# ICPSR Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research

# Data Bank of Assassinations, 1948-1967

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# ASSASSINATION DATA

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1969

Note: Data originally prepared in connection with "Political Violence and Assassination: A Cross-National Assessment," Chapter 3 in J. F. Kirkham, S. G. Levy, and W. J. Crotty, eds. <u>Assassination and Political Violence</u>. A Report to the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, Vol. 8. Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1969.

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### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ASSISTANCE

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The data (and tabulations) utilized in this (publication) were made available (in part) by the Inter-university Consortium for Political Research. The data were originally collected by I. K. Feierabend, R. L. Feierabend, B. A. Nesvold, and F. M. Jaggar. Neither the original collectors of the data nor the Consortium bear any responsibility for the analyses or interpretations presented here.

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### NOTE

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### STUDY DESCRIPTION

An assassination event is defined as a plotted, attempted, or actual murder of a prominent political figure (elite) by an individual (assassin) who performs this act in other than a governmental role. The definition draws a distinction between political execution and assassination. An execution may be regarded as a political killing but is initiated by the organs of the state, while an assassination is always characterized as an illegal act. A prominent figure must be the target of the killing, since the killing of lesser members of the political community is included within a wider category of internal political turmoil, namely, terrorism. Finally, a minimal definition distinguishes assassination from homicide: the target of the aggressive act must be a political figure rather than a private person. The killing of a prime minister by a member of an insurrectionist or underground group clearly qualifies as an assassination. So does an act by a deranged individual who tries to kill not just any individual but the individual in his political role--as president, for example. This definition nevertheless excludes an accidental killing of a king during a hunting party or a crime passionel committed against him.

There are additional aspects to the definition. It includes assassinations carried out by agents of foreign governments and assassinations perpetrated against a political figure while he is visiting on foreign soil. Furthermore, assassination plots and alleged plots are counted within the data, although they are distinguished from assassination attempts. It is not always possible to determine, in the case of alleged plots, whether the plot in fact existed and was discovered by the regime, or whether it served as an excuse for a wave of political persecution.

Included within the notion of prominent public figures are all top governmental officeholders, heads of state and government, presidential candidates, cabinet members, legislators, and judges. Also, military figures, chiefs-of-staff, generals, and occasionally colonels if they seem to play an important role in the political arena. Some important local officials, such as mayors of cities or chiefs of police qualify in the definition of prominence. Beyond governmental officeholders, it includes leaders of political parties, large trade unions, social and religious movements, leaders of minority groups and other prominent members of important, visible social institutions.\*

See I. K. Feierabend, R. L. Feierabend, B. A. Nesvold and F. M. Jaggar, "Political Violence and Assassination: A Cross National Assessment," in W. J. Crotty, ed. Assassinations and the Political Order (New York: Harper and Row, 1971).

# ASSASSINATION CODE INDEX

# Variable 1: Country

### Columns 3-5:

West Germany = Federal Republic of Germany United Kingdom = Sum of data for England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland Egypt = United Arab Republic

# Variable 2: Date

```
Columns 6 and 7 (month).
Columns 8 and 9 (day).
Columns 10 and 11 (year).
```

### Variable 3: Outcome

### Column 12:

1 - successful

2 - unsuccessful

# Variable 4: Action

### Column 13:

1 - attempt

2 - plot (including alleged plot)

# Variable 5: Minority Hostility

### Column 14:

1 - Yes

2 - No

# Variable 6: Nature of Tension (Reason for Event)

### Column 15:

1 - political

2 - religious

3 - economic

4 - ethnic

5 - educational

### Variable 7: Type of Group

Columns 16 and 17: Initiator.

Columns 18 and 19: Target.

01 - unspecified

02 - clandestine (group, movement, paramil.)

03 - social or political movement/leader

04 - extremist political group

05 - extremist political group-Communist

06 - refugee/leader

10 - economic

11 - big business/managers/ professional

12 - small business/shopkeepers

13 - agriculture

14 - worker/laborer

15 - trade union group/leader

20 - Chief of State or military junta

21 - former Chief of State

22 - member of cabinet

23 - presidential candidate

24 - other national government official

25 - political party/leader
26 - judicial (national)

27 - legislative (national)

40 - educational, unspecified 28 - military 41 - educational, students 29 - police 42 - educational, professor/ teacher 30 - Monarch 31 - hereditary heir 43 - educational, leader/administrator 32 - tribal chief or official 44 - press/owners/correspondents 33 - colonial official 45 - radio/television 34 - foreign government official 35 - state governor 36 - state legislator 50 - religious leader 37 - state judiciary 60 - medical/doctors/physicians 38 - other state official 39 - mayor 80 - International Organization

### Variable 8: Nature of Group

Columns 20, 21 and 22: Initiator.
Columns 23, 24 and 25: Target.
\*\*\*code only if minority involved\*\*\*

999 = no data030 = Kurd001 = all minorities031 = Macedonian 002 = majority of minorities 032 = Madurese 003 = Arab033 = Magyar004 = Assamese034 = Malay006 = Baluchi 035 = Malayalam006 = Bantu 036 = Maori007 = Bengali 037 = Marathi 038 = Menangkaban 008 = Berber009 = XXXXXXXX039 = Mestizo040 = Mestizo-Indian 010 = Buddhist 011 = Catholic 041 = Moor (Ceylon)042 = Moslem012 = Chinese043 = Moslem, Bosnian 013 = Christian044 = Moslem, Malay 014 = Christian, Bataak 015 = Christian, Copt 045 = Mulatto046 = Negro016 = Colored047 = Negro-Mestizo 017 = Croats048 = Negro-Mulatto 018 = French019 = Gujarti 049 = 0riya 050 = Protestant 020 = Hindu021 = Hindu, Balinese 051 = Punjabi022 = Indian (India) 052 = Scotch023 = Indian (Western Hemisphere) 053 = Sikh 054 = Slovak024 = Indian, Mulatto 025 = Indian, Negro 055 = Slovene056 = Sudanese 026 = Italian 027 = Jewish057 = Sundhi028 = Jakartan 058 = Swedish029 = Kannada059 = Tamil

060 = Tamil, Ceylon 087 = Sumatrins (Indonesia) 061 = Torajada 088 = Rumanians 062 = Turkish089 = English063 = Walloon 090 = Bahais (Iran) 091 = Huks (Philippines) 064 = Welsh065 = Moslem, Druse092 = Greeks (Cyprus 066 = Moslem, Sunni 093 = Kachans (Burma) 094 = Bedouins (Syria) 067 = Moslem, Maronite 095 = Biharis (India) 068 = Puerto Rican 069 = Buganese 096 = Greek Orthodox 097 = Georgian (U.S.S.R.)070 = Flemish098 \* Sorbs (E. Germany) 071 = Sinhalese 072 = Episcopa1 073 = Jurassian 200 = majority074 = Dukobors, Orthodox 201 = majority group sympathetic to 075 = Dukobors, Extremists minori ty 076 = Spanish 202 = majority group unsympathetic 077 = Germanto minority 078 = Telegu 079 = Nagas (India) 300 = government, federal, national 080 = Moslem, Shia 301 = government, state, provincial 302 = government, local, municipal 303 = government, foreign 081 = Mexican-Americans 082 = Nungs (S. Vietnam) 304 = United Nations 083 = Papuans084 = Karens (Burma) 305 = Colonial government 085 = Oriental086 = Cao Cai, Hoa Hao, Etc. 110 = Moslem Brotherhood 111 = Dutch (Vietnam)

# Variable 9: Number Killed

Column 26: 1-9.

# Variable 10: Number Wounded

Column 27: 1-9.

# Variable 11: Identity of Target (Textual)

Columns 31-54.

# Variable 12: Identity of Assassin (Textual)

Columns 55-69.

# Variable 13: New York Times Reference

Columns 70 and 71 (month)
Columns 72 and 73 (day)
Columns 74 and 75 (year)
Columns 77 and 78 (page number)
Column 80 (column number)

Note: If an "EB" appears in Columns 79 and 80 the reference is the Encyclopedia Brittanica Yearbooks.

If a "DD" appears in Columns 79 and 80 the reference is Deadline Data.