

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE C-7

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS
16 October 1985

80 terror trip-ups

Casey says CIA helped 13 foil plots

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WASHINGTON—CIA Director William Casey says that U.S. intelligence helped prevent 80 terrorist acts around the world last year, including the planned hijacking of a foreign airliner.

The CIA chief said many of the abortive terrorist incidents occurred in the Mideast, Europe, Africa and Latin America, where U.S. businessmen were targets. He said the American intended victims were hustled out of the countries before

the terrorists could strike.

In a speech Monday to a conference sponsored by the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies—made public yesterday—Casey said U.S. intelligence information helped foreign police stop the plane hijackers. A CIA spokesman declined to elaborate.

Casey said some of the incidents were planned by international terrorists who operate "in unison" with the Soviet Union.

"A Soviet connection may seem shadowy to some, but it seems very close to me,"

Casey said. He said the Soviets train 600 terrorists each year.

He did not give details or name names.

Meanwhile, FBI officials say they have stopped 23 terrorist plots in the U.S. Most of these, however, involved homegrown terrorist groups, not international organizations.

In one case, FBI agents were able to stop the planned murder of a witness testifying against the militant Aryan Nations organization, a white supremacist group.