organisation)	25X1
KDS	German Soldiers' Combat League (Kampfbund Deutscher Soldaten)	
	Kexel-Hepp Group	25X1

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Victims of Oktoberfest bomb blast, September 1980, lie in the street. [redacted]



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The Sport Group, to date West Germany's most violent rightist terrorist group, was founded in 1973 by Karl-Heinz Hoffmann as a paramilitary organization. Hoffmann wrote in the Group's newsletter, *Kommando*, that his organization wanted to liberate Germany from both Russian and US forces and that he hoped to establish contact with anti-Israeli forces in the Middle East. We believe the Sport Group received some of its funds from former SS members, but it may also have raised money by selling used military equipment to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) [redacted]

In January 1980 the West German Government banned Hoffmann's organization on the grounds that it was hostile to the constitutional order of the state. When the Munich Oktoberfest was bombed in September 1980, causing several deaths and many injuries, however, West German investigative authorities readily traced responsibility for the act to Sport Group member Gundolf Kohler, who was killed in the explosion. In raids on Sport Group targets in 1980, West German police uncovered large quantities of neo-Nazi and antisemitic propaganda as well as explosives, weapons, and ammunition. Documents also revealed that the Group was planning attacks on US military facilities in West Germany and on UN targets in Lebanon. [redacted]

In 1981 several former Sport Group members confessed that in 1980 Hoffmann sought to reestablish the group in the Middle East through contacts established earlier with the PLO.¹ [redacted]

[redacted] the Sport Group had about 400 members at the time it was banned and that some 15 or 20 hardcore members went to Lebanon in 1980 with Hoffmann. The unifying link between Hoffmann's followers and leftist Palestinians was antisemitism and hostility to Israel. [redacted]

In early 1981 several Sport Group members who escaped from the Bir Hassan camp near Beirut contacted the West German Embassy in Lebanon asking for repatriation. They told of mistreatment at

¹ Udo Albrecht, a West German national with neo-Nazi leanings but no known affiliation, introduced Hoffmann to Abu Ayyad of the PLO. [redacted] Albrecht as a freelance figure who drifted into criminal activities to support himself and who is thought to have made initial contact with Palestinians in the early 1960s. [redacted] Albrecht fought in Jordan with Fatah and that he may have been in contact with Arab groups in West Germany at the time of the Munich Olympics massacre. He was arrested by West German authorities in the late 1970s, but escaped to East Germany. [redacted]

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the hands of Hoffmann and violent disagreements between him and one other Sport Group member who died as a result of torture. Another who had tried to escape, they reported, committed suicide. From information provided by these defectors, West German authorities learned that Hoffmann himself was in West Germany. He was apprehended at Frankfurt airport in June 1981 while boarding a flight for Damascus. Further defector information led West German authorities to charge Hoffmann and his longtime companion, Franziska Birkman, with the murder of a Jewish publisher and a woman friend in Erlangen in December 1980.² [redacted]

According to confessions of the former Sport Group members, Hoffmann planned an "armed battle" against FRG targets and US interests in West Germany. He intended to carry this out with Sport Group members as well as foreign neo-Nazis he hoped to recruit. [redacted] the Sport Group's core disintegrated as a result of Hoffmann's own brutality toward his followers in Lebanon. [redacted]

The National Socialist Action Front (ANS) is headed by Michael Kuehnen, described by West German officials in June 1982 as the FRG's leading neo-Nazi. He founded the Action Front in 1974, but little is known of its early activities beyond its dissemination of propaganda praising Hitler, excoriating the Bonn government, and preaching racial hatred. We have no recent statistics on the group's size, but in 1978 a Kuehnen lieutenant claimed the group had 150 members. [redacted]

Kuehnen was sentenced to 10 months in jail in early 1978 for public incitement to violence. In 1979 he and five codefendants were tried in the first judicial proceeding against a rightist organization in Germany since the Nuremberg Trials after World War II. Charges against them included fostering a terrorist organization, bank robbery, attacks against NATO installations, and arms theft. Kuehnen drew a four-year sentence and remained in prison until his release on 30 November 1982. [redacted]

² Birkman was arrested by West German authorities soon after Hoffmann's apprehension. [redacted]

According to West German press accounts, Kuehnen has asserted that he will reorganize the ANS. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] the Front decayed in his absence. The group may indeed be having internal difficulties; in May 1981 two of its members killed a comrade accused of homosexuality and were given life sentences. In our judgment, Front members could either be regrouped by Kuehnen or absorbed by another terrorist organization.³ The Battle League of National Socialists, a new group first identified in September 1982, has already claimed to be the Front's successor. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1
the three men arrested in February 1983 in Frankfurt for bomb attacks on US Army personnel in West Germany are members of the Kexel-Hepp Group, an organization made up of former Sport Group members. Odfried Hepp escaped apprehension in Frankfurt and is still at large. Walther Kexel and a comrade were arrested in England in late February and are awaiting extradition. Confessions made by the terrorists to the police and explosive materials found in their Frankfurt apartment support [redacted] 25X1
the Kexel-Hepp Group was responsible for a number of the recent attacks on US facilities in West Germany that had previously been attributed to leftwing terrorists. One of the men apprehended in Frankfurt told German officials the group had planned to bomb playground facilities at the American residential sites. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] three other possible neo-Nazi groups about which little is known. The Nazi Rockers Motorcycle Gang and the Foreign Extermination Commando/Germany have attacked Turkish workers. The German Workers' Youth [redacted] 25X1

³ A press report of late February 1983 asserted that Kuehnen and two ex-Sport Group members met secretly in Frankfurt in mid-January to reorganize the neo-Nazi movement. Allegedly, 50 people were at the meeting and founded the Action Front of National Socialists/National Activists "to unite neo-Nazi splinter groups" throughout the FRG. [redacted] 25X1

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staged a winter solstice celebration in Mainz in December 1982, which was attended by ANS leader Michael Kuehnen following his release from prison.

Political Party Links

Despite a ban against neo-Nazi parties, splinter groups espousing that ideology began to crop up in West Germany in the 1950s. The most important far-right party was founded in 1964 when several groups merged to form the National Democratic Party. The NPD never cleared the 5-percent-vote threshold required to gain a seat in the federal parliament, peaking at 4.3 percent in the 1969 national election. Since 1969 it has failed to retain even its state seats, and in the 1980 and 1983 federal elections it got only 0.2 percent of the vote.

That the loss of the NPD's voice in representative political institutions helped push extreme rightists into extralegality is supported by West German security service reports pointing out that neo-Nazi terrorist groups grew in the 1970s just as extreme right political party activity declined. The West German security officials now estimate the combined membership of all rightist political organizations at only 20,000 people. By far the largest is the German People's Union (DVU) with 10,000 members. The NPD has dropped to only about 7,300. The remaining members of rightist political groups are dispersed among 70 or more organizations.

As with Italy, it is often difficult to draw a clear line between West German rightist political and terrorist groups. Some political groups appear to be politicized street gangs, but we believe they also harbor individuals who commit terrorist acts not always sanctioned by the organization. Only the NPD as a party appears not to have been a terrorist front, although we believe some of its members may have participated in violence. Most of the other far-right political organizations engage in illegal activity and some in actual violence. The People's Union and another group, the Citizens and Farmers Initiative (BBI), foster terrorism indirectly through inflammatory propaganda praising Nazism and attacking Jews and foreigners. A Union subsidiary organization launched in 1980, the Initiative for Restricting Foreigners (IfA), exploits growing

public resentment of foreign laborers. West German security service officials state that Union publications encourage violent attacks on foreign groups. 25X1

Several other purportedly political organizations—the German Citizens' Initiative (DBI), the People's Socialist Movement of Germany/Workers' Party (VSBD/PdA), the German Soldiers' Combat Union (KDS), and the Viking Youth (WJ)—appear to be more directly involved with terrorism. The DBI is the most important of the four. 25X1

[redacted] its founder, Karl Roeder, as one of the country's leading rightist terrorists. In September 1980, Roeder was accused of a bombing attack on a Hamburg home for refugees in which two Vietnamese were killed. Moreover, various reports link him to known terrorists. While we believe that Roeder is a major supporter of and occasional participant in rightist terrorism, he and the Initiative seek to retain a facade of respectability and engage in violence under cover names or through terrorist associates. 25X1

The People's Socialist Movement and its subsidiary, Youth Front (JF), were banned in January 1982. Before that, several Socialist Movement members were arrested and prosecuted for terrorist acts. The organization's leader, Friedhelm Busse, was arrested in October 1981, after he and several group members threw a hand grenade at Munich police who were trying to apprehend them for a holdup attempt. 25X1

[redacted] a number of VSBD/PdA members were once political prisoners in East Germany and that at least one of them has admitted to working as an East German intelligence agent before coming to West Germany. 25X1

[redacted] some of these former prisoners may have been instructed by East German intelligence services to join rightist groups in the FRG to foment destabilization activities from that quarter. 25X1

[redacted] Kexel and Hepp were active in VSBD/PdA activities after the disintegration of the Hoffmann Sport Group. 25X1

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[redacted]
 members of the People's Socialist Movement met immediately after the group's banning to reform as the Soldiers' Combat Union. We cannot determine with certainty whether this is a continuation of the People's Socialist Movement or represents an expansion of the earlier Soldiers' Combat Union group founded in the mid-1970s by Erwin Schoenborn. The earlier Combat Union group, [redacted] [redacted] has been guilty of numerous attacks on Jewish establishments. Schoenborn himself has been charged with at least 90 criminal acts in Frankfurt alone since 1970. [redacted]

Viking Youth places more emphasis than other neo-Nazi groups on old Germanic racial and cultural concepts. It particularly venerates the Vikings as the founding force of German ethnic unity, is anti-Christian, and reveres old Norse deities. Its Berlin group appears to be particularly violent. West German official and press reports recount various Viking Youth beatings of individuals associated with leftwing political causes. In 1980, four of its members were sentenced in Berlin for assault and battery against journalists participating in a television debate about the US film *Holocaust*. [redacted]

International Contacts

The major confirmed contact between West German rightist terrorists and foreigners is the Sport Group's arrangement with the PLO. [redacted] [redacted] the Kexel-Hepp group had contacts in France and England. Beyond that, [redacted] [redacted] foreign links are limited to liaison meetings, supply of propaganda materials, small-scale passage of weapons, and occasional funding. [redacted] [redacted] neo-Nazi propaganda is regularly mailed into West Germany from the United States, and French Government asylum policies make France an easy haven for fleeing rightist terrorists. [redacted]

[redacted]

We believe that West German rightist terrorists periodically make contact with like-minded individuals in other European countries, but we do not find any pattern of coordinated activity. Although West German authorities express concern over recent increases in international contacts between neo-Nazis, they do not foresee the creation of an international network. [redacted] Friedhelm Busse and his Peoples' Socialist Movement had more contact than any other West German group with terrorists outside the FRG and that they were primarily in touch with French counterparts. In November 1981 a French radical rightist arrested in Switzerland admitted giving weapons to Socialist Movement members. [redacted]

Outlook

[redacted] high unemployment and growing resentment of foreign workers have increased the potential for rightist violence in the FRG. Both political groups and terrorist organizations such as the National Socialist Action Front have put "Stop the Foreigners" ahead of their more usual antisemitism, hatred of the Bonn government, and hostility to the US presence. Recently published opinion polls indicating increasing hostility to guest workers suggest that the pool of potential converts to rightist terrorism may be growing. We believe that attacks on Turkish workers will persist and may increase as long as the West German economy remains stagnant. We suspect that terrorist groups will also retain the capability and fanaticism to launch large-scale attacks, such as the 1980 Oktoberfest bombing, despite their careful monitoring by police and security services and the jailing of several of their leaders. [redacted] [redacted] rightist attacks on low-level US military personnel and their dependents may still occur in West Germany. [redacted]

[redacted]

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Statistical Overview

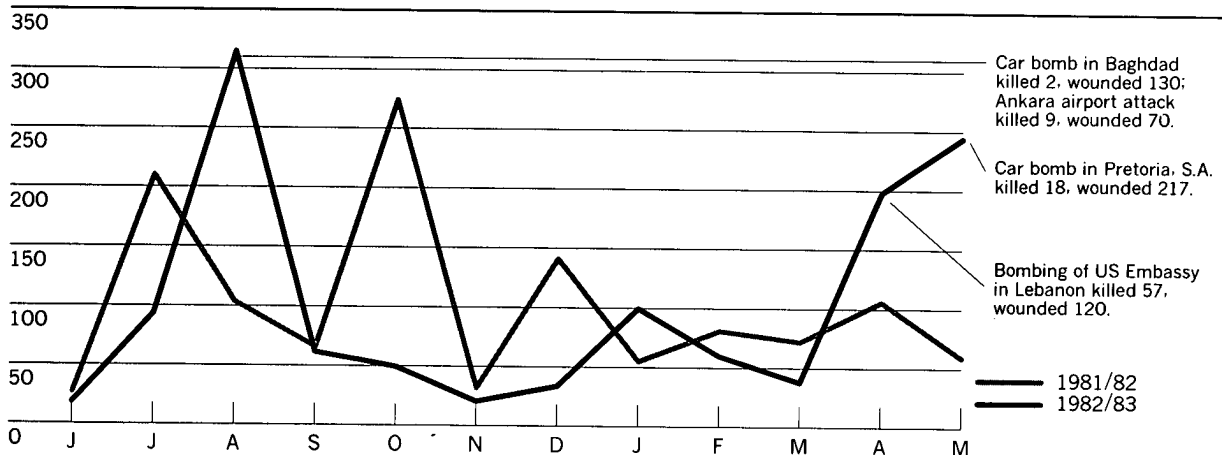
Type of Victim of International Terrorist Attacks, August 1982–May 1983 ^a

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total	89	49	57	43	47	56	58	71	70	44
Government officials	5	1	0	2	2	6	2	3	5	4
Diplomats	46	29	35	20	22	27	33	35	34	21
Military	10	9	13	6	10	11	2	11	11	8
Business	13	4	2	11	8	1	9	7	7	6
Private parties, tourists, missionaries, and students	2	5	3	2	4	7	9	6	8	2
Other	13	1	4	2	1	4	3	9	5	3

Geographic Distribution of International Terrorist Attacks, August 1982–May 1983 ^a

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total	89	49	57	43	47	56	58	71	70	44
North America	8	2	7	0	4	3	5	5	2	7
Latin America	11	10	18	12	9	14	9	16	18	6
Western Europe	36	24	22	21	21	19	26	30	17	12
USSR/Eastern Europe	2	3	3	3	0	1	1	3	0	1
Sub-Saharan Africa	2	1	1	1	0	0	3	3	5	4
Middle East and North Africa	24	5	3	2	4	13	6	12	20	9
Asia/other	6	4	3	4	9	6	8	2	8	5

^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

This chronology includes significant events, incidents, and trends in international terrorism. It provides commentary on their background, importance, and wider implications. It does not treat events listed in previous editions of the chronology unless new information has been received. [redacted]

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24 April 1983**France: Bombing by Direct Action Subgroup**

In Paris, the "Autonomous Wing" of the radical leftist group Direct Action claimed responsibility for the bombing of a police union office. [redacted]

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28 April 1983**Colombia: M-19 Leader Disappears**

[redacted] M-19 leader Jaime Bateman was aboard a small plane that disappeared in Panama. If confirmed, Bateman's death will probably cause M-19 to splinter. [redacted]

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Late April 1983**Iraq: Shia Terrorist Campaign**

Two car bombs that exploded near Iraqi Government offices in Baghdad on 21 April may signal the beginning of an increased Shia terrorist campaign against the government. [redacted] the Iraqi Shia organization behind the attacks has claimed credit for several anti-Iraqi and anti-French attacks in Iraq and Pakistan in the past nine months. These operations may have been abetted by Iranian Government supporters. [redacted]

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7 May 1983**Lebanon: Fatah Executes BJO Operatives**

Five Black June operatives en route to assassinate several moderate PLO leaders were arrested by Fatah Security in the Bekaa Valley and executed in early May. Abu Nidal's office in Damascus has issued threats against Arafat, Wazir, and Khalaf in retaliation. The five carried PFLP-General Command documentation that suggests operational cooperation, under Syrian sponsorship, between the two groups. [redacted]

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9 May 1983**Jordan: Attacks on US Interests**

Bombs exploded at buildings housing two private US facilities in Amman—AMID-East, a volunteer organization, and the American Insurance Company. Despite substantial damage to the buildings, no casualties were sustained. The explosives, which detonated after office hours, were apparently set to avoid injuries. An unknown group, the Military and Revolutionary Committee of Jordan, claimed credit. We are unable to connect these attacks with any organized campaign against US interests in the Middle East. Low-level incidents claimed by unknown elements such as these possibly represent imitative attacks generated by the successful bombing of the US Embassy in Beirut. [redacted]

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10 May 1983

UAE-Syria: Agreement Reached on Abu Nidal

[redacted] an agreement was reached in early May between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Syria whereby the UAE has agreed to expel all members of the Syrian Muslim Brotherhood and other Syrian opposition groups in the UAE in exchange for Syria preventing terrorist operations in the UAE by the Abu Nidal group. [redacted]

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West Germany: Surveillance of US/NATO Ammunitions Ships

In Handelshafen, two individuals riding a motorcycle bearing antinuclear and anti-Frankfurt-runway slogans were observed conducting surveillance on an ammunition ship in the harbor. We have had previous information that individuals aligned with grass-roots antinuclear and environmentalist groups have been involved in surveilling US/NATO installations in preparation for future demonstrations and blockades. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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14 May 1983

United Kingdom: Arrests of SNLA Members

In Glasgow, three people were arrested as a result of police investigations into the letter-bomb attacks of the Scottish National Liberation Army (SNLA), a Scottish separatist group opposed to British rule. Since March 1982 the SNLA has claimed responsibility for at least 10 letter-bombs sent to British Government offices. [redacted]

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15 May 1983

FRG-Libya: "Gentlemen's Agreement" on Terrorism

The West German Government released two Libyan citizens detained for threatening anti-Qadhafi dissidents in exchange for eight Germans held hostage by Tripoli. FRG officials suggested that the action was part of an informal agreement between the two governments, which included verbal assurances of no further illegal Libyan activities in West Germany. A Libyan convicted in the FRG in 1979 for murder was earlier freed on 9 May in an exchange that involved the release of four other Germans imprisoned in Libya. The German Government has in the past quietly expelled foreign agents to avoid larger political problems, as in the case of at least two Syrian assassination squads in 1980 and 1982. We doubt that Qadhafi would feel constrained by any understandings should he decide to attack exiled dissidents in Germany. [redacted]

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16 May 1983**Jordan: Threat Letter Received by US Embassy in Amman**

097993

On 16 May the US Embassy received a threatening letter from an unidentified group, the Arab Democratic Youth. The handwritten letter, mailed from Irbid, Jordan, outlined no specific actions to be taken, but did reference two recent bombings against US targets in Amman and attributed events in Lebanon, such as the Sabra and Shatila massacres, to "American-Zionist terrorism." Although the letter may have been an isolated act by frustrated individuals, the bombings in Amman, bombings against Jordanian targets in Irbid in November and February, and widespread anti-American feelings in the Middle East suggest a heightened threat to US interests. [redacted]

25X1

17 May 1983**Greece: Explosive Attacks Aimed at Middle East Targets**

In Athens, two bombs exploded within 10 minutes; one destroyed a Syrian Embassy car and the other exploded outside a school attended by Libyan students. At least two groups—The Group of Martyrs of Issam Sartawi and the Army for Iran's National Liberation—have claimed credit for the attacks. We believe the unsophisticated nature of the attacks points to a relatively obscure group. [redacted]

25X1

18 May 1983**Kuwait: US Embassy Threatened**

The US Embassy in Kuwait received information indicating that planning for an attack on the Embassy or its personnel was possibly under way. Without specifically mentioning Kuwait, a US demarche subsequently was made on 21 May to the chief aide of Syrian security chief Rifaat Assad stating knowledge of a Syrian threat to US interests in the Middle East. The aide reiterated Damascus's intention to protect US personnel within Syria, but promised to pass the information on to Assad. [redacted]

25X1

19 May 1983**Netherlands: Onkruid Publication of Classified Documents**

The radical antimilitary group Onkruid published classified excerpts from civil defense and military documents stolen from unguarded military bunkers near The Hague the night of 26 April. Legal attempts by Dutch authorities to block publication proved unsuccessful. We note a continuing radicalization of Onkruid over recent months as more moderate members are pushed out of the group. [redacted]

25X1

20 May 1983**France: Release of Suspected Irish Terrorists**

In Paris, three members of the Irish Republican Socialist Party—wanted for terrorist-related offenses in Northern Ireland—were released from custody after defense attorneys alleged French police employed improper warrant and arrest procedures in August 1982. The arrest of the three individuals, for possession of arms and explosives, was touted in the French media as the opening salvo in a national antiterrorist campaign. [redacted]

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21 May 1983

West Berlin: Bombing by Revolutionary Cells

In West Berlin, the Revolutionary Cells (RZ) claimed responsibility for an early morning explosion behind VIP reviewing stands that had been set up for the annual Allied Forces Day parade. The explosion caused minor damage and no injuries. [redacted]

25X1

Italy: Firebombing of Papal Altar

In Milan, a Molotov cocktail destroyed the rostrum from which Pope John Paul II was scheduled to celebrate mass during a visit to Northern Italy. Although no one claimed credit for the attack, the authorities suspect the authors of a leaflet distributed throughout the city protesting the amount of money spent on the Pope's visit at a time of economic hardship. [redacted]

25X1

22-23 May 1983

Corsica: Upsurge in FLNC Violence

In major cities throughout the island, the separatist group Front for the Liberation of Corsica (FLNC) conducted 50 bomb attacks against mainland French-owned properties. The attacks caused serious property damage. The attacks occurred three weeks prior to a scheduled visit by French President Mitterrand and appear to represent a direct challenge to French Commissaire Broussard who has been charged with eliminating the terrorism problem in Corsica. [redacted]

25X1

23-24 May 1983

Corsica: More Bombings

In Bastia, five bombs exploded, causing property damage but no injuries. No group has claimed responsibility, and police suspect the FLNC or feuding families carrying out vendettas. [redacted]

25X1

23 May 1983

Spain: Terrorist Bombings Mar Annual Military Show

In Burgos, two bombs at telephone installations severed communications but caused no injuries. The bombings, coinciding with the beginning of annual military parades and displays, were probably the work of Basque terrorists. [redacted]

25X1

24 May 1983

Northern Ireland: Terrorist Car Bomb

In Belfast, a 700-pound car bomb exploded in front of a police station, injuring 15 people and damaging more than 100 homes and offices. Police have reported that gunmen hijacked a van and forced its owner to drive the bomb to the station under threat of death. Although no group has claimed responsibility for the attack, Irish nationalist terrorists are stepping up operations, we believe, in connection with the British election campaign. British security forces in Northern Ireland are on full alert. [redacted]

25X1

Belgium: Bombings Claimed by ASALA

In Brussels, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) claimed credit for two bombing attacks against Turkish tourism targets. No one was injured in the explosions. [redacted]

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25 May 1983**El Salvador: US Adviser Murdered**

Lt. Commander Albert Schaufelberger was assassinated on the grounds of the Central American University. The Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) claimed credit. Schaufelberger, we believe, had been under discreet surveillance for some time, and his killing was professionally executed. The terrorists used a stolen vehicle—one gunman maintaining control of passersby, another holding Schaufelberger's fiancée, while a third did the shooting. The assassin, according to accounts, then coolly turned off the ignition of the victim's car and stole his weapon. The three gunmen reentered their vehicle and left the scene at a moderate rate of speed. [REDACTED]

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An FPL pronouncement of a continued assassination campaign against US military advisers publicly commits the organization to further attacks or a loss of credibility. Increased security measures taken to protect US military personnel could well result in the FPL pursuing secondary but more vulnerable targets. [REDACTED]

25X1

Spain: Basque Bank Bombings

In Berriz and Pamplona, bombs exploded outside four banks, causing serious damage but no casualties. The choice of Pamplona—capital of Navarre—we believe is linked to Basque independence goals, which include the annexation of Navarre Province as part of the Basque national homeland. [REDACTED]

25X1

26 May 1983**Northern Ireland: Sectarian Violence Continues**

In Belfast, gunmen killed a policeman and seriously wounded another man. We believe Irish terrorists are responsible for the two attacks. [REDACTED]

25X1

Italy: Terrorist Manifesto Marked by Anti-US/NATO Rhetoric

In Pisa, a 12-page manifesto signed by the military wing of the Red Brigades, the Partito Comunista Combattente (PCC), was placed at the entrance to a local factory experiencing labor union problems. The manifesto attacked current US foreign policy and urged a "war against NATO." As a result of this manifesto and other recent indications of resurgent RB activity in the Tuscany area local counterterrorist officials expect some Red Brigade activity in the Pisa area in the near future. [REDACTED]

25X1

27 May 1983**Spain: Bombing of Government Offices**

In San Sebastian, the radical Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) splinter group, Autonomous Anticapitalist Command (CAA), claimed credit for bombing a Social Security office. Two policemen and two office workers were injured. A telephoned warning was too late to evacuate the building occupied by nearly 300 people. [REDACTED]

25X1

Spain: Basque Attacks on Banks Continue

In Hernani, the Basque terrorist group ETA claimed credit for the bombing of a bank, which caused damage but no injuries. Banks in the Basque country that refuse to pay "revolutionary taxes" continue to be the target of ETA attacks. [REDACTED]

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28 May 1983

Spain: CAA Attacks Continue

In Pamplona, the Autonomous Anticapitalist Command (CAA) claimed responsibility for the assassinations of two civil guardsmen on duty in the main post office of the Navarre capital. Two civilian postal employees were also injured in the daylight attack, which posed a clear risk to the nearly 60 innocent bystanders. There has been a marked upsurge in the group's activity, probably fueled by funds obtained from a recent successful kidnaping. [REDACTED]

25X1

29 May 1983

Spain: Bombing of Petroleum Pipeline

Two small explosions ruptured the state-controlled petroleum company's pipeline on its Bilbao-to-Valladolid leg. No group claimed credit for the bombings, but we suspect Basque terrorists. [REDACTED]

25X1

30 May 1983

Spain: Bombing of US Affiliate in Northern Spain

In Zaragoza, Rank Xerox was the target—for the fourth time in recent months—of a bomb attack. No group has yet claimed credit for the attack, but we suspect the anti-US group Iraultza may have been responsible because it has previously claimed credit for attacks on this target. [REDACTED]

25X1

Peru: State of Emergency Declared

Following several days of well-coordinated attacks in Lima and other areas in Peru, President Belaunde declared a nationwide 60-day state of emergency. The bombs blacked out power in several areas and damaged buildings, including a Bayer chemical plant. Total damages from the attacks are expected to reach several hundred million dollars. The attacks are evidence of the Shining Path's continued ability to evade government forces. [REDACTED]

25X1

1 June 1983

Italy: Arrest of Red Brigades Terrorist

In Rome, Italian police arrested most-wanted Red Brigades (BR) terrorist Federica Meroni who had escaped in a spectacular prison break 17 months ago. Documents found in the safehouse revealed the existence of a new BR splinter, "Common Organization for the Liberation of Prisoners," whose aim appears dedicated to freeing imprisoned terrorists. This group is led by imprisoned BR leader Senzani and is composed of former BR and Prima Linea members. This newly discovered splinter is another sign that imprisoned terrorists are able to direct terrorist operations despite countermeasures by prison authorities. [REDACTED]

25X1

3 June 1983

Spain: Bombings at Spanish Resorts

In Marbella and Fuengirola, six bombs exploded, slightly injuring two people and causing little damage. The explosions appeared timed to coincide with an International Bankers Conference being held in Malaga, and we believe the attacks were conducted by ETA terrorists who continue their extortion attempts against financial institutions. [REDACTED]

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United Kingdom: SNLA Letter Firebombs Continue

In London, a letter firebomb burst into flames at Conservative Party Headquarters shortly before the arrival of British Prime Minister Thatcher. No injuries or damage resulted from the firebomb, which consisted of a small envelope containing a box of matches that acted as a detonator and ignited the envelope when it was opened. The SNLA claimed credit for the attack in a communique to a press agency. [redacted]

25X1

5 June 1983

Lebanon: Assassination Attempt Against Libyan Diplomat

The Libyan Charge in Lebanon, Abdul-Kader Ghoga, was shot seven times at a Beirut Hotel by an individual claiming to be a member of the Syrian National Social Party (SSNP). The Front for the Liberation of Lebanon from Foreigners also claimed responsibility. We believe it is unlikely that the SSNP was responsible, given close cooperation at present between Syria and Libya. There is the possibility that Fatah was involved as Fatah's internal fissures have been abetted by Libya. [redacted]

25X1

6 June 1983

Spain: Release of Kidnap Victim

In Madrid, Spanish aristocrat Diego Prado, kidnaped 26 March by ETA guerrillas, was released unharmed. Although the Prado family refused any comment, police sources believe a ransom was paid for Prado's release but are unsure if the family was able to meet the \$8 million figure demanded by the terrorists. [redacted]

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