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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER

TERRORISM REVIEW

MARCH 1996

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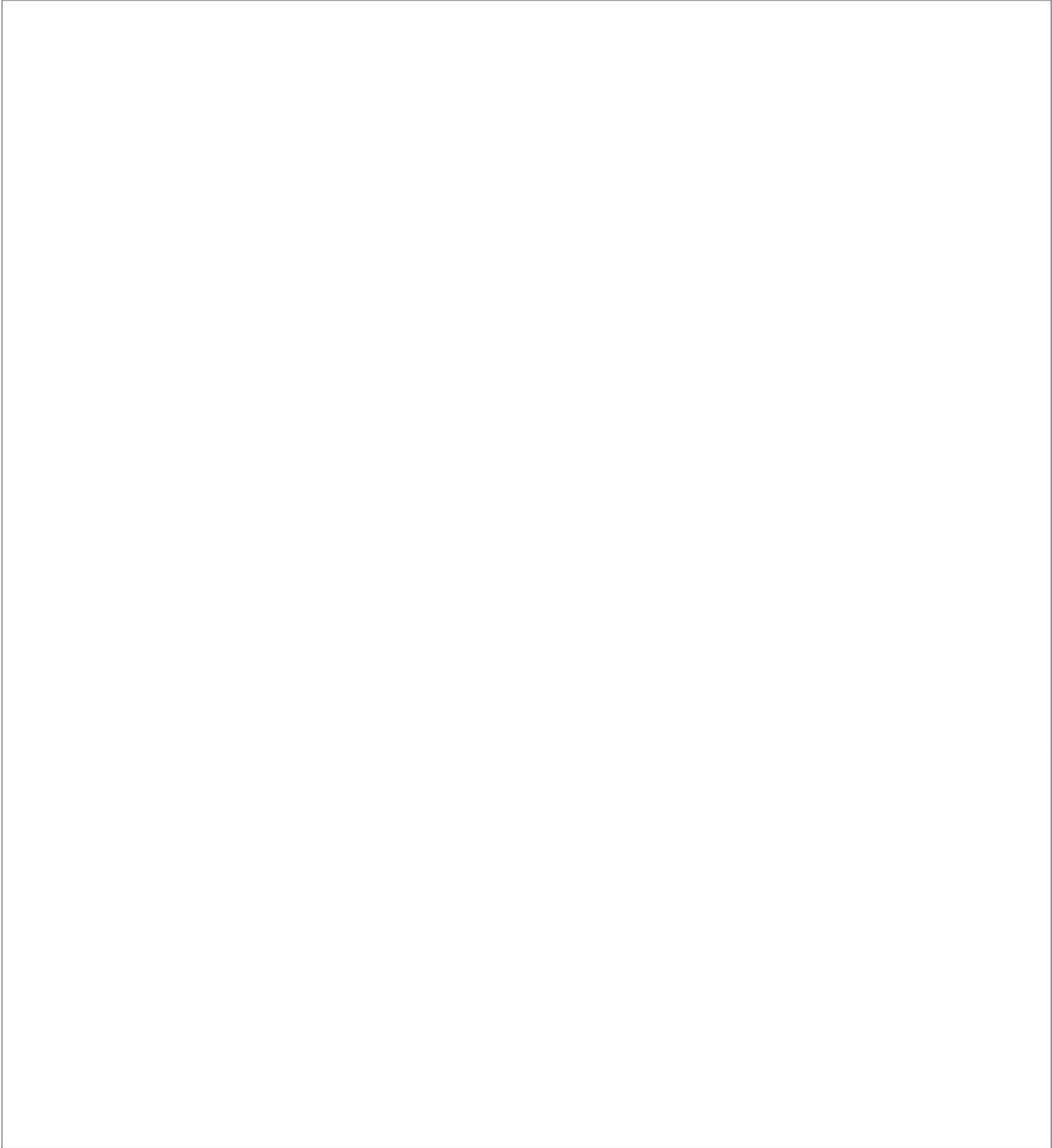


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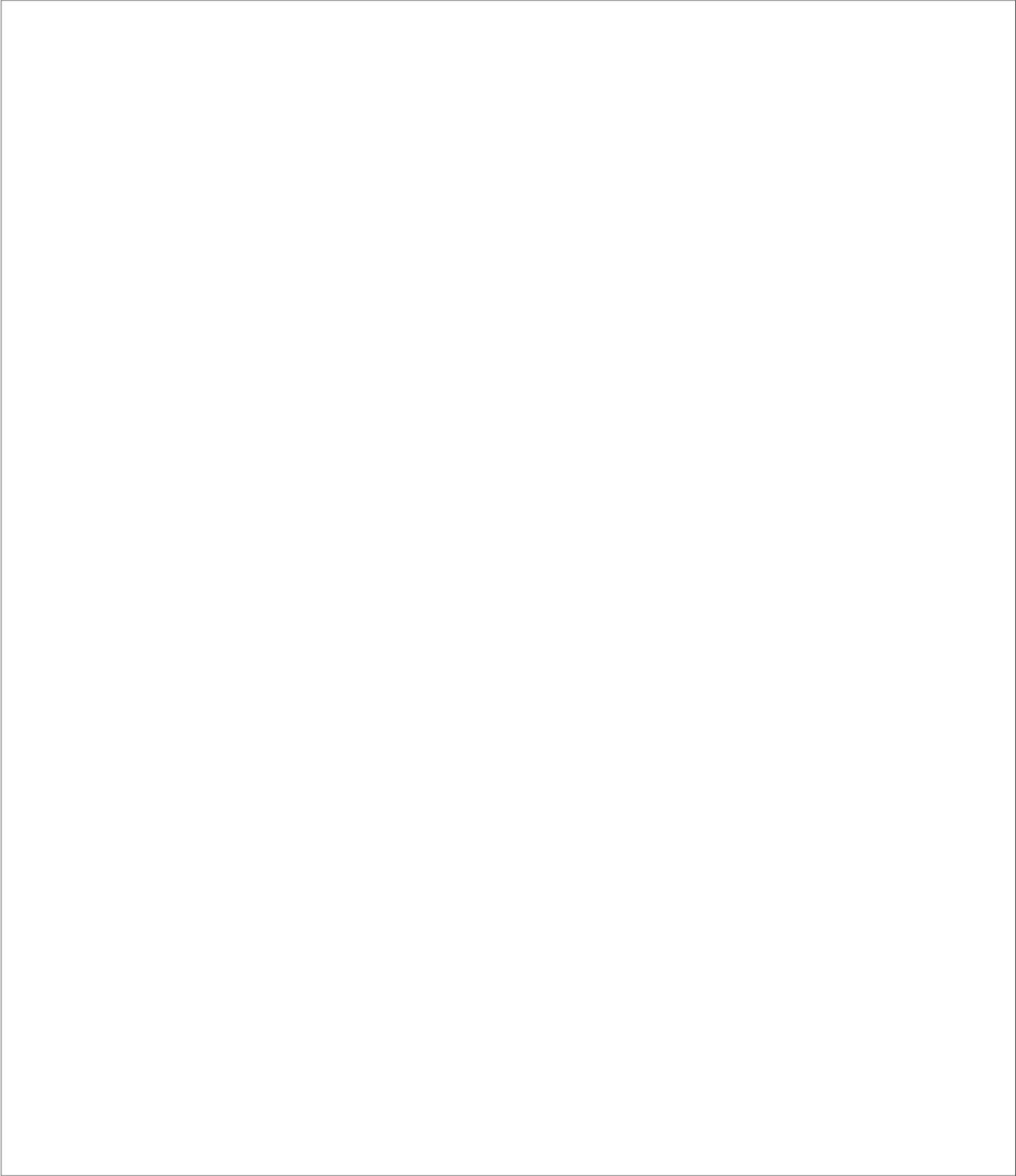
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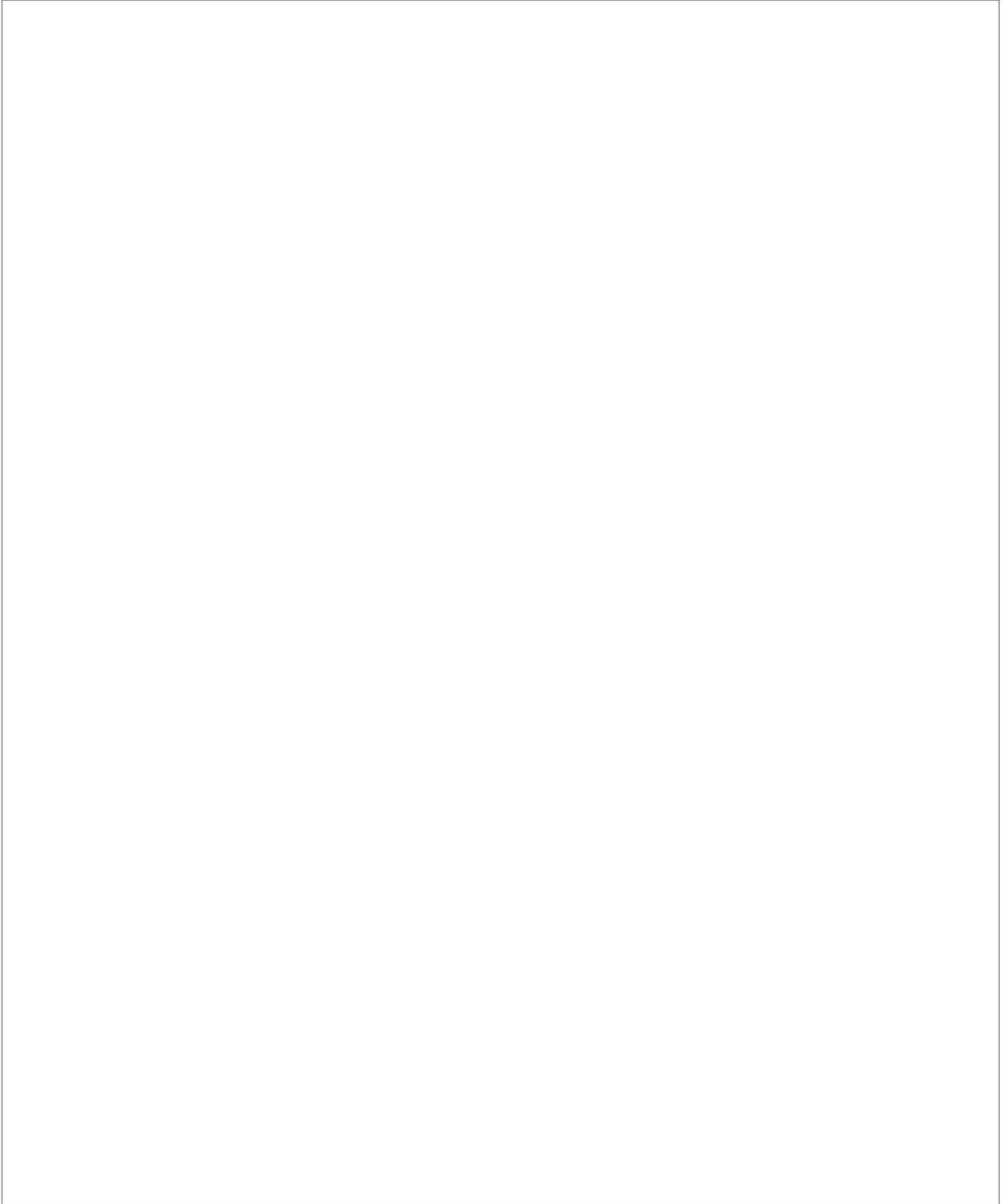
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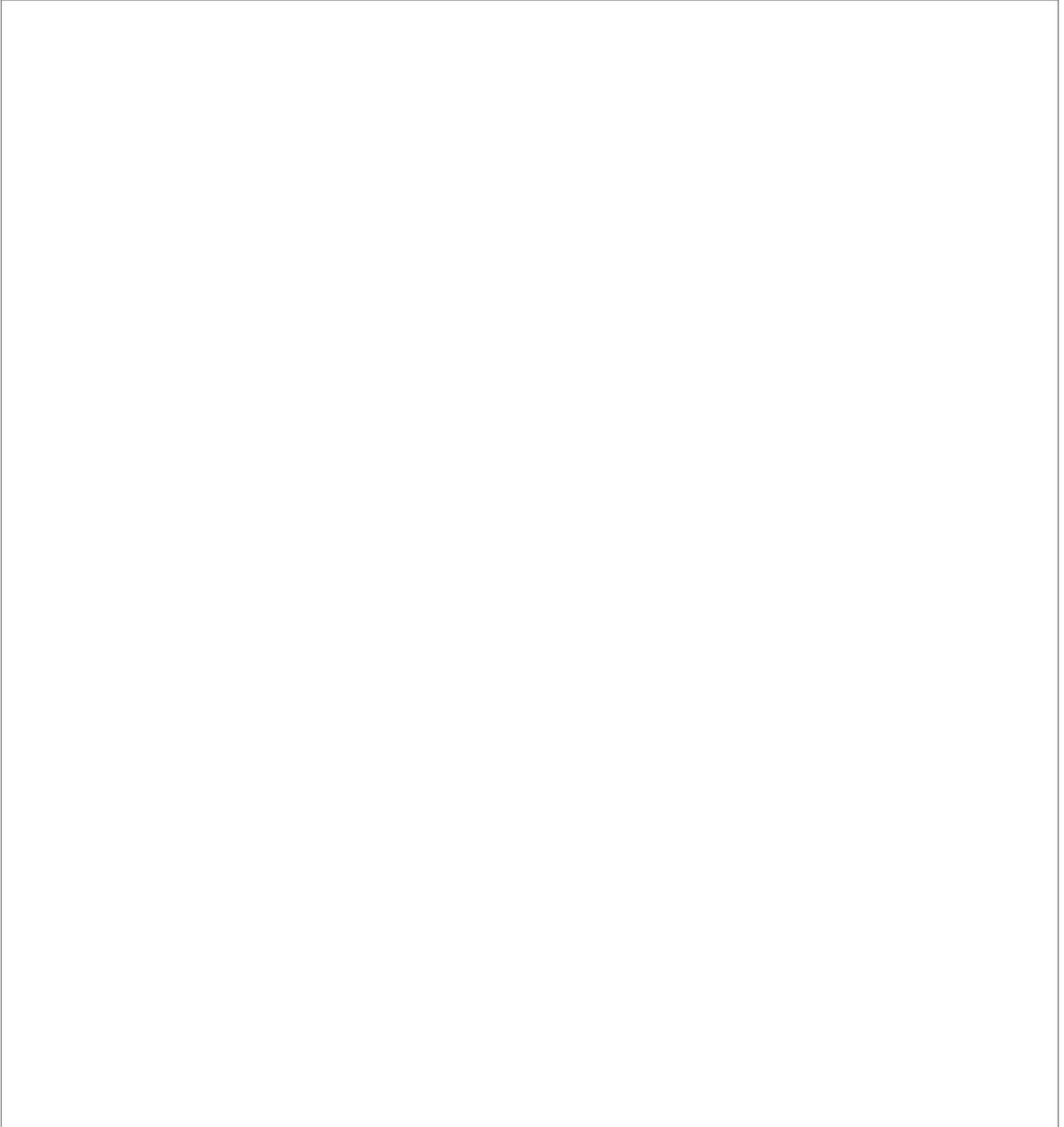
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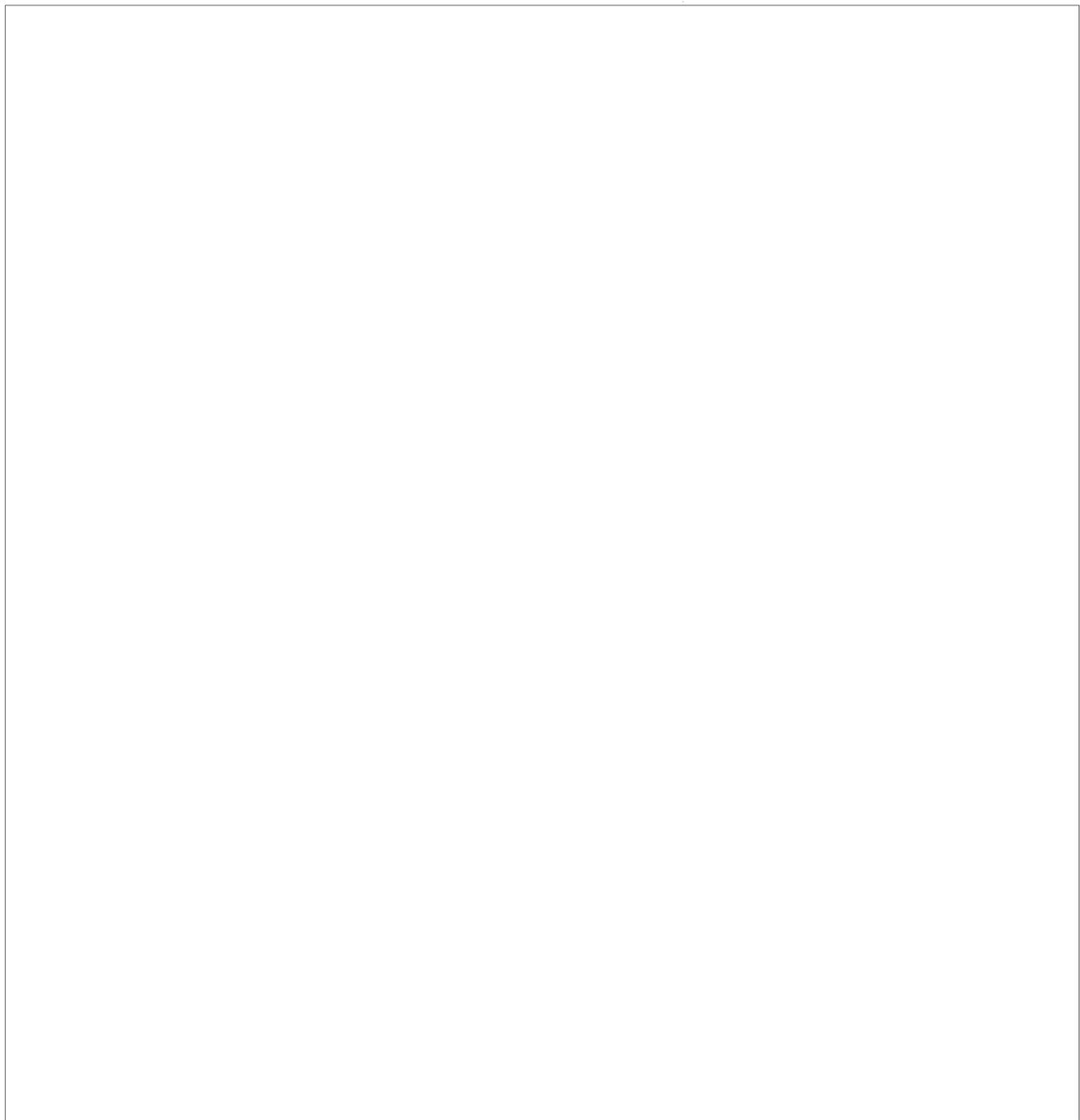
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Highlights



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The Terrorism Diary for April and May

Below is a compendium of April and May dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.

- April**
- Armenians.** April is dedicated by Armenian groups to the memory of the massacre of Armenians by Turks during World War I.
- 1 April 1979** **Iran.** Islamic Republic Day.
- 4 April 1947** **Syria.** Founding of Ba'th Party.
- 4 April 1979** **Pakistan.** Ex-President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto executed; the terrorist group Al-Zulfikar, founded by his two sons, is named after him.
- 7 April 1916** **Ireland.** Beginning of insurrection that led to independence.
- 8 April 1947** **Iraq.** Founding of ruling Ba'th Party.
- 11 April 1968** **Palestinians.** Founding of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).
- 13 April 1975** **Lebanon.** Phalange militiamen attack bus, triggering Lebanese civil war.
- 14-15 April 1986** **Libya.** US planes bomb Tripoli and Benghazi in retaliation for Libyan involvement in anti-US terrorism.
- 19 April 1973** **Colombia.** Populist group National Popular Alliance extremists founded 19th of April Movement (M-19).
- 24 April 1915** **Armenians.** National Day of Sorrow. Commemorates Turkish massacre.
- 28 April 1937** **Iraq.** Birthday of Saddam Husayn.
- 29 April 1967** **Colombia.** Founding of People's Liberation Army (EPL).
- 29 April 1986** **India.** Sikh militants declare independent republic of Khalistan at Golden Temple in Amritsar; militants expelled from temple next day.
- 1 May** **Socialist World.** May Day.
- 1 May 1980** **Peru.** Destruction of electoral material in Chuschi, Cangallo Province, marks beginning of armed struggle by Sendero Luminoso; anniversary is commemorated by acts of violence throughout May, but especially on 16 May.

- 2 May 1953** **Jordan.** King Husayn assumed constitutional power.
- 2 May** **Jewish World.** Commemoration of the Holocaust.
- 6 May 1900** **Iran.** Birthday of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.
- 14 May** **Israel.** Independence Day.
- 14 May 1948** **Middle East.** Beginning of first Arab-Israeli war.
- 15 May 1948** **Palestinians.** Palestine Day (end of UN mandate); 15 May Organization, founded in 1979 by remnant of Special Operations Group of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), takes its name from this event.
- 17 May 1983** **Lebanon, Israel.** Signing of troop withdrawal accord (known as 17 May agreement).



Chronology of International Terrorism

The following incidents were considered by the Intelligence Community's Incident Review Panel since publication of the previous issue of the Terrorism Review and were determined by the Panel to constitute international terrorism. Such incidents provide the basis for the State Department's Patterns of Global Terrorism, which is published annually as the US Government's official record of international terrorism.



Africa

18 January

Ethiopia: A bomb exploded at the Ghion Hotel in Addis Ababa, killing at least four people and injuring 20 others. The injured included citizens from the United Kingdom, Mali, India, and France. No one has claimed responsibility for the bombing.

Asia

8 January

Indonesia: Two hundred Free Papua Movement (OPM) guerrillas abducted 26 individuals in the Lorenta nature reserve in Irian Jaya province. The hostages were on a research expedition for the World Wide Fund for Nature. The guerrillas released 14 hostages but continue to hold four Britons, two Dutch, and six Indonesians. OPM demanded the complete withdrawal of Indonesian troops from Irian Jaya, compensation for environmental damage and for the death of civilians at the hands of the military, and a halt to Freeport Indonesia mining operations (a unit of the New Orleans-based Freeport-McMoRan company). The Indonesian Government is negotiating for the release of the remaining hostages.

Eurasia

27 January

Georgia: Suspected Chechen separatists shot at an International Red Cross vehicle, injuring two relief workers.

Europe

2 January

Netherlands: A bomb exploded outside an Arnhem building that houses a French-owned bank and the French Honorary Consulate. The explosion shattered windows and damaged surrounding buildings. On 25 January the Anti-Nuclear Society for a Silent Counter-Offensive (ANGST) claimed responsibility for the attack.

4 January

Spain: A bomb exploded at a Pamplona car show sponsored by the French car-maker Peugeot, causing major damage. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, but the Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) youth group, Jarrai, is believed to be responsible.



5 January

Netherlands: Firebombs damaged the Turkish Consulate in Deventer and a Turkish bank in The Hague. No one has claimed responsibility. Authorities discovered graffiti on the bank's wall signed by the DHKP/C.

6 January

Netherlands: A fire set at the entrance of the Rotterdam office of the Dutch Union of Turkish Islamic Social Cultural Association caused minor damage. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack.

7 January

Switzerland: Unknown assailants attacked a Turkish Airlines office in Zurich, causing major damage. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack.

8 January

Switzerland: *Three assailants firebombed the Turkish Maritime Line's shipping office in Zurich, causing minor damage.* Authorities suspect Turkish extremists are responsible.

16 January

Turkey: *Seven Turkish nationals of Chechen origin hijacked a Russian-bound ferry in Trabzon.* The hijackers initially threatened to kill all Russians on board unless Chechen separatists being held in Dagestan, Russia, were released by Russian forces. On 19 January the hijackers surrendered to Turkish authorities outside the Bosphorus waterway entrance. The passengers were unharmed.

Latin America

10-17 January

Colombia: *National Liberation Army (ELN) guerillas bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline in five attacks throughout the country.* Damage ranged from minor to the loss of at least 50,000 gallons of oil.



Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—February 1996

This description of incidents and situations is not meant to be a detailed accounting of all domestic terrorist incidents, but rather to provide an overview of indigenous terrorism worldwide.

Asia

Philippines

Suspected members of the *Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG)* hurled two explosive devices into a crowded carnival in Sulu Archipelago on 8 February, killing one person and wounding 40 others.

Sri Lanka

The *Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)* attacked a village in Maha Nika Wewa on 22 February, killing six civilians, a policeman, and two soldiers. Two others were wounded.

Europe

France

A bomb detonated outside the National Front political party's Marseilles office on 21 February, causing major damage. A previously unknown group, the *Irregular Partisans, Missak Manouchian Combat Unit*, claimed responsibility.

Greece

A bomb detonated on 21 February inside an empty railway car outside of the Thessaloniki train station, destroying the car. The *Revolutionary People's Struggle (ELA)* is suspected.

Spain

Two gunmen killed an attorney on 6 February in San Sebastian. He was the brother of a former Minister of Justice. It is believed the *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* is responsible.

A gunman shot and killed the former head of Spain's Constitutional Court on 14 February in Madrid. The *ETA* is suspected.

Turkey

Unknown assailants threw molotov cocktails at the Education Ministry office in Istanbul on 2 February, causing extensive damage to the building and an adjacent public school. [redacted]

On 5 February assailants firebombed two banks in Istanbul, causing minor damage. No one has claimed responsibility. [redacted]

A bomb exploded outside an Istanbul municipal building in the district of Beyoglu on 18 February, causing damage but no injuries. A second bomb found at the scene was dismantled by authorities. No one has claimed responsibility for the bombing. [redacted]

United Kingdom

On 2 February in Somerset, arsonists destroyed a vehicle owned by the leader of the Liberal Democrat Party. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted]

Gunmen opened fire on a police officer's home on 2 February in County Tyrone, Northern Ireland. The officer and his wife escaped unharmed. It is believed the *Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA)* is responsible. [redacted]

Assailants threw a firebomb at a bus in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, on 13 February, injuring the driver. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted]

After receiving a warning call, police defused a bomb found in a gym bag in a London telephone booth on 15 February. The *PIRA* later claimed responsibility. [redacted]

A bomb detonated on a bus in London on 18 February, killing one person and wounding nine others. Three days later, the *PIRA* admitted that the individual was a *PIRA* courier in transit, confirming authorities' suspicions that the blast was premature. [redacted]

Latin America

Argentina

An improvised explosive device detonated in front of the Cordoba town hall on 1 February, damaging windows but causing no injuries. No group has claimed responsibility. [redacted]

Colombia

In Bogota, three armed men gunned down a woman who was the key witness in a drug-corruption probe involving President Samper. The woman's male companion was also killed in the 1 February attack in an apartment building. *The Movement for Colombian Dignity* has claimed responsibility for the murders, stating they are trying to force Samper to resign. [redacted]

National Liberation Army guerrillas dynamited a Colombian-owned pipeline in Antioquia Department on 18 February. The explosion caused an oil spill. [redacted]

Nicaragua

Unknown assailants bombed a Catholic church in Leon on 10 February, causing damage but no injuries. [redacted]

Peru

In Angashaycu-Rio Frio, *Sendero Luminoso (SL)* guerrillas killed the director of the local soup kitchen and her sons on 10 February [redacted]

Middle East

Algeria

A car bomb exploded in front of a press building in the Belcourt district of Algiers on 11 February, killing 18 persons and wounding 54. The *Armed Islamic Group (GIA)* may be responsible [redacted]

