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APRIL 1999

# TERRORISM

## REVIEW



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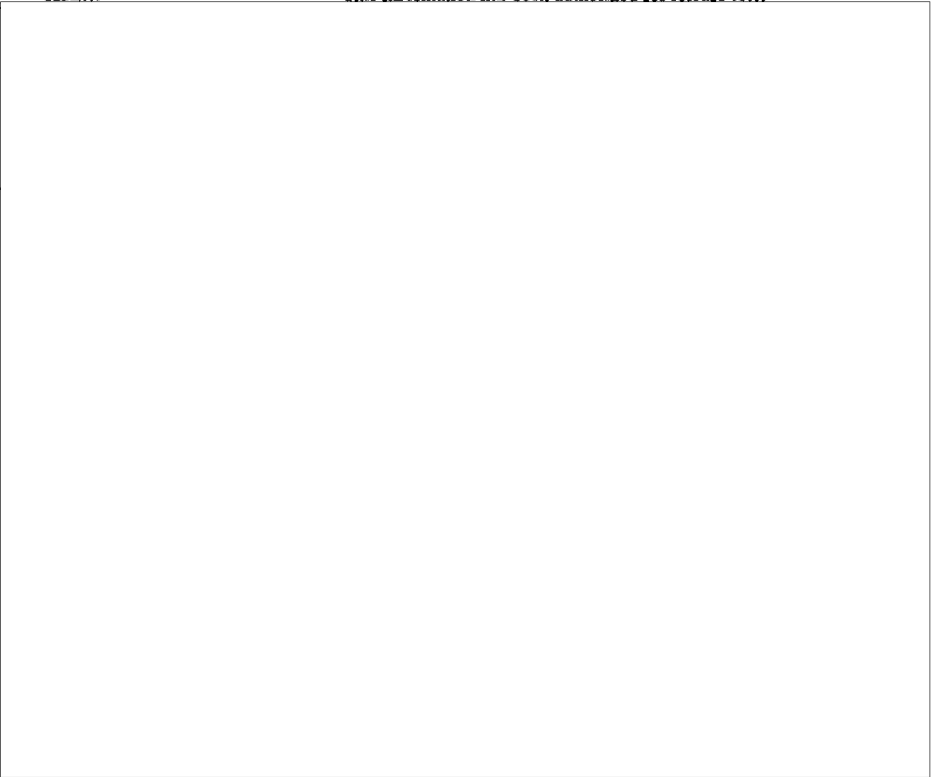
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**Terrorism Review**

April 1999

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**NATO Strikes Increase Threat to US and NATO Interests**

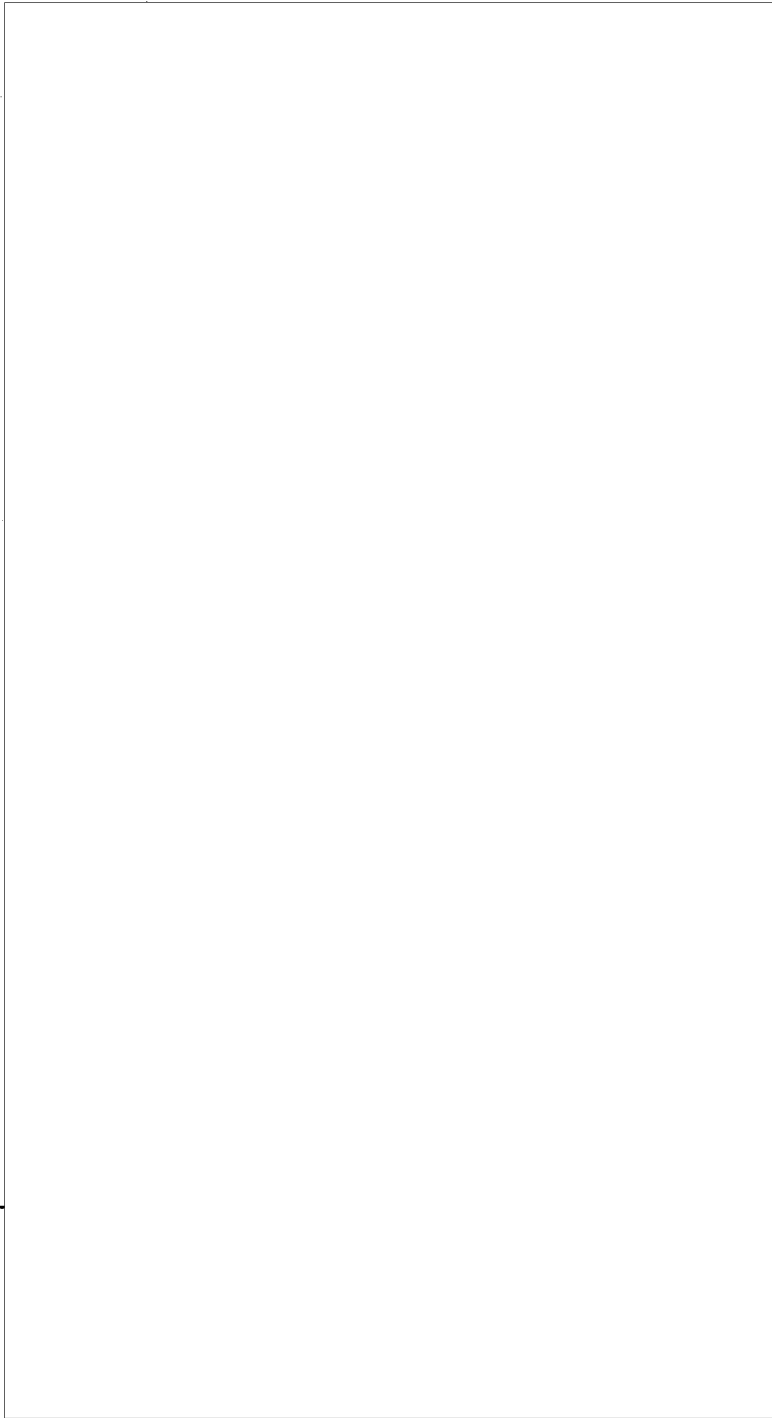
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NATO strikes against Serbian targets have incited NATO opponents and ethnic Serbs to conduct several terrorist attacks and violent protests in various countries. Serb extremists in expatriate communities, Serb sympathizers, and leftwing terrorist groups probably will increase violent protests and spontaneous attacks against US and NATO interests worldwide as NATO strikes continue against Serbian targets.

For its part, Yugoslavia reportedly is planning terrorist operations in retaliation for NATO attacks. Serb paramilitary leader and underworld figure Zeljko Raznjatovic—a.k.a. Arkan—and his alleged Serb Terrorist Organization Resistance Movement (STOP) also may be planning terrorist retaliation in Western Europe and the Balkans. Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic probably would implement terrorist attacks more wide-ranging [redacted] should his hold on power be jeopardized or NATO introduce troops into Kosovo [redacted]

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*This Review is published monthly by the DCI Counterterrorist Center. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to*

[Redacted]

*Information available as of 30 April 1999 was used in this Review, except where otherwise noted.*

**Selected Sites of Anti-US and Anti-NATO Attacks and Reported Threats**



Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.

## NATO Strikes Increase Threat to US and NATO Interests

NATO strikes against Serbian targets have incited NATO opponents and ethnic Serbs with no known ties to Belgrade or Serb paramilitary groups to conduct several terrorist attacks and violent protests in various countries. Serb extremists in expatriate communities, Serb sympathizers, and leftwing terrorist groups seeking to burnish their credentials probably will increase violent protests and spontaneous attacks against US and NATO interests worldwide as NATO strikes continue against Serbian targets.

- Serb terrorists also may try to conduct attacks at anti-NATO demonstrations.

- The Yugoslav Security Service (RDB) and most Serb paramilitary groups acting on Belgrade's behalf have only a limited presence and capability outside the Balkans, making government-sponsored terrorist reprisals more likely where Serb extremists have an established infrastructure, such as in the Republika Srpska and Macedonia.

- Serb paramilitary leader and underworld figure Zeljko Raznjatovic—a.k.a. Arkan—and his alleged Serb Terrorist Organization Resistance Movement (STOP) also may be planning terrorist retaliation in Western Europe and the Balkans

Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic probably would implement terrorist attacks more wide-ranging should his hold on power be jeopardized or NATO introduce troops into Kosovo. His officers and Serb paramilitary groups probably would rely on

Arkan's network of Serbian criminal gangs and extremists to conduct terrorist operations outside the Balkans.

- Extremists in Serb expatriate communities could support terrorist operations by collecting information on potential targets and maintaining safehouses.

## NATO Strikes Spark Anti-US Violence Worldwide

Leftwing and anarchist terrorist groups and unidentified individual extremists have conducted attacks against US interests in several countries since NATO launched strikes against Serbian targets on 24 March.

- The Greek Revolutionary Nuclei claimed responsibility for the bombing of the Intercontinental Hotel in central Athens on 27 April, which killed one Greek citizen and seriously injured another.

The group issued a public statement indicating the attack was in response to NATO action against Serbian targets.

- The Greek Lyssasmenoi Anarchikoi (Enraged Anarchists) claimed credit for the arson attack against the General Motors dealership in Athens on 15 April, expressing solidarity with the Serb people and condemning NATO's actions.

- The leftwing Italian Anti-Imperialist Territorial Nucleus (NTA) claimed responsibility for firebombing a US Air Force employee's vehicle on 3 April near Italy's Aviano Air Base.

The group has expressed its opposition to NATO and previously has targeted US interests.

- Unidentified assailants detonated a bomb in front of the Bank of Boston branch office in downtown Buenos Aires on 4 April, [redacted]

[redacted] The blast caused no injuries, and a pamphlet left at the scene condemned US and NATO actions in Kosovo.

- Unidentified assailants attempting a rocket-propelled grenade attack against the US Embassy in Moscow on 29 March failed when their weapons did not discharge [redacted]

The attackers fled the scene after firing automatic weapons at the Embassy, injuring no one. The attack was not tied to Kosovo explicitly, but its timing and the anti-NATO sentiment in Russia suggest it was linked to NATO operations. [redacted]

Ethnic Serbs and Serb sympathizers abroad have conducted violent anti-NATO protests at official US facilities to express solidarity with their countrymen. Protests have occurred at official US facilities in countries hosting sizable Serb expatriate communities, including Germany, Denmark, Austria, and South Africa.

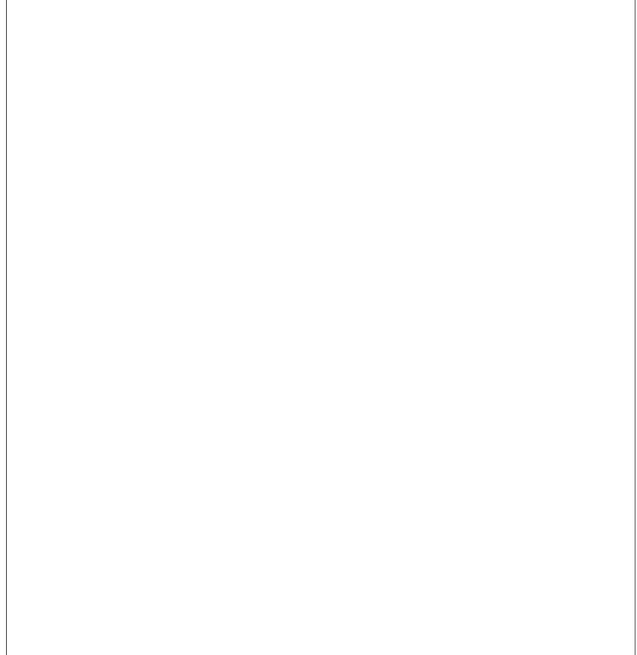
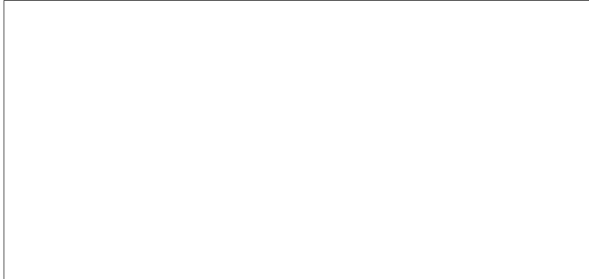
- Serbs broke windows, set vehicles on fire, and threw rocks during demonstrations at the US Consulate in Melbourne, Australia, and the US Embassy in Skopje, Macedonia, in late March.

- Belgrade has encouraged protests worldwide and called in mid-April for Yugoslav consular posts abroad to organize mass demonstrations during NATO's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]





**Other Threats to US and NATO Interests Increase**



US and NATO personnel, as well as official and commercial US facilities in the Balkans and Western Europe, have received several threatening telephone calls and letters. Some have originated from Serbs, while others are from previously unknown groups, such as the "Specific Revenge" and the "Serbian Liberation Front."

- Following the initial NATO strikes, US, UK, and Dutch Embassies in Europe received letters from the "Yugoslav Patriots in Europe and America"—a previously unknown group—threatening to poison food and beverages in European markets. The letters could be a well-orchestrated hoax, similar to those sent to German authorities in the early 1990s, which did not materialize. Although probably no group could poison food products on a wide scale, isolated poisonings or product tampering resulting in even a few casualties could cause panic

US security guards at the US Joint Task Force compound in Tirana recently detected suspicious activity directed at the compound. On 15 April, an unidentified individual appeared to be testing security when he attempted to gain access to the camp area using questionable documents. The guards claim he departed without providing a reasonable explanation for his attempt to use suspicious identification

**Threat to US and NATO Interests Likely To Grow**



Serb extremists in expatriate communities, Serb sympathizers, and leftwing terrorist groups seeking to burnish their anti-imperialist credentials probably will increase violent protests and spontaneous attacks against US and NATO interests worldwide as NATO continues to strike Serbian targets. Serb extremists and criminal groups—not necessarily at Belgrade's behest—also may carry out terrorist strikes against US and NATO interests, especially if NATO bombings produce more civilian casualties.

- Serb terrorists would be able to exploit anti-NATO demonstrations as a venue to conduct attacks. Encouraging demonstrators to carry out attacks

would give Serb elements plausible deniability.

[redacted]

The Yugoslav Security Service (RDB) and most Serb paramilitary groups acting on Belgrade's behalf maintain only a limited presence and capability outside the Balkans, making government-sponsored terrorist reprisals more likely where Serb extremists have an established infrastructure, such as in the Republika Srpska and Macedonia. As a new NATO member, neighboring Hungary also may provide a tempting venue for Serb terrorist attacks, particularly at Tazsar base and other NATO support installations in the south.

- Initial targets for Belgrade-sponsored [redacted] likely would include NATO bases directly involved in Operation Allied Force, followed by Stabilization Forces (SFOR) contingents belonging to NATO members and official US and NATO facilities in the Balkans and Europe. [redacted]

Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic probably would implement terrorist attacks more wide-ranging than [redacted] should his hold on power be jeopardized or NATO introduce ground troops into Kosovo. Under such circumstances, Milosevic may calculate that terrorist attacks in NATO countries—orchestrated with plausible deniability—could weaken popular support for Operation Allied Force. RDB officers and Serb paramilitary

groups probably would rely on Arkan's network of Serbian criminal gangs and extremists to conduct terrorist operations outside the Balkans.

- Arkan could use extremists in Serb expatriate communities to support terrorist operations by having them collect information on potential targets and maintain safehouses. Criminal groups also could use their clandestine networks to collect information, obtain weapons and false papers, and assist in the infiltration and exfiltration of terrorist operatives.

[redacted]

The Yugoslav Government and Serb sympathizers appear to have been linked with recent intrusions by individual criminal hackers against NATO and US Government Web sites that are part of a wider anti-NATO propaganda campaign. Pro-Serb hackers, for example, have claimed credit publicly for hacking attacks against US and allied Web sites. Hacking attacks against US infrastructure and persons may present a tempting opportunity for Serbian information systems terrorists. [redacted]

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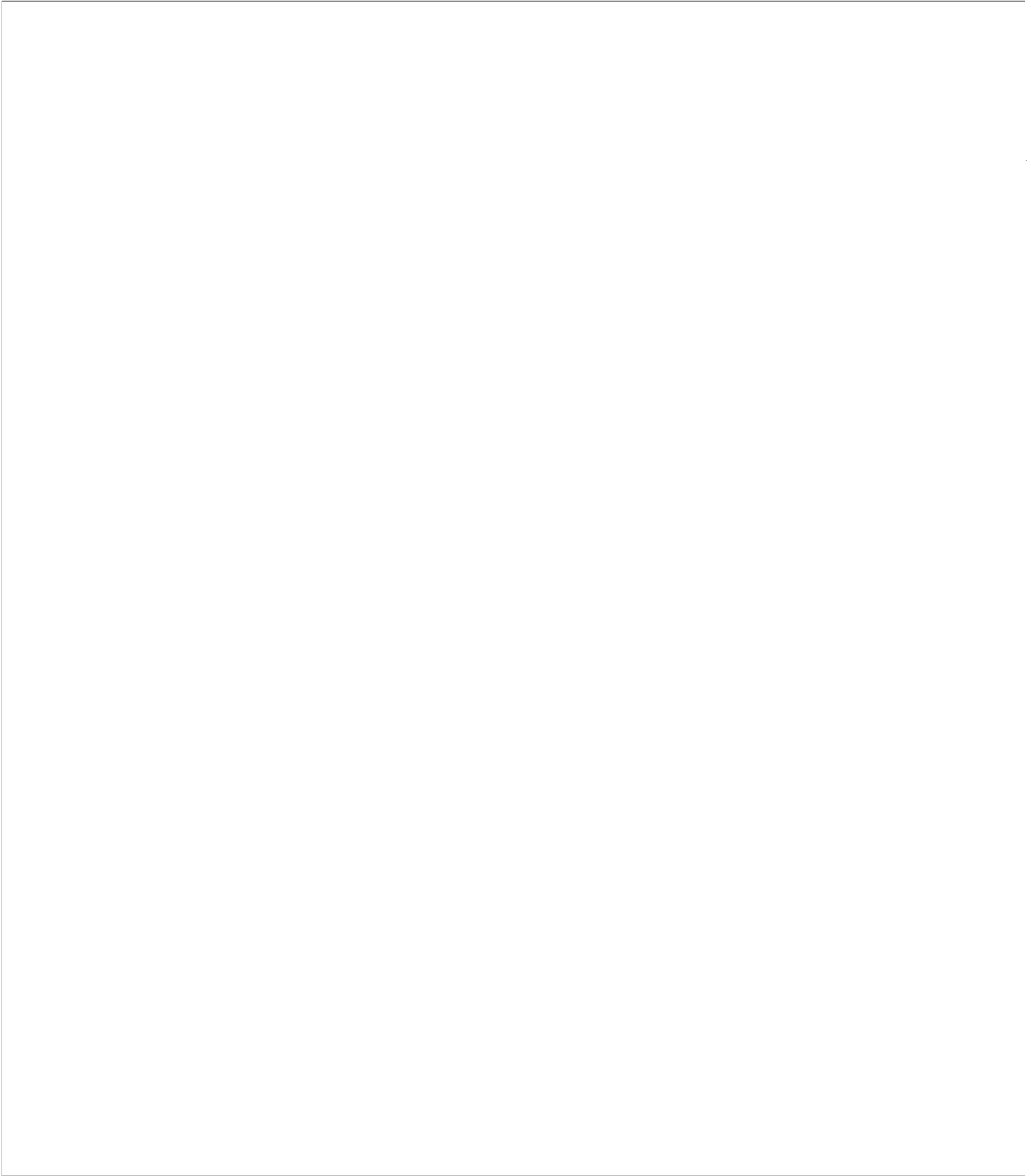


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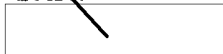


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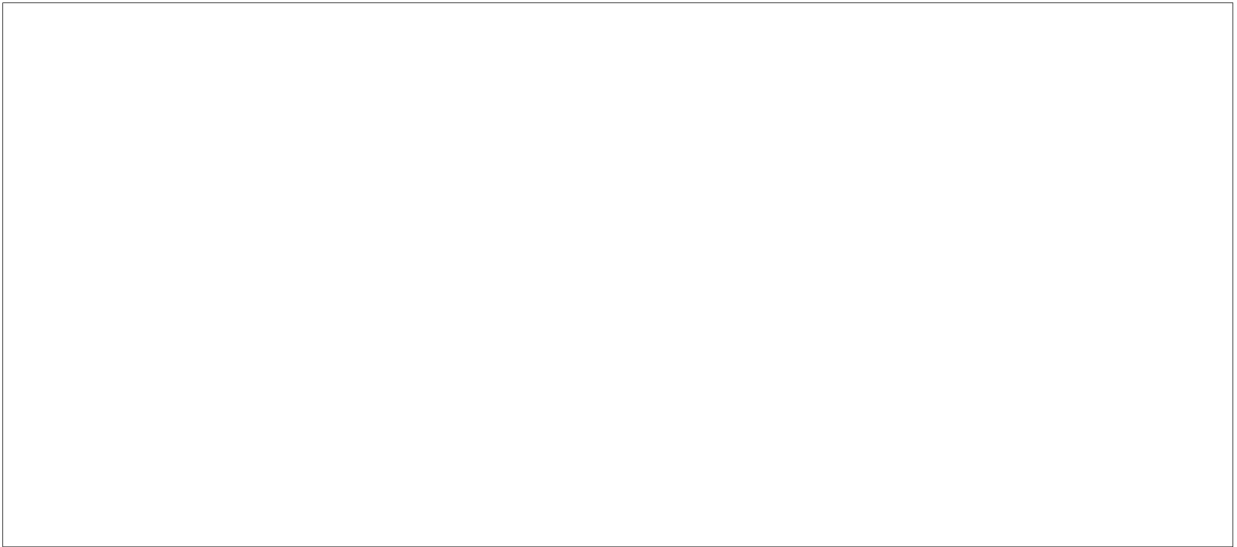


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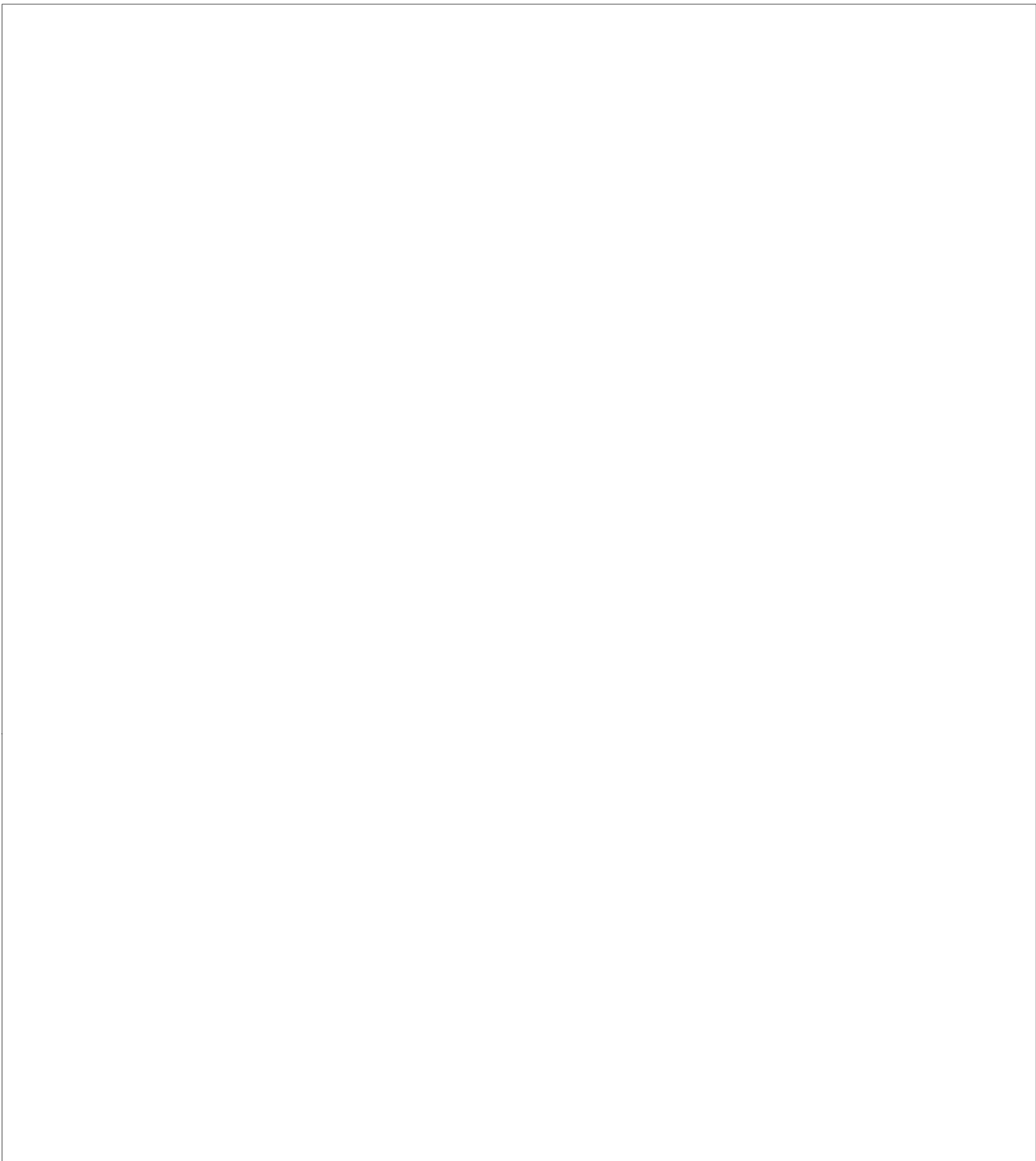
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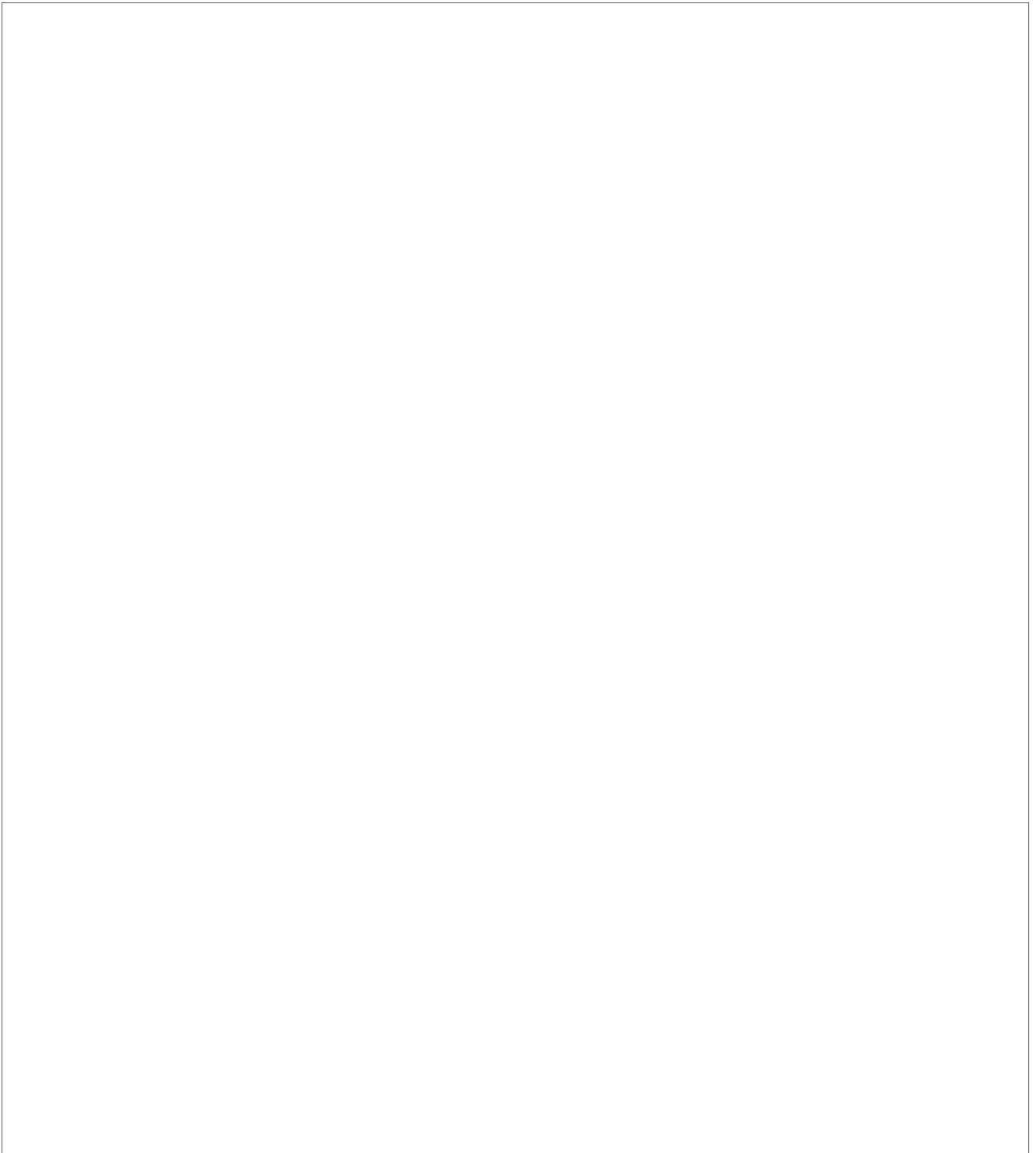


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**The Terrorism Diary for May and June 1999**

*Below is a compendium of May and June dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Inclusion of a date or event does not suggest that we anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.*

- 1 May** *Socialist World.* May Day (commemorates labor violence in Chicago).
- 1 May 1980** *Peru.* Destruction of electoral material in Chuschi, Cangallo Province, marks beginning of armed struggle by Sendero Luminoso; anniversary is commemorated by acts of violence throughout May, but especially on 16 May.
- 2 May 1953** *Jordan.* King Hussein assumed constitutional power.
- 6 May 1900** *Iran.* Birthday of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.
- 14 May 1948** *Middle East.* Beginning of first Arab-Israeli war.
- 15 May 1948** *Palestinians.* Palestine Day (end of UN mandate); 15 May Organization, founded in 1979 by remnant of Special Operations Group of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), takes its name from this event.
- 17 May 1983** *Lebanon, Israel.* Signing of troop withdrawal accord (known as 17 May Agreement).
- 26 May 1991** *Georgia.* Independence Day.
- 30 May 1972** *Israel.* Japanese Red Army massacre at Lod Airport, Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 1 June 1976** *Palestinians.* During this month, Syria entered the civil conflict in Lebanon on the side of the Christian Phalange and against the Palestinians and their Muslim allies. In response, Palestinian renegade Abu Nidal renamed his terrorist group—then based in Iraq—the Black June Organization and began attacking Syrian targets.
- 3 June 1989** *Iran.* Death of Ayatollah Khomeini.
- 4 June 1982** *Israel, Lebanon.* First Israeli bombing of Beirut.
- 5 June 1963** *Iran.* National Day of Mourning; Revolution Day; Day of Uprising, to commemorate the arrest of Ayatollah Khomeini by police under the Shah.
- 5 June 1967** *Middle East.* Beginning of the Six-Day War.
- 6 June 1982** *Israel, Lebanon.* Israeli forces invade Lebanon.

- 6 June 1984**                      **India.** Army storms the Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar.
- 8 June 1967**                      **Palestinians.** Founding of Palestinian terrorist group Sa'iqa, a.k.a. Thunderbol.
- 9 June 1984**                      **Peru.** Launching of guerrilla action by MRTA; the takeover of a radio station in Lima.
- 18 June 1953**                      **Egypt.** Evacuation Day, which is the anniversary of the proclamation of the republic.
- 25 June 1964**                      **Mozambique.** Founding of the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique.
- 25 June 1996**                      **Saudi Arabia.** Truck bombing of Khubar Towers facility in Dhahran, in which 19 US servicemen were killed and hundreds of others were wounded.
- 26 June 1995**                      **Ethiopia.** Attempted assassination of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.
- Italy.** Arrest of 13 members of the Egyptian al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya in Milan.



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**Chronology of International Terrorism—January-March 1999**

*The following incidents have met the criteria for the Intelligence Community's Incident Review Panel since publication of the previous issue of the Terrorism Review. These incidents are the basis for the State Department's Patterns of Global Terrorism, published annually as the US Government's official record of international terrorism.*

Africa

- 10 February** *Angola: In M'Banza Congo, church officials reported the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) kidnapped two Portuguese and two Spanish nationals. No demands were made.* [redacted]
- 11 February** *Angola: In Tazua, UNITA rebels attacked the scout vehicle for a convoy of diamond mine vehicles, killing three Angolan security guards and wounding five others,* [redacted]  
*Angolan and Australian mining companies jointly own SDM/Ashton.* [redacted]
- 18 February** *Sudan: The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) kidnapped two Swiss and four Sudanese International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) workers in Bentiu,* [redacted] *The rebels released the two Swiss nationals on 12 March. The ICRC reported that the SPLA executed the four Sudanese workers on 1 April.* [redacted]
- 24 February** *Nigeria: [redacted] armed youths kidnapped a US citizen in Warri. A local militia group "rescued" the hostage but then demanded a ransom for his release. The hostage's employer, Bristow Helicopters, paid \$53,000 ransom to the militia group, and the hostage was released on 4 March.* [redacted]
- 28 February** *Zambia: [redacted] at least 16 bombs exploded in and around the capital city of Lusaka. One bomb exploded inside the Angolan Embassy, killing one person and causing major damage. Other bombs detonated near major water pipes, around power lines, and in parks and residential districts, injuring two persons and causing major damage. Bomb experts safely detonated five bombs and successfully defused two others. No one claimed responsibility.*  
[redacted]
- 1 March** *Uganda: [redacted] 150 Rwandan Hutu rebels attacked three tourist camps in the Bwindi National Forrest, kidnapping 14 tourists after killing four Ugandans. Three US citizens, six Britons, three New Zealanders, one Australian, and one Canadian were abducted. The Embassy reported on 2 March that the Hutu rebels also killed two US citizens, four Britons, and two New Zealanders. The rebels released the remaining hostages.* [redacted]
- 2 March** *Nigeria: [redacted] in Abuja, at least 20 heavily armed assailants attacked a compound housing a large Italian construction company and its workers, injuring six persons. The intruders assaulted, threatened, and in some cases shot occupants. No group claimed responsibility.* [redacted]
- 9 March** *Nigeria: Unidentified assailants kidnapped a US citizen from his office in Warri,* [redacted] *No group claimed responsibility, and no demands have been made.* [redacted]

**10 March** *Angola: Unidentified assailants kidnapped one Angolan, two French, and two Portuguese oil workers in Cabinda,* [redacted] *Local press reported that members of the Front for the Liberation of Cabinda may be responsible.* [redacted]

**Asia**

**20 February** *India: Suspected Lashkar-i-Taiba militants massacred 20 persons in two districts of Jammu,* [redacted]

**22 February** *India: [redacted] suspected Muslim militants shot and killed a member of Kashmir's ruling National Conference party.* [redacted]

*India: Suspected Muslim militants killed two persons and wounded two others in Jigrayi Village in Kashmir,* [redacted]

*India: Suspected militants from the Lashkar-i-Taiba killed three persons in Udhampur District, Kashmir,* [redacted]

**26 February** *India: Unidentified militants abducted and killed five officers from a police post in Chagul Village near Hindwara, Kashmir,* [redacted]

**11 March** *India: In Srinagar, Kashmir, suspected Muslim militants shot and killed a man in his home. The assailants then killed the victim's two daughters and injured his wife and three other relatives* [redacted]

**Eurasia**

**22 February** *Albania: In Librazhd, a bomb exploded at a Bible center run by US missionaries, causing no injuries and minor damage. Investigators said Islamic terrorists may be responsible.* [redacted]

*Bosnia-Herzegovina: A bomb exploded under a United Nations (UN) vehicle in Bihac, causing undetermined damage. According to press reports, there were no injuries, and no one claimed responsibility.* [redacted]

**5 March** *Bosnia-Herzegovina: [redacted] unidentified assailants threw a grenade at an International Police Task Force (IPTF) headquarters in Bosanska Gradiska, causing no injuries but destroying one vehicle.* [redacted]

*Bosnia-Herzegovina: Unidentified assailants threw a bomb at a Czech Stabilization Force (SFOR) post in Prijedor, injuring one person and causing minor damage, according to press reports.* [redacted]

**6 March** *Bosnia-Herzegovina: Unidentified assailants set fire to three UN vehicles and demolished four others, according to press reports. Several thousand people had gathered to protest the dismissal of Serb Republic President Nikola Popalsen and the decision to transform Brcko into a district* [redacted]

Europe

16 February

*Germany: Kurdish protesters occupied the Greek Embassy in Bonn and held one person hostage for 12 hours before surrendering to police, according to press reports. This attack followed the Turkish Government's announcement of the successful capture of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) leader Abdullah Ocalan.* [redacted]

20 February

*Italy: Unidentified assailants attacked a Turkish Airlines office in Rome with Molotov cocktails and a bomb. According to press reports, the bomb failed to explode but started a small fire.* [redacted]

21 February

*Turkey: Kurdish youths threw Molotov cocktails at an Israeli-owned medicine factory in Kucukcekmece, causing major damage.* [redacted]

14 March

*Spain: According to press reports, two hooded assailants threw Molotov cocktails at a Citroen dealership, causing damage to the building and destroying several vehicles. The attack bears the hallmark of the Basque Fatherland and Liberty.* [redacted]

14 March

*Turkey: Authorities discovered and safely defused a bomb inside a Burger King restaurant in Istanbul. No one claimed responsibility.* [redacted]

22 March

*Greece: Press accounts reported that a bomb exploded at an automated teller machine outside a Citibank branch in Athens, causing minor damage. A telephone caller to local media warned of the bomb, but no one claimed responsibility.* [redacted]

*Greece: According to press reports, authorities discovered and safely defused a bomb outside a Citibank branch in Athens. A telephone caller to local media warned of the bomb but no group claimed responsibility.* [redacted]

Latin America

18 January

*Ecuador: In Putumayo Province, suspected Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebels bombed the San Miguel-Orito pipeline, causing undetermined damage.* [redacted]

14 February

*Colombia: Local press reported leftist rebels bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, causing undetermined damage. Authorities suspect the FARC or ELN.* [redacted]

*Ecuador: FARC rebels bombed the San Miguel-Orito oil pipeline, causing undetermined damage, according to press reports.* [redacted]

- 18 February** *Colombia: In Supia, local press reported that FARC rebels kidnapped two Spanish citizens, one Algerian, and two Colombians. The hostages are employed by Alcatel, a French telephone Company.* [redacted]
- 19 February** *Colombia: In Arauca, local press reported suspected FARC or ELN rebels bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, causing minor damage.* [redacted]
- 20 February** *Colombia: In Arauca, suspected FARC or ELN rebels bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, causing undetermined damage, according to press reports.* [redacted]
- 21 February** *Colombia: FARC rebels kidnapped nine persons, including two Spanish nationals.* [redacted] *The FARC released one Spanish hostage and two Colombians the next day. The rebels released the remaining hostages on 28 February. No ransom was paid.* [redacted]
- 25 February** *Colombia: In Boyaca Department, the FARC kidnapped three US citizens, according to media sources. The victims were members of the Hawaii-based Pacific Cultural Conservancy International. On 4 March the three victims were found murdered across the border in Venezuela. FARC leaders claimed rogue elements within the organization are responsible for the killings.* [redacted]
- 26 February** *Colombia: In Valledupar, [redacted] unidentified assailants detonated a bomb at the headquarters of the Colombian Daily Company, a subsidiary of Swiss-owned Nestle Multinational, causing major damage but no injuries.* [redacted]
- 28 February** *Colombia: In Norte de Santander, local press reported assailants bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, causing a 16,000 barrel oil spill. Authorities suspect the FARC or ELN.* [redacted]
- Colombia: [redacted] ELN rebels dynamited the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, causing an undetermined amount of damage.* [redacted]
- 5 March** *Colombia: The International Committee of the Red Cross reported the death of a French geologist who had been kidnapped in November 1998 by the National Liberation Army (ELN). According to the Jose David Suarez Front of the ELN, the French hostage died of an apparent heart attack.* [redacted]
- 7 March** *Colombia: Local press reported an Argentine tourist was kidnapped at a false road block. Authorities suspect FARC or ELN rebels are responsible.* [redacted]
- Colombia: In Cartagena, [redacted] FARC or ELN rebels kidnapped one Swiss national and seven Colombians at a false road block. No demands were made.* [redacted]
- 8 March** *Colombia: In Norte de Santander, [redacted] ELN rebels bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, causing an undetermined amount of damage.* [redacted]

9 March

*Venezuela: In Paez Municipality, local press reported suspected ELN guerrillas attacked a Venezuelan patrol unit, injuring one civilian and kidnapping three others.* [redacted]

10 March

*Colombia: In Orito, [redacted] FARC rebels bombed the Transandino pipeline, causing undetermined damage.* [redacted]

11 March

*Colombia: In Orito, local press reported FARC rebels bombed the Transandino pipeline twice, causing undetermined damage.* [redacted]

21 March

*Colombia: [redacted] Marxist rebels bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, causing an undetermined amount of damage.*  
[redacted]

Middle East

15 March

*Iraq: According to news reports, a bomb exploded in the back seat of a World Food Program (WFP) vehicle, causing major damage but no injuries. No one claimed responsibility.* [redacted]



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## Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—March 1999

*The incidents listed below provide an overview of indigenous terrorism worldwide.*

### Africa

#### Angola

On 11 March in Malanje, local press reported that armed *National Union for the Total Independence of Angola* rebels ambushed a vehicle, killing eight persons and injuring seven others.

On 14 March in Benguela, heavily armed unidentified rebels attacked two vehicles, killing one person and wounding eight others.

#### Sudan

On 9 March in Samaha a landmine detonated, killing 11 persons and wounding five others. The Sudanese Government blames the attack on the *Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA)*.

#### Uganda

On 4 March in Bundibugyo, 10 armed *Allied Democratic Forces* rebels attacked a village, killing five persons and injuring five others.

On 20 March, an unidentified group of armed militants attacked several towns on the outskirts of Bundibugyo, killing 10 persons.

### Asia

#### Bangladesh

On 7 March, suspected Muslim militants detonated two bombs at a communist cultural event in Jessore, killing eight persons and wounding 150 others.

#### India

On 3 March in Bihar, local press reported that 18 armed *People's War Group* rebels attacked a farm, killing four persons.

On 28 March, press accounts reported that a bomb exploded at the Ayodhya train station, injuring six police officers who were attempting to defuse it. No one claimed responsibility.

#### Nepal

On 2 March in Kathmandu, suspected Maoist guerrillas exploded two bombs at the home of a senior government official, causing damage to the home and destroying one car, but causing no injury.

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*Philippines*

On 4 March, [redacted] Maoist rebels armed with automatic rifles and grenades attacked a police installation in Shantinagar, killing seven officers and wounding another [redacted]

On 16 March in Alamada, North Cotabato, [redacted] unidentified assailants fired on a home, killing a family of three. The spokesman said that the *Moro Islamic Liberation Force (MILF)* is operating in the area. [redacted]

On 30 March in Alamada, North Cotabato, [redacted] possible *MILF* rebels attacked two homes, killing five persons and wounding two others. [redacted]

*Sri Lanka*

On 9 March in Colombo, a bomb exploded on a passenger train, injuring two engineers. [redacted] suspect the *Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)*. [redacted]

On 9 March, suspected LTTE guerrillas bombed a power transformer in Colombo, causing minor damage and disrupting service. [redacted]

Suspected LTTE guerrillas detonated a bomb on a bus in Colombo on 9 March, killing one person and injuring 14 others, according to multiple press accounts. [redacted]

On 16 March in Mount Lavinia, [redacted] an LTTE suicide bomber detonated her bomb vest in front of a car carrying a senior counterintelligence officer, killing four persons, wounding the officer and at least 10 other persons. [redacted]

[redacted] on 16 March the LTTE detonated a mine under a police vehicle, killing six officers and wounding four others. [redacted]

[redacted] on 20 March the LTTE attacked a police patrol in Mannar District, killing three officers. [redacted]

*Europe*

*Corsica (France)*

According to press reports, a bomb exploded outside a post office in Bastia on 19 March, following the sentencing of three Corsican nationalists for a terrorist attack. No injury or damage was reported. [redacted]

*Northern Ireland*

On 15 March in Lurgan, County Armagh, a car bomb exploded, killing a human rights lawyer and destroying her car. Local press reported a telephone caller using a recognized codeword claimed responsibility on behalf of the *Red Hand Defenders*. [redacted]

Press reported that four masked assailants beat a 13-year-old boy with baseball bats in Newtownards, County Down, on 21 March. [redacted]

On 27 March in Londonderry, six armed assailants broke into a house and shot a man six times in the leg, forcing his wife and child to watch. According to press

reports the victim's wife blamed renegade members of the *Irish Republican Army*.  
[redacted]

**Spain**

Local authorities safely defused a bomb found inside a bar in Sestao on 10 March. *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* members or sympathizers have conducted similar attacks in the past. [redacted]

On 12 March in Azkoitia, authorities safely defused a letter bomb sent to a local politician. [redacted]

[redacted] on 27 March unidentified assailants set fire to a train station in Amorebieta, causing major damage. The attack bears the ETA's hallmark. [redacted]

**Turkey**

On 4 March in Batman, a probable *Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)* suicide bomber detonated the explosives she was carrying, injuring four persons and causing minor damage. [redacted]

In Cankiri on 5 March, press reported that a remote-controlled car bomb detonated as the Governor of Cankiri drove by, killing one bodyguard and two bystanders, injuring 10 other persons, and causing major damage. [redacted] the *Turkish Workers and Peasants Liberation Army* claimed responsibility. [redacted]

On 13 March, eyewitnesses reported that three assailants threw Molotov cocktails into a department store in Istanbul, killing 13 persons, wounding six others, and causing major damage. According to press reports, an unidentified telephone caller claimed responsibility on behalf of the *Nationalist Kurdish Vengeance Team*. [redacted] the PKK claimed responsibility, but a PKK spokesman denied this. [redacted]

On 27 March in Istanbul, a suicide bomber detonated her explosives near a police van, injuring three police officers and eight other persons. [redacted]

**Latin America**

**Colombia**

On 7 March in Medellin, local press reported that bombs exploded outside of three banks, causing minor damage but no injuries. [redacted] suspect leftist guerrillas are responsible. [redacted]

On 18 March in Barrancabermeja, [redacted] a bomb exploded as a military patrol passed by, killing three civilians and injuring two others. [redacted] blame the attack on the *National Liberation Army*. [redacted]

On 20 March in Magdalena, *Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)* kidnapped the brother of the Finance Secretary for the town of Ceasar at a road-block. No demands were made. [redacted]

[redacted] on 20 March the FARC fired on a civilian vehicle, killing one person and injuring another. [redacted]

**Paraguay**

On 23 March in Asuncion, [redacted] heavily armed, masked gunmen assassinated Paraguay's Vice President Luis Maria Argana, killing both his driver and bodyguard. Eyewitnesses stated the attackers used shotguns, automatic weapons, and a grenade when they attacked the victim as he was being driven to his office. No one claimed responsibility. [redacted]

**Venezuela**

On 10 March, [redacted] security officials safely detonated a bomb found outside the doors of the National Congress [redacted]

**Middle East**

**Algeria**

On 3 March near Tapaza, armed militants killed seven persons, according to news reports. This attack bears the hallmark of the *Armed Islamic Group (GIA)*. [redacted]

On 4 March in Sidi Rached, according to news reports, armed militants murdered seven villagers. [redacted]

On 9 March in El Khemis, a bomb exploded on a college campus, killing three persons and wounding 31 others, according to press reports [redacted]

On 14 March in Blida, according to press reports, an armed group killed six persons and wounded 10 others [redacted]

On 18 March in Ain Defla, local media reported that armed militants killed 10 men and kidnapped four women at a false roadblock. The bodies of the kidnapped victims were found the next day. This attack bears the hallmark of the *GIA* [redacted]

On 24 March in Boumerdes, according to press reports, an armed group used explosive devices to gain entry into a farmhouse where they killed nine persons and kidnapped two others [redacted]