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SEPTEMBER 1998

TERRORISM

REVIEW



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~~Secret~~**Sri Lanka**

On 17 August in Batticaloa, a timed device attached to a motorcycle detonated, injuring at least 17 persons and damaging a bank and two shops. No one claimed responsibility, but military officials believe the *Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)* are responsible. []

Europe**France**

On 4 August in Saint-Palais, a bomb exploded outside a Banque Populaire branch, causing extensive damage. According to French press reports, the bomb used was similar to one employed in a previous attack claimed by *Iparratarek*, a small Basque separatist group that operates in southwestern France. []

Spain

Authorities safely defused a 1-kilogram bomb found inside a radio station's restroom on 5 August. *The First of October Anti-Fascist Resistance Group (GRAPO)* claimed responsibility in a telephone call to authorities. []

Turkey

On 4 August in Dihok, a bomb exploded inside the home of a Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) representative, killing him. Authorities suspect the *Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)* is responsible. []

On 12 August in Mardin, *Kurdistan Peoples Liberation Army (ARGK)* members shot and killed a village guard during an ambush. []

A bomb exploded near a police van parked at Istanbul University on 14 August. The blast injured one police officer and three other persons, and damaged the van. The *Revolutionary People's Liberation Front (DHKP-C)* claimed responsibility for the attack. []

A time bomb planted by the PKK exploded in an oilfield owned by the Turkey Petroleum Corporation (TPAO) in Batman on 15 August, setting three oil wells on fire. []

On 23 August in Mazgirt, 30 armed PKK members attacked a police station, killing one police officer. Two persons were injured by stray bullets. []

United Kingdom

On 4 August unidentified gunmen attacked a Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) station in Lurgan, county Armagh. Authorities suspect a paramilitary Republican splinter group is responsible. []

Latin America**Colombia**

National Liberation Army (ELN) rebels kidnapped a senator at a roadblock near Urumita on 1 August. The ELN is demanding a commission to meet with recently displaced peasants to secure the senator's release. []

On 3 August in Anori, *ELN* rebels kidnapped the town's mayor during his visit to several villages. []

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