



**Directorate of
Intelligence**

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Terrorism Review

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10 February 1986

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*DI TR 86-003
10 February 1986*

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Terrorism Review [Redacted]

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This review is published every other week by the Directorate of Intelligence. Appropriate articles produced by other elements of the CIA as well as by other agencies of the US Intelligence Community will be considered for publication. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Executive Editor

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Terrorism Review

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10 February 1986

Focus

The Arrests in Belgium—Filling in the Terrorism Puzzle

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Belgian police arrested four key members of the Communist Combatant Cells (CCC) terrorist group on 16 December 1985. Since then they have achieved several major breakthroughs in their investigations of indigenous terrorism, including the arrest of an important additional suspect and the discovery of three safehouses containing explosives, weapons, and documents. These developments allow us to answer questions about the CCC and give us some insight into another group, the Revolutionary Front for Proletarian Action (FRAP). [Redacted]

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CCC Links to European Groups

Since its inception in October 1984, the CCC has carried out nearly 30 bombing attacks. When the group first appeared, authorities suspected that it was composed of members of the radical left that has long existed in Belgium, and it now appears that this suspicion was correct. Pierre Carette, the recently arrested alleged leader of the CCC, was a member of the Belgian Support Committee for Red Army Faction (RAF) prisoners in West Germany—a group believed to have been involved in the RAF's attempted assassination of Gen. Alexander Haig in Belgium in 1979. An article written by Carette giving many details of the Haig attack was among the literature recovered in one of the apartments. During the so-called Euroterrorist campaign of 1984-85,¹ the CCC expressed solidarity with the RAF in several of its attacks. [Redacted]

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There had also been speculation on the close ties between Belgian and French terrorists. Contacts between the leaders of Action Directe (AD) and Carette date from the early 1980s—Carette printed AD pamphlets opposing President Reagan's visit to France in 1982, for example. More recently, on 6 December 1985 the CCC and "Communist Internationalists" in France carried out nearly simultaneous bombings of a section of the NATO pipeline in Belgium and the Central European Operating Agency building in Versailles. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted] The theft of some 800 kilograms of high explosives from a quarry at Ecaussines, Belgium, on 4 June 1984 and its subsequent use by Action Directe, the RAF, and the FRAP has long been considered a key indicator of some cooperation between those groups. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

¹ The term "Euroterrorism" refers to a short-lived campaign of terrorism that showed some signs of cooperation between the CCC, the RAF, and the French Action Directe. [Redacted]

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The first confirmation that the Ecaussines explosives were being used by Belgian terrorists came when an FRAP device failed to explode in an attempted bombing on 26 June 1985. The fingerprints of Chantal Paternostre—a leftist lawyer—were found on the device, and she was apprehended on 15 August. [redacted]

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[redacted] Belgian police located a terrorist safehouse in Brussels and found the fingerprints of two leaders of Action Directe on the premises. This development initially caused some confusion, as authorities suspected at that time that there were links between Action Directe and the CCC but were unsure of the FRAP's relationships. [redacted] counterterrorist experts speculated that the FRAP was a dissident faction of CCC [redacted]

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Apparently, [redacted] investigations helped Belgian police develop new leads into the FRAP as well, because on 16 January they arrested Luc van Acker—believed to be the technical specialist who fabricated the FRAP bombs. It is possible that he built the CCC bombs also, as he was originally identified as a CCC member. The arrest of van Acker brings to six the number of terrorists in Belgian custody and may represent a significant portion of the active indigenous terrorists in Belgium. [redacted]

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Outlook

These recent counterterrorist successes have allowed us to answer several questions about Belgian terrorists and, as further information becomes available, to evaluate their role in last winter's Euroterrorist "anti-imperialist front." The arrests of the four CCC members have confirmed suspicions about the identities of some of the members. We have also established that the theft of the Ecaussines explosives was an important step in the preparations for the Euroterrorist campaign, and the fact that it was used by four different groups in three countries is evidence of the level of contacts and cooperation among them. These ties appear to have been between individuals within the groups, however, and do not necessarily indicate formal relationships between the groups. Moreover, there are no indications of other forms of intergroup cooperation, such as an operational coordinator or central funding source. [redacted]

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In our judgment, the CCC has been hurt badly by the arrests of its members. It is less likely to take part in anti-NATO attacks in the coming months, but it is possible that the CCC members at large could renew contacts with the RAF and participate in future activities of the anti-imperialist front. The RAF is said to be seeking recruits from among "West European guerrillas" to keep the idea of an anti-imperialist resistance movement alive and would welcome the remnants of the CCC. The RAF is the largest and most dangerous West European terrorist organization, and, if it were to share its resources with the CCC, the remaining Belgian terrorists could resume operations. [redacted]

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In view of the recent successes, we judge that the probability of terrorist attacks in Belgium is low for the immediate future. The hardcore members of the group still

at large may be capable of carrying out attacks on public officials—perhaps a kidnaping or an assassination—in an effort to win freedom for their imprisoned comrades.



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Highlights [redacted]

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Key Indicators

El Salvador

US Citizen Reportedly Targeted for Assassination

During the week of 20 January, at least one member of the leftist Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) attempted to photograph a US citizen in the Zona Rosa area of San Salvador for a particular assassination attempt.

[redacted]

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West Germany

Terrorist Support Groups Meet in Frankfurt

An unprecedented overt convention of leftists associated with the support structure of West European terrorist groups began in Frankfurt-am-Main on 31 January and was scheduled to run through 4 February. Under the theme of "anti-imperialist and anticapitalist resistance," the meeting reportedly planned to discuss the political situations in the Middle East, Central America, West Germany, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Spain, and Western Europe in general. Also slated for discussion were the struggles of Basque and Kurdish ethnic groups. Although West German authorities expected between 200 and 1,000 persons to attend, actual first-day attendance reportedly was only slightly more than the lower figure. [redacted]

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West German leftwing activists in the periphery of the Red Army Faction (RAF) have been trying, without success, to organize such a conference since late last year. Now that it has finally taken place, German authorities are uncertain what effect it will have on the anti-imperialist united front campaign launched last winter by the RAF, the French group Action Directe, and the Belgian Communist Combatant Cells. Any multilateral meeting of supporters of West European terrorist groups, however, will be closely monitored by the relevant security services. [redacted]

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Significant Developments

West Germany

Most Wanted RAF Member Arrested

West German police apprehended Annelie Becker, a leading Red Army Faction (RAF) member, on 13 January in Hannover [redacted]

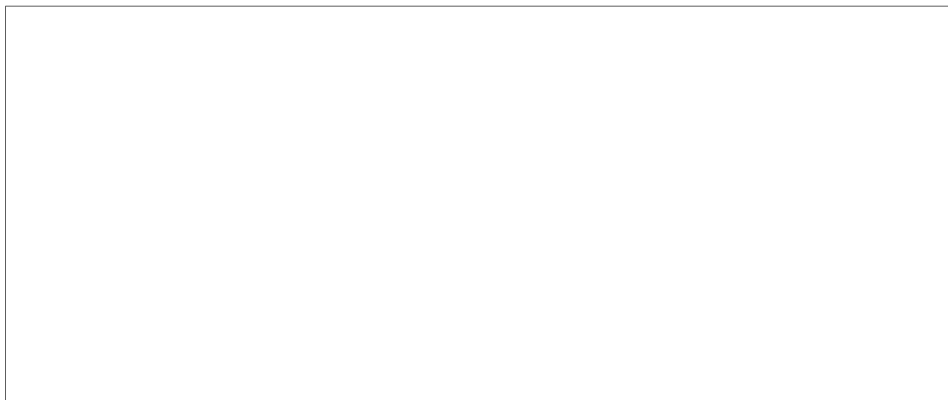
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[redacted] Two suspected RAF supporters—Angela Senfleber and Heidi Hutt—were arrested as well. The arrests topped off a monthlong investigation that led police to a safehouse. [redacted]

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Belgium

Arab Arms Cache Discovered

On 30 December, Belgian authorities arrested four individuals, including two Arabs, in connection with an arms and explosives cache discovered in a video store in Hasselt. The Arabs attracted attention upon their arrival in Belgium when a passport check identified one of them as a suspected terrorist. The video store owner, who met the Arabs at Brussels' Zaventem Airport, had previously been arrested for illegal arms possession and in 1983 had been convicted for trafficking in Middle Eastern hashish. [redacted]

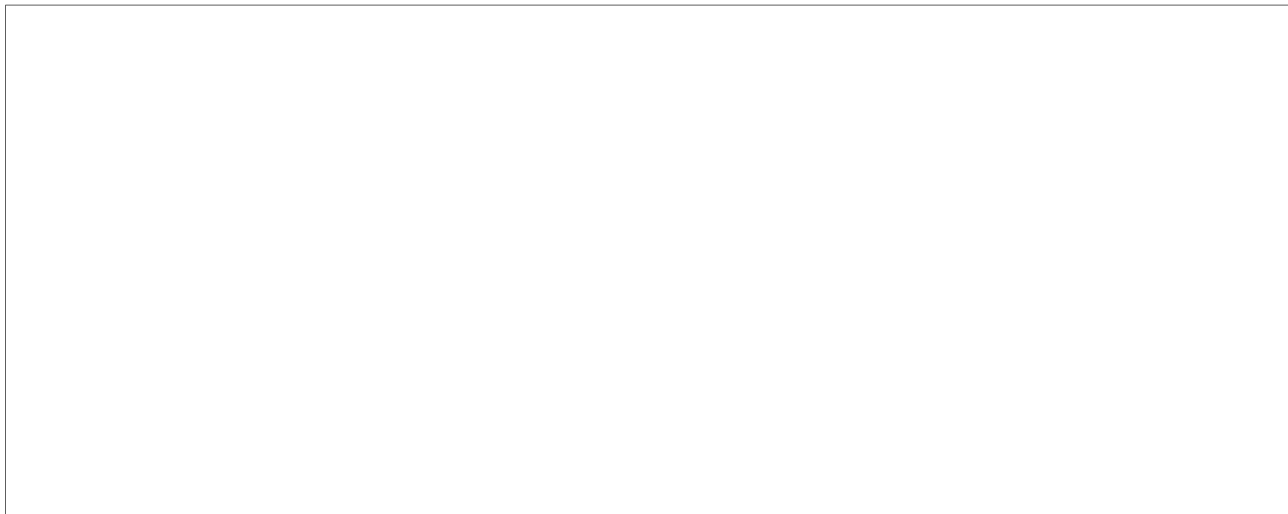
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Although the arrested Arabs have not been linked to any terrorist organization, the video store may have served as a safehouse for Fatah Force 17. [redacted]

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[redacted] We have no evidence to confirm press reports that those arrested were planning an attack against the Brussels airport. [redacted]

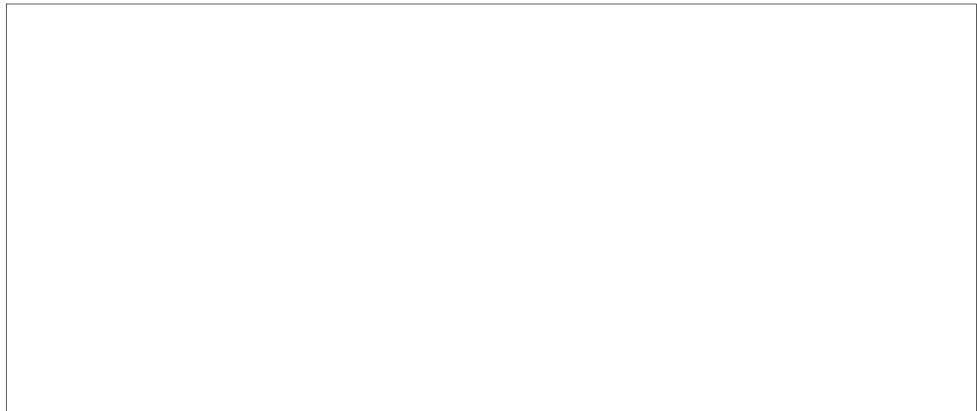
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Lebanon

Three Spanish Embassy Officials Kidnaped

The three men were seized in West Beirut on 17 January. Two hostages are Lebanese citizens; the third, a Spanish citizen, is a member of Spain's Special Operations Group sent to Beirut to protect the Embassy. The kidnapers are demanding the release of relatives, two Shia Muslims imprisoned for a 1983 assassination attempt on a Libyan diplomat in Madrid. [redacted]

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The two Shia prisoners in Madrid—Muhammad Rahal and Mustafa Ali Jalil—are members of the so-called Musa Sadr Brigade, a faction within the mainline Shia Amal militia that apparently is not controlled by Amal leader Nabih Barri. The brigade has launched several attacks against Libyan targets in Lebanon and Europe, demanding that Libya disclose the fate of the Shia cleric Imam Musa Sadr, who disappeared during a trip to Libya in August 1978. [redacted]

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Oman

PFLO Arms Cache Discovered

[redacted] Omani security authorities on 16 December arrested a member of the leftist Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman (PFLO) while he was checking on an arms cache in the Dhofar region near the border with the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (South Yemen). The arms discovered included Soviet-origin automatic rifles, ammunition, handgrenades, explosives, landmines, PG-7 antitank rockets, and mortars. After interrogating the PFLO operative, Omani officials arrested 11 more members of the group on 19 December. [redacted]

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The PFLO—with extensive support from South Yemen—led a major rebellion against the Omani Government in the early 1970s. The uprising was crushed, and many members of the group fled to South Yemen. In the early 1980s, Sultan Qaboos began issuing amnesty decrees to Omani citizens in exile; the PFLO apparently took advantage of this policy to insert operatives into Oman for future subversive terrorist activity. The recent seizure of power in Aden by a hardline faction may increase the likelihood of such activity. [redacted]

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El Salvador

Forged Moroccan Passport Discovered in Arrest

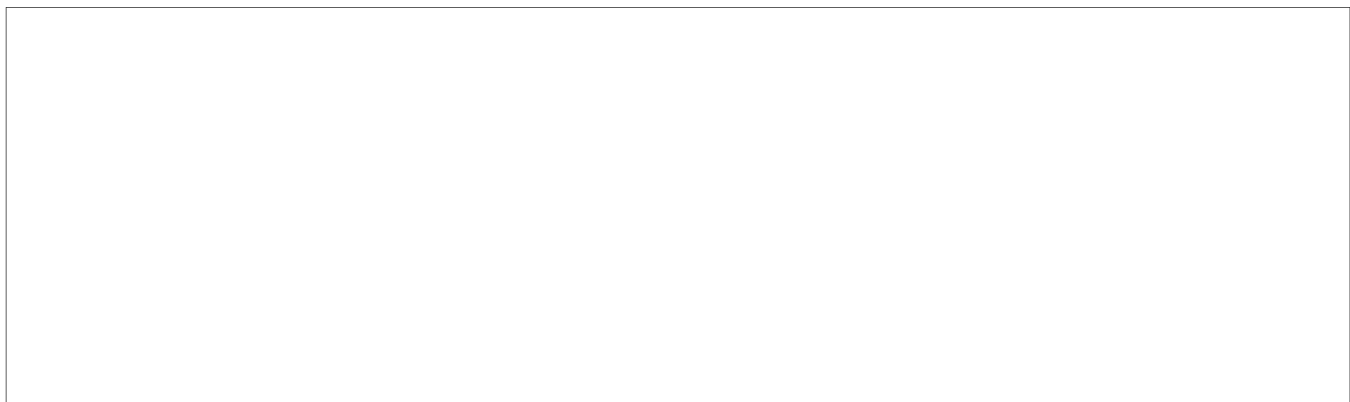
The passport, concealed in a “Kleenex” box, was discovered in the home of a Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers (PRTC) support officer in San Salvador on 22 January. The individual who held the document was preparing to leave for Mexico City that day, where he was to meet at the airport the person responsible for passing PRTC travelers through Mexico. The passport was originally issued in Rabat to a Moroccan [redacted]

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[redacted] These documents have been counterfeited by Syrians and several Palestinian groups and are widely available in Europe. Middle Eastern terrorists frequently use them for travel in Europe and the Middle East. The PRTC was responsible for the 19 June 1985 Zona Rosa attack in San Salvador, in which 13 persons, six of them Americans, were killed. [redacted]

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Peru

Terrorist Bombing Campaign

The Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) and Sendero Luminoso (SL) terrorist groups apparently were responsible for a round of bombings that began 20 January and lasted several days. According to press reports, the MRTA carried out at least eight dynamite attacks against businesses catering to the wealthy in two exclusive districts in Lima. The MRTA also claimed responsibility for other attacks—including explosions at a Sears store and a movie theater in Lima—but

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there is some speculation that Sendero Luminoso was responsible. In Cerro de Pasco, presumed SL terrorists set off approximately 10 bombs against a mining center, a political party office, a police station, and several other public buildings. The bombing spree caused extensive property damage and numerous injuries but no deaths.

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The two groups have not previously worked together, and there is no evidence that they coordinated these attacks. Because the MRTA and Sendero Luminoso use similar tactics and targets in urban areas, it is difficult to attribute responsibility for many attacks. However, the MRTA typically has attacked symbols of privilege, and the likelihood of incidental injury to US personnel will increase if the attacks continue.

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Italian Rightwing Terrorism [redacted]

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Though often overshadowed by violence from the left, rightist terrorism remains a problem for Italian authorities. Since the train bombing in December 1984 that killed 15 passengers and wounded more than 100, most activity by rightwing groups has consisted of low-level armed and incendiary attacks against domestic targets. We expect this trend to continue throughout 1986 unless a number of exiled rightist terrorists return to Italy—and we have no indication that they will. In the past we have detected no particular pattern to periodic upsurges in Italian rightwing terrorism, although in some cases these appear to have been in response to intensified leftist activity. [redacted]

Background

Rightist violence in Italy has a long history dating back to the 19th century and exemplified by the activities of Mussolini's Black Shirts in the early 1920s. The most recent resurgence began in the late 1960s as a response to a leftward national political drift and escalated to the point that rightwing violence was responsible for the majority of deaths and injuries attributed to terrorism in Italy during the 1970s. Although rightwing terrorism is not as active today as it was in the last decade, it remains a serious threat to Italian society. [redacted]

Since rightwing terrorism reemerged in the late 1960s, six groups apparently have been responsible for most of the violence: the New Order, the National Vanguard, the Black Order, the Third Position, the Armed Revolutionary Nuclei (NAR), and the Popular Revolutionary Movement.¹ Most of these rightwing groups borrow their symbols from Roman and Fascist mythology and history and claim to represent

¹ Many of the same individuals revolve through various neofascist groups, most of which tend to discard old names for new ones or operate simultaneously under several names. For example, the New Order apparently created the National Vanguard before becoming the Black Order, which in turn gave life to the Armed Revolutionary Nuclei. The latter group has also conducted terrorist attacks under the name of the Popular Revolutionary Movement. [redacted]

The Aftermath of Rightwing Terrorism

The unsolved 1980 Bologna railway station massacre that killed 85 people is still a sensitive topic in Italian politics five years after the event. In August 1985, thousands of people attended an annual demonstration in Bologna to protest the unsuccessful police investigation. Although there is no solid evidence in recent years linking Italian security services to rightwing terrorists, two former military intelligence servicemen are now under indictment for obstructing the judicial investigation into the bombing. Similar accusations by politicians and newspapers have fueled the Italian people's frustrations. [redacted]

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nationalism, anticommunism, anticapitalism, and rigid order. Just as Italian Fascists did in the past, these new groups seek to create an atmosphere of tension in order to make the government appear impotent and thus provoke popular demands for the restoration of law and order. [redacted]

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At present, terrorists on the right appear to have neither the organizational structure nor the support network of their counterparts on the left. [redacted]

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[redacted] it is widely alleged that they have ties to the Italian Social Movement (MSI), a legal political party. There are also indications that some MSI members engage in rightist terrorism or are in close contact with those who do. [redacted]

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Until recently, the targeting and tactics of rightist terrorists have been neither as selective nor as sophisticated as those of their leftist counterparts. The

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Italian Rightwing Terrorist Organizations

Armed Revolutionary Nuclei (Nuclei Armati Rivoluzionari)

Third Position (Terza Posizione)

Popular Revolutionary Movement (Movimento Popolare Rivoluzionario)

Black Order (Ordine Nero)

New Order (Ordine Nuovo)

National Vanguard (Avanguardia Nazionale)

Armed Revolutionary Movement (Movimento Armato Rivoluzionario)

Compass Card (Rosa dei Venti)

National Front (Fronte Nazionale)

Mussolini Action Squads (Squadre d'Azione Mussolini)

The Phoenix (La Fenice)

Tolfa Brigands (Briganti della Tolfa)

Italians' Protection Association (Associazione Protezione Italiani)

Aryan Brotherhood (Fratellanza Ariana)

Executioners of Italy (Giustizieri d'Italia)

Fascist Revolutionary Nuclei (Nuclei Fascisti Rivoluzionari)

Popular Revolutionary Opposition (Opposizione Popolare Rivoluzionario)

South Tyrolean Homeland League (Suedtiroler Heimatbund)

[Redacted]

most spectacular rightist terrorist operations during the previous two decades involved the indiscriminate use of explosive devices in public places and on public conveyances. Five high-casualty bombings—train stations in Milan in 1969, Bresilia in 1974, and Bologna in 1980; and express trains in 1974 and December 1984—were attributed to the right, although neither police investigations nor judicial procedures have succeeded in positively identifying or punishing the perpetrators. Rightist groups in Italy have not been known to target US persons or interests. [Redacted]

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Since the early 1980s, however, with many of their old-line leaders in jail or exile, rightist terrorists have increasingly come to resemble leftist terrorists in their modus operandi. They are now targeting more selectively, expanding their use of firearms, and claiming responsibility for their attacks more routinely. Over the last several years, most of their attacks have been carried out by the NAR, primarily against students, journalists, leftists, police, and magistrates who have acted against rightists. Right now, [Redacted]

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Dangerous Prospects

In large measure, the new wave of Italian rightwing terrorists consists mainly of youths who are fascinated with the doctrine and trappings of the Fascist movement and are responding to the perceived cultural and political challenge posed by their more radicalized—and publicized—leftist peers. This younger generation, however, suffered a severe blow in May when 53 rightists—mostly in their early twenties—received sentences of 18 months to 23 years in prison. [Redacted]

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More serious is the potential threat that could come from “old guard” rightists—those active in the late 1960s and 1970s—many of whom are now living abroad as fugitives. Members of this older generation have recently been reported in France, Ecuador, and Paraguay. If the old guard were to return to action and assume leadership of the new recruits, the tempo

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West German Rightwing Extremists

Unlike the situation in Italy, violence by rightwing extremist groups in West Germany has been almost nonexistent in recent months—no more than some vandalism and threats against foreign guest workers—and is unlikely to pose even an indirect threat to the West German Government or US interests in 1986. Indeed, most of the groups appear to be concerned that an outbreak of rightwing terrorism could create an anti-Nazi backlash. The last rightwing attacks involving US facilities and personnel in West Germany occurred in 1982 against the privately owned vehicles of US servicemen [redacted]

17 March 1985. Shortly thereafter, on 8 April, French authorities arrested Hepp in a Paris apartment. The French agreed to extradite him to West Germany to face robbery charges, but have so far refused to include the more serious attacks against the US military personnel. [redacted]

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Hepp had a long history of involvement with Middle Eastern terrorist groups. In 1980, he reportedly trained with the Palestinian Fatah in Lebanon as a member of the Hoffman group. [redacted]

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Kexel-Hepp. The best known practitioner of rightwing terrorism, the "Kexel-Hepp Group," was put out of business in mid-1985. That group had been founded in June 1982 by two West German rightwing activists, Walther Kexel and Odfried Hepp. They had been members of separate neo-Nazi groups, Kexel in the People's Socialist Movement/Workers' Party and Hepp with the Military Sports Group Hoffman. The new group first committed robberies in November 1982 and then bombed US military targets in December, severely injuring two US soldiers. [redacted]

[redacted] These old ties were evidently still warm in early 1985. On the same day as Hepp's arrest, a Palestinian carrying a Tunisian passport also was arrested in Paris in connection with a delivery of a suitcase full of weapons. [redacted]

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[redacted] It is precisely this sort of marriage of convenience between indigenous West European groups and Middle Eastern terrorists that concern Western authorities, but no new information has come to light since Hepp's arrest on such cooperation with West German rightwing groups. [redacted]

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Their reign of terror was cut short, however, when Kexel and another member were arrested by British police in February 1983. After he received a 14-year sentence from a West German court for the 1982 attacks, Kexel committed suicide in prison on

of rightist violence could increase dramatically in Italy, especially if leftist violence were present to serve as a catalyst. We have no indication that this scenario will occur in the near future. In the meantime, the rightists will continue to take lives, and the current pattern of sustained low-level violence—periodically punctuated by unpredictable bloody bombings—is likely to persist. [redacted]

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Terrorism Comes to Luxembourg

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Luxembourg is the most recent European victim of terrorism. Since April 1985, unknown persons have carried out 14 bombings against domestic targets. The attacks have caused only minor injuries and no fatalities, but in several cases substantial property damage resulted. So far, US or NATO interests have not been targeted, but future attacks cannot be ruled out. Government officials are increasingly under pressure to put a stop to the bombings, but their efforts will be hampered by the inexperience of the security forces in counterterrorism operations.

Terrorism Emerges

The first indication of nascent terrorism in Luxembourg was a series of thefts of explosives from quarries that took place in early February 1985. In several separate incidents, thieves stole almost 400 kilograms of explosives, detonators, detonator cord, and related material. Luxembourg officials assumed the thefts were the work of foreign terrorists, with the newly emerged Communist Combatant Cells in Belgium the prime suspects, but it now appears that indigenous elements were responsible. The string of bombings began two months after the thefts (see accompanying chronology). The stolen explosives apparently were not used in the initial attacks, but they have turned up in the most recent bombings.

The first two bombings were against pylons supporting powerlines and were thought to be part of an extortion campaign directed against the state-owned electric company. An unknown group—the “Fighting Ecological Movement”—claimed responsibility for the attacks, but the Luxembourg authorities do not consider the claims to be legitimate.

Since this modest beginning, however, the bombers have struck a variety of targets, including the telephone network, a newspaper, a gas generating

Chronology of Bombings in Luxembourg, 1985

<i>Date</i>	<i>Target</i>
27 April	Electrical pylons
7 May	Electrical pylons
27 May	Gendarmerie building
28 May	Electrical pylons
23 June	Natural gas line
5 July	Telephone cables
27 July	Newspaper office
28 August	Police post
28 August	Department of Bridges and Highways garage
30 September	Swimming pool complex
19 October	Palace of Justice
9 November	Ground control approach equipment, Findel airport
30 November	High-voltage powerline
2 December	Roadway near EEC Building

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plant, gendarmerie and police posts, a swimming pool complex, and the airport. Whereas the initial attacks generally were carried out during nights with full moons and against unprotected targets, the most recent bombings have been against occupied targets during daylight hours. The attack on 2 December near the European Common Market building—while a meeting of European chiefs of state was in progress—suggests that the bombers are growing bolder and are capable of striking even in the face of maximum security measures. [redacted]

Who Are These Guys?

Luxembourg officials believe the perpetrators are indigenous terrorists, with no links to international movements or other European terrorist groups, but they are by no means certain that all the bombings were conducted by the same persons. One view is that the bombers are disgruntled civil servants who hold deep-seated grudges against the government. Some have speculated that the culprits are rightists, whose purpose is to harass and embarrass the government. This view is based on the lack of claims in these bombings, coupled with a theory that leftists typically issue political statements or communiques attempting to justify their use of violence, while rightists tend to remain silent. Also brought forward as circumstantial evidence for the rightists' case is the choice of targets: it is argued that, if the terrorists were leftists, they would have attacked NATO targets or established contact with their ideological counterparts in Belgium, France, or West Germany. [redacted]

The terrorists—whoever they are or whatever political persuasion they represent—probably have extensive training in explosives gained from either service in the military or the police forces, because their devices have been constructed in a professional manner and most of them have gone off as planned. Moreover, the bombers show a high degree of sophistication in placing the devices in the precise positions where the maximum damage could be caused or the blast effects controlled. In the attack on the swimming pool, for example, the bomb could have collapsed the entire prestressed roof had it not been purposely lowered by cable to reduce the blast effect. In placing this bomb, the perpetrator also demonstrated athletic skills and climbing ability. At the same time, the terrorists

Luxembourg Counterterrorism Organization

The Brigade Mobile (BM) of the National Gendarmerie, formed in November 1979, responds to terrorist incidents in Luxembourg. It is also trained for VIP protection. Personnel are selected from the National Gendarmerie. Normally, the brigade receives orders from the head of the Gendarmerie, but authority to conduct counterterrorist operations comes from a Security Committee, whose members include the commander of the Gendarmerie, the ministers of interior and justice, the directors of intelligence and customs, and the commanding officer of the Army. The brigade has received training in neighboring countries such as West Germany but has yet to be tested in a major terrorist incident. [redacted]

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appear to have been consciously attempting to avoid serious injury to the public. [redacted]

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Counterterrorist Response

The government's previous complacent approach to terrorism has given way to serious efforts to improve its counterterrorist capabilities. Approximately 100 military personnel—20 percent of the country's total military strength—were deployed for several months last summer to reinforce the Gendarmerie throughout the country. Other recent steps include regrouping the Gendarmerie and the police under a new unified command, recruiting additional personnel, beefing up controls at the airport and access roads, and offering substantial monetary rewards for information. [redacted]

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Responsibility for counterterrorism rests primarily with the Luxembourg Intelligence Service (SRL), a small group of only 29 officers, and the Gendarmerie, which has about 500 officers. Given its small size and lack of prior experience in dealing with terrorism, Luxembourg often calls upon neighboring countries, particularly West Germany and Belgium, for technical expertise in investigating bombings and to support local security forces when major events such as December's European Community summit meeting

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take place. It is a member of both the Club of Berne and the EC's Trevi Group, which are multilateral mechanisms for exchanging information on terrorists and fostering cooperation in countering them. [redacted]

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Luxembourg's counterterrorist efforts have yet to achieve any positive results, and it still faces such problems as friction among the various security forces, inadequate personnel resources, and essentially open borders. Visas are required for entry from most North African countries, but there are few controls between EC countries, and Benelux visas are sufficient for entry into Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. The police and Gendarmerie have resisted previous efforts to create a unified command and often fail to share information. Any consolidation of the two forces now is bound to be difficult to implement. Both groups, however, took part in recent demonstrations by security personnel calling for more resources to be devoted to the fight against terrorism.

[redacted]

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Outlook

Luxembourg—until recently one of Europe's most tranquil states—is now coming to grips with a persistent domestic terrorism. With little training or experience to start with, its security services have been unable to cope with the bombing epidemic. Unless the counterterrorist forces achieve some success in their efforts, we would expect the bombings to continue. So far there are no indications that the terrorists are interested in attacking US or NATO interests, although there are many US businesses in the country and the upcoming Reforger military exercises could provide them with attractive targets.

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**Namibia:
SWAPO in Disarray** [redacted]

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In our judgment, the insurgent South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) has been responsible for the sporadic instances of terrorist violence in Namibia. The group's best known attack against foreigners occurred in April 1984 when two American officers were killed by a SWAPO bomb while buying gasoline (they probably were not the targets of the bombing). Since then, however, South African forces have experienced some success against SWAPO guerrillas in the field. Recent press reports of terrorist incidents in Namibia indicate SWAPO is getting a late start on its rainy-season offensive. Apart from the success South Africa has had and probably will continue to have in curbing SWAPO insurgent and terrorist violence during the rest of 1986, recent reports of internal dissension also appear responsible for the continuing decline in the pace of attacks.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] Dimo Hamaambo, commander of SWAPO's guerrilla force—the People's Liberation Army of Namibia—indicated in late October that two SWAPO foreign representatives—both Caprivis—and the acting Defense Secretary, Richard Kapelwa, would be relocated. This month SWAPO announced that Kapelwa had been appointed special adviser to SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma, and the position of defense secretary was given to Peter Mueshihange, another Ovambo and formerly Secretary for Foreign Affairs. The transfer of Kapelwa, the only Caprivi on SWAPO's Central Committee, from guerrilla headquarters in Lubango, Angola, to Luanda has given the Ovambo tribe a clear hold over SWAPO's military offices. Ovambos now occupy the posts of military commander, deputy commander, political commissar, and defense secretary. [redacted]

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SWAPO has recently displayed increasing signs of disorganization and low morale, as well as a growing concern that the interim government in Namibia will sidetrack the UN plan for independence. The inability of SWAPO to gain a military foothold in Namibia, tribal conflicts among SWAPO leaders, and growing impatience over the failure of international negotiations for Namibia's independence have all eroded the insurgents' morale. SWAPO also reportedly is worried that unrest in South Africa has deflected the concern of the international community away from the Namibian issue. Nevertheless, the organization reportedly still has strong grassroots support within Namibia, especially in Ovamboland, although growing international conflicts could diminish its viability as a political force in an independent Namibia. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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SWAPO's foreign backers, including the USSR, Cuba, the Organization of African Unity, and Zambia, appear increasingly concerned with the organization's internal problems. [redacted]

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[redacted] Havana also cited lack of leadership and tribalism as factors affecting

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Eroding Support

Rivalry between the dominant Ovambo tribe, whose members hold over three-fourths of the top leadership positions in SWAPO, and the various minority tribes has long been a problem for the organization. [redacted]

[redacted]

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SWAPO's dedication to armed struggle. [redacted]

SWAPO's internal problems are unlikely to be solved in the near term. The organization's continued military impotence and the deadlocked negotiations for Namibian independence based on UN Resolution 435 have put SWAPO effectively on the sidelines with little chance of making enough political or military headway to buttress sagging morale. [redacted]

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[redacted] Nujoma's announcement at the Nonaligned Movement summit in Luanda that SWAPO would intensify its armed struggle against Namibia probably was intended to bolster sagging morale within the organization and to reassure foreign backers. Nujoma's tour in December of several West African states, including Nigeria and Ghana, probably was an effort to garner support. Although press reports indicate that he received a warm reception, no evidence of any tangible aid has surfaced since the meeting. [redacted]

[redacted]

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SWAPO probably hopes that more military activity might allow it to recover lost prestige. [redacted]

[redacted]

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[redacted] Press reports of attacks and seizures of small-arms caches within Namibia confirm SWAPO's commitment to continuing the armed struggle. [redacted]

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Outlook

This year's rainy-season offensive, which was probably delayed in part because of a lack of rain in early November, is unlikely to be any more successful than in previous years. During last year's offensive, South African forces successfully intercepted SWAPO guerrilla units just inside Namibia and captured an entire SWAPO special unit in the Kavango region of northern Namibia. Nevertheless, SWAPO probably will continue to conduct low-level terrorist attacks, particularly against white farmers, in northern Namibia. The unpopular practice of abducting Namibian villagers to fill guerrilla ranks also is likely to continue. [redacted]

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The Terrorism Diary for March

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Below is a compendium of March 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.

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- 1 March 1878** *Bulgaria.* Independence Day.
- 2 March 1956** *Morocco.* Independence Day (termination of Treaty of Fez).
- 2 March 1972** *El Salvador.* Founding of People's Revolutionary Army (ERP).
- 2 March 1977** *Libya.* Establishment of People's Congresses.
- 3 March 1961** *Morocco.* Accession of King Hassan to throne.
- 4 March 1982** *Colombia, United States.* Effective date of extradition treaty aimed at narcotics traffickers.
- 6 March 1957** *Ghana.* Independence Day.
- 6 March 1975** *Kurdish regions.* Algerian Accord between Iran and Iraq abandoning support to the Kurds.
- 10 March 1979** *Kurdish regions.* Death of Kurdish leader Mulla Mustafa Barzani.
- 11 March 1966** *Indonesia.* President Sukarno turns over power to Soeharto.
- 12 March 1880** *Turkey.* Birthday of Ataturk.
- 12 March** *Gabon.* National Day.
- 12 March 1968** *Mauritius.* Independence Day.
- 13 March 1979** *Grenada.* Coup d'etat by Maurice Bishop (national day).
- 14 March 1975** *Japan.* Chukaku-ha (Nucleus Faction) Secretary General Honda assassinated by rival radical groups.
- 15 March 1962** *Angola.* Founding of National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA).
- 16 March 1921** *Armenians.* Signing of Soviet-Turkish border treaty that ended Armenian hopes of establishing a separate independent state.
- 17 March** *Ireland.* St. Patrick's Day (national day).

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20 March 1956 *Tunisia.* Independence Day.

20 March 1981 *Colombia.* Death of M-19 terrorist Carmenza Londono ("La Chiqui").

21 March *Kurdish regions.* Kurdish New Year.

21 March *Palestinians.* "International Day of Solidarity With the Struggle of the Arab People of Palestine Against Israeli Aggressors."

21 March 1960 *South Africa.* "Sharpeville Massacre" of black demonstrators by security forces.

22 March 1945 *Arab League.* Founding of Arab League (original members: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Syria).

23 March 1956 *Pakistan.* Pakistan Day (founding of Islamic republic).

24 March 1976 *Argentina.* President Isabel Peron ousted by Gen. Jorge Rafael Videla.

24 March 1980 *El Salvador.* Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero assassinated by rightists.

24 March 1972 *Northern Ireland.* Beginning of direct rule by the British Government.

25 March 1980 *El Salvador.* US Embassy attacked by Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) in response to assassination of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero the previous day. Since then, FPL attacks have been relatively more frequent between 25 March and 6 April than during rest of year.

25 March 1821 *Greece.* Greek Revolution Memorial Day (commemorating independence from Turkey).

25 March 1932 *Iraq.* Independence Day.

25 March 1975 *Saudi Arabia.* Assassination of King Faisal and accession of King Khalid.

26 March 1971 *Bangladesh.* Independence Day.

26 March 1978 *Egypt, Israel.* Peace agreement ratified.

28 March 1980 *El Salvador.* Government expropriates plantations; Salvation Movement of 28 March (MS-28) takes its name from this event.

28 March 1980 *Italy.* Four members of Red Brigades die in shootout with Carabinieri in Genoa.

28 March *Palestinians.* National Day.

29 March 1969 *Philippines.* Founding of New People's Army, military arm of Communist Party of the Philippines.

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- 30 March** **Christian world.** Easter Sunday.
- 30 March 1974** **Turkey.** Death of terrorist Mahir Cayan, member of Turkish People's Liberation Party.
- 30 March 1976** **Palestinians.** Day of the Homeland.
- 31 March 1964** **Brazil.** President Goulart ousted by military coup.
- 31 March** **Malta.** National Day.



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Chronology of Terrorism—1985 and 1986

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Below are described noteworthy foreign and international events involving terrorists, or the use of terrorist tactics, which have occurred or come to light since our last issue. In some cases, the perpetrators and their motivations may not be known. Events and developments that have already been described elsewhere in this publication are not included.

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19 December

Philippines: Unidentified gunmen attack civilians in Panawpawan. Three persons were killed and 10 others seriously wounded. No group has claimed responsibility.

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20 December

Philippines: Armed assailants kill minister and lay worker near Cagayan del Oro. The victim, pastor of a United Church of Christ church, had received death threats. No one has claimed credit for the murder, but authorities believe the attackers—who numbered about 15—were members of the New People's Army.

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23 December

Japan: Police arrest Chukaku-ha member, two other men in arson attempt. The three had placed a timed incendiary device under a construction company vehicle in Tokyo and were arrested for violating an explosive devices control law and obstructing police officers. The construction company is working on the Narita Irrigation System of the New Tokyo International Airport.

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23-29 December

Colombia: Four employees of US subsidiary of Texas Instruments and Occidental Petroleum kidnaped by 40 ELN guerrillas.

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The four are probably Colombian citizens.

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26 December

Cyprus: Attempted assassination of PLO representative in Nicosia foiled. A PLO security officer fired on three unidentified men attempting to plant a bomb under a vehicle belonging to the PLO representative. An anonymous caller later claimed the "Eagles of the Revolution" had condemned the representative to death.

25X1

2 January

India: Five suspected Sikh extremists kill one constable, wound another aboard Punjab bus. The assailants escaped after robbing the passengers and taking the victims' weapons.

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Burma: Karen separatists kill 46 persons, injure 136 others in ferryboat attack. The Inland Waterways Transport Corporation ferry was hit by rebel fire while on a regular run from Moulmein to Kya-in Seikkyi. The Karen ethnic minority has been fighting for an independent state since Burma gained independence from Britain in 1948.

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3 January

Pakistan: Bomb blast in market kills four men in Khyber Pass tribal area. The bombing came after Pakistani troops launched a crackdown in the region against dissident tribesmen who were receiving arms from the Afghan Government. Although no one has claimed credit for the bombing, local authorities suspect that an agent of Khad, the Afghan security service, was responsible. [redacted]

25X1

Pakistan: Time bomb found in Aina Cinema in Peshawar. The device was set to detonate shortly after intermission, when the theater would be filled with moviegoers. An Afghan suspect has been arrested in the case. [redacted]

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Philippines: Body of kidnaped Australian businessman found near village of Tignapoloan. He had been abducted on 20 December, probably by members of the New People's Army (NPA), near the city of Cagayan del Oro. Australian aid workers were withdrawn from Samar Island last year after they received a lengthy "lecture" by armed members of the NPA. [redacted]

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Philippines: Police kill four New People's Army members in Butuan City. [redacted]

25X1

4 January

South Africa: Landmine explosion kills white farmer and his wife near Ellisras. That mine and some others used in recent attacks along the Zimbabwe border probably came from an African National Congress (ANC) depot that had been evacuated earlier. The ANC has claimed responsibility for the previous attacks. [redacted]

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India: Police chief, two other persons killed in Punjab attack. Extremists fighting for a separate Sikh state in Punjab are suspected. [redacted]

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5 January

West Germany: Three armed men hold up two border patrol members in Luebeck. The assailants took two submachineguns, two pistols, and a police radio. Police have conflicting evidence as to responsibility, and suspect either a rightwing or leftwing terrorist group. [redacted]

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Early to mid-January

Pakistan: Authorities conduct brief campaign to X-ray all diplomatic pouches. The government, reacting to a report that the terrorist group Al-Zulfikar planned to smuggle weapons into the country in a diplomatic pouch, carried out the procedure for about two weeks. The practice spurred sharp protests from foreign embassies, but the government said it felt the blanket treatment was more defensible than attempting to target only those pouches belonging to Libya or the Palestine Liberation Organization, the most likely suspects. [redacted]

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6 January

India: Suspected Sikh extremist gunmen wound three persons near bus stop in Sangrur District. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted]

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- 7 January** **South Africa: Police kill suspected African National Congress member near East London.** According to press accounts, a large but unspecified quantity of Soviet or Bloc weapons were seized. [] 25X1
- 8 January** **South Africa: Police kill member of African National Congress in abortive grenade attack in Soweto.** They reportedly found a variety of weapons in the dead man's possession. [] 25X1
- 9 January**
- West Bank: Ramallah Military Court sentences Palestinian terrorist to nine-year prison term for incendiary attacks.** The terrorist, a member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, had attacked, among other targets, a tourist bus and an army reservist [] 25X1
- Pakistan: Landmine kills 15, injures 10 Afghan refugees in North-West Frontier Province.** The mine exploded under their vehicle as they were returning to camp from Sadda. No one has claimed responsibility. [] 25X1
- Pakistan: Bomb explodes near movie theater, injuring four persons in Peshawar.** Police reportedly suspect agents of Khad, the Afghan security service. [] 25X1
- 10 January**
- Colombia: Three cattle ranchers killed in Huila and Santander Departments.** The first victim was killed when he resisted guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia who were attempting to kidnap him. The two other ranchers were reportedly killed for refusing to pay 1 million pesos in kidnap protection money. [] 25X1
- India: Four suspected Sikh militants kill opponent in Kapurthala District.** At the time of the attack, the victim had been speaking against a campaign by the radical All-India Sikh Students Federation. Police chased the attackers and killed one. [] 25X1
- 11 January** **Spain: Terra Lliure claims responsibility for bomb attacks in Barcelona and Mataro.** The blasts caused considerable damage, but no injuries. [] 25X1
- 14 January**
- Spain: Bombing of French Peugeot auto showroom in San Sebastian causes damage but no injuries.** The Basque terrorist group Fatherland and Liberty (ETA), which has attacked other French business concerns, is suspected. [] 25X1
- Spain: Bomb destroys French truck in Irun.** Police removed and detonated a second bomb found under another truck. Police suspect the Basque terrorist group ETA. [] 25X1

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- West Bank: Police dismantle small explosive device in northern Jerusalem warehouse complex.** No group has claimed responsibility. [redacted] 25X1
- 15 January** **Spain: Three suspected members of ETA-Military Wing killed near San Sebastian.** A civil guard patrol observed two men and a woman machine-gunning a French-registered truck. When the attackers resisted arrest, the patrol returned fire and killed all three. [redacted] 25X1
- 16 January** **United Kingdom: Unidentified gunman wounds prominent member of Britain's Sikh community outside his west London home.** The victim was shot in the right eye and ear. [redacted] 25X1
- Netherlands: Amsterdam police seize large arms cache and arrest three men linked to Provisional Irish Republican Army.** One of the men, Brendan McFarlane, reportedly was behind the IRA's Maze Prison escape in 1983. [redacted] 25X1
- United Arab Emirates: Small explosion damages Abu Dhabi building housing airline offices of Pan Am, Syrian, and South Yemeni airlines.** No injuries were reported and no group claimed responsibility. [redacted] 25X1
- 19 January** **Chile: US-Chilean Cultural Institute, train station, and bus terminal in Vina del Mar damaged by explosions.** No organization claimed responsibility for these dynamite attacks, but in December the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front claimed responsibility for three similar attacks, one of which caused the death of a guard. [redacted] 25X1
- 21 January** **Northern Ireland: Mortar attack on headquarters of Ulster Defense Regiment in Dungannon injures two members.** The Provisional IRA claimed responsibility. [redacted] 25X1
- Northern Ireland: Provisional Irish Republican Army attacks British Army border patrol near Crossmaglen in south Armagh.** The Army denied the Provisional IRA's claim that several soldiers were wounded in the attack. [redacted] 25X1
- Spain: Grenade attack on civil guard convoy near San Sebastian seriously injures two guardsmen.** The attack took place on the same highway where three suspected members of the Basque terrorist group Fatherland and Liberty-Military Wing were killed on 15 January. [redacted] 25X1
- Lebanon: Car bomb explodes near Phalange Party office in East Beirut, killing 22 and wounding more than 100.** The unclaimed bombing may be the work of either Lebanese forces loyal to Elie Hobeika, who supported the Syrian-sponsored Lebanese peace agreement, or—less likely—the Syrian Social Nationalist Party. [redacted] 25X1

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- 23 January** *United Kingdom: Gunmen kill Sikh General Secretary of Indian Overseas Congress near London.* This was the third attack on Sikh moderates in the United Kingdom since November 1985—the second such murder in eight days—and reflects extremist anger over the widespread support of moderates for the Punjab accords. [] 25X1
- Greece: Letter bomb explodes at Athens Public Power Company in Athens; another defused at the Federation of Greek Industries.* The terrorist group Revolutionary People's Struggle claimed responsibility. [] 25X1
- 25 January** *Northern Ireland: Bomb explodes as police investigate activated burglar alarm at service station in Omagh.* Five police officers were treated for shock. No group claimed responsibility. [] 25X1
- 26 January** *Ireland: Police seize large quantity of arms in three raids in Sligo and Roscommon Counties.* According to press reports, police believe the guns and ammunition belong to the Provisional Irish Republican Army. [] 25X1
- Israel: Bomb explodes near outdoor market in Haifa frequented by Arab day laborers.* The blast caused no casualties and no group claimed responsibility. [] 25X1
- 27 January** *Chile: Vina del Mar resort town hit by more bomb attacks.* Two downtown movie theaters were damaged, but there were no casualties. Several dynamite and incendiary bomb attacks had destroyed three buses within the previous three days in Valparaiso and Vina del Mar. No group has claimed responsibility for these attacks. [] 25X1
- 28 January** *West Bank: Father and daughter shot outside their home near Hebron by unknown attackers.* A Jerusalem radiobroadcast said the victims, presumably Arabs, may have been targeted because they were suspected of cooperating with Israeli authorities. [] 25X1

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