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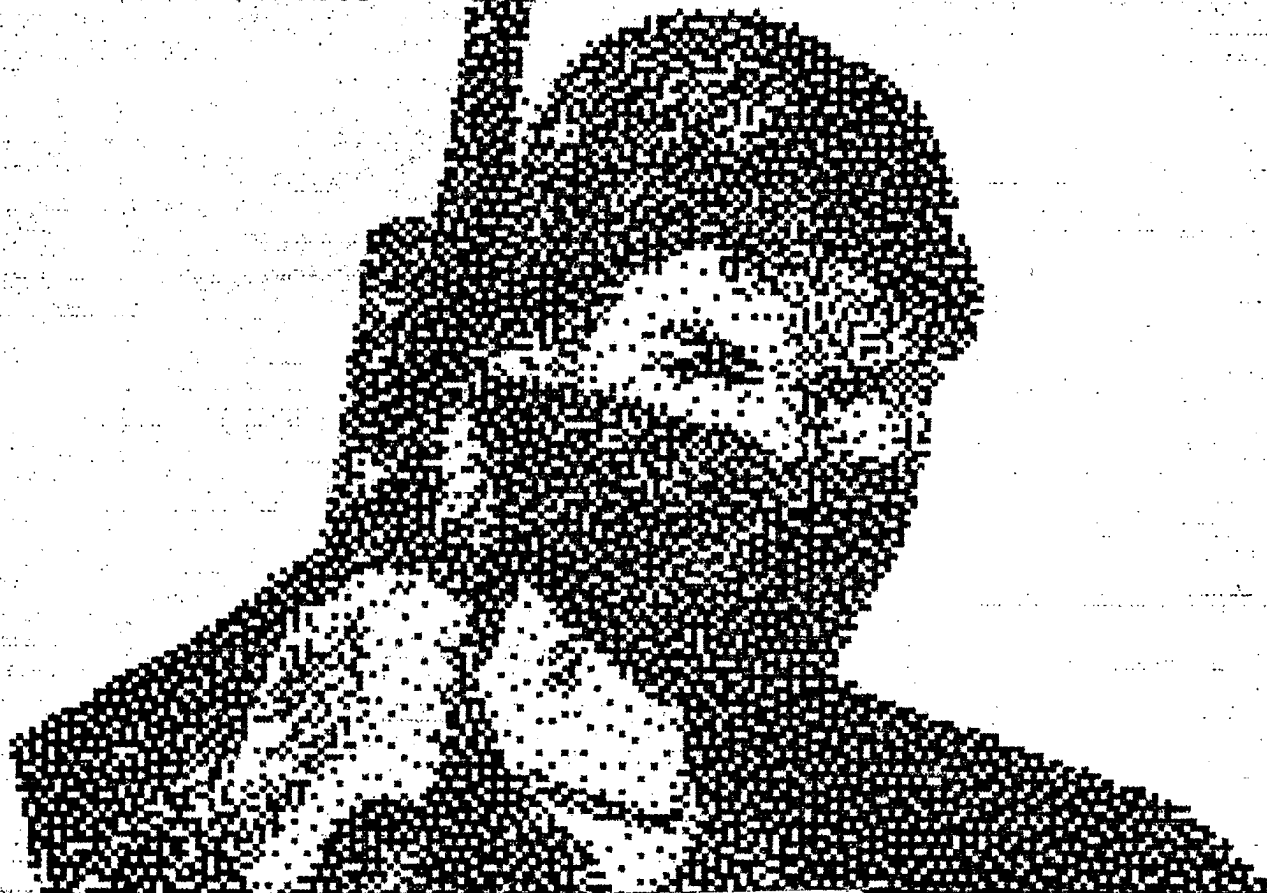


DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER

TERRORISM REVIEW

FEBRUARY 1998



CIA/DCI TR 98-002

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Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—January 1998

The incidents and situations listed below are not a detailed accounting of all terrorist incidents, but rather provide an overview of selected indigenous terrorism worldwide.

Asia

India

On 9 January, in New Delhi, a bomb hidden under a food cart exploded on a busy street near police headquarters, injuring at least 50 persons. Police suspect Sikh separatists are responsible.

On 10 January, in Chennai, a bomb detonated across from the visa entrance of the US Consulate, injuring four persons and damaging three floors of the building. Police found a leaflet at the scene from the *Islamic Defense Force (IDF)* claiming the explosion was in protest of the government's opposition to Islamic candidates in the upcoming elections.

On 25 January, in Gandarbal, in Kashmir, heavily armed, masked assailants killed 23 Hindus, set fire to some of their houses, and burned a Hindu temple.

Pakistan

On 23 January a bomb planted on a motorcycle exploded during an anti-Israel rally in Karachi, injuring two persons and damaging several shops, cars, motorcycles and a church.

Sri Lanka

On 25 January, in Kandy, suicide bombers drove an explosive-laden truck through the gates of the most sacred Buddhist shrine, the Temple of the Tooth, killing approximately 16 persons, injuring 23 others, and causing extensive damage to the exterior of the shrine and other buildings. The *Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)* are suspected. The government banned the LTTE and moved the main 50th Independence Day celebrations on 4 February from Kandy to Colombo. Prince Charles and other foreign dignitaries were expected to attend.

Europe

Spain

Arsonists set fire to a furniture store owned by a Popular Party councillor in Erandio on 7 January, causing extensive damage. Members or sympathizers of the *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* organization are suspected.

On 9 January a Popular Party councillor was killed when an explosive device detonated under his car in Zarauz. Authorities suspect *ETA* involvement.

A letter bomb exploded at a military housing complex in Vitoria on 10 January, injuring two women and a small child. The device was intended for a Spanish army officer but detonated prematurely injuring the victims with flying debris. The *ETA* is probably responsible.

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