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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

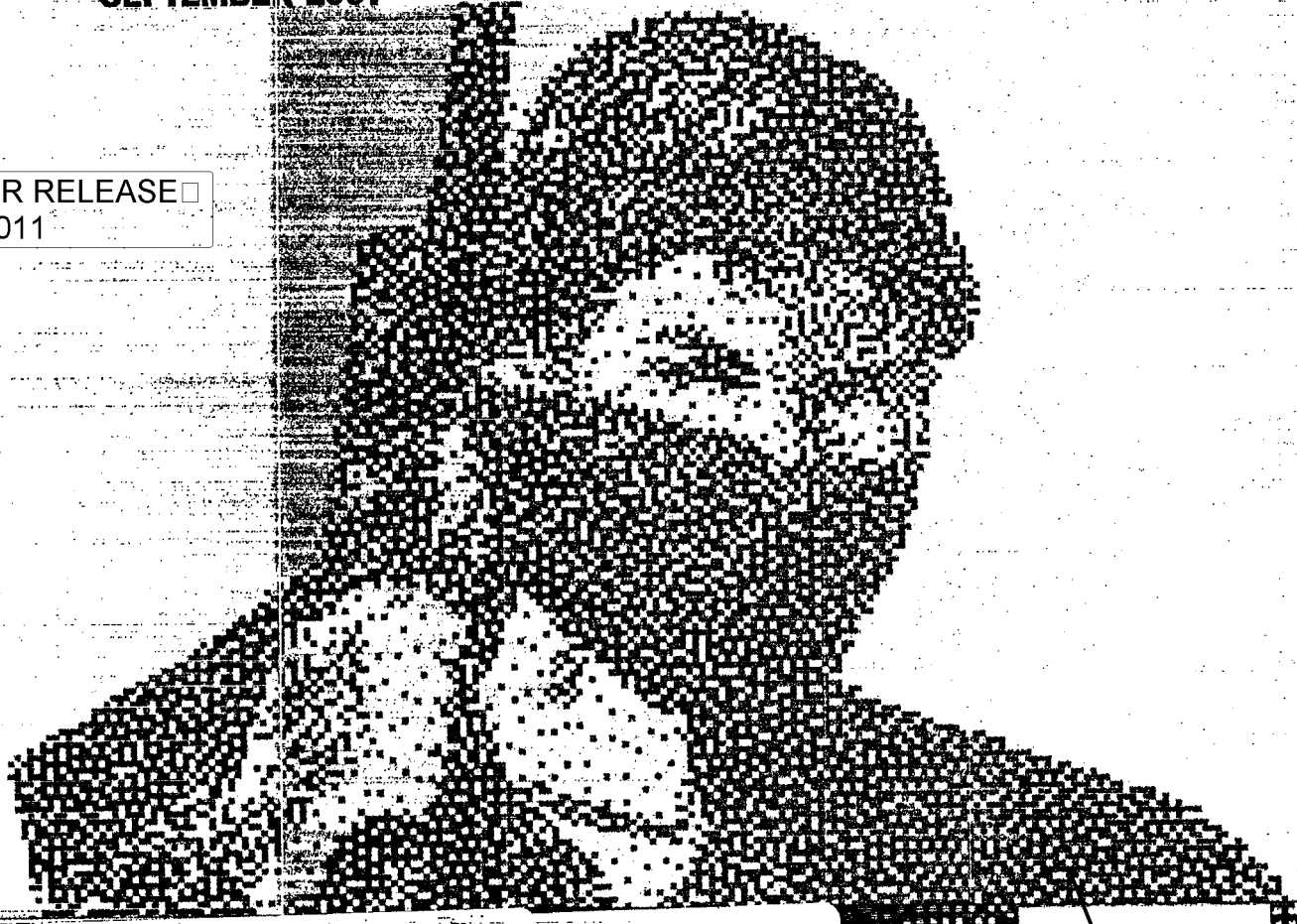
COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER



TERRORISM REVIEW

SEPTEMBER 1997

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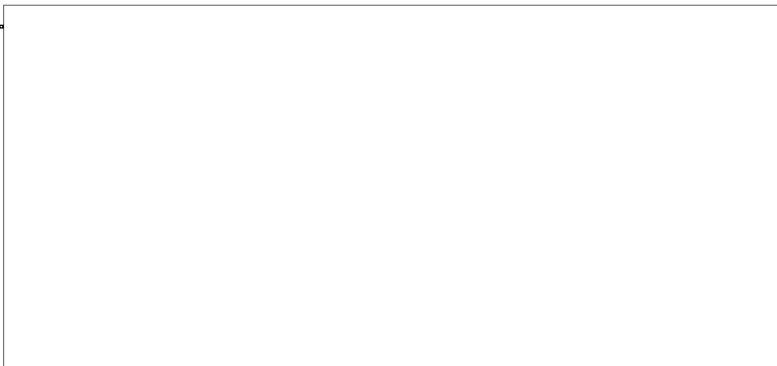


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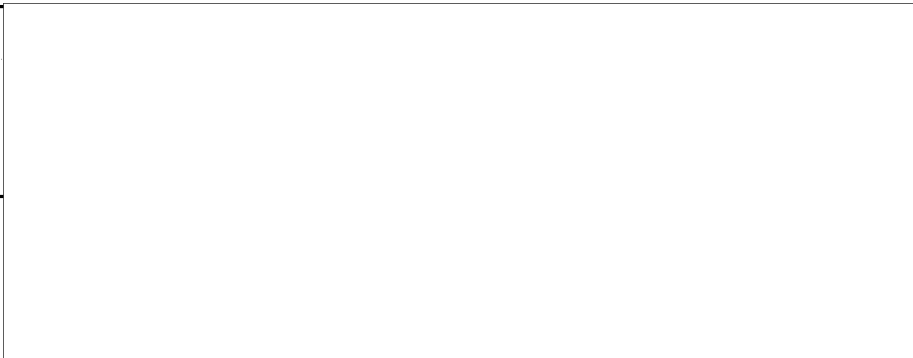
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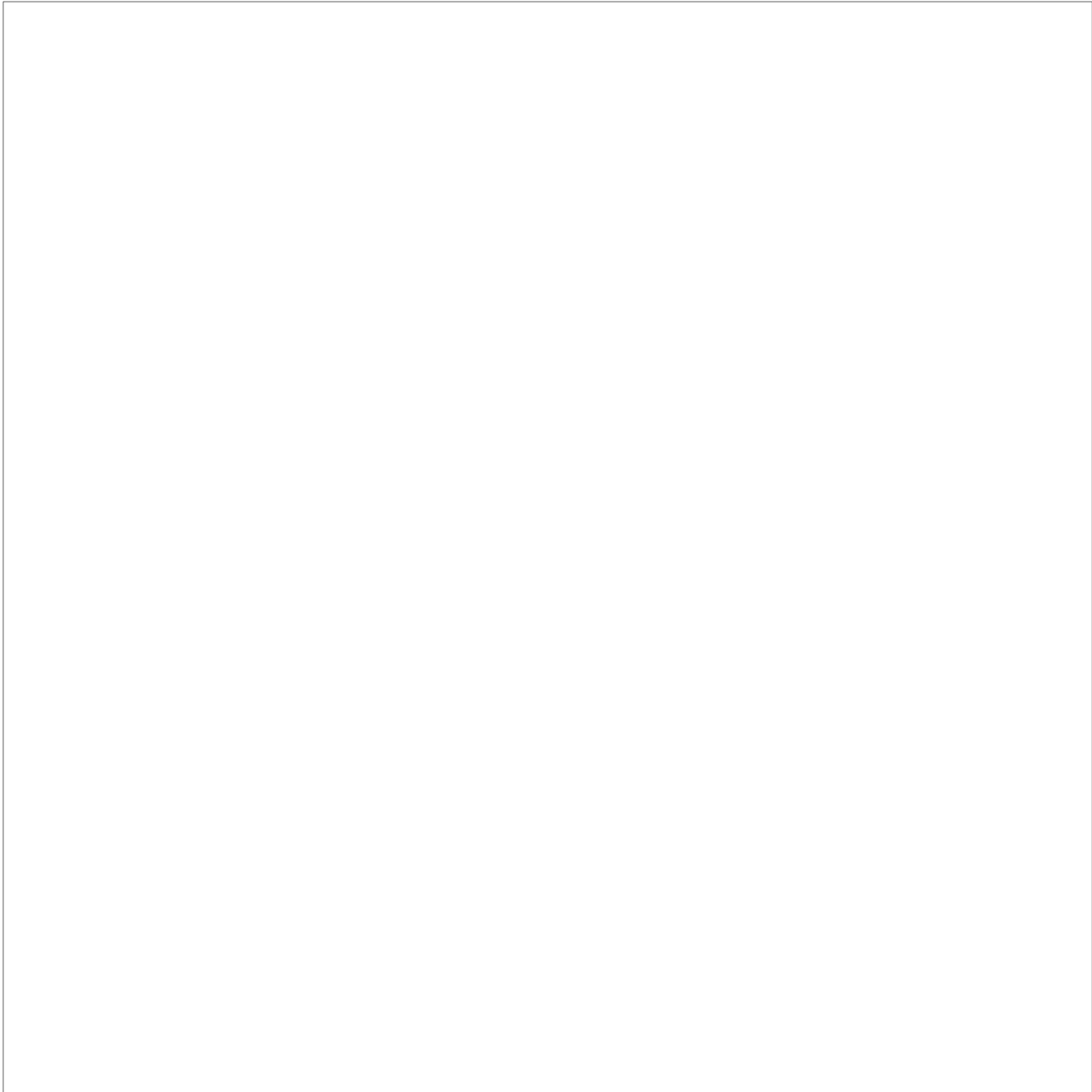




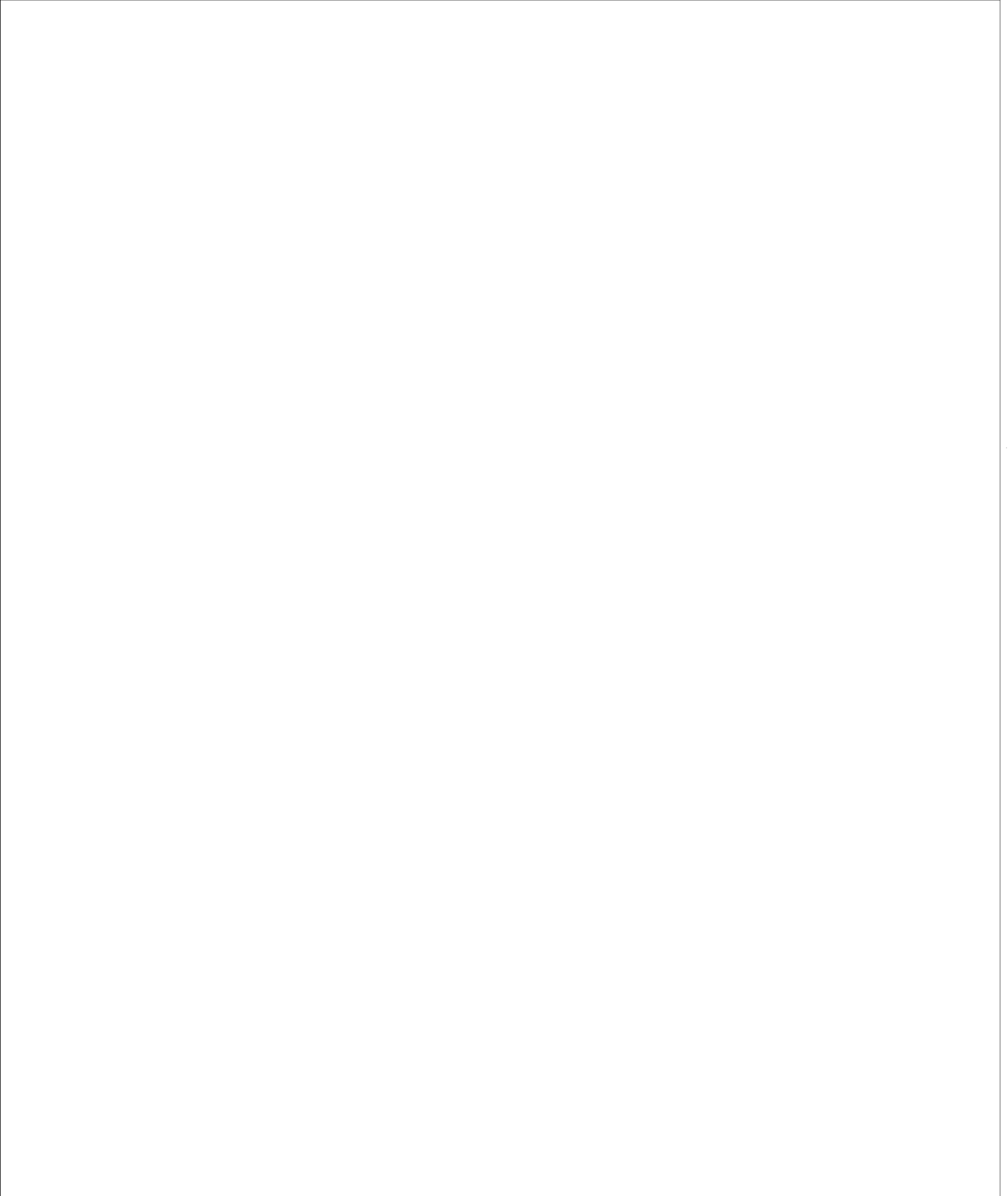
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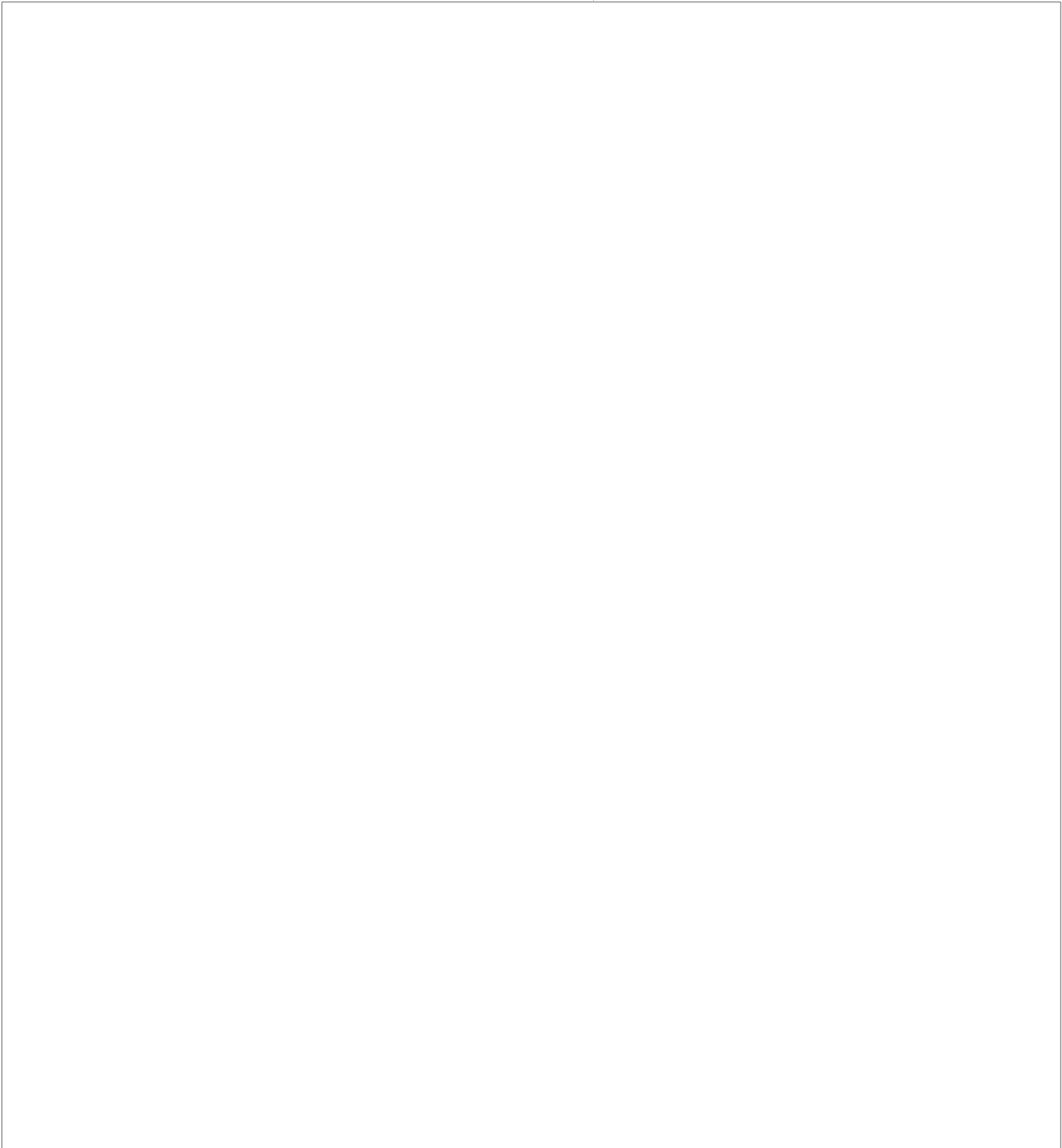


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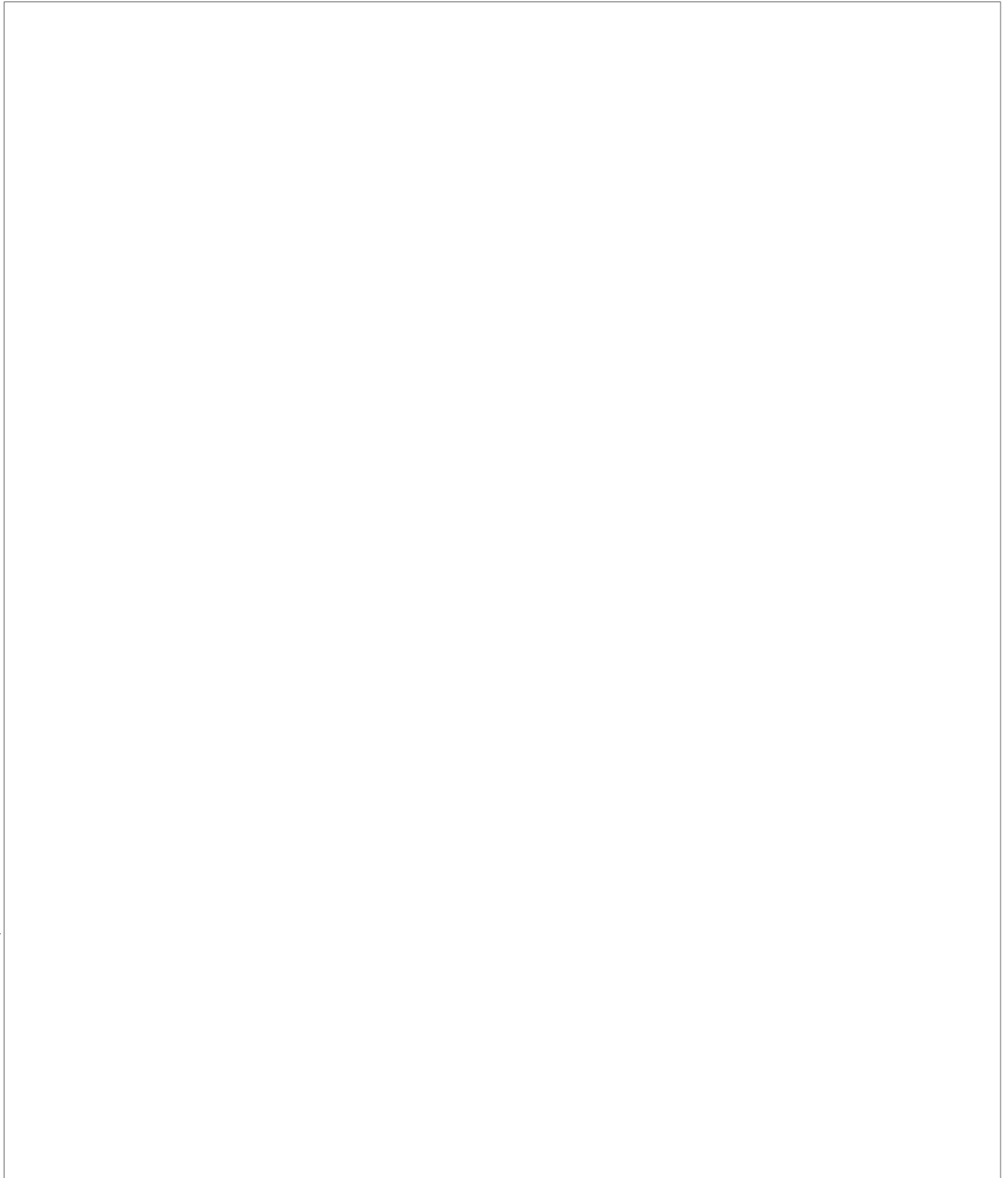


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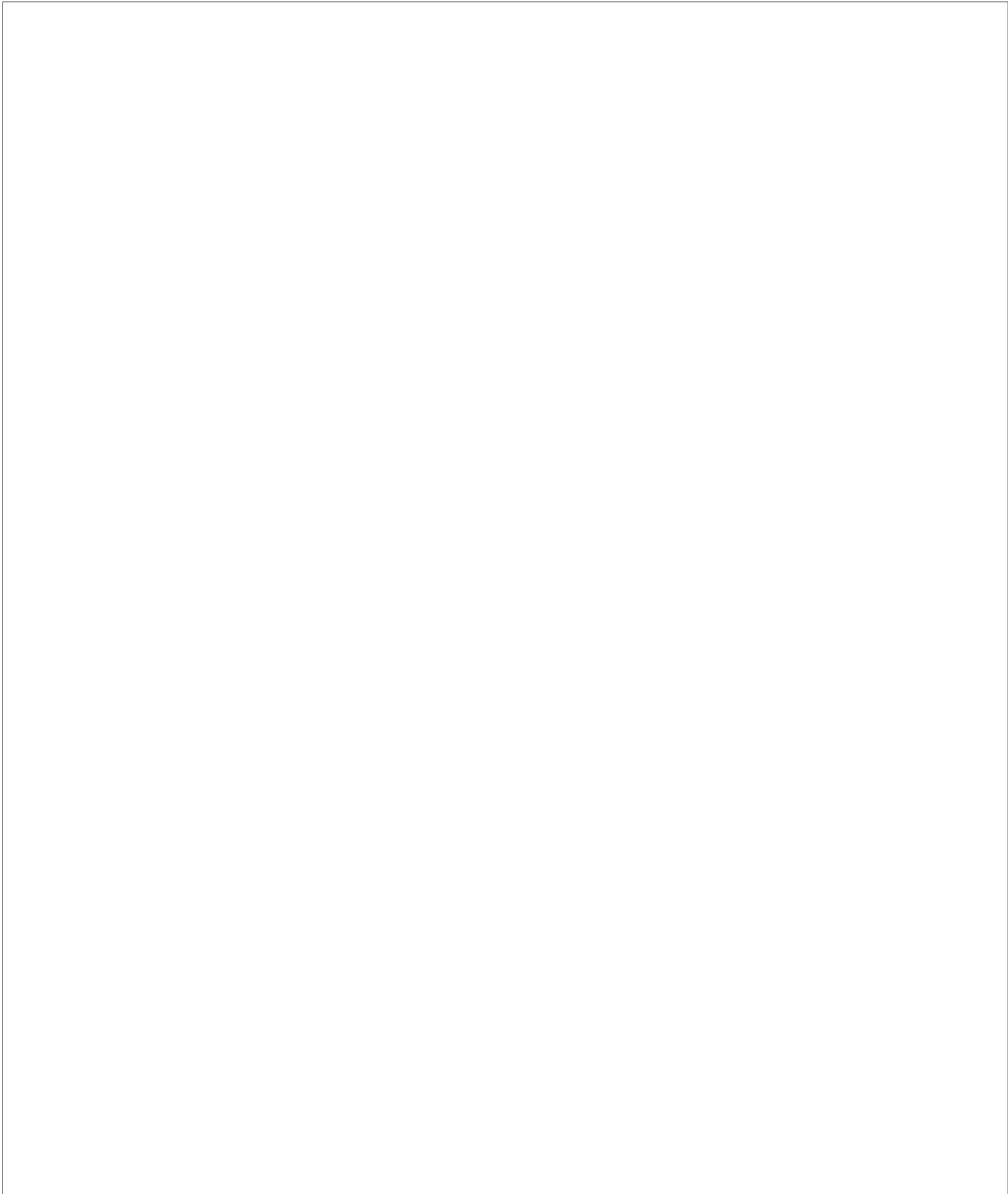


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Highlights

Middle East

Israel

HAMAS and the PIJ Have Few Vulnerabilities To Exploit



The suicide bombings of the Ben Yehuda street pedestrian mall on 4 September underscore, however, that HAMAS remains capable of mounting terrorist attacks

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The Terrorism Diary for October and November

Below is a compendium of October and November 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.

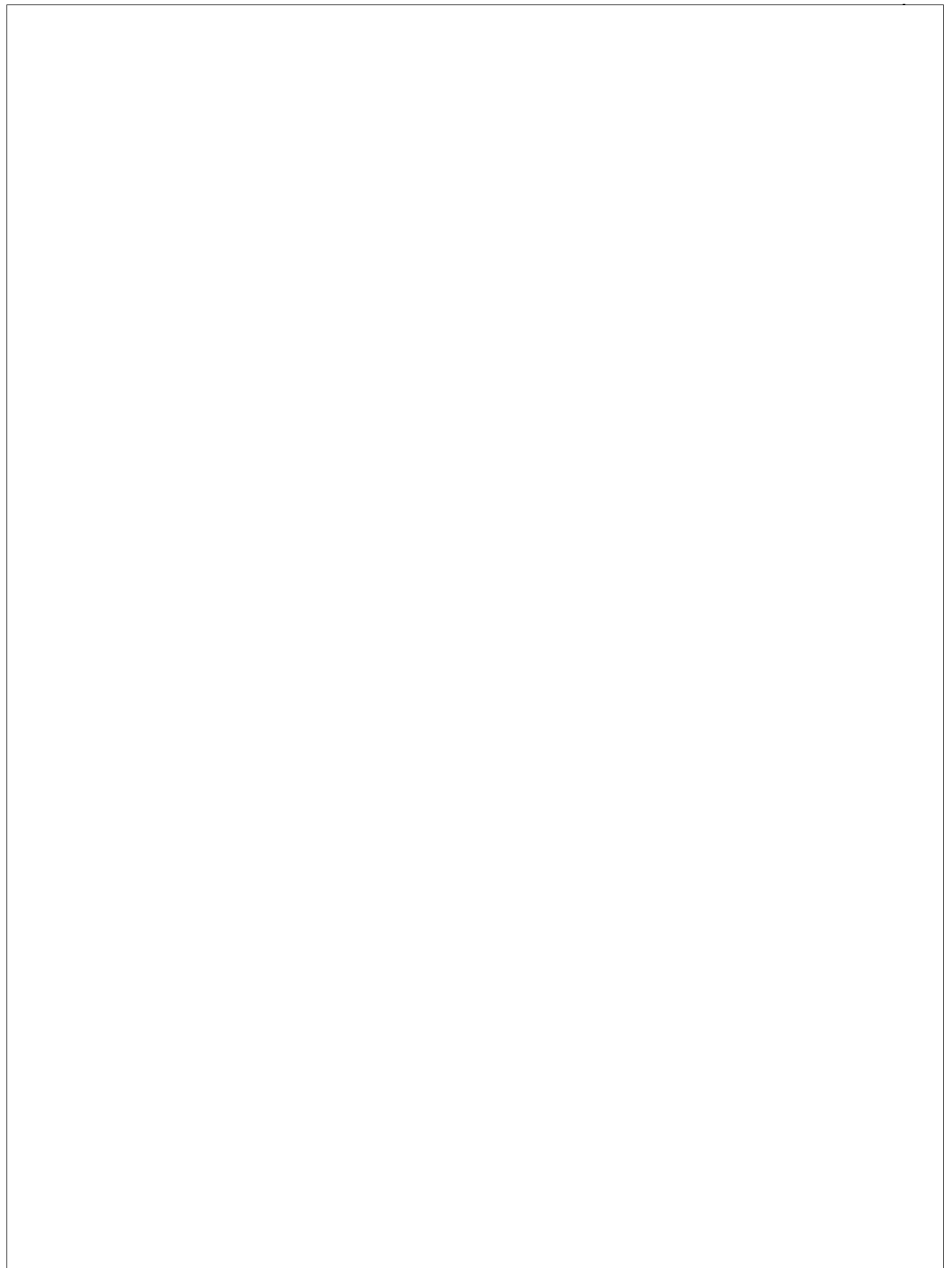
- 1 October 1985** *Tunisia, Israel, Palestinians.* Israeli bombing of PLO headquarters in Tunis.
- 6 October 1973** *Israel, Arab World.* Arab-Israeli war begins.
- 7 October 1930** *Egypt.* Armed Forces Day (commemorates October War with Israel). President Anwar Sadat was assassinated during a military parade on this date in 1981.
- 7 October 1930** *Peru.* Founding of the Communist Party of Peru, out of which the Sendero Luminoso evolved.
- 8 October 1967** *Cuba.* Heroic Guerrilla Day (death of Che Guevara in Bolivia).
- 11 October 1997** *Israel, Jewish World.* Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). Anniversary of 1973 Arab-Israeli war, according to the Hebrew calendar.
- 12 October 1965** *Chile.* Movement of Revolutionary Left (MIR) founded.
- 14 October 1985** *Germany.* Revolutionary Cells bomb economic targets to commemorate 1977 suicides of Andreas Baader and Gudrun Ensslin.
- 21 October 1978** *Japan.* Beginning of construction of Narita airport (usually marked by 10 days of demonstrations).
- 23 October 1983** *Lebanon.* Bombing of the US Marine barracks in Beirut.
- 26 October 1995** *Palestinians.* Assassination of Palestine Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shaqaqi in Malta.
- 28 October** *Cyprus.* Greek National Day (observed by Greek Cypriot community).
- 29 October 1923** *Turkey.* Independence Day (proclamation of republic).
- 29 October 1973** *Cyprus.* Turkish Republic Day (observed by Turkish Cypriot community).
- 31 October 1984** *India.* Assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards, triggering anti-Sikh riots throughout northern India.
- 4 November 1983** *Peru.* Founding of Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) and People's Revolutionary Command (CRP).

- 13 November 1970* *Syria.* Hafiz al-Asad assumes power.
- 13 November 1995* *Saudi Arabia.* Bombing in Riyadh of the Office of Personnel Management/Saudi Arabian National Guard (OPM/SANG).
- 14 November 1935* *Jordan.* King Hussein's birthday.
- 17 November 1973* *Greece.* Student uprising at Athens Polytechnic University (terrorist group Revolutionary Organization 17 November takes its name from this incident).
- 22 November 1943* *Lebanon.* Independence Day.
- 29 November 1945* *Yugoslavia.* Republic Day.
- 29 November 1947* *Palestine.* International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (anniversary of partition).



Chronology of International Terrorism

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



Asia

1 July

Sri Lanka: Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas captured an Indonesian passenger ferry, taking the nine crewmembers hostage and torching the ship. Two Indonesian crewmembers were released, but the fate of the seven Sri Lankan crewmen is unknown.

7 July

Sri Lanka: LTTE guerrillas seized a North Korean merchant ship that was delivering food and other essential items on the Jaffna peninsula. One North Korean crewmember was killed in the attack, and the remaining 37 were later released to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Eurasia

15 July

Bosnia and Herzegovina: An explosive device detonated outside an OSCE official's apartment in Banja Luka, causing minor damage but no injuries. Bosnian Serbs are suspected.

23 July

Bosnia and Herzegovina: A Bosnian Serb threw a handgrenade at a peace-keeping vehicle on a road near Kotor Varos, injuring a Dutch soldier and causing minor damage. The assailant and an accomplice were arrested.

23 July

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Unknown assailants fired an antitank rocket at an IPTF truck in Bratunac, causing major damage but no injuries. Authorities recovered a second rocket that failed to detonate. Bosnian Serbs are probably responsible.

Europe

5 July

Norway: Unidentified assailants threw Molotov cocktails at an Iranian dissident book exhibit in Oslo, causing minor damage. No one claimed responsibility.

8 July

United Kingdom: Armed assailants seized a train when it entered the rail station in Newry, Northern Ireland, and ordered all passengers off before setting it on fire. The train, owned and operated by the Irish Republic's CIE rail company, sustained major damage. The Irish Republican Army (IRA) is suspected. []

Latin America

10 January-30 June

Colombia: Unidentified assailants attacked the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline on 30 separate occasions. The bombings and attempted bombings caused minor damage to the pipeline and occasional brief suspensions of operation. []

27 June

Colombia: Some 60 National Liberation Army (ELN) guerrillas kidnapped three employees of a Brazilian company in San Pablo. Two of the workers were released unharmed on 1 July. The rebels still hold a Spanish engineer and are demanding a ransom of \$9,000 worth of "food for the people" to release the hostage. []

6 July-29 July

Colombia: Suspected ELN guerrillas bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline on five separate occasions. []

9 July

Venezuela: Thirty Colombian rebels attacked a border post in La Charca. Two Venezuelan soldiers were wounded. No group claimed responsibility for the attack. []

12 July

Cuba: Two bombs exploded at two tourist hotels in Havana, injuring three persons and causing minor damage. A Jamaican man was among the wounded. The Cuban Government issued a statement blaming the United States for the attacks. A previously unknown group, the Military Liberation Union, claimed responsibility for the bombings. The group claims to be composed of disenfranchised Cuban soldiers who intend to spark a revolt against Fidel Castro. []

[]

22 July

Colombia: Rebels kidnapped six persons, including a Nicaraguan engineer, and seized their helicopter. The victims were flying to a remote area in Antioquia to work on electrical lines. A previously unknown group, the Guevarist Revolutionary Army, claimed responsibility for the attack and demanded a \$500,000 ransom for the hostages and the helicopter. It claims to have mined the jungle site where the six were taken and to have loaded the helicopter with explosives. []

30 July

Colombia: ELN guerrillas bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline in Norte de Santander, causing a major oil spill. Pumping operations were suspended for over a week, resulting in several million dollars in lost revenue. []

Middle East

6 July

Bahrain: Arsonists set fire to a store in Sitrah, killing one Bangladeshi and injuring another. Shia extremists are suspected.

26 July

Yemen: Unknown assailants kidnapped two Italian tourists and their Yemeni driver near Quhlan. Security forces freed the hostages the next day.

4 September

Israel: Three suicide bombers detonated bombs in the Ben Yehuda shopping mall in Jerusalem, killing nine persons, including themselves, and wounding 165 others. A dual US-Israeli citizen was among the dead, and seven US citizens were wounded. The *'Izz-Al-Din Al-Qassam Brigades*, the military wing of the *Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS)*, claimed responsibility for the attack.

Summary of Indigenous Terrorism— August 1997 []

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

Africa

Ethiopia

On 8 August a grenade exploded in a building in Harer that houses a post office and a radio station, wounding two persons and shattering windows. No one claimed responsibility. []

Asia

India

On 7 August in Maharashtra, suspected *People's War Group (PWG)* guerrillas detonated a landmine under a police van, killing five policemen. []

Suspected *PWG* guerrillas exploded a landmine under a jeep in Andhra Pradesh on 8 August, killing seven policemen and injuring two others. []

Suspected *United Liberation Front of Assam* militants detonated a bomb on a railroad track on 14 August near Silanibari, Assam, killing seven persons, injuring eight others, and derailing a passenger car. []

Philippines

On 16 August, suspected members of the *Abu Sayyaf Group* detonated one bomb in a bus terminal and another in a department store in Cagayan de Oro, Mindanao, killing three persons and injuring 16 others. []

Europe

Greece

On 19 August a bomb exploded at the Athens office of a member of Parliament who once served as the minister of public order, causing major damage but no injuries. The *Revolutionary Nuclei* claimed responsibility. []

Spain

Authorities defused an explosive device left beside the Valencia-Barcelona railway line between Torreblanca and Peníscola on 9 August. The *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* claimed responsibility in a series of warning calls to a local Basque newspaper. []

Unknown assailants threw several Molotov cocktails at three banks in Guernica on 15 August, injuring two bystanders and causing extensive damage. The perpetrators also broke windows and furniture at two outdoor cafes as they moved from one bank to the other. Authorities suspect youth members or sympathizers of *ETA*. []

On 23 August police experts in Bilbao deactivated two antitank grenades left in their launcher tubes in an area facing the office of the military governor of Vizcaya. *ETA* claimed responsibility. []



Turkey

Unidentified gunmen forced their way into a construction company compound in Siirt on 9 August, kidnapping six truck drivers and destroying their vehicles. *The Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)* is suspected. [redacted]

Suspected *PKK* militants launched a rocket at a minibus in Van on 11 August, killing three persons. [redacted]

Gunmen attacked a hydro-electric power plant in Hakkari on 12 August, killing one guard and wounding another. The *PKK* is suspected. [redacted]

The same day, suspected *PKK* gunmen attacked the police barracks in Ergani, injuring two policemen. [redacted]

United Kingdom

On 6 August in Craigavon, Northern Ireland, masked assailants smashed a side window of a taxi and threatened the Catholic driver with a gun. The victim managed to speed away from the scene, narrowly escaping a Molotov cocktail thrown in his direction. Authorities suspect militant members of the *Loyalist Volunteer Force (LVF)*. [redacted]

Several gunmen strafed the home of a retired prison guard in Armagh on 13 August, causing minor damage but no injuries. On the same day, unidentified assailants threw Molotov cocktails at the homes of two prison guards in Craigavon and Dungannon, causing minor damage but no injuries. [redacted] the *LVF* staged the attacks to force authorities to improve prison conditions for *LVF* inmates at Maze prison. [redacted]

On 27 August an unidentified gunman opened fire on the Belfast home of a former member of the *Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF)*, causing minor damage but no injuries. Authorities suspect that the *UFF* or the *Ulster Volunteer Force* targeted him for his outspoken public support of the rival *LVF*. [redacted]

Latin America

Colombia

Two gunmen opened fire on a liberal party senator in Cucuta on 8 August, killing him and one of his bodyguards. On 19 August the *National Liberation Army (ELN)* claimed responsibility for the senator's murder. The group had recently stated that it considers a number of ruling party politicians "military targets." [redacted]

On 15 August, *Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)* guerrillas shot and killed a mayoral candidate in San Carlos municipality. [redacted]

In Simiti, *ELN* guerrillas kidnapped 10 local politicians on 16 August and released them four days later. The politicians reported that the guerrillas had ordered them to cease their political activities. The *ELN* has stated that it will not allow elections in the municipalities of Simiti, San Pablo, and Cantagallo in Bolivar Department. [redacted]

Middle East

Algeria

On 3 August Islamic extremists set up a fake roadblock in Hammam Melouane and shot eight bus passengers to death. The *Armed Islamic Group (GIA)* may be responsible. [redacted]

Militants attacked the village of Souhane on 20 August, killing 63 villagers and kidnapping 12 girls. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted]

On 22 August an armed group attacked a village in Djelfa, killing 30 persons, wounding 10, and kidnapping six girls. Authorities believe the *GIA* is responsible. [redacted]

A parcel bomb exploded in a market in Algiers on 25 August, killing four persons and injuring 49 others. No one claimed responsibility for the attack, but authorities suspect the *GIA*. [redacted]

Egypt

On 19 August, *al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya* gunmen opened fire on two police cars in Manfalut, Asyut, killing four police officers and a civilian and wounding five police officers and two civilians. [redacted]