

tions from late 1970 to 1972. These, along with the incarceration of previous members of the FLQ and the flight of other activists into foreign exile, coincided with the end of violent activism in 1972.⁶⁵

So did increased Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and state and local police activity against Puerto Rican, black-liberation, and white-supremacist groups in the 1970s and 1980s. As one study concluded, there is unequivocal evidence of FBI and local police “success in infiltrating militant organizations, preempting attacks, and arresting terrorist of every political stripe.”⁶⁶ The Black Liberation Army, established in 1971 by embittered former members of the Black Panther Party, was responsible for about 20 ambushes of police officers. By 1974, 18 of its members were in prison, and only a handful of subsequent events were attributed to the survivors. In the early 1980s, the United Freedom Front claimed responsibility for roughly ten bombings against corporate and military targets in the New York City metropolitan area. All seven of its known members were arrested in 1984 and 1985.⁶⁷

Other Reasons

There are several other reasons that terrorist groups might end, but they tend to be less common.

Military Force

Seven percent of terrorist groups that have ended since 1968 have done so because of military force. When they became strong enough to conduct insurgencies, however, terrorist groups ended because of military force 25 percent of the time.

⁶⁵ Ross and Gurr (1989, p. 412).

⁶⁶ Ross and Gurr (1989, p. 417).

⁶⁷ Ross and Gurr (1989, p. 41); see also Christopher Hewitt, *Understanding Terrorism in America: From the Klan to al Qaeda*, New York: Routledge, 2002.