



Directorate of
Intelligence

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**Terrorism
Review**

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18 August 1983

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GI TR 83-017
18 August 1983

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**Terrorism
Review** [Redacted]

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18 August 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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**Terrorism
Review** [Redacted]

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18 August 1983

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Perspective

The East European Terrorist Connection [Redacted]

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Policies and activities of the Soviet Union's East European allies, have, to varying degrees, been conducive to revolutionary violence and terrorism against US interests, but, in our judgment, not decisive in sustaining groups, defining their targeting objectives, or establishing their levels of activity. Nor can we yet identify solid evidence of direct Soviet or East European manipulation of terrorist groups.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] the Soviets and their allies provide support to govern- 25X1
ments and organizations that aid or conduct terrorism and are witting that such assistance facilitates terrorist operations. Such support most prominently includes training in Eastern Europe and abroad; provision of weapons, materiel and funding; relatively unfettered—if closely monitored—use of the territory of these states for transit, sanctuary, and safehaven; and at least implicit encouragement to employ such assistance in conducting violent and subversive operations.

[Redacted]

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Certain Soviet policies and anti-American propaganda campaigns provide backdrops favoring anti-American terrorism. For example, Soviet threats against West European governments supporting INF deployments and Soviet manipulation of certain anti-INF groups have helped create a favorable climate for attacks by terrorists against US military facilities in West Germany to generate visible opposition to INF deployments and the US presence. Implicit Soviet support for employment of violent tactics by Syria against US interests in the Middle East advances the Soviet aim of undermining US peace initiatives in the region. [Redacted]

The Soviets and East Europeans tend to remain one step removed from terrorist operations, avoiding direct involvement and attendant risks. In contrast, such prominent Middle Eastern supporters of terrorism as Syria, Iran, and Libya, for example, have employed their own intelligence and special operations personnel in international terrorist operations and have engaged surrogate groups in such activities. To preserve plausible deniability, the Soviets, and presumably other Bloc personnel, apparently attempt covert liaison with or penetration of terrorist groups to gather intelligence but do not try to direct operations or provide direct support. We believe that the Soviets carry out these operations to decide whether or not a group poses a direct threat to Soviet personnel and installations, to determine whether such groups may evolve into revolutionary movements worthy of Soviet/East European support at a later date, and to assess their ability to promote broader Soviet political interests.

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Bulgaria is prominent among East European states involved in supporting violent revolutionary groups. A crossroads between East and West, Bulgaria has been used by transiting and fugitive international terrorists. More important, both under the authority of the government and as a result of illicit smuggling and criminal operations, arms and munitions have passed from and through Bulgaria to revolutionaries and terrorists in Turkey, the Middle East, and Western Europe. Arms that can be traced to Bulgarian purchases have turned up among terrorist supplies in West Germany, Italy, Turkey, and in the Middle East. Much of this traffic has been channeled through the state-controlled KINTEX import-export enterprise, which has purchased arms abroad and resold them for hard currency to, among others, revolutionary groups that engage in terrorism. In some cases, corrupt officials have confiscated contraband weapons and equipment in Bulgaria and recycled it for sale on foreign black markets.

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[redacted] Bulgaria offers training and safehaven to groups that engage in terrorism, and that Bulgarian instructors—along with Soviet and East German—have been sent to train revolutionaries abroad.

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[redacted] Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—Special Command (PFLP-SC), one of the more radical and active non-PLO terrorist groups, evacuated from Beirut to Sofia in July 1982 under Israeli military pressure. The group has since returned to its home base in South Yemen.

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[redacted]

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Of note, the prominent terrorist groups indigenous to the three West European countries bordering on eastern Communist countries—West Germany, Austria, and Italy—appear to have received little, if any, assistance from the neighboring East Bloc. In the case of the West German Red Army Faction (RAF) and the Italian Red Brigades (BR), we

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[redacted] see few signs of a prominent or consistent Soviet—East European role. On the other hand, such prominent transnational organizations as the various Palestinian groups, and perhaps the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), appear to have obtained a more significant level of assistance from Eastern Europe, despite the fact that locations of their headquarters facilities and training sites are farther removed.

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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A Palestinian infrastructure located in East Berlin could play a prominent role should mainline PLO groups resume international terrorism operations in Western Europe or should intra-Palestinian bloodletting in the Middle East spread to Europe. We believe that, if the PLO ban on international terrorism that has been in effect since the mid-1970s is lifted, or if the infrastructure in East Berlin comes under control of hardliners, it would provide an ideal springboard for Palestinian terrorism in Western Europe.

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Highlights**Key Indicators**

West Germany: Demonstrators Arrested at Ramstein Airbase. Although no violence occurred at the 7 August open house, police arrested approximately 160 demonstrators. According to the West German press, the demonstrators intentionally provoked arrests by the US security forces, and some television stations broadcast pictures of the arrests with the commentary that this was evidence of US military "brutality." We believe that this tactic is likely to be used in the fall by groups attempting to influence public opinion against the US military presence and by more militant groups attempting to provoke a confrontation. [redacted]

Continued Terrorism in the French Caribbean. According to local media, the proindependence Revolutionary Caribbean Alliance (ARC) claimed responsibility for the burning of a supermarket in Pointe-a-Pitre during the visit to Guadeloupe on 23 July of the French Secretary of State for Overseas Departments. Bombs were placed in two other supermarkets; one of them detonated, causing minor damage. In a separate incident on Martinique, four bombs exploded at the Department of Public Works on 7 August, causing heavy damage to the building and several trucks parked outside. [redacted]

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These latest acts follow a series of some 29 recent bombings believed to have been carried out by ARC in France's three Caribbean departments and Paris. The incidents have been downplayed by local media, and, as a result, we expect ARC will probably escalate its activities to obtain publicity for its cause. [redacted]

Costa Rican Land Invasions. Costa Rican radio and press report that extremists have been involved in recent land invasions in several parts of the country—the Atlantic region reportedly being the focus of major activity. Reportedly, individuals trained in Nicaragua and Cuba are training peasants in land seizure, and the media report a plan has been uncovered to seize airfields, an electric power plant, and other targets of tactical value. The activity is reminiscent of operations carried out by members of the Costa Rican terrorist group known as The Family who, we believe, initially began their activities in the same rural area and ultimately graduated to urban terrorism. Most of the members of The Family are believed to have been arrested after an attack on a US marine jeep in 1981. [redacted]

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Honduran Guerrillas Reported in the Olancho. [redacted]

[redacted] a group of 120 guerrillas are believed to be operating in the remote Olancho region, [redacted]. The group reportedly is organized along military lines and is equipped with M-16 rifles, M-60 machineguns, M-79 grenade launchers, and hand grenades. [redacted]

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the group is part of the Honduran branch of the Central American Workers Revolutionary Party—a regional terrorist organization with membership in all Central American countries and one of the five principal groups that comprise the Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). [redacted]

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[redacted]

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United States: ASALA Bombers Convicted. In Los Angeles, a US Federal Court convicted three ASALA members of a 1982 attempted bomb attack near the Air Canada cargo terminal. The bomb was intended to be a retaliation for the arrest of a number of ASALA members in Canada. No date for sentencing has been set in this case. We note that ASALA has previously conducted retaliatory attacks against countries imprisoning its members. [redacted]

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Significant Developments

[redacted]

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West Germany: Bombing Signals the Start of "Hot Autumn." The group claiming responsibility for the 7 August bombing of the officers' club at Hahn Airbase concluded its confessor letter with the phrase "autumn begins," a reference to the anti-INF protests scheduled for this fall. We concur with the assessment of the West German authorities that RAF supporters were responsible for the attack, and we believe that they intend to target US military installations in the future.

[redacted]

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**Iraq's Support for
International Terrorism:
Current Status** [redacted]

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Iraq, pressured by war with Iran, has withdrawn its more obvious support for Baghdad-based Palestinian terrorist groups in hopes of improving relations with Western countries and Arab moderates. Iraq has also strengthened its relations with the established PLO leadership over the past year and would jeopardize existing good will were it to openly or strongly support a group such as the Black June Organization (BJO) whose primary aim is to destroy Arafat and the moderates. [redacted]

evidence to suggest that 15 May is involved in this alleged operation, [redacted]

Despite Iraq's apparent reduction in support to these two terrorist groups, we believe it is unlikely that Iraq will totally eliminate its ties with them. Baghdad wants to continue to counter Syrian influence on Palestinian groups as well as maintain a terrorist option as a tool for intimidation in pursuing its own foreign policy goals. [redacted]

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[redacted] Iraq has, in effect, disallowed Abu Nidal's BJO the privilege of using Baghdad as its operational headquarters, forcing the group to operate out of Damascus. Though the BJO's activities out of Iraq have been curtailed, the Iraqi regime is likely to continue to covertly provide some form of support. In this way, Iraq probably hopes to neutralize charges from the West regarding its support for international terrorism, yet maintain some leverage over Abu Nidal so as not to make him totally dependent on Syria. [redacted]

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Baghdad appears also to have reduced its ties to the 15 May Organization. Though 15 May and its leader, Abu Ibrahim, remain in Baghdad, we believe the group has been inactive—largely because of Iraqi pressure—since its attempts to bomb airliners and facilities in Geneva and Tunis in August and September 1982. [redacted]

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Recent reporting from the US Embassy in Kuwait that 15 May was responsible for a recent unsuccessful attempt to recruit individuals to bomb the US Embassy there appears to be unfounded. There has been no

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Colombia:
The M-19 After Bateman [redacted]

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Despite the recent announcement that Ivan Marino Ospina Marin will succeed deceased M-19 leader Jaime Bateman, the leadership and future direction of the group is still in question. [redacted]

results could be one or more major attacks designed to demonstrate the group's continued viability. [redacted]

In a press interview on 16 July, M-19 National Directorate member Alvaro Fayad confirmed that Bateman had died in a late-April plane crash, although no crash site has been located. During his announcement Fayad contended that Bateman was en route to a meeting in northern Colombia with leaders of the National Liberation Army (ELN). [redacted]

[redacted] The radicals might also be more inclined to cooperate with Colombia's other, frequently more brutal, guerrilla groups. [redacted]

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We believe that in the near future the National Directorate will be less coherent and therefore less effective in guiding the group. Bateman was a charismatic leader and had led the group since its inception. It is doubtful that Ospina, who is reportedly in poor health, will maintain as much control over the group as Bateman, and he may not play a major role in the group's day-to-day operations. The fact that Ospina apparently conceded the position of spokesman to Fayad, a key rival, indicates that a power-sharing deal may have been struck, at least for the short term. [redacted]

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Since Bateman's death, M-19 operations have continued at the low level that followed the government's amnesty program; however, moderates in the group who had rejected amnesty out of fear or loyalty to Bateman may now change their plans, leaving the group in the hands of more radical members. The

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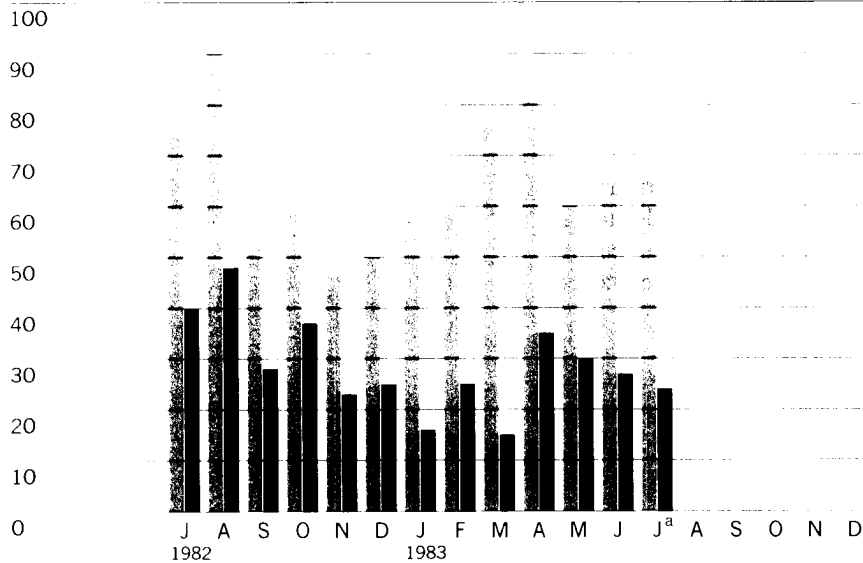
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Statistical Overview: International Terrorist Incidents, 1982-83

Total, 840
 Of which: US targets 373



Category of International Terrorist Incidents, 1982-83, by Month	Total	Month												Total	
		J 1982	F 1982	M 1982	A 1982	M 1982	J 1982	J ^a 1982	A 1983	S 1983	O 1983	N 1983	D 1983		
Total	840	74	90	52	59	47	50	57	59	77	82	60	66	67	840
Kidnaping	35	4		1	4	3	2	2	4	4	3	3	2	3	35
Barricade, hostage	33	1	1	6	1	5	2	1	2	3	4	2	2	3	33
Bombing	324	42	32	13	17	18	23	22	25	27	30	22	32	21	324
Armed attack	16			2	1				2	2	4	1	2	2	16
Hijacking	55	3	4	1	3	3	1	4	6	3	4	7	6	10	55
Assassination	37	3	4	5		1	2	4	1	4	5	2	4	2	37
Threats, hoax	281	19	44	18	23	14	16	20	15	29	25	18	17	23	281
Sniping	15	1	2	3	2	1		1	2	1	2				15
Other ^b	44	1	3	3	8	2	4	3	2	4	5	5	1	3	44

^a Figures for the most recent months are subject to change as additional data are received.

^b Break ins, conspiracies, shootouts, etc.

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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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13 July 1983

Italy: Arrests of Italian Terrorists

In Naples, Italian counterterrorist police announced the arrests of elements of a new terrorist column. The group—formed along Red Brigades' lines—planned to open a terrorist campaign within the next few months to take advantage of the growing political and financial crisis within the city administration. The group allegedly had contact with terrorists in northern Italy. [redacted]

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17 July 1983

United States–Cuba: Delta Flight Hijacked

A Delta Airlines flight en route from Miami to Tampa with 107 persons aboard was hijacked to Cuba by three men brandishing a knife and using an aerosol can as a torch. The three men and four other persons, apparently family members, were taken into custody by Cuban authorities in Havana. [redacted]

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18 July 1983

United States–Cuba: Hijackings Continue

For the second time in less than 48 hours, a US carrier was hijacked to Cuba. A Cuban bank employee commandeered an Eastern Airlines flight while en route from New York to Miami with 232 persons aboard. After the plane landed in Havana, the hijacker was taken into custody by Cuban authorities, and the plane and passengers continued on to Miami. The incident was the eighth successful hijacking in the United States since the beginning of May. [redacted]

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26 July 1983

Italy: Red Brigades (BR) Trial Ends

In Turin, the three-month trial of 61 BR members ended with the defendants found guilty of 10 murders, 17 attempted murders, and a series of bombings. Twelve of the terrorists—described as leaders of the BR—were given life sentences. Most of the evidence was reportedly provided by two repentant terrorists, Patrizio Peci and Antonio Savasta. One defendant was acquitted of a murder charge because of insufficient evidence—creating a public uproar—but remains in prison awaiting trial on other terrorist charges. [redacted]

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30 July 1983

West Germany: Hahn Airbase Targeted

According to military reporting, participants in a nearby women's "peace camp" penetrated the base on 30 July and spray painted graffiti on various facilities. On 7 August an early morning explosion at the officers' club caused considerable damage, but no injuries. We believe that the peace camp is providing training for anti-US activities and that supporters of the RAF were involved in both incidents.

[redacted]

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31 July 1983

Iran: Attempted Bombing of Egyptian Interests Section Offices

In Tehran, a 5-kilo bomb—which failed to explode—at the Egyptian Interests Section may have been the work of the Armenian terrorist group Orly. We believe the real target of the bomb was France, who is protecting Egyptian interests since the break in relations between Iran and Egypt in 1979.

[redacted]

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3 August 1983

Turkey: Terrorist Reorganization Attempt

In Istanbul, security forces arrested 46 members of the illegal Dev Yol (Revolutionary Way) organization in a series of counterterrorist operations. In addition to weapons, organizational documents and leftist publications printed abroad were found, indicating that Dev Yol was in the process of reorganizing.

[redacted]

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4 August 1983

Northern Ireland: Irish Terrorists' Threat to Informer

In Belfast, Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) guerrillas claim to be holding the three kidnaped relatives of INLA informer Harry Kirkpatrick in an attempt to force Kirkpatrick to withdraw his evidence against several INLA members. They have threatened to kill the hostages unless Kirkpatrick recants.

[redacted]

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Lesotho: Assassination Attempt on Jonathan

A car bomb explosion in Maseru narrowly missed Prime Minister Jonathan, who was shaken but unhurt.

[redacted]

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5 August 1983

Lebanon: Car Bomb Kills Over 20 People

A massive car bomb exploded in front of a Mosque in Tripoli killing over 20 people and injuring over 50. No one has yet claimed responsibility. The bombing occurred in an area controlled by the Islamic Unification Movement, a group that is considered generally close to both Syria and Iran. Though Syrian troops were withdrawn from the Tripoli area in the week preceding the bombing, Syrian forces continue to ring the city.

[redacted]

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6 August 1983

South Africa: Explosion in Synagogue

The ANC has denied responsibility for the bombing of a synagogue in Johannesburg. South African President Yiljoen, the Israeli Ambassador, and other dignitaries were to have attended a special service at the temple. [redacted]

Spain: Bombing in Basque Country

In Lasarte, Basque separatist guerrillas claimed responsibility for the bombing of a bank moments before the blast occurred. No one was injured in the explosion, which is the latest in a series of attacks against financial institutions that do not pay "revolutionary taxes" to Basque terrorists. [redacted]

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Spain: Bombing Campaign Aimed at Spanish Military

In Barcelona, Basque Fatherland and Liberty Political/Military Wing Eighth Assembly (ETA/PM-VIII) sent a map to the Basque newspaper *Egin* allegedly showing the location of six bombs placed in locations of military significance. The communique stressed that the bombs were not targeted against people, but that they were a protest against the coming trial of nine ETA/PM members in Barcelona for an assault on the military compound at Berga, Spain. Spanish police have found three of the six bombs, which were not primed to explode but could have been dangerous if moved. We anticipate that ETA/PM-VIII will continue to target the Spanish military, particularly in view of the recent unrest in the Basque country aimed at the Madrid government. [redacted]

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7 August 1983

Iran: Bombing of Egyptian Interests Section Offices

In Tehran, there were two more bomb attacks on the offices used by Egyptian Interests, which are under the protection of the French Government in Tehran. The Armenian terrorist organization Orly claimed credit. Given the four previous attacks in Tehran against French Interests, which occurred in spite of allegedly improved security by the Iranian authorities, we suspect the Tehran Government may have been responsible for the direction—or at least the approval—of the Orly groups' attacks. [redacted]

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Lebanon: Car Bomb Explodes in Market

A car bomb, estimated at 100 kilos of TNT, exploded in a crowded market in the Syrian-controlled town of Baalbek, wounding 133 people and killing 33. The Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners (FLLF) claimed credit for the attack. The Baalbek explosion followed a similar blast two days earlier in Tripoli. Both bombings occurred at a time and place guaranteed to amass large numbers of casualties, and both attacks took place in areas under Syrian control. The enigmatic FLLF claimed credit for the wounding of a Libyan Charge in Beirut in June. Previous to that incident, the group has claimed four other attacks and bombings directed against both Palestinian and US targets. [redacted]

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8 August 1983

Chile: MIR Firebombs Buses

The Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) is believed to be responsible for the firebombing of five buses parked in a yard in Santiago. Police believe the incident, which caused \$100,000 damage, was carried out to induce the bus operator and other proprietors to participate in future national strikes. [REDACTED]

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France: Attack by French Basque Terrorists

In Dax, French police are hunting for three men believed to be members of the French Basque terrorist group Iparretarrak—the Basque word meaning “Those From the North”—after a machinegun attack on a police checkpoint that killed one police officer and seriously wounded another. The attack appears linked to arrests of other French Basque terrorists in connection with a firebomb attack on a tourist villa. The recent spate of attacks by French Basques has also resulted in a claim by an antiseparatist group calling itself “Secret Army of the Class of Bouyer and Roussarie”—names of two French policemen slain by Basque terrorists in March 1982—that the group has killed a Basque separatist sought for the 1982 killings. No body has been found, and police have no information about this group.

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9 August 1983

Spain: GRAPO Communique Pledges To Continue Terrorism

In Madrid, the extreme leftist First of October Antifascist Resistance Group (GRAPO) sent a communique to a press office denying the existence of negotiations aimed at its dissolution in exchange for the release of several of its members. GRAPO announced that it will continue its “war” with the Spanish Government, which—in eight years of activities—has resulted in 55 deaths. GRAPO’s most recent attack occurred on 4 August in Gijon in which a policeman was seriously wounded [REDACTED]

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10 August 1983

United States: ASALA Bombers Convicted

In Los Angeles, a US Federal Court convicted three ASALA members for a 1982 attempted bomb attack near the Air Canada cargo terminal. The bomb was intended to be a retaliation for the arrest of a number of ASALA members in Canada. No date for sentencing has been set in this case. We note that ASALA has previously threatened to conduct retaliatory attacks against all countries imprisoning its members. [REDACTED]

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Italy: Bombing of Train

Near Florence, a bomb exploded under the locomotive of a train carrying more than 1,000 passengers, slightly injuring two crew members. A neofascist group called the Black Order has claimed responsibility for the attack and promised to provide a communique. Italian police also received an anonymous threatening call immediately prior to the attack. The caller warned of an impending terrorist attack similar to the explosion at the Bologna train station in August 1980, which killed 85 and wounded 200 others. Investigations are continuing to determine the legitimacy of the claim by the Black Order, the underground successor to the outlawed fascist group New Order. [redacted]

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Iran: Attacks on French Interests Continue

In Tehran, Orly Group claimed responsibility for a bomb planted in a car, which exploded inside the French Embassy compound. No one was injured in the blast. [redacted]

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15 August 1983

Colombia: US Citizen Kidnaped

According to press reports, Russell Stendal, an American resident of Colombia, was abducted at a rural airstrip by several men identified by a police spokesman as members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). According to the spokesman, Stendal, a cattle rancher, had received several recent telephone threats but had refused to increase his personal security. Stendal is the third US citizen kidnaped in Colombia this year. [redacted]

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