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The Abu Nidal Terror Network: Organization, State Sponsors, and Commercial Enterprise (U)

A Research Paper

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A Research Paper

This paper was prepared by the Counterterrorist Center. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Chief, Operations and Analysis Group, on 482-5688 or secure 52139. (U)

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Appendix

Chronology of Significant Abu Nidal Organization Terrorist Activities, 1974-86

1974

22 November

United Arab Emirates (UAE): Four terrorists, armed with machineguns, handgrenades, and pistols, hijack British Airways plane en route from Dubayy to Tunis...two people wounded during takeover... plane took off with approximately 46 hostages; refueled in Tripoli, Libya; and went on to Tunis... one passenger killed on ground; hostages later released. (U)

Late 1974

Location unknown; probably Lebanon: Murder planned by Sabri al-Banna against Yasir 'Arafat, Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), and other prominent Palestinian leaders uncovered by Fatah intelligence... Banna sentenced to death in absentia in October. (U)

1976

26 September

Syria: Four terrorists, armed with machineguns and grenades, take over Semiramis Hotel in Damascus, taking 90 hostages ... Syrian troops storm hotel ... one terrorist killed and three captured; four hostages killed and 34 wounded. (U)

11 October

Pakistan: Grenade attack on Syrian Embassy and Syrian Ambassador's residence in Islamabad. (U)

17 November

Jordan: Four Palestinians attack Intercontinental Hotel with handguns and grenades, killing two employees and taking hostages ... Jordanian troops counterattack, killing three terrorists and wounding

one ... two soldiers, one hotel guest killed; four hotel guests wounded. (U)

2 December

Syria: Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam seriously wounded in assassination attempt in Damascus. (U)

1977

October

UAE: Assassination attempt against Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam in Abu Dhabi results in death of UAE Minister of State. (U)

1978

4 January

United Kingdom: PLO representative murdered in London. (U)

15 February

Cyprus: Two gunmen attack Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization meeting in Nicosia and kill its secretary general, Yusuf as-Siba'i, a confidant of Anwar El-Sadat...leave country on aircraft with 11 hostages but refused permission to land in Libya, Kuwait, Somalia, Ethiopia, or People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (South Yemen)... subsequently return to Larnaca Airport... Egyptian counterterrorism force conducts airborne assault on airport... resulting firefight kills 15 and wounds 16. (U)

15 June

Kuwait: PLO official murdered in Kuwait City. (U)

3 August

France: Two gunmen attack PLO office in Paris and kill PLO representative to France. (U)



5 August

Pakistan: Four gunmen, armed with submachineguns and grenades, attack PLO office in Islamabad and kill radio operator, two Palestinian students, and Pakistani police guard. (U)

1980

17 January

France: Manager of Arab bookstore murdered in Paris. (U)

3 March

Spain: Gunman mistakenly shoots and kills Spanish attorney Adolfo Cotelo Villareal ... apparent target is Max Mazin, leader of Spanish Jewish community. (U)

22 April

Yugoslavia: Attempted murder of Fatah official Salah Khalaf in Belgrade; one bodyguard wounded. (U)

5 June

Kuwait: Attempted murder of PLO representative in Kuwait City. (U)

27 July

Belgium: Attack on Agudat Israel synagogue in Antwerp; one person killed and 20 injured. (U)

1981

1 May

Austria: Head of Austrian-Israeli Friendship Society killed in Vienna. (U)

1 June

Belgium: PLO representative murdered in Brussels. (U)

29 August

Austria: Two gunmen, armed with machine pistols and handgrenades, attack Vienna synagogue \ldots two killed, 19 injured. (U)

23 September

Cyprus: Two Arabs attack Israeli shipping firm in Limassol with handgrenades, injuring five employees. (U)

8 October

Malta: Aborted attempt in Valletta to kill the PLO representative to Libya. (U)

9 October

Italy: Senior PLO official murdered in Rome. (U)

1982

4 February

Austria: Bomb explodes at residence of chief rabbi in Vienna, causing some property damage but no casualties. (U)

1 March

Spain: Nabil Arnaki, coleader of Arab People's Liberation Movement (APLM), a splinter group of the ANO, killed in Madrid. (U)

3 June

United Kingdom: Attempted assassination of Israeli Ambassador Shlomo Argov in London . . . precipitates Israeli invasion of Lebanon. (U)

5 June

India: First secretary of Kuwaiti Embassy assassinated in New Delhi. (U)

17 June

Italy: Deputy director of PLO office in Rome murdered. (U)

9 July

Turkey: President of Palestinian Student Union murdered in Ankara. (U)

23 July

France: Deputy director of PLO office murdered in Paris. (U)



9 August

France: Two gunmen with grenades and automatic weapons attack Jewish-owned restaurant; six killed, 27 wounded. (U)

23 August

Kuwait: UAE Charge d'Affaires wounded in assassination attempt. (U)

26 August

India: UAE Consul General in Bombay escapes injury in assassination attempt. (U)

16 September

Pakistan: Attempted assassination of Kuwaiti Consul General in Karachi. (U)

18 September

Spain: First secretary of Kuwaiti Embassy assassinated in Madrid, driver wounded. (U)

9 October

Italy: Grenade and machinegun attack against synagogue in Rome kills a child and wounds 10 persons. (U)

8 December

Greece: Kuwait Airways offices bombed in Athens, no casualties. (U)

1983

10 April

Portugal: Issam Sartawi, prominent PLO moderate and close friend of 'Arafat's, killed in Lisbon. (U)

20 August

Greece: Murder of aide to high-ranking Fatah official Khalil al-Wazir. (U)

23 September

UAE: Gulf Air Boeing 737 en route from Karachi, Pakistan, to Abu Dhabi crashes, killing all 111 passengers and crew... crash may have been caused by bomb aboard aircraft. (U)

25 October

India: Jordanian Ambassador wounded in assassination attempt in New Delhi. (U)

26 October

Italy: Jordanian Ambassador and driver wounded in assassination attempt in Rome. (U)

31 October

Jordan: Car bomb detonated outside main Jordanian Army officers' club in Az Zarqa'; no casualties reported. (U)

7 November

Greece: Two security guards of Jordanian Embassy in Athens attacked; one killed, one wounded. (U)

12 November

Jordan: Discovery of car bomb in residential area in Amman. (U)

19 December

Turkey: Car bomb discovered midway between French cultural center and US officers' club in Izmir. (U)

20 December

Turkey: Car bomb injures one person and causes extensive damage to apartment building near PLO office and living quarters in Ankara. (U)

29 December

Spain: Two Jordanian Embassy employees attacked in Madrid; one killed, one wounded. (U)

1984

8 February

France: UAE Ambassador to France assassinated in Paris. (U)

24 March Jordan: Bomb defused outside British Consulate in Amman. (U)

24 March

Jordan: Bomb defused outside British cultural center in Amman. (U)

24 March

Jordan: Bomb explodes in parking lot of Intercontinental Hotel across street from US Embassy, damaging two vehicles and slightly injuring two persons; second bomb discovered and defused. (U)

28 March

Greece: British Embassy first secretary assassinated in Athens. (U)

3 May

Cyprus: Chairman of Arab Writers' Union killed in Nicosia. (U)

25 October

Italy: UAE vice consul wounded and student accompanying him killed in assassination attempt in Rome. (U)

November

Lebanon: Bomb attack on British Airways office in Beirut. (U)

12 November

Austria: Bomb partially explodes at Israeli El Al Airlines office; no casualties. (U)

12 November

Austria: Bomb explodes in entrance hallway of British Consulate. (U)

27 November

India: British Deputy High Commissioner assassinated in Bombay

29 November

Greece: Attempted assassination of Jordan's Deputy Chief of Mission in Athens. (U)

4 December

Romania: Deputy Chief of Mission of Jordanian Embassy assassinated in Bucharest. (U)

14 December

Italy: Isma'il Darwish, a leading military figure in the Fatah movement, murdered in Rome. (U)

1985

9 March

UAE: ANO member arrested for attempted sabotage of Royal Jordanian Airlines flight. (U)

21 March

Italy: Grenade attack on Royal Jordanian Airlines office in Rome, injuring two. (U)

21 March

Cyprus: Unidentified man throws two grenades into Royal Jordanian Airlines office in Nicosia. (U)

21 March

Greece: Grenade thrown into Royal Jordanian Airlines office in Athens, injuring three. (U)

26 March

Lebanon: British journalist kidnaped in Beirut. (U)

3 April

Italy: Rocket fired at Jordanian Embassy in Rome ... misses Embassy and hits apartment on fourth floor of the building, but causes no casualties. (U)

4 April

Greece: Rocket fired at Jordanian airliner as it takes off from Athens airport . . . projectile hits plane but does not explode. (U)

23 April

Kuwait: Moderate newspaper editor wounded in murder attempt. (U)

15 May

Lebanon: UN Relief and Works Agency official kidnaped but released the next day. (U)

1 July

Spain: Bomb explodes at British Airways ticket office in Madrid, also damaging TWA office upstairs ... Royal Jordanian Airlines ticket office nearby hit by automatic weapons fire and two grenades that fail to explode ... one killed, 27 wounded. (U)

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Kuwait: Two bombs explode within minutes of each other, killing eight and injuring 89 at two cafes about 10 kilometers apart in Kuwait City... third bomb defused at another cafe. (U)

21 July

Lebanon: Bomb explodes outside Kuwaiti Airlines office in Beirut ... no casualties reported. (U)

24 July

Turkey: First secretary at Jordanian Embassy assassinated in Ankara. (U)

8 August

Greece: Bomb explodes in kitchen of London Hotel in Athens, wounding 13 tourists. (U)

24 August

Turkey: Bomb discovered in PLO office in Ankara. (U)

30 August

Greece: Palestinian arrested in Athens for plotting assassination of Jordanian Ambassador. (U)

3 September

Greece: Two grenades thrown at swimming pool at Glyfada Hotel in Athens . . . 19 British tourists wounded. (U)

16 September

Italy: Grenades thrown at Cafe de Paris in Rome, injuring 38 tourists. (U)

18 September

Greece: Palestinian magazine publisher murdered in Athens. (U)

22 September

United Kingdom: British authorities arrest an ANO member found in possession of four handgrenades and charge him with conspiracy to cause explosions and to endanger life ... grenades provided by Libyan contact ... target identity unknown. (U)

25 September

Italy: Bomb explodes at British Airways office in Rome, killing one and injuring 14. (U)

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23 November

Malta: Three gunmen seize Egyptair Flight 648 en route from Athens to Cairo and force it to land in Valletta, Malta ... when hijackers' demand for refueling refused, they begin shooting selected passengers ... ultimately, 56 passengers and two terrorists killed; 23 passengers and one terrorist wounded ... on 24 November Egyptian military commando unit storms plane. (U)

24 November

Jordan: Husayn al-Bitar killed in Amman as a result of financial dispute over his house, which was allegedly owned by Sabri al-Banna. (U)

27 December

Austria: Three gunmen attack El Al counter at Vienna's Schwechat Airport with grenades and AK-47s, killing two and wounding 39... one terrorist also died and two were wounded. (U)

27 December

Italy: Four gunmen attack El Al ticket counter at Rome's Fiumicino Airport with grenades and AK-47s, killing 12 and wounding 72... three terrorists also died and one was injured. (U)

1986

5 September

Pakistan: Four men armed with automatic weapons, handguns, and grenades storm Pan Am Flight 73 in Karachi, killing 21 and injuring over 100 others. (U)

6 September

Turkey: Two gunmen attack Neve Shalom synagogue in Istanbul with grenades and machineguns $\dots 22$ killed and six wounded. (U)

Figure 11 Abu Nidal Organization Activities, 1974-86



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