United States Department of State
Bureau of Diplomatic Security

Significant Incidents of Political Violence Against Americans

10th Anniversary Issue

1997

This publication was prepared by the
Office of Intelligence and Threat Analysis,
Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS/DSS/ITA).

Comments and queries are welcomed
and may be directed to the
Office Director of DS/DSS/ITA
on 202-663-0786.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE PUBLICATION 10567
Bureau of Diplomatic Security
Released November 1998

Internet Address: http://www.state.gov

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Acknowledgments

The success this publication has achieved over the past 10 years is the result of a collaborative effort by various offices within the U.S. Department of State, the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, and other U.S. Government Agencies.

Within the Department of State, special thanks are extended to the Graphics Section of the Department of State's Multimedia Services, which is responsible for most of the original art work in the publication; the Office of Protective Intelligence Investigations (DS/DSS/PII); and to Regional Security Offices (RSOs) at embassies worldwide who provided necessary information and photographs on a timely basis.

Outside the Department, the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and the U.S. Air Force's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) deserve recognition for their support to the Office of Intelligence and Threat Analysis.

Andrew Corsun
Editor

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Introduction

1992

Significant Incidents of Political Violence Against Americans: 1997, published by the Bureau of Diplomatic Security's Office of Intelligence and Threat Analysis (DS/DSS/ITA), is intended to provide a comprehensive picture of the broad spectrum of political violence that American citizens and interests have encountered abroad during 1997. In addition to examining terrorism-related acts, this study also includes other instances of violence affecting Americans. This chronology is designed to encompass major anti-U.S. incidents that occurred in 1997. Unfortunately, to keep the publication at the unclassified level, some incidents had to be omitted due to the sensitive nature of the information associated with them.

The selection of incidents used in this study was based upon the following criteria: lethality, substantial property damage, use of unusual tactics or weapons, and perceptibility of targets as U.S. or representative of U.S. interests.

The policy of the U.S. Government is that no double standard will exist regarding the dissemination of threat information that may affect U.S. citizens. U.S. Government employees may not benefit from possession of information that may apply equally to the American public, but is not available to them. The U.S. Government maintains information on threats to Americans overseas—from terrorism, crime, or health hazards—and makes this information available to all those affected.

1994

Significant Incidents of Political Violence Against Americans was inaugurated in 1987. The publication was designed to provide the readership with a comprehensive picture of the broad spectrum of political violence that American citizens and interests have encountered abroad on an annual basis. Unlike its predecessor, *Lethal Attacks Against Americans:* 1973–1986, which focused only on recorded terrorists related deaths, assassinations, and the attempted assassinations of Americans, this publication includes non-lethal bombings, attempted bombings, and violent demonstrations. There is also a section devoted to the status of Americans being held hostage.

1993

Areas of Anti-U.S. Incidents in 1997

Of the 135 incidents that involved U.S. citizens and interests, 127 specifically targeted Americans.

INTER-AMERICA

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

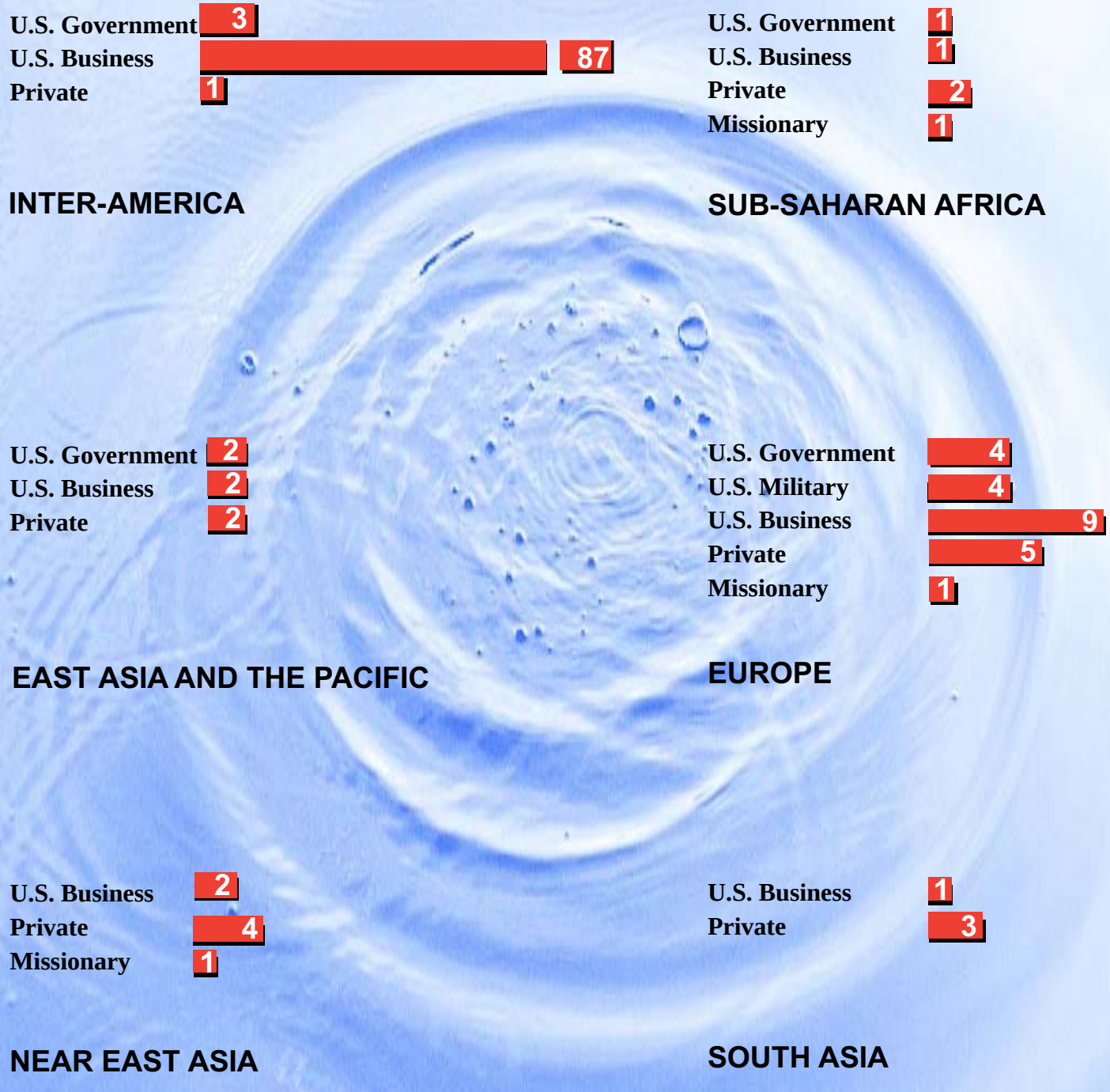
EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

EUROPE

NEAR EAST ASIA

SOUTH ASIA

Targets of Anti-U.S. Incidents by Region in 1997



Americans Killed in Terrorist/Politically Motivated Violence in 1997

Inter-America (ARA)

The dead body of a kidnaped American geologist was recovered by the Colombian military near the town of San Juan del Cesar. The American geologist had been kidnaped by gunmen on December 10, 1996.

Near East (NEA)

An Israeli-American dual citizen was killed in a suicide bombing in Jerusalem on July 30, 1997.

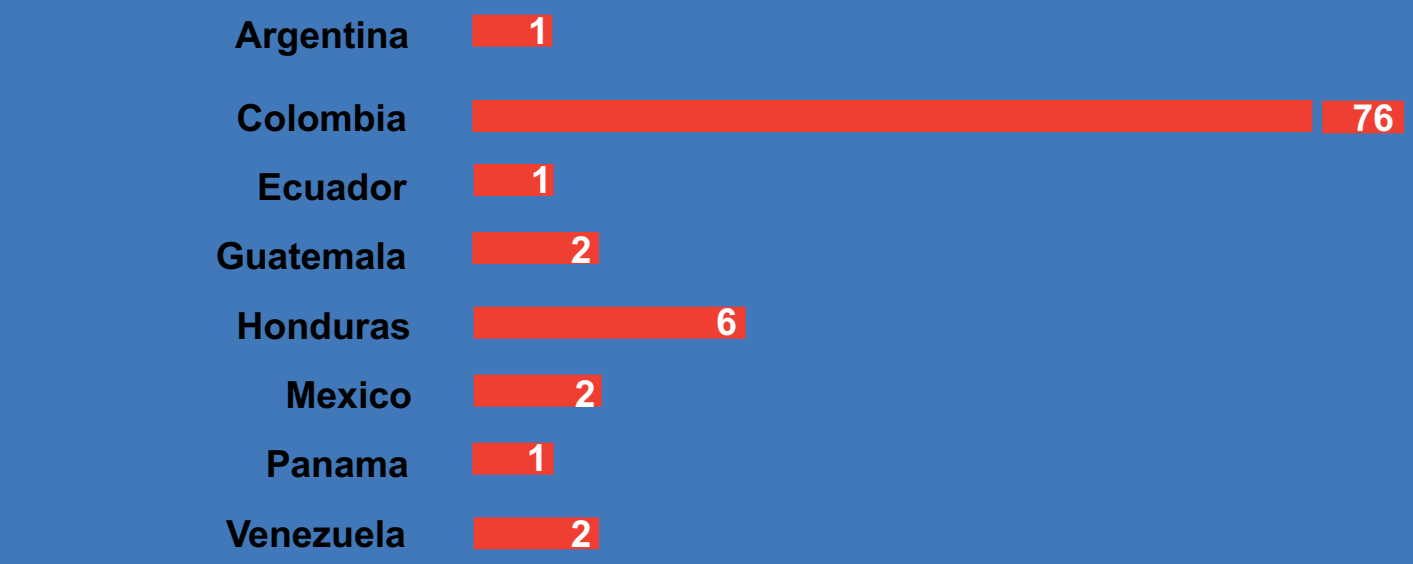
One American citizen was killed in a suicide bombing in Jerusalem on September 4, 1997.

South Asia (SA)

Four American businessmen were shot and killed in Karachi, Pakistan, on November 12, 1997.

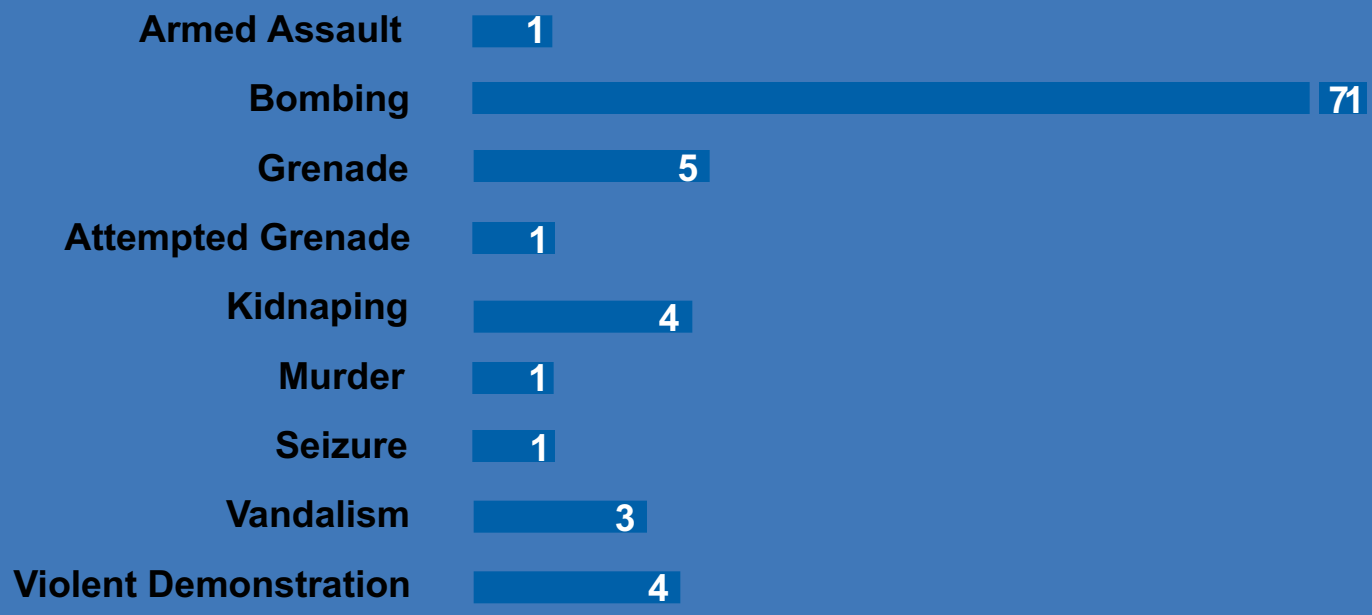
Inter-America

Areas of Anti-American Incidents



Targets of Attack

Types of Attack



“From 1986 to 1997 there have been 78,925,110 barrels of oil spilled in pipe-line attacks in Colombia. Damage and lost revenue is estimated at $1.5 billion.”

January 1, 1997–December 31, 1997•Colombia
Over the course of 1997, Marxist guerrillas belonging to the National Liberation Army (ELN) and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) carried out 64 bombings of the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, bringing the total number of attacks to 506 since 1986. Many of these attacks caused breaks in the pipeline structure, resulting in serious oil spills and the halting of production. The Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline is a multinational venture between Ecopetrol of Colombia, U.S. Occidental Petroleum, and other foreign oil firms. Guerrilla forces are vehemently opposed to multinational involvement in Colombia’s oil industry, charging that foreign interests are violating the country’s sovereignty and exploiting its natural resources.

January 10, 1997•Barrancabermeja, Colombia
Alleged ELN guerrillas bombed a section of the Barrancabermeja pipeline, causing minor damage. This pipeline is co-owned by the U.S. Texaco Oil Company.

February 11, 1997•San Pedro Sula, Honduras
Five U.S.-franchised, Honduran-owned restaurants in San Pedro Sula were attacked between the hour of 7 p.m.–8 p.m. Branches of McDonalds, Pizza Hut, T.G.I. Friday's, Burger King, and Wendy's were each hit by rifle-launched, 40-millimeter grenades. No injuries were reported and the blasts caused only minor damage to the restaurants and to cars parked outside. A sixth grenade, which did not explode, was found outside the McDonald's restaurant. No group claimed responsibility for the attacks.

February 14, 1997•Apure, Venezuela
An American engineer was kidnaped from a fishing camp in Apure (near the Venezuela-Colombia border) by rebels belonging to the FARC. He was released unharmed by his captors on November 23, 1997, near Puerto Ayacucho, Venezuela.

February 15, 1997•Shimi, Ecuador
An American geologist was kidnaped in Shimi, a remote region of Pastaza Province while conducting environmental research. He was released unharmed on February 23, 1997, following an agreement reached between his Achuar Indian captors and his employing firm.

February 23,1997•San Juan del Cesar, Colombia
The dead body of a kidnaped American geologist was recovered by the Colombian military near the town of San Juan del Cesar. He appeared to have been shot in the head 5 or 6 days before his body was discovered. The American geologist had been kidnaped by gunmen on December 10, 1996, from a coal mining site near the town of Hato Nuevo, in northern Guajira Department. Police suspect his abductors were rebels belonging to the FARC.

February 24,1997•Bolivar Department, Colombia
An American geologist and mining consultant, was kidnaped by ELN guerrillas. The geologist was released unharmed on September 18, 1998.

March 7, 1997•Payan Magui, Colombia
An American gold mine manager and a Colombian colleague were kidnaped by FARC guerrillas in Payan Magui, Narino Department, located approximately 30 miles from the Ecuadoran border. The U.S. citizen was released unharmed in Narino Department on November 16, 1997.

March 17, 1997•Barrancabermeja, Colombia
Alleged Colombian guerrillas bombed a section of the Barrancabermeja pipeline, leaving the turbospandex plant out of service. This pipeline is co-owned by the U.S. Texaco Oil Company.

April 9, 1997•La Guajira Department, Colombia
A dynamite attack on a stretch of track linking Cerrejon Norte with Puerto Bolivar damaged more than 1,640 feet of track and caused the derailment of 27 railway cars filled with 270 metric tons of coal. The attack, which also caused the spillage of 3,700 gallons of diesel fuel, was blamed on the ELN. Intercor, the mining enterprise jointly run by Exxon and the Colombian Carbocol firm, suffered an estimated $3–$5 million in losses as a result of this attack.

April 10, 1997•Mexico City, Mexico
The U.S. Embassy was the focal point for an anti-American demonstration involving 650 members of the El Barzon Popular Front. The protesters burned the U.S. flag and an effigy of Uncle Sam. They also threw eggs, fruit, vegetables, and rocks at the U.S. Embassy, damaging a first floor office window.

April 23, 1997•Colombia
Unidentified guerrillas destroyed equipment belonging to the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, which is co-owned by U.S. Occidental Petroleum.

May 5, 1997•Mexico City, Mexico
About 700 people demonstrated near the U.S. Embassy in protest of President Clinton's visit to the capital. After the demonstration, several participants tried to break the barrier of police at the main entrance of the U.S. Embassy, injuring three policewomen.

June 17, 1997•Colombia
Unidentified rebels attacked pipeline equipment belonging to the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, which is co-owned by U.S. Occidental Petroleum.

June 25, 1997•Guatemala City, Guatemala
A U.S. citizen employed with a Mayan human rights organization was shot in the leg while waiting for a bus. According to official sources, the Mayan organization considers this shooting to be politically motivated.

July 11, 1997•Northern Guatemala Jungle, Guatemala
Some 700 former members of the now-defunct Civil Defense Patrols temporarily took over an oil refinery in the northern Guatemala jungle and threatened to burn it down if the government did not agree to pay them $10,000 each for wartime service. This was their second attack in 2 weeks against Basic, Guatemala's only oil producer and refiner. Basic is owned by investors from the U.S., France, and Canada.

August 13, 1997• Panama City, Panama
Close to 40 people, including members of the FER-29, demonstrated in front of the U.S. Embassy to protest against the proposed multilateral counternarcotics center at Howard Air Force Base. Police arrested 15 demonstrators and allegedly fired rubber bullets into the crowd after balloons/ bags of paint were thrown over the Embassy fence. One protester was injured.

September 15, 1997•Caracas, Venezuela
A pipebomb exploded in the lobby of the Caracas Hilton at approximately 3:45 p.m., causing minor property damage to lobby furnishings and no injuries. Police recovered pamphlets at the scene signed by a previously unknown group calling itself the Che Guevara Front.

"Clinton go home!"

—Anti-U.S. graffiti.
See October 16, 1997.

FARC–EP

September 15, 1997•La Guajira Department, Colombia
A dynamite attack on a stretch of rail line linking Cerrejon Norte with Puerto Bolivar damaged more than 980 feet of track and caused the derailment of 26 railway cars filled with 270 metric tons of coal. Media accounts attributed the attack to the 59th Front of the FARC. Intercor, the mining enterprise jointly run by Exxon and the Colombian Carbocol firm, suffered an estimated $3 million in losses as a result of this attack.

September 20, 1997•Magdalena Province, Colombia
ELN rebels derailed seven railway cars laden with coal when they blew up 230 feet of train track in Magdalena Province. The train was on its way from a mine operated by the U.S. Drummond Corporation to the Caribbean port of Santa Marta when the attack occurred.

September 28, 1997•La Guajira Department, Colombia
Suspected ELN guerrillas dynamited a stretch of rail line linking Cerrejon Norte with Puerto Bolivar, causing the derailment of 18 railway cars filled with 20 metric tons of coal from a mine that is operated under concession by Intercor, a subsidiary of Exxon.

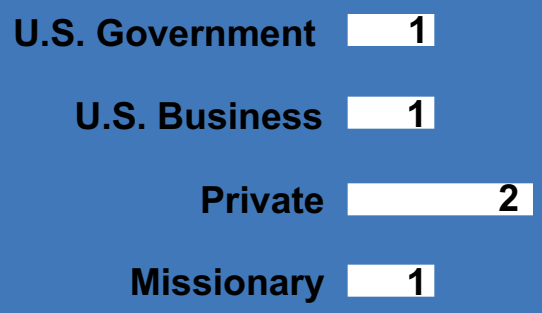
October 16, 1997•Buenos Aires, Argentina
During an anti-U.S. rally held by some 5,000 people, a few dozen masked youths began throwing molotov cocktails, spraying graffiti on buildings and destroying banks and store windows. Members of Quebracho and Free Fatherland Movement destroyed four blocks of store windows. The rioters apparently selected their targets, setting the Banelco ATM on fire and attacking Banco Robers, Citibank, and Lloyds Bank. They also sprayed pro-Quebracho graffiti and “Clinton go home!” on foreign banks and set U.S. flags on fire. Police used teargas and water cannons to disperse the rock-throwing protesters. Several people were injured and numerous others were arrested.

December 30, 1997•Cali, Colombia
A bomb was detonated at the front door of a McDonald’s restaurant, causing minor damage. The bomb exploded at 6 a.m. when the restaurant was still closed and caused damage to the counters and windows of the restaurant and showcases of adjacent shops. No group has claimed responsibility.

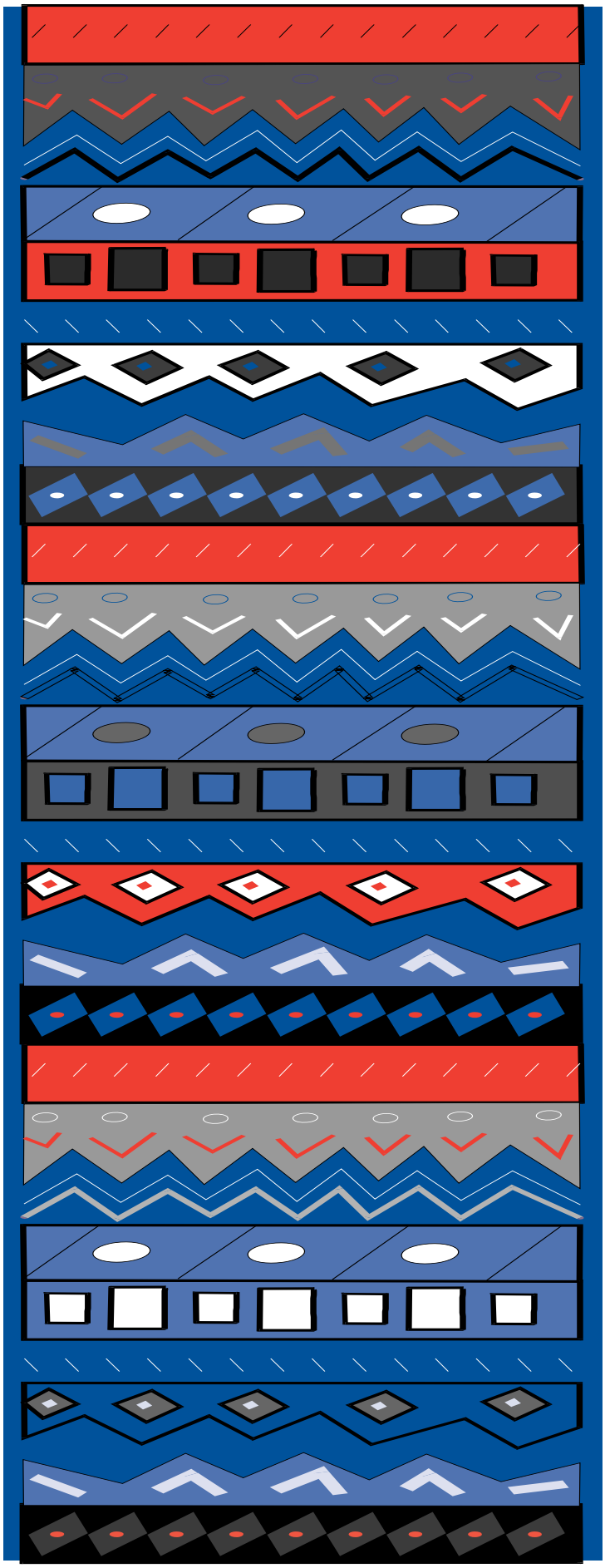
Sub-Saharan Africa

Areas of Anti-American Incidents

Target of Attack



Types of Attack



January 5, 1997•Blue Nile River Gorge, Ethiopia
A group of U.S. diplomats and their families were detained illegally by National Defense soldiers because they were taking pictures of the Blue Nile River from a bridge. The soldiers proceeded to illegally search the diplomats' vehicle, confiscate personal property, and physically and verbally abuse the Americans in violation of international diplomatic conventions. Eventually all the Americans were released unharmed.

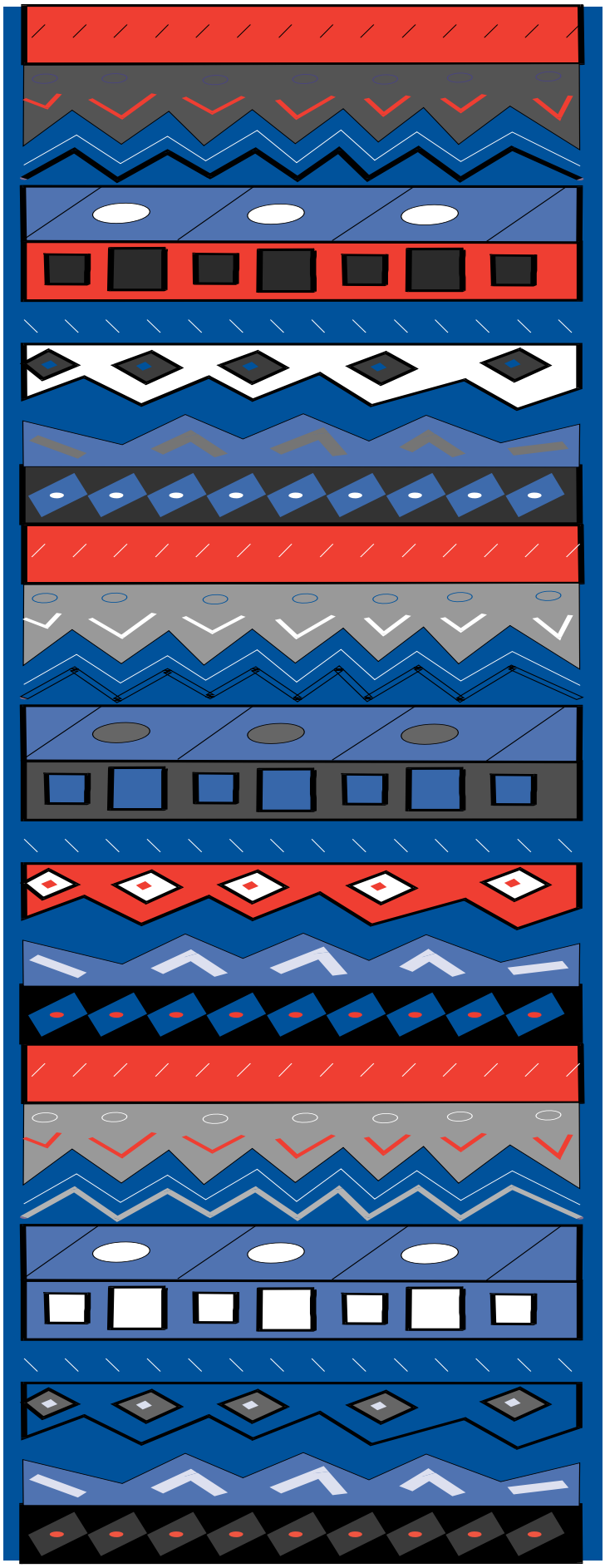
January 19, 1997•Ruhengeri, Rwanda
An American relief worker heard gunfire outside the house he shared with three Spanish colleagues of the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) "Doctors of the World" at around 7:20 p.m., which prompted him to seek sanctuary in a back bedroom. Four gunmen broke into the house shortly afterwards. They were dressed in khaki uniforms and wearing military boots. They asked for passports and valuables and looked around for a brief period before leaving, only to return a few minutes later and to shoot the occupants. All the Spanish doctors died immediately. The American was shot in both legs but survived. The attackers fled immediately after the shooting. The American, with the help of a local employee, made his way to a hospital where his left leg was amputated above the knee. Rwandan military officials blamed Hutu Interahamwe militiamen for the attack.

March 5, 1997•Ikeja, Zaire
Five Western relief workers, including one American missionary, were held by local gendarmes for 4 days. The missionary and four NGO workers, who represented Atlas, Merlin, and Frodesa, were eventually released when the Zairian military sent a plane to ensure their release and brought them back to Kinshasha. The five were stopped on the edge of a war zone when they were captured.

July 25, 1997•Belet Weyn, Somalia
An American contract worker with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) was kidnaped after renting a vehicle in Belet Weyn, 260 kilometers from the capital Mogadishu. As the American and his kidnapers were driving on a one-lane road, three trucks were approaching in the opposite direction. The vehicle pulled off the road to let the trucks pass. As the first truck passed by,

the American jumped out of the vehicle and escaped by running into the bush. After a 30-hour ordeal in the Somali bush, the American came across a camel herder who took him to a village and from there he made his way to Belet Weyn.

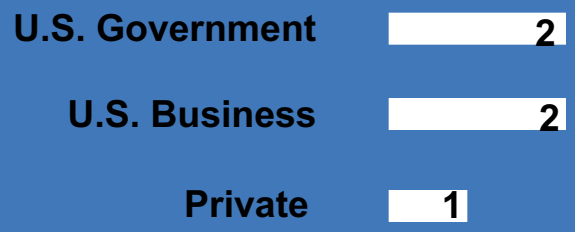
October 8, 1997•Agadez, Niger
At approximately 1:30 p.m., a Hunt Oil supply convoy of trucks and other vehicles was attacked 190 kilometers east of Agadez. The convoy was en route to Bilma and onward to the Hunt Oil facility in Mangueni Plateau. One Nigerian soldier guarding the convoy was killed. Four drivers were taken hostage by the gunmen but later released. The attack was carried out by an undetermined number of Tuareg rebels who allegedly belong to Mohamed Anako's UFRA movement. The rebels stole some of the construction equipment in the convoy and destroyed other pieces.



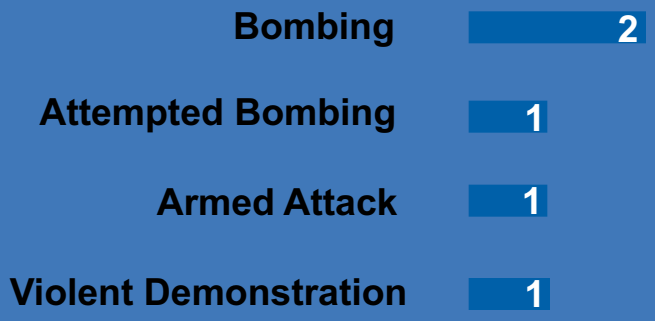
East Asia and the Pacific

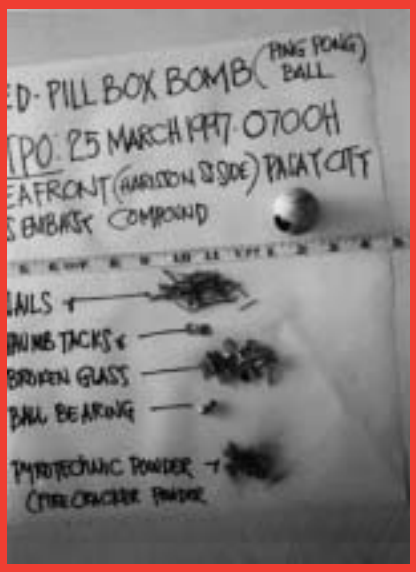
Areas of Anti-American Incidents

Targets of Attack



Types of Attack





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March 25, 1997•Manila, Philippines
At approximately 7 a.m., an object appearing to be an improvised explosive device was discovered on the grounds of the U.S. Embassy's Seafront Compound. The device consisted of a ping pong ball filled with metal fragments and what appeared to be gunpowder. Tape wrapped around the ping pong ball covered the hole used to fill the ping pong ball. Although the actual explosiveness of the device could not be determined, it was believed to be a "pill box bomb," a popular device used by demonstrators during the era of Ferdinand Marcos. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

March 30, 1997•Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Unknown assailants detonated three grenades during a Khmer Nation Party (KNP) protest rally at the National Assembly at around 8:30 a.m. The explosions killed 19 people and injured over 100, 25 seriously. There was no claim of responsibility. Although one of his bodyguards was killed, KNP President Sam Rainsy suffered only light shrapnel wounds. Seven journalists and one American, a director of a private voluntary organization, were also wounded. The American sustained shrapnel wounds in his leg but was expected to recover.

4.1.97

One of the exploded molotov cocktails that were thrown over the wall of the U.S. Embassy's Seafront Compound. No one was hurt in the attack.

April 1, 1997•Manila, Philippines
At approximately 2 p.m., two molotov cocktails were thrown over the wall of the U.S. Embassy's Seafront Compound. The improvised explosive devices caused a grass fire that was quickly extinguished. One witness outside the compound said he noticed that something was thrown into the compound by an unidentified passenger of a white taxi that was headed north. There was no claim of responsibility for the attack.

May 14, 1997•Philippines
A vehicle belonging to Hydro Resources, a subcontractor of Bechtel Earthworks, carrying four employees and two Philippine National Police (PNP) officers to the Bechtel/Ogden Quezon power plant, was attacked at approximately 7 a.m. The attack took place approximately halfway between Mauban City and the facility, a distance of 10 kilometers. As the vehicle approached a bridge, a group of 10–30 armed men stopped the vehicle by blocking the road and opened fire with .223 caliber weapons (armalite or M–16s) and possibly grenades. Two Filipino employees were killed and four others were wounded. Quezon Power had received letters demanding "revolutionary taxes" from groups claiming to represent the Communist New People's Army (NPA), but the perpetrators of the attack and the motive for it remained uncertain.

8.14.97

Arrow points to where bomb exploded.

Damage to a car in the parking garage of the IBM building.

August 14, 1997•Bangkok, Thailand
A bomb exploded in the parking garage of the IBM building, seriously injuring two persons, one of whom was a security guard who later died of his wounds. The explosion, which occurred at approximately 3:20 p.m., shattered windows from the first to the fourth floor of the building and damaged five cars. The motive for the attack could not be determined.

Europe

Areas of Anti-American Incidents

Targets of Attack

Types of Attack

January 1, 1997•Athens, Greece
A Wackenhut guard vehicle was set on fire and destroyed. The car was parked at the Wackenhut guard's residence at the time of the attack. No one was injured, and no group claimed responsibility.

January 10, 1997•Istanbul, Turkey
Police defused an improvised explosive device found 5 meters from the McDonald's restaurant in the district of Aksaray.

February 3, 1997•Paris, France
At approximately 4:10 a.m., a small explosive device detonated at the front door of the American dormitory at the Cite Universitaire of Paris. No one was hurt in the attack and damage was limited to the front door and some broken windows. Of the 270 rooms in the dormitory, American students comprise 40 percent of the occupants. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack.

February 25, 1997•Edinburgh, United Kingdom
At approximately 1:30 a.m., a liquid police believe to be lighter fluid was poured through the mail slot in the front door of the U.S. Consulate and set alight. There was minor damage, and no one was hurt. This event comes on the heels of an incident on February 19, 1997, when an unknown individual broke two windows in the front of the Consulate. No group has claimed responsibility for the attacks, but in November 1996, a group called the Scots Against Sanctions claimed credit for injecting glue into the Consulate's front door, rendering it inoperable. The group was protesting against American-inspired sanctions against Iraq.

March 7, 1997•Angers, France
A powerful bomb was found and defused at a Church of Scientology in this western French town. The bomb was concealed in a sports bag and placed in the entry hall, shortly after the church opened. A church member found the bomb, carried it to a nearby park and defused it himself. There was no claim of responsibility for the attack.

April 12, 1997•Lisburn, England
Unidentified individuals set fire to a Mormon church. No one was injured in the attack. There was no claim of responsibility.

April 20, 1997•Regensburg, Germany
Between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m., an explosive device placed in a trash can exploded in the parking lot of a McDonald's restaurant. No one was injured in the attack and damage was minor. No one claimed responsibility for the attack, however, April 20th, is Adolph Hitler's birthday.

May 8, 1997•Tirana, Albania
A bomb exploded inside the perimeter wall of the U.S.-based Soros Foundation. No one was injured, but a car parked nearby was destroyed, and a restaurant across the street from the foundation sustained minor damage. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

May 12, 1997•Izmir, Turkey
A molotov cocktail was thrown at the American Girls School, which offers "Western-style" education to a largely Turkish student body. No one was hurt in the attack. Four members of the illegal Turkish group, Islamic Great East Raiders Front (IBDA-C) were arrested in connection with the attack. The members were protesting the mandatory 8-year education system being implemented in Turkey.

May 29, 1997•Saint-Jean-De-Luz, France
At 1:30 a.m. a bomb exploded outside the front entrance of a McDonald's restaurant in this French Basque seaside town. There was material damage, but no one was hurt in the attack. On June 2, 1997, the French Basque group Iparretarrak claimed responsibility for the attack in a communiqué sent to Agence France Presse in Bayonne, France. The communiqué read in part, "If Michele Alliot-Marie (recently reelected as deputy in the Pyrenees-Atlantiques) thinks that a McDonald's is an example of economic development, then her skill in solving the unemployment problem is nonexistent."

June 29, 1997•Pisa, Italy
At 9:30 p.m. a small pipe bomb exploded inside Camp Darby, the U.S. military camp located near Pisa. The bomb was placed in a paper basket located in the mail room. Damage was minimal and no one was injured. The incident occurred at the end of a 9-day annual event, the "Carnival Q 97," in which the camp is open to hundreds of civilian visitors.

July 18, 1997•Doboj, Republika Srpska
A U.S. soldier was slightly injured by flying glass after a bomb was thrown at a car parked outside offices used by NATO military observers in this Serb-controlled town.

July 24, 1997•Bratunac, Republika Srpska
At approximately 1 a.m. an M–80 RPG round was fired at an International Police Training Force (IPTK) vehicle parked outside the home of a U.S. IPTK monitor. The round penetrated the hood of the car and became lodged in the engine, but did not explode.

July 25, 1997•Vlasenica, Republika Srpska
At approximately 4:10 a.m., a molotov cocktail was thrown at a car used by a U.S. military observer. The car was parked in front of the American's house at the time of the attack. No one was hurt, and no one has claimed responsibility.

August 28, 1997•Brcko, Republika Srpska
American soldiers under the NATO-led Stabilization Force (SFOR) command came under attack from a crowd of angry Bosnia Serbs. The Bosnian Serbs, who were armed with stones, were trying to prevent SFOR from ousting Bosnian Serb policemen loyal to Serb leader Radovan Karadzic from a local police station. Two American soldiers were hurt in the incident.

September 24, 1997•Belgrade, Serbia-Montenegro
At approximately 2 a.m., a bomb destroyed a second-floor women's bathroom at a McDonald's restaurant. The restaurant was closed at the time. There were no reported injuries.

September 26, 1997•Istanbul, Turkey
Two pipe bombs exploded outside of a General Electric appliance outlet. There were no injuries or property damage. A flag from a group called the Turkish Communist Workers Party/Leninists (TKEP/L) was found at the scene.

October 5, 1997•Istanbul, Turkey
At approximately 8:30 p.m., police found an incendiary device located against the wall of the U.S. Consulate. The device consisted of two 1-liter bottles filled with gasoline. The fuse was inserted and lit at the time of recovery. Flyers and a flag were left with the device. The flag had the initials TKEP/L (Turkish Communist Workers Party/Leninist). Written on the flyers in Spanish and Turkish was: "Revolution Forever-Che," and "Che-Revolutions are coming."

November 27, 1997•Katowice, Poland
At approximately 4:30 a.m., an unidentified individual threw a firebomb through the window of an office used once a week by the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service (FCS). There was extensive damage, but no one was hurt in the attack. The police stated that the attack was a deliberate act, but did not know if it was directed at the United States.

December 8, 1997•Athens, Greece
During the early morning hours, a branch of an American Express office was the target of an attempted bombing. At approximately 11:30 p.m., an unidentified caller telephoned, the Greek newspapers *Eleftherotipia* and *Exousia*, to warn that a bomb would detonate at the American Express office in 1 hour. The police responded and deactivated the device. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.

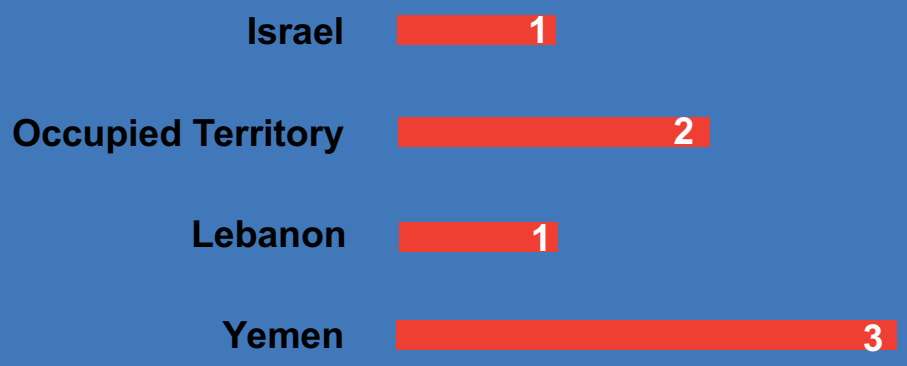
December 10, 1997•Mersin, Turkey
A bomb was found inside an empty gas canister as it was being unloaded from a truck near the Atas Oil refinery. Atas refinery is a joint venture of Mobil Oil, British Petroleum, and Royal Dutch/Shell Oil. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

December 28, 1997•Rijeka, Croatia
Police defused a bomb found near the kitchen of a McDonald's restaurant. Police received a phone call warning them about the device, which allowed them to evacuate the restaurant and safely deactivate the bomb.

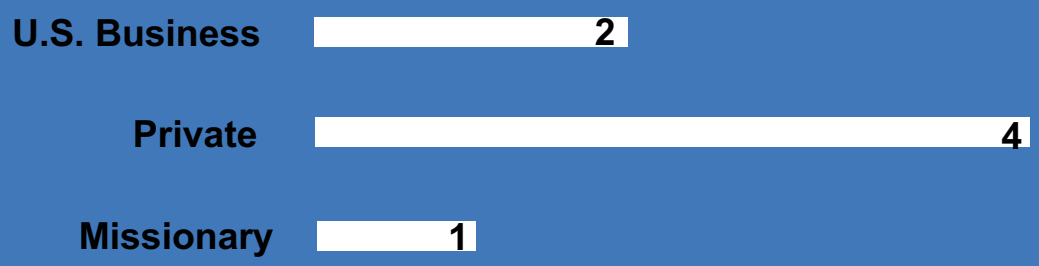
"HASTA LA VICTORIA SIEMPRE! CHE!"

Near East Asia

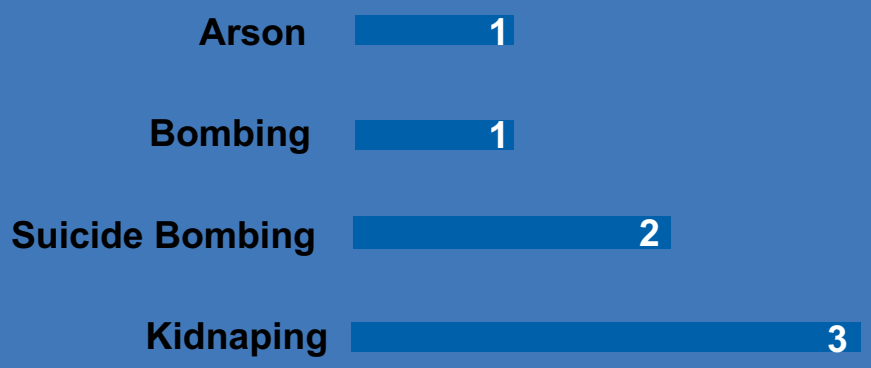
Areas of Anti-American Incidents



Targets of Attack



Types of Attack



February 10, 1997•Eastern Marib Governorate, Yemen
An American businessman was kidnaped by members of the Murad tribe. The kidnapers demanded compensation of $2 million or the return of a piece of their land in the capital, Sanaa. The American was released unharmed on February 28, 1997.

SUICIDE BOMBER!

July 30, 1997•Jerusalem, Occupied Territory
The military wing of Hamas, the Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades, claimed responsibility for sending two suicide bombers to an outdoor produce market area known as Mahane Yehuda during the crowded lunch hour. Fifteen people, including a dual national U.S.-Israeli citizen, were killed and 168 others (including two U.S. citizens) were wounded. The two bombs exploded seconds apart at the opposite end of the street and were carried by Hamas members disguised as Orthodox Jews.

HAMAS

9.4.97

September 4, 1997
Jerusalem, Occupied Territory
Three suicide bombers detonated bombs in the popular Ben Yehuda outdoor shopping mall. Six people, including an American teenage girl, were killed and 166 people, including 8 U.S. citizens were wounded. The Hamas Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades issued a communiqué claiming responsibility for the attack.

October 27, 1997•Beirut, Lebanon
An unknown assailant on a motorcycle threw a small explosive device over a wall at the American University of Beirut (AUB). There were no injuries, but the force of the explosion caused considerable property damage.

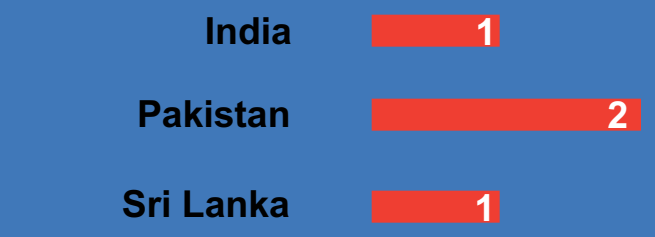
October 30, 1997•Barat, Yemen
The American director of the Yemeni al-Hashedi company (a subsidiary of Hunt Oil) was abducted by several members of the al-Sha'if tribe. He was taken to the village of Barat where the kidnapers initially demanded the release of a fellow tribesman arrested on criminal charges. Once they realized they had an American, demands to the Yemeni government for schools and roads followed. The American was released unharmed on November 27, 1997.

November 25–26, 1997•Aden, Yemen
Yemeni tribesmen kidnaped a U.S. citizen, and four other Westerners to protest the eviction of a tribe member from his home. The hostages were released unharmed on November 27, 1997.

December 12, 1997•Tel Aviv, Israel
According to the American leader of the Jehovah's Witnesses in Israel, their meeting hall was the setting for an arson attack which led to one member being hospitalized for smoke inhalation. Some of the members claimed to have heard "glass breaking and a thump" immediately before the fire was discovered in the laundry room. The leader further stated that sporadic attempts at persecution and intimidation date back as far as 1978 and include a series of other attempted arsons and the planting of a grenade.

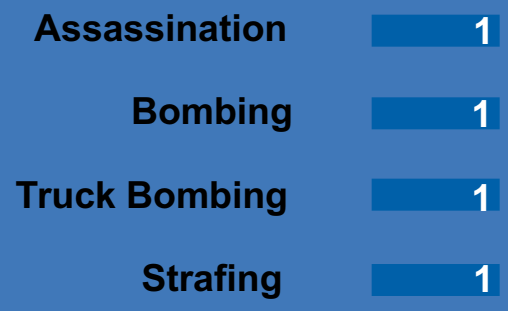
South Asia

Areas of Anti-American Incidents



Targets of Attack

Types of Attack



View from the 9th floor of the Galadari Hotel looking towards the World Trade Center and the blast site.

10.15.97

October 15, 1997•
Colombo, Sri Lanka

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas armed with firearms, grenades, and wearing suicide vests, drove an explosives-laden truck into the parking lot of the Galadari Hotel, next to Colombo's new World Trade Center. They gunned down two hotel security guards before detonating the truck bomb, killing 18 persons and wounding about 110 others, including 7 American citizens and 33 other foreign nationals. The blast severely damaged three hotels and the new World Trade Center and destroyed all the cars in the parking lot.

Above: Galadari car park looking from the entrance towards the blast site.

August 11, 1997•Chennai, India
A bomb exploded at the Russian Cultural Center, which houses the American school of Chennai's pre-kindergarten through second grade. The explosion injured one policeman and shattered windows. No Americans or children were injured in the attack. A group called the Tamil Nadu Liberation Front (TNLF) left leaflets at the scene and other groups also claimed responsibility. The TNLF leaflets criticized upcoming Indian independence celebration, and the construction of a U.S.-owned nylon plant. However, police suspect that the Tamil Nadu Liberation Army (TNLA) may actually be responsible.

December 23, 1997•Karachi, Pakistan
Unidentified assailants fired shots at the teachers' residential compound of the Karachi American School, wounding one Frontier Constabulary (FC) guard. The FC guard post had been in place since the November 12 murders of four Union Texas Petroleum employees and their driver.

11/12/97

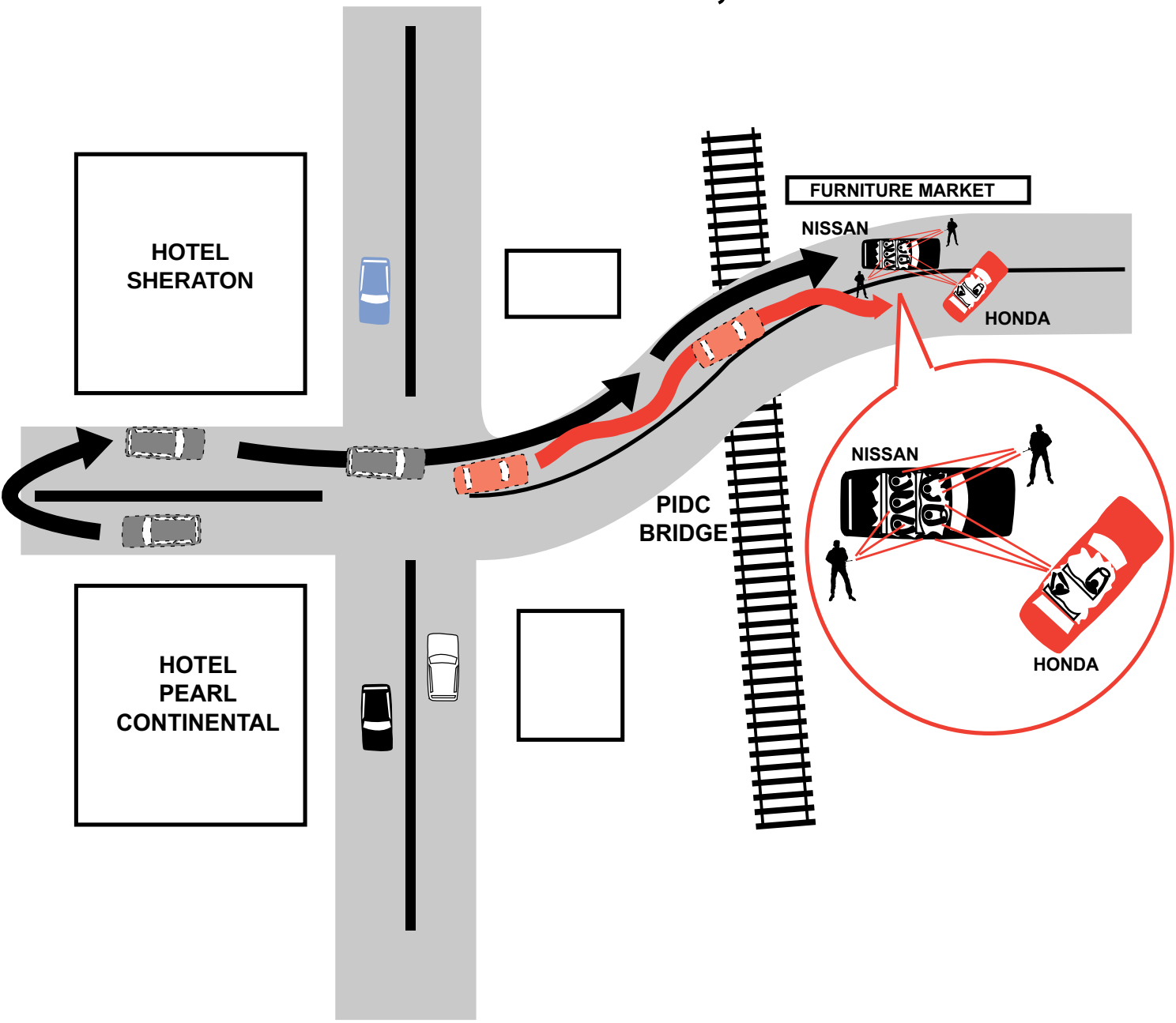
Vehicle in which the four Union Texas Petroleum (UTP) employees and their Pakistani driver were killed.

November 12, 1997•Karachi, Pakistan
At approximately 8:10 a.m., four auditors of the Union Texas Petroleum (UTP) Company and their driver were shot and killed when the vehicle in which they were riding was attacked. The shooting took place near an area known as the Railway Colony as the employees were en route from their hotels to the local UTP headquarters. All four employees were TDY (temporary duty) and had been in Karachi for only a brief time. Three were staying at the Hotel Pearl Continental and one was staying at the Sheraton. According to a schedule that did not vary, all four were picked up shortly before 8:00 a.m.

The employees were traveling west on Tamiz-Ud-Din Road when their vehicle, an unarmored, black Nissan, four-door station wagon was overtaken and forced to a stop by a red Honda Civic carrying two or three passengers. The Honda Civic may have had to weave through traffic to catch up with the Nissan before overtaking it. Varying reports indicated that one or two passengers exited the Honda Civic with AK-47 automatic rifles, shooting through the windshield and killing the UTP driver. The assailant(s) then fired through the driver's side windows and vehicle body killing all the remaining occupants of the Nissan. The perpetrators then left the scene and discarded the Red Honda Civic a short distance away. The modus operandi of the attack was strikingly similar to a March 8, 1995, attack in Karachi in which two U.S. Consulate employees were killed and one was wounded.

The red Honda Civic was traced to a Pakistani national, who stated that the vehicle had been stolen at gunpoint 2 days earlier. Police interviewed the registered owner of the Honda Civic who was able to provide a composite sketch of the alleged car thief. In the months following the attack, two shadowy groups, the Aimal Secret Committee, the Islami Inquilabi Council, and the Army of God, claimed responsibility for the attack. Pakistani security authorities arrested a number of alleged suspects. The identity of the attackers remains unknown

Assassination of Four UTP Employees
Karachi, Pakistan
November 12, 1997



If you have any information regarding those responsible for this act, please contact any U.S. Embassy or Consulate worldwide or mail information to:

HEROES
P.O. Box 96781, Washington, DC 20090-6781, USA.
www.heroes.net
e-mail: bsmith@heroes.net

Americans in Captivity

AMERICANS CAPTURED IN 1997

Inter-America

February 11, 1997
An American engineer was kidnaped by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) from a fishing camp in Apure (near the Venezuela-Colombia border). He was released unharmed on November 23, 1997.

February 15, 1997
An American geologist was kidnaped in Shimi, Ecuador, by Achuar Indians. He was released unharmed on February 23, 1997, following an agreement between his captors and his employing firm.

February 24, 1997
An American geologist was kidnaped by the National Liberation Army (ELN) in Bolivar Department, Colombia. The geologist was released unharmed on September 18, 1998.

March 7, 1997
An American gold mine manager was kidnaped by the FARC in Payan Magui, Colombia. He was released unharmed on November 16, 1997.

Near East Asia

February 10, 1997
An American businessman was kidnaped in Yemen's Eastern Marib Governorate by members of the Murad tribe. He was released unharmed on February 28, 1997.

October 30, 1997
An American businessman was kidnaped in the village of Barat, Yemen, by members of the al-Sha'if tribe. He was released unharmed on November 27, 1997.

November 25–26, 1997
Yemeni tribesmen kidnaped a U.S. citizen and four other Westerners near the capital Aden. The five hostages were released unharmed on November 27, 1997.

AMERICANS PREVIOUSLY KIDNAPED

Inter-America

January 31, 1993
Three American missionaries were kidnaped in Pucuro, Panama, by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). Efforts to determine the fate of the missionaries continued throughout 1997. Several foreign governments have committed to pressing the FARC for a full accounting of the men's whereabouts.

February 23, 1997
The body of an American geologist was recovered by the Colombian military near the town of San Juan del Cesar. He was kidnaped on December 10, 1996, near the town of Hato Nuevo, Colombia. The FARC is suspected.

South Asia

July 4, 1995
Two American tourists were kidnaped while trekking in Kashmir, near Srinagar, India. The act was committed by the al-Faran, an Islamic militant group. One of the Americans escaped on July 8, 1995. There has been no contact with the group since November 1995 and reports have been received that claim the other American tourist and other foreign hostages have been killed. These reports have not been confirmed, so their whereabouts remain unknown.

Anniversary 10 Issue

1987 1997

A 10-Year Look Back

In this tenth anniversary issue of *Significant Incidents of Political Violence Against Americans*, we review terrorist events and trends that have affected Americans visiting, living, and working overseas. The information contained in this section illustrates the broad spectrum of political violence and terrorism that Americans and American interests have faced overseas.*

A historical review of the types of Anti-American incidents show that bombings are the primary mode of attack—1,163. The majority of bombings were against U.S. business interests.

Of the 761 Americans murdered abroad since 1968, 459 lives were taken in just five attacks. These attacks were suspected to be state-sponsored. Our chronology of lethal attacks against Americans provides a synopsis of all those terrorist and political attacks that resulted in the death of Americans overseas. In this chronology, we provide statistics from 1968 when the U.S. Government first started keeping such records.

The primary targets of political kidnapings against Americans are representatives of business, and these kidnapings mostly occurred in Latin America. This 10-year statistical review of anti-American attacks includes a summary of Americans held captive as a result of political violence and terrorism.

Finally, we look at Operation Desert Storm, the one major event that resulted in the most dramatic increase in anti-American incidents during the past 10 years. In that 20-day period, 135 attacks against Americans and U.S. interests were carried out worldwide, including an assassination and an attempted assassination.

*This information does not include incidents of narcoterrorism and is confined to attacks against Americans outside the United States.

Statistical Overview:1987-1997

Targets of Anti-American Attacks

AF

U.S. Government	38
U.S. Business	24
Private	29
Missionary	11

ARA

U. S.Government	157
U.S. Military	17
U.S. Business	679
Private	35
Missionary	255
Other	5

EAP

U.S. Government	69
U.S. Military	56
U.S. Business	51
Private	9
Missionary	5
Other	3

EUR

U.S. Government	64
U.S. Military	47
U.S. Business	120
Private	20
Missionary	2
Other	3

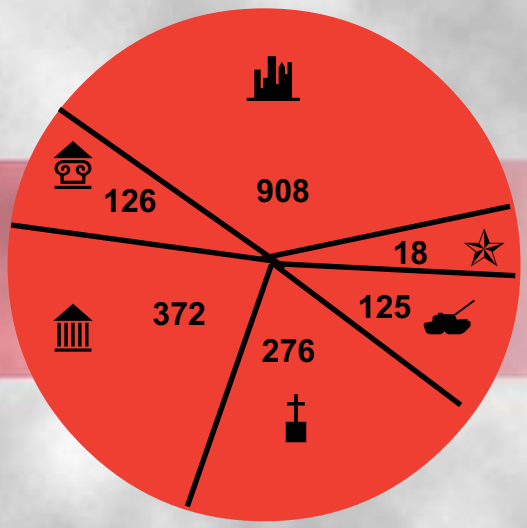
NEA

U.S. Government	31
U.S. Military	5
U.S. Business	24
Private	20
Missionary	3
Other	6

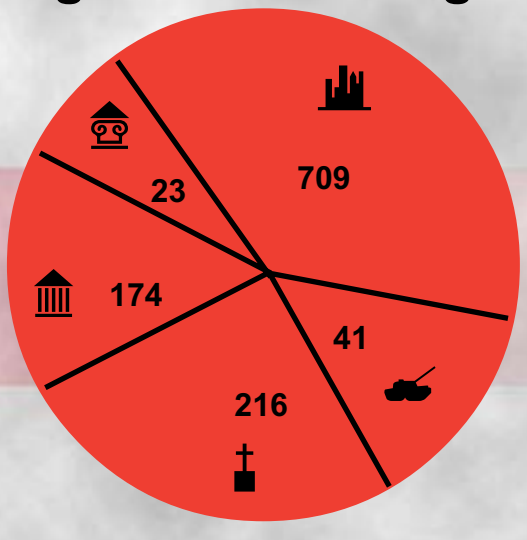
SA

U.S. Government	13
U.S. Business	10
Private	13
Other	1

Targets of Attacks



Targets of Bombings*



U.S. Government
U.S. Business
Missionary
U.S. Military
Private
Other

*Includes fire bombings, attempted bombings, and grenade attacks

Chronology of Lethal Attacks Against Americans

In this chronology of lethal attacks, we provide statistics from 1968 when the U.S. Government first started keeping such records.

Lethal Attacks Against Americans Abroad 1968–1997

Attacks by Year

1968 ✷✷✷ 3
1970 ✷✷✷✷✷✷ 6
1972 ✷✷✷✷✷✷ 6
1973 ✷✷✷✷✷✷✷ 7
1974 ✷✷✷ 3
1975 ✷✷✷ 3
1976 ✷✷ 2
1977 ✷✷✷✷✷✷ 6
1978 ✷✷✷ 3
1979 ✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷ 9
1980 ✷✷✷✷✷✷ 6
1981 ✷✷✷✷✷ 5
1982 ✷✷✷✷✷✷ 6
1983 ✷✷✷✷✷✷✷ 7
1984 ✷✷✷✷✷✷✷ 7
1985 ✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷ 12
1986 ✷✷✷✷✷✷ 6
1987 ✷✷✷ 3
1988 ✷✷✷✷✷✷ 6
1989 ✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷ 11
1990 ✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷✷ 9
1991 ✷✷✷✷✷ 5
1992 ✷✷✷✷ 4
1993 ✷✷ 2
1994 ✷✷✷ 3
1995 ✷✷✷✷✷✷✷ 8
1996 ✷✷✷✷ 4
1997 ✷✷✷✷ 4

The 156 incidents resulted in 761 American deaths.

Americans Killed By Types of Attack

Ambush	2	Mob Violence	4
Armed Attack	41	Murder	88
Bombing	265	Kidnap	17
Car bombing	40	Attempted Kidnaping	1
Grenade	9	Rocket	5
Hijacking	13	Suicide Attack	267
Hostage/Barricade	3	Strafing	6

Americans Killed by Decade

1968
3 attacks resulted in 3 deaths.

The 1970s
45 attacks resulted in 113 deaths.

The 1980s
69 attacks resulted in 571 deaths.

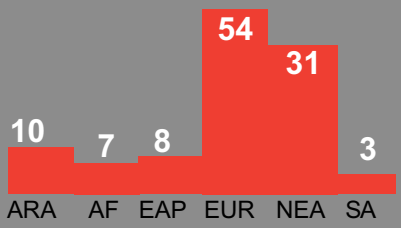
The 1990s
From 1990–1997 there were
39 attacks resulting in 74 deaths.

April 14, 1988 • Naples, Italy
A car bomb exploded in front of the USO Club. The explosion resulted in the death of five people, including one U.S. servicewoman.

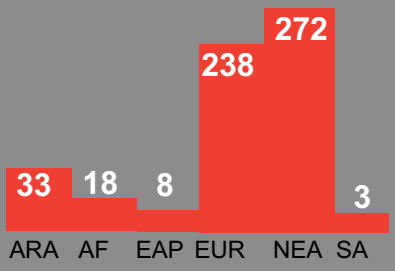
Americans Killed by Region

1968

The 1970s

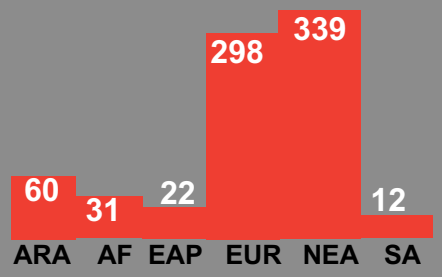


The 1980s



The 1990s
From 1990–1997

American Deaths by Region: 1968–1997



Anniversary 10 Issue
1987 1997

Americans Killed by Target

U.S. Diplomat	51**	Business	30*
U.S. Government	4	Missionary	20
U.S. Military	319	Private	337

**11 of the victims were Defense Department contractors.*

*** Diplomat includes those under Chief of Mission (Ambassador) authority.*

1968

January 16, 1968 • Guatemala City, Guatemala
The commander of a U.S. military advisory group and the head of the U.S. Military Aid and Assistance Group (MAAG) Naval Section were shot and killed. Gunmen pulled up alongside the officers' car and shot the two officers. The Rebel Armed Forces (FAR) claimed responsibility for the attack.

August 28, 1968 • Guatemala City, Guatemala
The U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala was assassinated during a kidnaping attempt. After gunmen forced the Ambassador's car to stop, he got out of the car and was shot while trying to escape. The Rebel Armed Forces (FAR) claimed responsibility. He is the first U.S. Ambassador to be killed in a terrorist attack.

October 12, 1968 • Sao Paulo, Brazil
A U.S. Army captain was shot and killed in front of his home by two gunmen. The Popular Revolutionary Vanguard claimed responsibility.

1970

January 11, 1970 • Asmara, Ethiopia
An American soldier serving in Ethiopia was shot and killed in a tavern. The Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) was suspected.

February 21, 1970 • Zurich, Switzerland
Fifteen minutes after Swissair Flight 330 left Zurich Airport, a bomb exploded on board the plane forcing it to crash and killing everyone on the plane. The passenger list included 6 Americans and 14 Israelis. In Beirut, Lebanon, a spokesman for Ahmed Jabril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command (PFPL-GC) claimed responsibility. Worldwide condemnation of the attack forced the group to withdraw its claim of responsibility.

February 23, 1970 • Halhul, West Bank
Terrorists fired on a tourist bus, killing one American woman.

April 2, 1970 • Clark Air Force Base, Philippines
Two American servicemen were kidnaped by elements of the New People's Army (NPA) outside the air base. On April 14, 1970, the bodies of the two Americans were found in a shallow grave.

June 10, 1970 • Amman, Jordan
The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) claimed responsibility for murdering the U.S. Army Assistant Attaché at his home.

July 31, 1970 • Montevideo, Uruguay
A public safety advisor with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) was kidnaped by the Tupamaros guerrilla group. The advisor was killed on August 10, 1970, when a demand to release 115 imprisoned Tupamaros was not met.

1972

January 16, 1972 • Gaza Strip, Occupied Territories
An American nurse was killed and a number of people were injured when terrorists opened fire on their car.

May 8, 1972 • Vienna, Austria
Five terrorists from the Black September Organization (BSO) hijacked a Sabena flight from Vienna-Athens-Tel Aviv route and forced the plane to land at Lod Airport in Israel. The terrorists demanded the release of 317 Fedayeen prisoners or they would blow up the plane and all aboard. Israeli security forces stormed the plane killing three of the terrorists. Five passengers were injured, one of them, an American, was fatally wounded. The two remaining hijackers received life sentences.

May 11, 1972 • Frankfurt, West Germany
(now Federal Republic of Germany (FRG))
Three homemade pipe bombs exploded at the headquarters of the 5th U.S. Army Corps, killing one American Army officer, and injuring 13 others Americans. The Red Army Faction (RAF) claimed responsibility.

May 30, 1972 • Lod, Israel
Three members of the Japanese Red Army (JRA) fired machineguns and threw grenades at passengers arriving from an Air France flight at Lod Airport. Among the 28 killed were two terrorists and 16 Puerto Rican Catholic pilgrims. The lone surviving terrorist was sentenced to life imprisonment.

December 8, 1972 • Brisbane, Australia
An American businessman was killed when a bomb exploded in an automobile parked outside a Serbian Orthodox church.

May 24, 1972
Heidelberg, West Germany (FRG)
Two car bombs with stolen U.S. military license plates exploded outside the mess hall and computer center of European headquarters of the U.S. Army in Germany. Three American servicemen were killed and five Americans were injured. The RAF claimed responsibility.

March 1, 1973 • Khartoum, Sudan
Terrorists from the Black September Organization (BSO) seized the Saudi Arabian Embassy as guests were departing from a reception. The next day, the terrorists killed the U.S. Ambassador, the U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission, and the Belgian Chargé who were among the hostages.

May 21, 1973 • Buenos Aires, Argentina
Gunmen from the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) shot two Ford Motor company executives as they left the factory. One of the Ford executives later died of his wounds. The ERP issued a communiqué stating the two men were shot while resisting a kidnaping attempt.

June 2, 1973 • Tehran, Iran
Two gunmen shot and killed an American advisor working for the U.S. Army Military Aid and Assistance Group. The assailants were believed to members of a radical leftist terrorist group.

August 5, 1973 • Athens, Greece
Two terrorists belonging to the Ahman Abd-Al Ghaffur's group of Fatah dissidents opened fire on passengers waiting to board a TWA flight to New York. (It was later learned that they were ordered to attack the TWA flight to Tel Aviv, but the passengers were already on board the plane.) Among the three people killed were two Americans. The two terrorists surrendered to police and were expelled to Libya on May 5, 1974.

October 18, 1973 • Beirut, Lebanon
Five members of the Lebanese Socialist Revolutionary Organization stormed the Bank of America and took 39 hostages. The group made a number of demands to include that the bank pay them $10 million to help "finance the Arab war effort against Israel" and that the Lebanese government release all Fedayeen guerrillas. When the government refused their demands, the terrorists killed one of the hostages, a Lebanese-American citizen.

November 22, 1973 • Cordoba, Argentina
A U.S. businessman, who was the general manager of Transax (a transmission and axle plant owned by the Ford Motor Company), and two of his bodyguards were shot and killed in an ambush by a group of 15 men. The People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) were responsible.

December 17, 1973 • Rome, Italy
After police discovered weapons in the luggage of an Arab traveler at Rome's Fiumicino Airport, four other Arabs opened fire in the crowded transit lounge. The terrorists took several hostages and, with the police in tow, came upon a Pan American flight that was loading passengers for a flight to Beirut. The terrorists threw hand grenades into the plane killing 29 passengers, including 14 American employees of the Arab-American Oil Company.

The terrorists then hijacked a Lufthansa aircraft that eventually flew to Kuwait where they surrendered to Kuwaiti authorities and released their hostages after receiving a safe conduct guarantee. The gunmen said that they belonged to the Arab Nationalist Youth Organization for the Liberation of Palestine.

April 13, 1974 • Subic Bay, Philippines
Three U.S. Navy officers were shot and killed near Subic Bay. The New Peoples Army (NPA) was responsible.

August 19, 1974 • Nicosia, Cyprus
The U.S. Ambassador and a Foreign Service National (FSN) Embassy secretary were shot and killed when armed Cypriot demonstrators fired shots at the Ambassador's office and residence. The incident occurred during a riot by a group protesting what they believed was a pro-Turkish policy of the U.S. Government in the Greek-Turkish dispute.

September 8, 1974 • Greece
The pilot of TWA flight from Tel Aviv to New York radioed that he was having trouble with one engine. The plane went into a deep nose dive and crashed into the Ionian Sea. All 88 passengers, including 17 Americans were killed. On January 11, 1975, investigators from the U.S. and Britain announced that tests of some debris from the aircraft conclusively showed that a high explosive had gone off in the rear cargo compartment of the plane.

February 26, 1975 • Cordoba, Argentina
The U.S. Consular agent was kidnaped by the Montoneros guerrilla group. The agent was killed 48-hours later when the government refused the terrorists' demand for the release of four of its imprisoned comrades.

May 21, 1975 • Tehran, Iran
Two U.S. Air Force (USAF) officers were shot and killed as they were being driven to their offices. A group called the People's Struggle claimed responsibility for the attack.

12.23.75

December 23, 1975
Athens, Greece
A U.S. diplomat was shot and killed outside his home. A previously unknown group called the Revolutionary Organization 17 November claimed responsibility for the attack.

June 16, 1976 • Beirut, Lebanon
The U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon, the U.S. Embassy Economic Counselor, and their Lebanese driver were shot and killed at a roadblock by unidentified gunmen.

August 11, 1976 • Istanbul, Turkey
Two terrorists from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) attacked passengers preparing to board an El Al aircraft at Yesilkoy Airport (now Ataturk Airport). Four persons, including one American, were killed in the attack. The terrorists were caught and sentenced to life imprisonment.

August 28, 1976 • Tehran, Iran
Three American officials of Rockwell International were assassinated as they were being driven to work at an Iranian Air Force installation. The Iranian People's Struggle (Mujahiddin E Khalq) claimed responsibility.

1977

January 20, 1977 • Mexico City, Mexico
An American businessman and a Mexican associate were shot and killed by members of the 23rd of September Armed Communist League when they tried to prevent the group from handing out propaganda leaflets.

March 27, 1977 • Gode, Ethiopia
An American missionary was shot and killed outside his home by armed guerrillas.

April 1977 • Zaire
An American missionary was killed by rebels.

November 29, 1977 • Northern Sumatra, Indonesia
An American businessman was shot and killed by an armed group who then left pamphlets warning Americans and other foreigners to leave the country.

December 2, 1977 • Buenos Aires, Argentina
A U.S. businessman and his two bodyguards were shot and killed while driving in his car.

December 4, 1977 • Kuala Lampur, Malaysia
A Malaysian aircraft that was hijacked 10 minutes after takeoff crashed while approaching to land in Singapore. Among the 93 passengers killed one was an American.

1978

June 3, 1978 • Jerusalem, Occupied Territory
A bomb exploded inside a city bus, killing six people, one of whom was an American. The Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) stated that the Al Fatah faction was responsible.

June 17, 1978 • Sanyati, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe)
An American evangelist was stabbed to death by nationalist guerrillas. The evangelist was killed at the Sanyati Mission Hospital were he worked.

December 23, 1978 • Ahwaz, Iran
An American businessman was shot and killed as his car slowed down at an intersection. The Mujaheddin E Khalq (Peoples Struggle) claimed responsibility.

1979

January 14, 1979 • Kerman, Iran
A U.S. businessman was stabbed to death in his home. The words, "Go back to your own country," were scrawled on the wall of his home.

February 14, 1979 • Kabul, Afghanistan
The U.S. Ambassador was kidnaped by armed terrorists. The Ambassador was killed after Afghan police stormed the hotel room where the Ambassador was being held by his captives.

April 12, 1979 • Izmir, Turkey
Two U.S. Air Force noncommissioned officers were shot, one fatally, by unidentified gunmen. The two were walking home when attacked. The Turkish People's Liberation Party/Front (THKP/C) claimed responsibility for the attack.

April 30, 1979 • Southwestern Bikita District, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe)
An American volunteer working at a ranch was shot and killed in a guerrilla ambush.

May 11, 1979 • Istanbul, Turkey
As U.S. Army personnel were waiting for a bus in front of a transient hotel for U.S. military personnel, two gunmen opened fire on the soldiers. One soldier was killed and another wounded. The Marxist-Leninist Armed Propaganda Unit (MSLPB) claimed responsibility for the attack.

June 2, 1979 • Adana, Turkey
An American teacher running a private English-language school was shot and killed as he opened the door of his apartment in response to a knock by two unidentified gunmen. The Turkish People's Liberation Party/ Front (THKP/C) claimed responsibility.

September 23, 1979 • San Salvador, El Salvador
Three Americans were killed when caught-up in a guerrilla attack against the Armed Forces Instruction Center located on the grounds of the El Salvadorian President's residence.

Anniversary 10 Issue
1987 1997

11.21.79

November 21, 1979
Islamabad, Pakistan
One U.S. Marine and a U.S. Warrant Officer were killed when an angry mob numbering some 5,000 people overran the U.S. Embassy. The attack was instigated by a false rumor spreading throughout Pakistan that an armed group had seized the Grand Mosque in Mecca at the direction of the "U.S. and Zionist forces."

December 14, 1979 • Istanbul, Turkey
Four Americans (one U.S. military and three Defense Department contractors) were shot and killed after returning from work. As a U.S. military minibus carrying the Americans stopped at their bus stop, terrorists who were positioned at the location ordered them off the bus and opened fire on them when they attempted to flee. The Marxist-Leninist Armed Propaganda Unit (MLSPB) claimed responsibility.

April 10, 1980 • Rome, Italy
A double bombing damaged the Turkish Airlines and Tourist Office. Two men, one an American, were killed in the explosion. The Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) claimed responsibility.

April 16, 1980 • Istanbul, Turkey
A U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer and a Turkish friend were shot and killed by two gunmen as they left the navy officer's home and were about to enter his truck. The Marxist-Leninist Armed Propaganda Unit (MLSPB) claimed responsibility for the attack.

September 12, 1980 • Manila, Philippines
Six bombs exploded in various parts of the city resulting in the death of an American. A group called the May 1 Sandigan of the April 6 Liberation Movement claimed responsibility.

November 15, 1980 • Adana, Turkey
As two U.S. Air Force Senior Airmen were backing out of the driveway en route to work, two unidentified gunmen approached the front of the car. One of the men pulled out a gun and shot and killed the driver. At that point, the other airman got out of the car on the passenger's side and escaped unharmed. The Marxist-Leninist Armed Propaganda Unit (MSLPB) claimed responsibility for the attack.

December 2, 1980 • El Salvador
Three nuns and a Catholic lay social worker, all U.S. citizens, were reported missing on their way home from the airport. Their bodies were later found in a grave, some 30 miles from the capital San Salvador. They had been shot.

1980

December 7, 1980 • Guatemala City, Guatemala
A U.S. businessman, president of the Guatemalan subsidiary of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, was kidnaped from his home. The kidnapers demanded ransom and denounced the U.S. Government and U.S. business support of leftists. The businessman's body was found outside of Guatemala City in mid-August 1981. He had been shot in the head.

January 3, 1981 • San Salvador, El Salvador
The head of the El Salvador agrarian program and two American advisors were shot and killed by two unidentified gunmen while eating dinner at the Sheraton Hotel. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.

January 19, 1981 • Bogota, Columbia
Members of the National Coordination of the Masses of the 19th of April Movement (M-19) kidnaped an American linguist working at the Summer Institute of Linguistics. On March 7, 1981, the American's body was discovered. He was shot in the head and his body was draped in a M-19 flag.

February 1, 1981 • Southwestern Colombia
Two American tourists were kidnaped and later killed by M-19 guerrillas.

July 27, 1981 • Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala
An American priest was shot and killed in his mission in this southern town, about 50 miles from Guatemala City.

September 14, 1981 • Aldea Palama, Guatemala
An American pastor was shot and killed at his residence. Another American was seriously wounded. The gunmen allegedly accused the Americans of being spies for the U.S. Government.

January 18, 1982 • Paris, France
The Assistant Military Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Paris was shot and killed by a lone gunman outside his home. The Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Faction (LARF) claimed responsibility for the attack.

February 13, 1982 • Huehuetenango, Guatemala
A Christian Brothers missionary from the U.S. was shot and killed while working outside his mission. The gunmen fired from a car as they sped by the mission.

March 18, 1982 • San Cristobal, Guatemala
Leftist guerrillas shot and killed an American citizen at his plantation located north of Guatemala City. The Guerrilla Army of the Poor is believed responsible.

June 23, 1981 • Zimbabwe
Six foreign tourists—two Americans, two Britons, and two Australians were kidnaped and later shot and killed by antigovernment rebels.

August 7, 1982 • Ankara, Turkey
Two terrorists from the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) carried out a bomb and machinegun assault on Ankara's Esenboga Airport. Nine people, including one American were killed in the attack.

August 9, 1982 • Paris, France
Two gunmen threw a grenade into Joe Goldenberg, a popular Jewish restaurant, and fired automatic weapons into the lunchtime crowd. Before fleeing the scene, the gunmen fired on people standing in front of a nearby synagogue. Six people were killed, including two Americans. The Black June Organization is suspected.

Anniversary 10 Issue
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4.18.83

Aftereffects of the suicide truck bomb attack against the U.S. Embassy.

April 18, 1983
Beirut, Lebanon
A suicide truck bomb exploded at the U.S. Embassy and partially destroyed the building. Seventeen Americans were killed. The Al Jihad Al Islami (Moslem Holy War) claimed responsibility.

1983

May 25, 1983 • San Salvador, El Salvador
A Deputy Commander of the U.S. Military Advisory Group was shot and killed in his car on a university campus. The Popular Liberation Forces (FLP) is believed responsible.

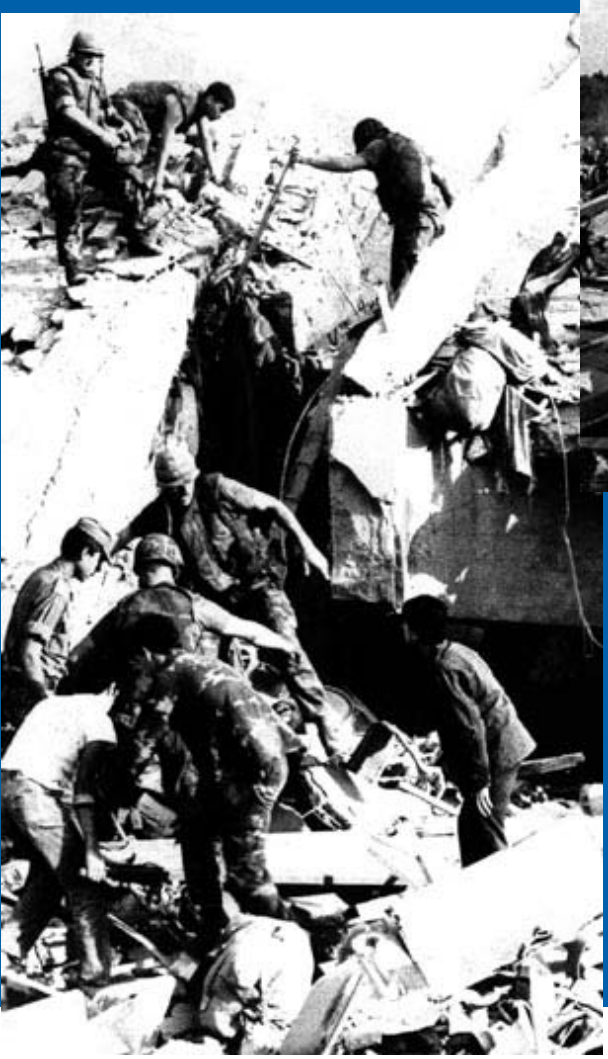
July 15, 1983 • Paris, France
A bomb exploded at Orly Airport, killing six people, including a dual national Greek-American citizen. ASALA claimed responsibility for the attack.

September 23, 1983 • Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
An airliner exploded near Abu Dhabi, killing all 111 passengers, including one American. The Arab Revolutionary Brigade (aka: Abu Nidal Organization) claimed responsibility for the explosion aboard the plane.

November 15, 1983 • Athens, Greece
The chief of the U.S. Naval Mission in Greece was killed and his Greek driver fatally wounded. Two gunmen on a motorcycle pulled up alongside the victim's car and fired seven rounds into the car killing the American instantly. The Revolutionary Organization 17 November claimed responsibility for the attack.

December 17, 1983
London, United Kingdom
Five people, including one American were killed when a bomb exploded at Harrod's Department Store. The Provincial Irish Republican Army (PIRA) claimed responsibility.

12.17.83



October 23, 1983
Beirut, Lebanon
A man crashed a suicide truck bomb into the U.S. military barracks killing 241 U.S. servicemen. (220 were U.S. Marines; the remainder, Navy medical personnel and soldiers assigned to the Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU).) The Islamic Jihad Organization claimed responsibility.

10.23.83

2.15.84

The rear window of U.S. diplomat's car after the attack.

February 15, 1984
Rome, Italy
The U.S. Director General of the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai was shot and killed in his car by two gunmen outside his residence. The attack was carried out by the Red Brigades.

BRIGATE ROSSE

1984

January 18, 1984 • Beirut, Lebanon
The president of The American University of Beirut was shot and killed as he stepped off an elevator in the school's administration building. The Islamic Jihad Organization claimed responsibility.

January 26, 1984 • Jocoro, El Salvador
An American woman traveling with her family along the Pan American Highway was shot and killed. The woman was shot when they ignored a rebel order to stop. The rest of the family (husband and two children) were unhurt.

4.15.84

April 15, 1984
Oshakati, Namibia
A U.S. military officer and a U.S. diplomat who were monitoring the withdrawal of South African army units from Angola were killed when a bomb exploded in a gas station where they were refueling their car.

9.20.84

September 20, 1984
Beirut, Lebanon
A suicide car bomb severely damaged the U.S. Embassy Annex. Two Americans and 11 Lebanese were killed. The Islamic Jihad Organization (IJO) claimed responsibility.

November 30, 1984 • Beirut, Lebanon
The librarian at the American University at Beirut, a U.S. citizen was reported missing. On April 16, 1986, his body was found along with the bodies of two British citizens. A heretofore unknown group called the Arab Revolutionary Cells claimed responsibility.

December 4, 1984 • Tehran, Iran
A Kuwaiti flight was hijacked to Iran. The hijackers demanded that the Kuwaiti Government release prisoners held in Kuwait for the December 12, 1983, bombing of the U.S. Embassy. The hijackers killed two American employees of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

1985

March 13, 1985 • Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe
A bomb exploded at a local restaurant, fatally wounding an American tourist. The bombing was attributed to the island's separatist movement.

May 12, 1985 • Barangay Idea, Philippines
An American of Filipino descent was assassinated at his farm. The New Peoples Army (NPA) claimed responsibility.

June 14, 1985 • Beirut, Lebanon
TWA Flight 847 from Athens to Rome was hijacked and diverted to Beirut. When the planed landed in Beirut (for the second time), the hijackers killed a U.S. Navy serviceman who was on board the aircraft.

June 19, 1985 • San Salvador, El Salvador
Gunmen opened fire on patrons sitting at an outdoor cafe. Thirteen people, including four U.S. Marine Security Guards and two U.S. businessmen, were killed. The Central American Revolutionary Workers Party claimed responsibility.

June 23, 1985 • Southwest Ireland
An Air India flight from Toronto and Montreal to India crashed at sea off the coast of Ireland, probably the result of a bomb blast. All 329 passengers, including 19 Americans were killed. A caller to *The New York Times* claimed responsibility for the attack in the name of a Sikh group.

August 8, 1985 • Wiesbaden, West Germany (FRG)
A U.S. serviceman was shot and killed and robbed of his military identification card after leaving a nightclub in the company of a man and a woman. The Red Army Faction (RAF) claimed responsibility.

September 9, 1985 • Madrid, Spain
A car bomb exploded wounding 16 Spanish civil guards and two passersby. One of the passersby was an American businessman who was jogging in the area. He died of his wounds 2 days later. The Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) claimed responsibility.

October 4, 1985 • Beirut, Lebanon
A CIA officer kidnaped on March 16, 1984, by the Islamic Jihad was reportedly killed by his captors.

October 7, 1985 • Port Said, Egypt
Four gunmen from the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) hijacked the Italian cruise ship *Achille Lauro* off Port Said. During the seizure, the terrorists killed one of the Americans and threw his body overboard.

November 23, 1985 • Malta
An Egyptair flight was hijacked from Athens to Cairo and diverted to Malta. When demands to refuel the aircraft were denied, the terrorists shot two Israeli women and three Americans. One Israeli and one American woman died of their wounds. Three groups claimed responsibility: Egypt's Revolution, the Egyptian Liberation Organization, and the Arab Revolutionary Brigades (aka: Abu Nidal Organization).

December 27, 1985 • Rome, Italy
Members of the Abu Nidal Organization attacked El Al and TWA passengers at Rome Airport. Five Americans were among those killed.

8.8.85

August 8, 1985
Rhein Main Air Base,
West Germany (FRG)

A car bomb exploded at the base killing one American serviceman and one civilian. The Red Army Faction claimed responsibility.

April 2, 1986 • Athens, Greece
As TWA Flight 840 was approaching Athens Airport, a powerful bomb exploded on board. Though the plane made a successful landing, four Americans were killed. A heretofore unknown group called the Arab Revolutionary Cells—Al Kassam's Revolutionary Cells—claimed responsibility for the attack.

April 17, 1986 • Beirut, Lebanon
The bodies of three Westerners (two British and one American) were found shot to death. A note was found at the crime scene stating that the murders were in retaliation for the U.S. bombing of Libya (April 14, 1986). It was signed by the Arab Revolutionary Cells. The victims were faculty members at the American University of Beirut.

April 5, 1986
West Berlin, West Germany (FRG)
A bomb exploded at La Belle disco, a nightclub frequented by American servicemen. Two American servicemen were killed in the blast. Several anonymous groups and individuals claimed responsibility.

May 17, 1986 • Norte De Santander Department, Colombia
The body of an American engineer was found in this mountainous northeastern region of Colombia. The victim along with two other engineers were kidnaped by armed guerillas from the People's Liberation Army (EPL) on December 10, 1985. The victim died in captivity from dysentery and other complications. The other two hostages were eventually freed by their captives.

June 25, 1986 • Cuzco, Peru
Sendero Luminoso terrorists bombed a tourist train headed for the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu. Eight people were killed. Among the dead were two Americans.

September 5, 1986 • Karachi, Pakistan
Four terrorists seized Pan American Flight 73 and all 389 passengers. They demanded a cockpit crew be provided to fly them to Cyprus. After 16 hours on the ground, the plane's power supply failed. When the lights went out, the hijackers panicked and opened fire on the passengers. Twenty-two passengers, including two Americans were killed. The hijackers said they belonged to the Arab Liberation Organization. Two other groups, the Libyan Revolutionary Cells, and Jundallah also claimed responsibility for the hijacking.

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1987

October 28, 1987 • Angeles City, Philippines
Gunmen from the New People's Army (NPA) claimed responsibility for killing three Americans, including one retired and two active servicemen in successive attacks near Clark Air Force Base.

November 25, 1987 • Esigodini, Zimbabwe
About 20 rebels killed 10 missionaries, including two Americans. The rebels left a note describing themselves as "Marxist-Leninist fighters," who aimed to rid Zimbabwe of "Western, capitalist-oriented people."

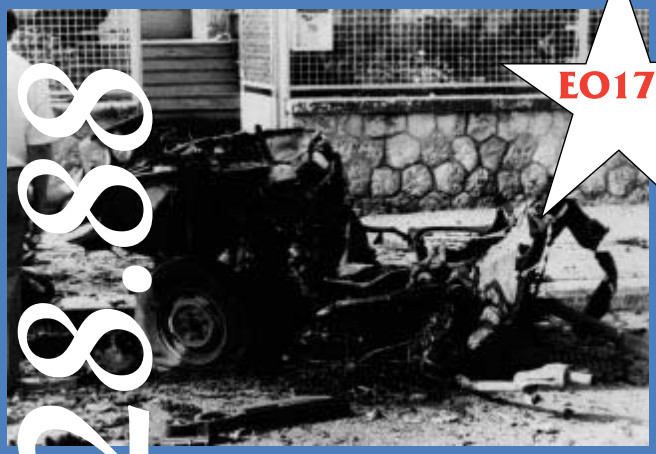
12.26.87

December 26, 1987
Barcelona, Spain
Two handgrenades were thrown into the Iruna Bar, a United Services Organization (USO) facility. Ten U.S. sailors were injured, one fatally. The Red Army for the Liberation of Catalonian (ERCA) and Terra LLiure claimed responsibility.

4.14.88

April 14, 1988
Naples, Italy
A car bomb exploded in front of the USO Club. The explosion resulted in the death of five people, including one U.S. servicewoman. It is believed that the Anti-Imperialist International Brigade (AIIB) carried out the attack.

June 13, 1988 • Huancayo, Peru
Two USAID subcontractors, an American and Peruvian, were shot and killed by suspected Sendero Luminoso terrorists.



EO17N

6.28.88

Pictured above is the car bomb.

June 28, 1988
Athens, Greece
The U.S. Defense Attaché was killed when a car bomb exploded along his route to work. The Revolutionary Organization 17 November claimed responsibility.

12.21.88

December 21, 1988
Lockerbie, Scotland
A bomb placed on Pan American Flight 103 exploded over Scotland killing all 259 passengers (189 were Americans), as well as 11 residents on the ground.

The United States Government is offering a reward of up to $2 million for information leading to the arrest or conviction of those responsible for this cowardly attack on innocent civilians. The U.S. Government also may provide protection of the identity and possible relocation of the individual and family members of those who provide such information. The U.S. Government promises absolute confidentiality for those who come forward.

If you have any information regarding those responsible for this act, please contact any U.S. Embassy or Consulate worldwide or mail information to:

HEROES
Post Office Box 96781
Washington, DC 20090-6781 USA
www.heroes.net
e-mail: bsmith@heroes.net

State-Sponsored Terrorist Attacks

Most Americans were killed in state-sponsored or suspected state-sponsored terrorist attacks. Following are some incidents of particular consequence:

April 1983
Suicide truck bomb attack against the U.S. Embassy in Beirut kills 17 Americans.

October 1983
Suicide truck bomb attack against a U.S. military barracks in Beirut kills 241 Americans.

December 1985
Abu Nidal terrorists attack El Al and TWA passengers at Rome Airport. Five Americans were killed.

December 1988
Bombing of Pan American Flight 103 kills 189 Americans.

September 1989
Bombing of UTA Flight 772 kills seven Americans.

December 1, 1988 • Cuzco, Peru
The VIP tourist train from Cuzco to Machu Picchu was sabotaged, killing two people. One of those killed was the wife of the mayor of Jersey City, New Jersey.

December 8, 1988 • Western Sahara
Two airplanes involved in a locust-spraying project en route from Dakar, Senegal, to Agadir, Morocco, were hit by heat-seeking missiles in the Western Sahara. One of the planes crashed killing all five American USAID contractors. The other plane suffered minor damage and was able to land in Sidi Ifni in Morocco. The Polisario Front admitted that it was responsible for the shoot-down but said that it was "neither premeditated nor intentional," and expressed its "deep sorrow."

1989

March 15, 1989 • San Salvador, El Salvador
A dual U.S.-Salvadoran citizen was killed by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) for his political beliefs.

April 21, 1989 • Quezon City , Philippines
The New People's Army (NPA) was responsible for the assassination of a U.S. Army Colonel outside a suburban U.S. military facility.

May 24, 1989 • La Paz, Bolivia
Two U.S. missionaries were shot and killed as they were entering their residence. The Armed Forces-Zarate Wilka (FAL-ZW) claimed credit for the attack.

July 6, 1989 • Tel Aviv, Israel
A Palestinian passenger on a bus en route to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv grabbed control of the steering wheel from the bus driver while shouting "Allah Akbar" (God is Great). He forced the bus into a ravine. Sixteen people, including one American, were killed.

July 31, 1989 • Tyre, Lebanon
An American Marine officer who was on detail to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) was hanged (according to his abductors) in response to the abduction of a Hizballah leader by Israel. The Marine officer was kidnaped by a group called the Organization of the Oppressed of the Earth on February 17, 1988.

August 18, 1989 • El-Bireh, West Bank
The body of a 14-year old American girl of Palestinian descent was found. The victim was shot in the back.

9.19.89

September 19, 1989
Agadez, Niger
A bomb placed aboard UTA Flight 772 exploded and caused the plane to crash in the Tenere Desert near Agadez. All 171 passengers aboard perished, including the wife of the U.S. Ambassador to Chad and six other Americans.

September 26, 1989 • Capas, Tarlac Province, Philippines
NPA gunmen shot and killed two U.S. Ford Aerospace technicians near Clark Air Force Base. The two were killed as they drove home from work.

November 11, 1989 • San Salvador, El Salvador
An American citizen was inadvertently killed during a major offensive by the FMLN against the Government of El Salvador.

November 21, 1989 • Uchiza, Peru
An American reporter for *The Tampa Tribune* was murdered. Suspected perpetrators are Sendero Luminoso or drug traffickers.

November 30, 1989 • Northern Ireland, United Kingdom
Two men, one a U.S.-naturalized citizen were shot and killed when gunmen entered a local pub in County Tyre and opened fire on the patrons. The Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF), a loyalist paramilitary group, claimed responsibility for the attack.

1990

March 2, 1990 • Panama City, Panama
An unidentified individual threw a handgrenade into the "My Place" nightclub, killing a U.S. soldier. The assailant allegedly shouted "Viva Noriega" before throwing the handgrenade. Two previously unknown groups claimed responsibility for the attack, The Organization for the Liberation of Panama, and the M-20.

March 6, 1990 • Masbate, Philippines
NPA gunmen shot and killed a U.S. rancher.

March 24, 1990 • Bahn, Liberia
An American missionary and his British wife were killed in a rebel ambush. The rebel group responsible, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), later apologized for what they considered to have been misjudgment.

March 27, 1990 • Rashaya Al-Fukhar, Lebanon
A U.S. missionary was shot and killed by three gunmen at his home. The Lebanese National Resistance Front claimed responsibility.

May 4, 1990 • Olongapo, Philippines
A U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant was shot and killed by NPA gunmen about four blocks from the main gate to the U.S. Naval Base at Subic Bay.

May 13, 1990 • Clark Air Force Base, Philippines
NPA terrorists shot and killed two U.S. servicemen in an ambush near Clark Air Force Base.

October 23, 1990 • Paris, France
An Iranian-born U.S. citizen was shot and killed at his residence with a silenced-equipped handgun. The victim was a high-ranking official in the former Iranian Government prior to the 1979 revolution.

1991

January 2, 1991 • Rafael Habra, Honduras
A U.S. military helicopter carrying three U.S. servicemen was downed by the Farabundi Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). After the helicopter crashed, FMLN guerrillas shot and killed the servicemen.

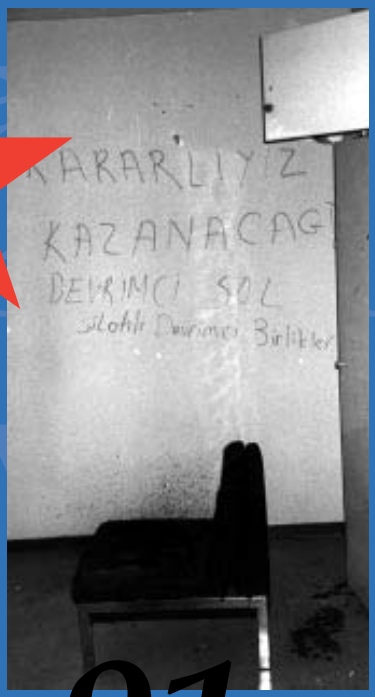
February 7, 1991 • Adana, Turkey
A U.S. contract employee for Vinnel, Brown, and Root (VBR) was shot and killed as he was getting into his car parked outside his home. The leftwing Turkish terrorist group Dev-Sol (Revolutionary Left) claimed responsibility.

March 12, 1991
Athens, Greece
A U.S. Air Force Sergeant was fatally wounded when a bomb detonated as he entered the property of the apartment building where he lived. The Revolutionary Organization 17 November claimed responsibility.

3.12.91

EO17N

DEVRIMCI SOL



March 22, 1991
Istanbul, Turkey
Dev-Sol gunmen shot and killed a U.S. contractor for Vinnel, Brown, and Root (VBR) in his office.

3.22.91

The office where the VBR contractor was killed. On the wall, the terrorists wrote. "We are determined and we shall win...Dev. Sol Armed Revolutionary Unit."

October 28, 1991
Ankara, Turkey
A U.S. Air Force Staff Sergeant was killed when a bomb placed underneath his pickup truck exploded. The pickup truck was parked on a side street near his home at the time of the explosion. The Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack.

10.28.91

1992

January 8, 1992 • Florida, Colombia
A naturalized American citizen was kidnaped by the FARC and subsequently killed by the group.

June 10, 1992 • Chilibre, Panama
One U.S. soldier was killed and another seriously wounded when gunmen in a passing car fired on their military vehicle. The attack took place before the visit of then U.S. President George Bush to Panama.

October 1992 • Colombia
The family of an American kidnaped by the ELN on September 9, 1991, reported that the victim was killed by the guerrillas.

October 20, 1992 • Liberia
Two American nuns from the "Precious Blood" order who were giving a ride to soldiers from the Economic Community of West African States Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) were ambushed by soldiers from the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPLF). All were killed by the soldiers who then stole their vehicle.

1993

August 24, 1993 • Guguletu Township, South Africa
A mob of black youths killed an American white woman 2 days before she was to return home to the United States. The victim, a Fullbright exchange student, was pulled from her car and stoned and stabbed to death as she attempted to drop off three black friends at their homes. According to eyewitnesses, the victim was targeted because she was white. An official of the African National Congress (ANC) called her "absolutely dedicated and committed to the cause of the oppressed and the democratization process in the country."

September 3, 1993 • Wajir, Kenya
Two Americans were shot, one fatally, during a riot in Wajir. It is not known if the victims were specific or unintended targets.

March 13, 1994 • Mdantsane Township, Ciskei, South Africa
Two Iranians and an American citizen were killed by gunmen who burst into the Bahai House of Worship. The gunmen ordered the worshippers to separate by race. The gunmen referred to the whites as "Boers," ignored the appeals for mercy by black members of the congregation who explained that the three whites (the two Iranians and the American) were not South Africans. The three whites were shot and killed. No one else was harmed. Both the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA), the military wing of the Pan African Congress (PAC) and the Azanian National Liberation Army (AZANLA), the military wind of the Black Conscience Movement claimed responsibility for the attack.

July 19, 1994 • Colon, Panama
A bomb exploded aboard a Panamanian Atlas commuter flight in midair killing all 21 passengers. Among the dead were three Americans. A group called the Ansar Allah (Followers of God) claimed responsibility for the attack.

October 9, 1994 • West Bank
An Israeli soldier, a duel Israel and American citizen was kidnaped by Hamas. On October 14, 1994, the soldier was killed by his captors when Israeli soldiers stormed the terrorist's hideout.

January 15, 1995 • Cambodia
An American tourist was killed and her husband seriously injured by unknown gunmen about 25 kilometers from Siem Reap. The gunmen fired on their vehicle after forcing it to stop. Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed credit for the attack but it is not known if the attack was criminally or politically motivated.

March 8, 1995 • Karachi, Pakistan
Karachi, Pakistan
Two American diplomats were killed when the U.S. Consulate shuttle bus they were riding in was attacked by at least two armed gunmen.

1995

Suicide Terrorist Attacks

Since 1968, 267 Americans have been killed in suicide terrorist attacks worldwide.

Pictured is one of 168 people (including two Americans) injured in the July 30, 1997, suicide bombing at the outdoor produce market in Jerusalem. Fifteen people, including a dual national U.S.-Israeli citizen were killed.

April 9, 1995 • Gaza Strip, Occupied Territories
A suicide driver crashed an bomb laden van into a bus carrying Israeli soldiers and settlers. Among those killed in the attack was an American citizen. The Palestinian Islamic Jihad—Shaqaqi Faction (PIJ-SF) claimed responsibility.

June 16, 1995 • Medina, Cundinamarca Colombia
Two New Tribes Missionaries who were kidnaped by the FARC on January 16, 1994,were shot and killed by their captors during a firefight with the Colombian military.

August 21, 1995 • Jerusalem, Occupied Territories
Six people, including one American, were killed when a suicide bomber detonated a device aboard an Israeli civilian bus. Hamas' Izz Al Din Al-Qassam Brigades claimed responsibility.

September 5, 1995 • Jerusalem, Occupied Territories
An Israeli-American was killed outside his home at the Maale Mikhmas settlement. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) claimed responsibility for the attack.

November 19, 1995 • Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina
An American citizen working for the United Nations was shot and killed. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, and the investigation continues.

11.13.95

November 13, 1995
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Seven people, including five Americans (one U.S. military and four U.S. Government civilian employees), were killed when a car bomb detonated outside the Office of the Program Manager/Saudi Arabia National Guard building (OPM/SANG). A number of groups claimed responsibility.

2.25.96

February 25, 1996
Jerusalem, Occupied Territories
Twenty-four people, including three Americans were killed when a suicide bomber detonated an explosive device on an Israeli civilian bus. Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) both claimed responsibility.

May 13, 1996 • Ramallah, West Bank
Two gunmen opened fire near the Israeli complex of Beit El, killing one American, and injuring at least three others waiting at a bus stop.

June 9, 1996 • Zacharia, Israel
Gunmen fired on a car in a drive-by shooting. A dual U.S.-Israeli citizen and an Israeli were killed.

(Left)Aftereffects of the bombing of the al-Khobar Military housing facility. (Below) View of crater caused by the bomb. The crater measures 54 feet across and 40 feet deep.

June 25, 1996
Dharan, Saudi Arabia
A truck bomb exploded next to the perimeter fence of the al-Khobar military housing facility. Nineteen American military personnel were killed and 502 others, including 240 Americans were injured. Several groups issued claims of responsibility.

6.25.96

If you have any information regarding those responsible for this act, please contact any U.S. Embassy or Consulate worldwide or mail information to:

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www.heroes.net • e-mail: bsmith@heroes.net

Americans in Captivity 1987-1997

Anniversary 10 Issue

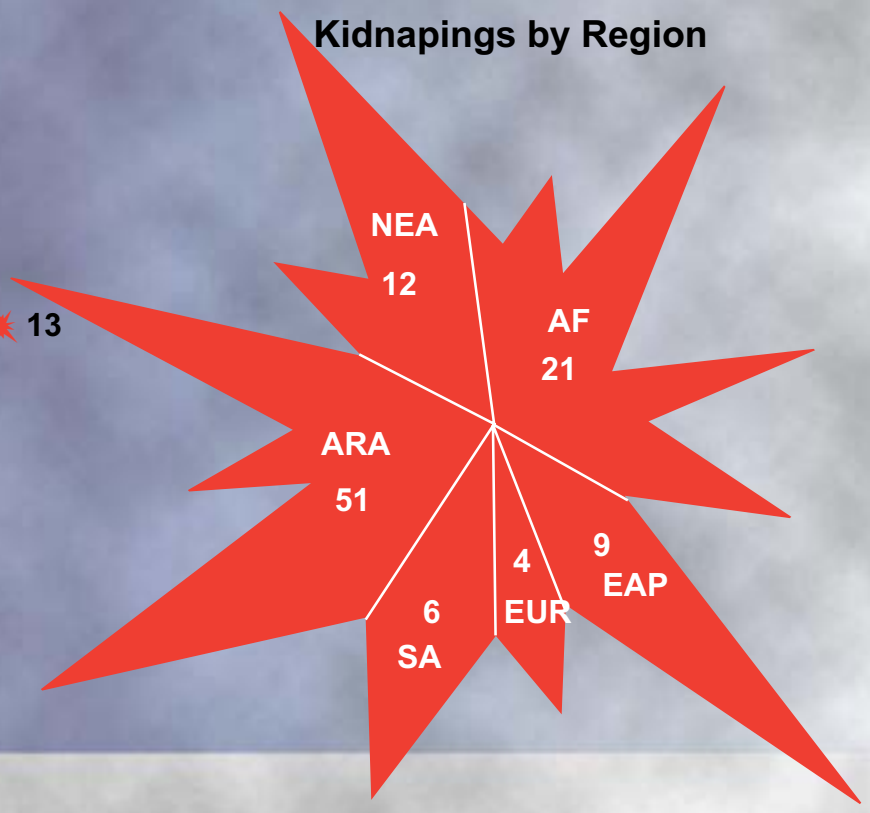
1987 1997

The following statistics are based on terrorist/political kidnapings of Americans.

Incidents by Year*

*The 79 incidents resulted in 103 kidnap victims.

Kidnapings by Region



Incidents by Region

Incidents by Target

U.S. Business	31
U.S. Government	3
U.S. Military	1
Missionary	18
Private	26

Of the 103 Americans kidnaped:

91 were released
3 escaped
5 are dead
4 are still captive*

***January 31, 1993**
Three American missionaries were kidnaped in Pucuro, Panama, by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). Efforts to determine the fate of the missionaries continued throughout 1997. Several foreign governments have committed to pressing the FARC for a full accounting of the men's whereabouts.

***July 4, 1995**
An American tourist was kidnaped while trekking in Kashmir, near Srinagar, India. The act was committed by the al-Faran, an Islamic militant group. There has been no contact with the group since November 1995 and reports have been received that claim that the American and other foreign hostages have been killed. These reports have not been confirmed, so their whereabouts remain unknown.

Targets of Attack

U.S. Government	20
U.S. Military	11
U.S. Business	53
Private	7
Missionary	41
Other	3

Targets by Region

ARA

U.S. Government	13
U.S. Business	22
Private	1
Missionary	41
Other	1

AF

Other	1

EUR

U.S. Government	3
U.S. Military	9
U.S. Business	26
Private	3

EAP

U.S. Government	2
U.S. Military	1
U.S. Business	2

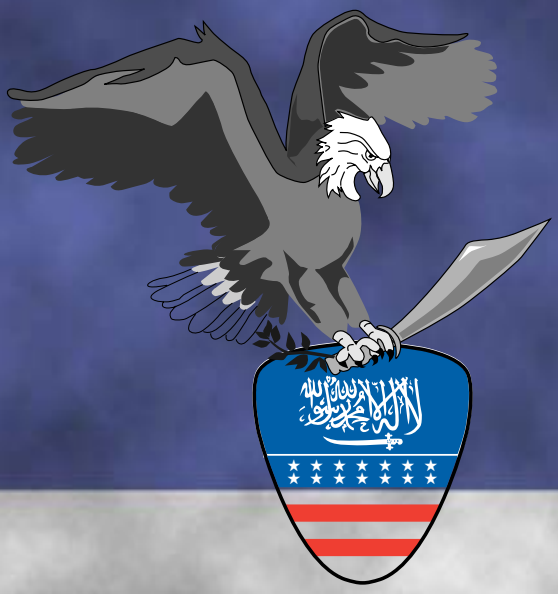
NEA

U.S. Government	2
U.S. Military	1
U.S. Business	2
Private	2

SA

U.S. Business	1
Private	1
Other	1

Operation Desert Storm



January 16, 1991–March 4, 1991

In reviewing anti-American terrorist attacks over the past 10 years, the one event that resulted in the most dramatic increase in anti-American terrorist activity was the U.S. involvement in the Persian Gulf War, also referred to as Operation Desert Storm. During the cited period there were 135 anti-American attacks. Most of the attacks were low-level bombings that resulted in property damage. However, during this period, one American civilian Defense Department contractor was killed and there was an attempted assassination of a U.S. Air Force officer. Less than 3 weeks after the end of Operation Desert Storm another American civilian Defense Department contractor and a U.S. Air Force sergeant were killed. These lethal attacks were carried out by indigenous leftwing terrorist groups in protest against Operation Desert Storm. Following is a worldwide statistical review of anti-American attacks carried out during Operation Desert Storm.

ANTI-AMERICAN ATTACKS BY REGION

TARGETS OF ANTI-AMERICAN ATTACKS

[The attack was]

"in reprisal for one of the most bloody and inhumane wars by which Yankee imperialism displays its contempt for Iraq and all Arab peoples."

—Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA)

"War must stop. Leave Arabs alone. This is only the beginning."

—Anonymous phone call to the Australian American Association, Sidney, Australia

TYPES OF ANTI-AMERICAN ATTACKS BY REGION

AF

Bombing	1

ARA

Arson	1
Attempted Bombing	1
Bombing	55
Grenade	1
Hoax Bomb	2
Rocket	3
Strafing	1
Violent Demonstration	5

EAP

Attempted Bombing	3
Bombing	1
Rocket	1

EUR

Arson	1
Assassination	1
Attempted Assassination	2
Attempted Bombing	2
Rocket	1
Strafing	1
Vandalism	1

NEA

Armed Assault	1
Arson	2
Attempted Assassination	1
Attempted Bombing	1
Bombing	1
Strafing	1

SA

Bomb	1
Violent Demonstration	1

"American imperialism continues its worldwide massacres. The final one is the massacre of the people of the Middle East."

—Dev-Sol/Armed Revolutionary Units

Targets by Region

ARA	
U.S. Government	13
U.S. Business	22
Private	1
Missionary	36
Other	1
AF	
Private	1
EUR	
U.S. Government	3
U.S. Military	8
U.S. Business	26
Private	3
EAP	
U.S. Government	2
U.S. Military	1
U.S. Business	2
NEA	
U.S. Government	2
U.S. Military	1
U.S. Business	2
Private	2
SA	
U.S. Business	1
Private	2

[We attacked the U.S. Embassy]

"because the USA has taken the lead in the war of extermination against the Iraqi people...with our action, we join the ranks of those throughout the world, who have protested this U.S.-NATO genocide."

—Red Army Faction

Lethal Attacks Against Americans

The following incidents occurred after Operation Desert Storm, however, follow-up communiqués by the groups responsible indicated that the attacks were in response to U.S. military action in the Gulf.

March 12, 1991 • Athens, Greece
An American serviceman is killed in a bomb attack outside his home. The Revolutionary Organization 17 November claimed responsibility.

March 22, 1991 • Istanbul, Turkey
A U.S. DOD contractor is shot and killed in his office. Revolutionary Left (Dev-Sol) claimed responsibility.