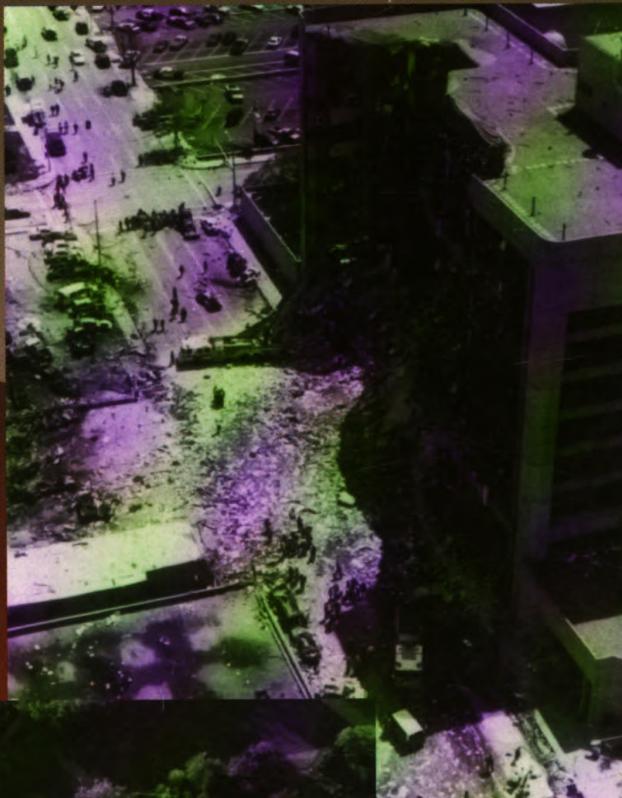




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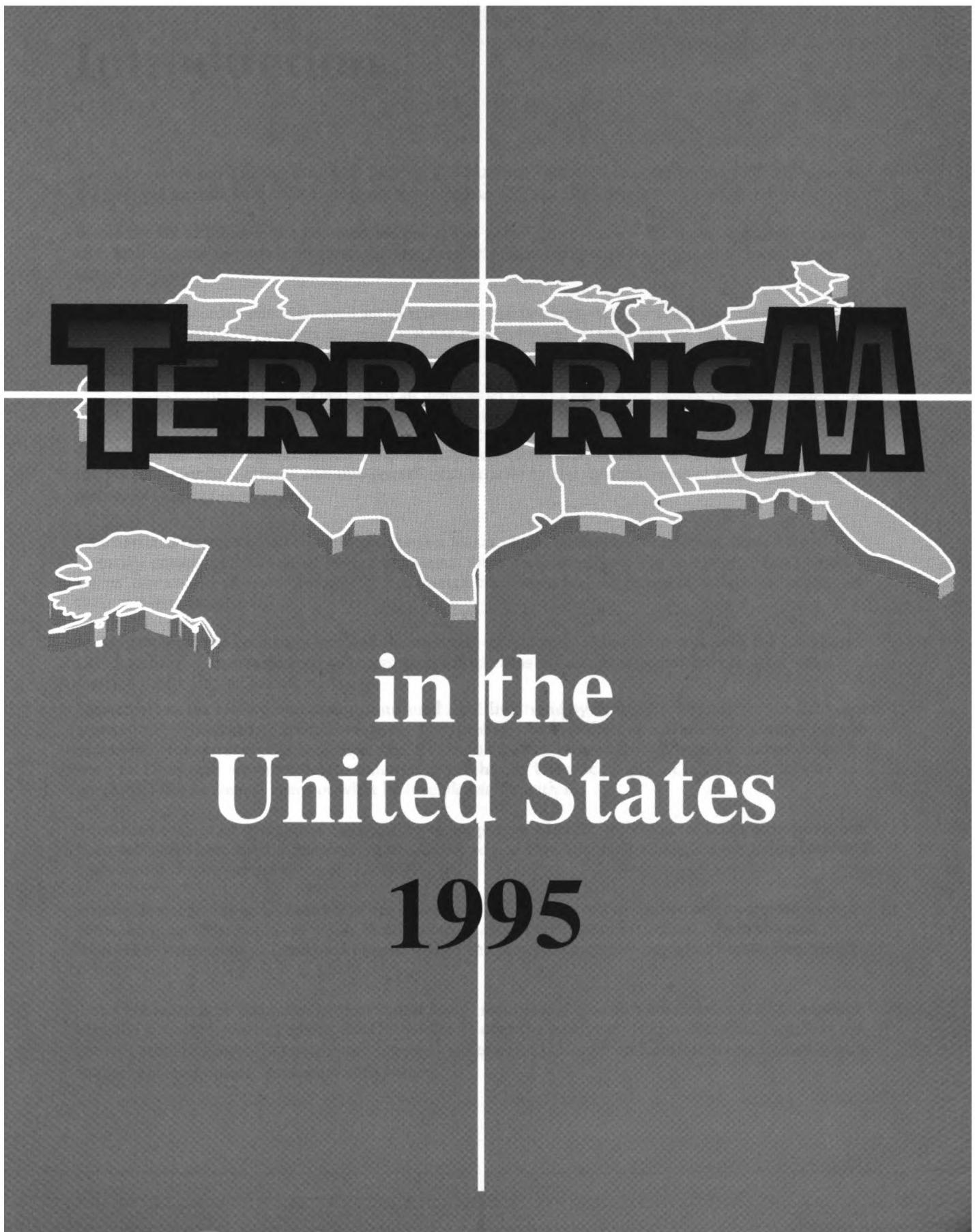
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Introduction

Terrorists continued to threaten U.S. citizens and interests in the United States in 1995. The number of terrorist attacks here increased slightly over relatively low 1994 levels.

Inside the United States, the FBI recorded one act of terrorism. This act--the most destructive ever on U.S. soil--appears to have been conducted by domestic extremists with no connection to a foreign power.

The FBI also recorded one suspected act of terrorism and two terrorism preventions. One of these preventions involved thwarting the potential use of a biological weapon against law enforcement officers by a domestic group in the Midwest.

Domestic extremist rhetoric experienced an upsurge in 1995 as right wing extremist groups--many of whom adhere to reactionary, racist, or anti-semitic ideology--continued to recruit new members in the United States. Many of these supporters feel displaced by the rapidly changing U.S. culture. Others hate or fear the federal government. As demographics, economies, and lifestyles continue to transform, the potential for hate crimes and anti-government attacks by the most extreme of these right wing militants is likely to increase.

International terrorists also continued to pose a threat. State sponsors of terrorism, many formal terrorist groups, and loosely-affiliated extremists view the United States as an enemy. The United States' free society also attracts a variety of foreign extremists seeking refuge or a platform to support their terrorist activities.

In the past year, the country witnessed the re-emergence of spectacular terrorism with the Oklahoma City bombing. Large-scale attacks designed to inflict mass casualties appear to be a new terrorist method in the United States.

Extremists in the United States also continued a chilling trend by demonstrating interest in--and experimentation with--unconventional weapons. In February, two members of a Minnesota group were convicted of manufacturing the biological agent ricin in an attempt to murder law enforcement officers. In May, an Ohio man was arrested for unlawfully purchasing bubonic plague. It is still unclear why he purchased the biological agent or what he intended to do with it.

Terrorists continued to improve their ability to support or conduct violent acts. Some extremists and their followers here have demonstrated the ability to use advanced technology, travel undetected, and circumvent the letter and spirit of U.S. law.

Finally, based on the large number of apprehensions and convictions of known and suspected terrorists in 1995, some terrorist supporters may be considering acts of revenge or blackmail. As in the past, it is likely that Americans at home and abroad will be the potential target of terrorists for the foreseeable future.

The 1995 edition of *Terrorism in the United States* records and describes international and domestic terrorist activity occurring inside the United States over the past year. It also examines--but does not provide statistics on--other politically-oriented violence on U.S. soil, and comments on foreign events which impact domestic extremist activities.

FBI Policy and Guidelines

In accordance with U.S. counterterrorism policy, the FBI considers terrorists to be criminals. The FBI investigates terrorists in the United States under the following guidelines:

- Domestic terrorism investigations are conducted in accordance with the *Attorney General Guidelines for General Crimes, Racketeering Enterprises, and Domestic Security/Terrorism Investigations*. These guidelines set forth the predication threshold and limits for investigation of U.S. persons who reside here, who are not acting on behalf of a foreign power, and who may be conducting criminal activities in support of terrorist objectives.
- International terrorism investigations are conducted in accordance with the *Attorney General Guidelines for FBI Foreign Intelligence Collection and Foreign Counterintelligence Investigations*. These guidelines set forth the predication level and limits for investigating U.S. persons or foreign nationals in the United States who appear to be either acting on behalf of a foreign power and who appear to be targeting national security interests.

There is no federal law which makes terrorism a crime. Terrorists are arrested and convicted under existing criminal statutes. All suspected terrorists placed under arrest are provided access to legal council and normal judicial procedure, including Fifth Amendment privileges and a fair trial by judge and jury.

Definitions

There is no single definition of terrorism. The FBI defines terrorism as, "the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a Government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives."

The FBI further describes terrorism as either domestic or international, depending on the origin, base, and objectives of the terrorist organization. For the purpose of this report, the FBI will use the following definitions:

- Domestic terrorism involves groups or individuals who are based and operate entirely within the United States and Puerto Rico without foreign direction and whose acts are directed at elements of the U.S. Government or population.
- International terrorism is the unlawful use of force or violence committed by a group or individual, who has some connection to a foreign power or whose activities transcend national boundaries, against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.

The FBI divides terrorist-related activity into three categories:

- A terrorist incident is a violent act or an act dangerous to human life, in violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any state, to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.
- A suspected terrorist incident is a potential act of terrorism in which responsibility for the act cannot be attributed at the time to a known or suspected terrorist group or individual.
- A terrorism prevention is a documented instance in which a violent act by a known or suspected terrorist group or individual with the means and a proven propensity for violence is successfully interdicted through investigative activity.

Note

The FBI investigates terrorism-related matters without regard to race, religion, national origin, or gender. Reference to individual members of any political, ethnic, or religious group in this document does not imply that all members of that group are terrorists. Terrorists represent a small criminal minority in any larger social context.

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The Year In Review

The FBI recorded one act of terrorism, one suspected act of terrorism, and two terrorist preventions on U.S. soil in 1995. Terrorist-related events--including terrorism trials--occurred in 8 states.

The most significant terrorist-related events include the following:

On February 28, 1995, the FBI concluded a terrorism prevention when a Minneapolis jury convicted four members of a domestic extremist group of violating the Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act of 1989. The subjects manufactured the biological agent ricin with the intent to kill law enforcement officers.

On April 19, 1995, a truck bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, killing 168 citizens and injuring hundreds. This attack was the deadliest terrorist event ever committed on U.S. soil.

On October 9, 1995, a 12-car Amtrak train derailed near Hyder, Arizona. The derailment killed 1 person and seriously injured 12 others. This suspected act of terrorism is still under investigation.

On November 11, 1995, the FBI prevented an act of terrorism by arresting four U.S. persons in Oklahoma for illegally conspiring to manufacture and possess a destructive device. The subjects were considering attacking civil rights offices, abortion clinics, and federal agencies.

The overall level of terrorist-related events in the United States increased, reversing last year's downturn. In 1994, there were

no known terrorists acts and one small-scale suspected act in the United States.

The number of people killed in terrorist attacks in the United States increased sharply from previous years. Last year 168 people died in a single terrorist bombing in Oklahoma City. In 1994, no American



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On April 19, 1995, a truck bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. The blast killed 168 people and wounded hundreds.

in the United States died in a terrorist attack. In 1993, 6 people died in the World Trade Center bombing.

In 1995, U.S. law enforcement scored victories against extremists by arresting or detaining 14 suspected terrorists inside the United States and overseas. Two of these subjects were FBI Top Ten Fugitives, including Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, the alleged mastermind of the World Trade Center bombing.

U.S. courts convicted 21 people for involvement in terrorist-related activities last year. The most prominent of these were Egyptian Shaykh Omar Abdel Rahman and nine followers. These terrorists were found guilty by a New York jury of seditious conspiracy charges in a 1993 plot to bomb major New York City landmarks and assassinate prominent politicians.

The United States deported or approved for extradition two terrorists from the United States in 1995. One of the terrorists was a member of the Provisional Irish Republican Army, the other was a Mexican extremist.

As part of its ongoing investigation of the 1988 Pan Am Flight 103 bombing, on March 23, 1995, the FBI placed two Libyan suspects, Laman Khalifa Fhimah and Abdel Basset Ali Al-Megrahi, on its Top Ten Most Wanted List. The U.S. Government's Heroes Program and the airline industry are offering rewards of up to \$4 million for information leading to the apprehension and prosecution of these two suspects.

During the past year, the FBI also expanded its Counterterrorism Branch at FBI Headquarters. Additional FBI personnel were authorized to staff the branch. Counterterrorism officers and analysts from several U.S. Government agencies were also invited to work at the FBI. The goal is to improve the U.S. Government's ability to combat terrorism and maintain a robust infrastructure protection and countermeasures capability for the United States.

The U.S. Government stepped up its efforts against terrorism in the United States last year. In January, President Clinton signed an executive order blocking the U.S.-based financial assets of

terrorists and terrorist groups who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process. In July 1995, the President issued Presidential Decision Directive 39. The directive further defined the missions and goals of agencies which comprise the U.S. counterterrorism community.

At the same time, FBI and Department of Justice officials participated in numerous national and international conferences, including a major counterterrorism gathering in Ottawa, Canada at the end of the year. These meetings were designed to increase cooperation among U.S. police agencies--as well as among foreign security services--to form a united law enforcement front against terrorism inside the United States and around the world.

Terrorism In The United States

The following section describes terrorist-related events which occurred in the United States in 1995. These events included law enforcement actions and U.S. criminal court proceedings.

Arizona

Irish Terrorists Convicted

On April 12, 1995, Michael "Mixie" Martin, a supporter of the Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA), pled guilty to one count of violating Title 18, United States Code, Section 371, Conspiracy to Obtain Munitions and Weapons. Martin and two other PIRA supporters, Kevin McKinley and Seamus Moley, had conspired to purchase 2,900 detonators in Tucson in 1989 and a stinger missile in Florida in 1990. Martin was sentenced to 16 months incarceration and was deported in 1996.

On June 30, 1995, McKinley and Moley were sentenced to 19 months imprisonment for violation of Title 18, United States Code 33, Placing Explosives on a Motor Vehicle, and Title 18, United States Code 957, Possession of Property and Aid of a Foreign Government. They were deported in 1996.



On October 9, 1995, the Sunset Limited derailed near Hyder, Arizona. The crash killed one person and seriously injured 12 others.

Passenger Train Derailed

On October 9, 1995, a 12-car Amtrak train—the westbound Sunset Limited traveling from New Orleans to Los Angeles—derailed near Hyder, Arizona. The crash killed 1 person and seriously injured 12 others. Approximately 100 additional persons received minor injuries.

FBI Agents, Amtrak officials, and Southern Pacific Railroad personnel went to the site of the incident. Investigation determined that a person or persons had deliberately tampered with the tracks, causing the train to derail. Investigators also found four typed letters. These letters mentioned the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, the FBI, "Ruby Ridge," and "Waco." They were signed "Sons of the Gestapo."

Although a claim of responsibility was received, it is unclear whether the derailment was criminal sabotage or an act of terrorism. This suspected act of terrorism remains under FBI investigation.

California

Mexican Extremist Convicted

On March 11, 1995, an individual placed the first of several threatening telephone calls to the First Data Corporation in Lakewood, California. The caller demanded that the president of the First Data Corporation send a letter by facsimile to Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo urging him to withdraw troops from the Mexican state of Chiapas.

The caller expressed detailed knowledge of the floor plan of the First Data Corporation's headquarters complex. He threatened to bomb the complex and U.S. Customs Service and Immigration and Naturalization Service offices in Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas, if his demands were not met.

The FBI identified the caller as Benjamin Ruiz Valencia, also known as Samuel Orozco, an illegal Mexican immigrant residing in Fresno, California. Valencia was arrested and charged with making interstate threats by telephone.

Valencia claimed that he made the calls because he believed that the Mexican Army was "suppressing" native peoples in Chiapas and Oaxaca, Mexico. Valencia also indicated he supported the goals of a Mexican insurgent group called the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN).

On April 3, 1995, Valencia pled guilty in a California federal court. He was ordered deported from the United States on June 27, 1995.

Irish Terrorist To Be Extradited

On July 27, 1995, a U.S. Court of Appeals in California reversed a 1994 decision by a

lower California court which barred the extradition of PIRA member James Joseph Smyth from the United States to the United Kingdom. The court also denied Smyth's petition for a rehearing. Based on the Appeals Court ruling, Smyth is now eligible for extradition.

On December 18, 1978, Smyth was convicted and imprisoned by a British court in connection with activities in support of PIRA, including attempted murder. He and 39 others escaped from Her Majesty's Prison Maze in Northern Ireland in 1983. Smyth fled to the United States where he was arrested on June 3, 1992, by FBI Agents from the San Francisco Division. The British Government requested his extradition shortly afterwards.

Illinois

Libyan Mercenary Apprehended



On March 9, 1995, the FBI's Chicago Joint Terrorism Task Force arrested Top Ten Fugitive Melvin Edward Mays for allegedly conspiring to conduct terrorist activities on behalf of Libya.

On March 9, 1995, Top Ten Fugitive Melvin Edward Mays, a member of the Chicago El Rukns street gang, was arrested by members of the FBI's Chicago Joint Terrorism Task Force. He was charged

with over 40 federal counts related to a conspiracy to conduct terrorist activities on behalf of the Government of Libya.

During the mid-1980s, U.S. law enforcement indicted and convicted several other members of the El Rukns street gang for conspiring to commit terrorist acts on behalf of Libya. As part of the conspiracy, Mays purchased an inert light anti-tank weapon from an undercover FBI Agent.

Mays eluded authorities during an attempted arrest in 1986. He was placed on the FBI's Top Ten Most Wanted List on February 7, 1989.

The convictions of the El Rukns gang members marked the first instance in U.S. history that American citizens had been found guilty of planning terrorist acts on behalf of a foreign government in return for money.

Domestic Extremists Convicted



Top Ten Fugitives Marks (left) and Willmott (right) surrendered to authorities on December 6, 1994. They were supporters of the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee and the Armed Forces for Puerto Rican National Liberation.

On December 6, 1994, Claude Daniel Marks and Donna Jean Willmott--both Top Ten Fugitives and supporters of the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee and the Armed Forces for National Liberation (FALN)--surrendered to U.S. authorities. On May 9, 1995, Marks and Willmott pled guilty to

charges of conspiracy to violate laws prohibiting prison escape and other related criminal activities in federal court in the Northern District of Illinois.

In 1985, Marks and Willmott purchased over 36 pounds of plastic explosives from an undercover FBI Agent in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. They intended to use the explosives in a plot to help FALN leader Oscar Lopez escape from a U.S. penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kansas.

The Prairie Fire Organizing Committee was founded 1974 as a front for the extremist Weather Underground Organization.

The FALN is a clandestine Puerto Rican terrorist group based in the continental United States. Since 1974, the FALN has been linked to over 130 bombings which have resulted in over \$3.5 million in damages, 5 deaths, and 84 injuries. Prairie Fire and the FALN share similar extreme leftist ideologies.

Until their surrender, Marks and Willmott spent nearly 10 years in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They lived a clandestine life using false identification under the aliases William Gregory Peters and Joanne Elliott.

Michigan

Animal Rights Extremist Convicted



On July 3, 1995, Rodney Coronado, a member of the extremist Animal Liberation Front, pled guilty to arson charges relating to a 1992 fire at the Mink Research Facility in Michigan.

On July 3, 1995, Rodney Coronado, a member of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), pled guilty to arson charges relating to a fire he started on February 2, 1992, at the Mink Research Facility at Michigan State University. Coronado was sentenced to 57 months incarceration, 3 years probation, and restitution of over \$2 million.

ALF is a militant animal rights protest group founded in England in 1976. The group violently opposes the use of animals in medical and scientific research. ALF members are responsible for numerous criminal acts in Europe. The first known instance of ALF terrorism in the United States occurred at the University of Maryland in 1982.

Minnesota

Domestic Extremists Convicted

On February 28, 1995, the FBI concluded a terrorism prevention when a Minneapolis jury convicted Douglas Allen Baker and Leroy Charles Wheeler of violating the Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act (BWAT) of 1989. The two subjects manufactured and intended to use ricin, a highly toxic biological substance made from castor beans. On October 25, 1995, Richard John Oelrich and Dennis Brett Henderson--both identified as conspirators in the plot--were convicted of identical BWAT charges.

The Patriot's Council is a small anti-government, tax protest group based in the Alexandria, Minnesota, area. Members of the Patriot's Council advocate the violent overthrow of the U.S. Government and the establishment of a new "truly constitutional" regime.

In April 1991, Baker, Wheeler, Oelrich, and Henderson planned to kill a Deputy U.S. Marshal and a Sheriff who previously served papers on a Patriots Council associate. They manufactured the ricin to use as a weapon. The amount of biological agent they eventually produced could have killed over 100 people if effectively delivered.

This case was the first investigation brought to trial and successfully prosecuted under the BWAT statute.

Nevada

Reno Bombing Attempt

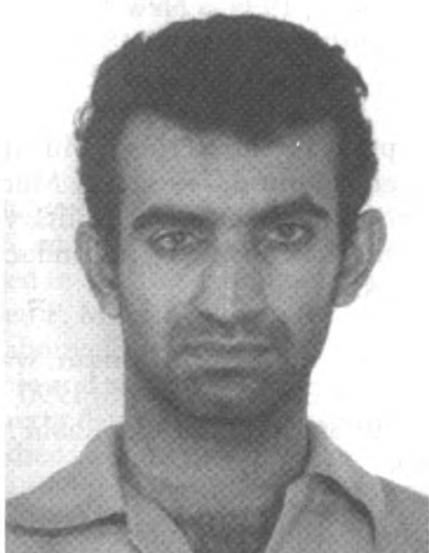
On December 18, 1995, an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) employee discovered a 30-gallon plastic drum packed with 100 pounds of ammonium nitrate and fuel oil. The drum had been placed behind a ve-

hicle in the parking lot of the IRS building in Reno, Nevada. On December 28, 1995, the U.S. District Court in Reno charged Joseph Martin Bailie and Ellis Edward Hurst with planting the bomb at the IRS facility.

The two men are accused of trying to detonate the device the previous evening when the building was empty. A three-foot fuse had apparently been ignited but went out prior to reaching the explosive.

New York

Ramzi Ahmed Yousef Apprehended



On February 7, 1995, U.S. law enforcement apprehended Top Ten Fugitive Ramzi Ahmed Yousef in Pakistan.

On February 7, 1995, FBI Agents and State Department Diplomatic Security Officers apprehended Top Ten Fugitive Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, also known as Abdul Basit Mahmoud Abdul Karim, in Islamabad, Pakistan. Officials transported Yousef to the United States the following day where he was arraigned in the Southern District of New York on charges relating to his alleged involvement in the February 26, 1993, World Trade Center bombing. On April 12, 1995, Yousef was also indicted for

conspiring to bomb Philippine Airlines Flight 434 on December 11, 1994, and to bomb several other U.S. air carriers transiting the Far East.

Yousef's trial began on May 13, 1996. On September 5, 1996, he and two associates were convicted of plotting to bomb U.S. airliners in the Far East. Yousef's trial for his alleged role in the World Trade Center bombing is expected to begin in early 1997.

Ramzi Yousef Associate Apprehended

On April 22, 1995, FBI Agents took custody of Abdul Hakim Murad from Philippine authorities. Philippine police arrested Murad after a fire broke in a Manila apartment in which Murad, Ramzi Yousef, and another associate were living. Inside the apartment, Philippine officials found explosives and bomb making materials.

Murad was returned to the United States and arraigned in the Southern District of New York. He, along with Ramzi Yousef and Wali Khan Amin Shah, was charged with conspiring to bomb U.S. civil aircraft transiting the Far East.

On September 5, 1996, Murad was convicted of plotting to bomb the U.S. airliners. He will be sentenced in December 1996.

HAMAS Supporter Detained

On July 25, 1995, Musa Abu Marzook--the self-proclaimed chief of the Political Bureau of a Palestinian terrorist group called the Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS)--was detained at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport by Immigration and Naturalization Service Agents. Marzook tripped a watchlist while attempting to enter the United States after being expelled from Jordan.

On July 30, 1995, the Israeli Government formally notified the United States that it would seek Marzook's extradition to face criminal charges of terrorism and conspiracy to commit murder. On August 8, 1995, FBI Agents, acting on a warrant from an Israeli court, arrested Marzook pending a formal extradition hearing.

The Political Bureau of HAMAS is believed to be the organization's highest decision-making body. Marzook has admitted to involvement in HAMAS humanitarian activities, but denies participation in the organization's terrorist acts.

On May 8, 1996, a federal judge in New York determined that Marzook was eligible for extradition to Israel. HAMAS and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad have publicly threatened to retaliate if Marzook is extradited to Israel.

World Trade Center Suspect Apprehended

On August 2, 1995, Jordanian authorities rendered Eyad Ismoil Najim, a 24-year-old Palestinian, to FBI custody. On August 3, 1995, Najim was arraigned in the Southern District of New York and charged with bombing and conspiracy violations in connection with the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. He has pled not-guilty to charges related to the World Trade Center attack.

New York City Terrorists Convicted

On January 9, 1995, jury selection began for the trial of Egyptian Shaykh Omar Abdel Rahman and nine other defendants. These subjects were charged with seditious conspiracy and other crimes in a June 1993 plot to bomb major landmarks in New York City and assassinate prominent politicians and foreign leaders. The sedi-



On October 1, 1995, Egyptian Shaykh Abdel Rahman (left) was convicted of seditious conspiracy in a 1993 New York terrorism plot. El Sayyid Nosair (right) was convicted of the 1990 murder of militant Rabbi Meir Kahane.

tious conspiracy charge included the February 1993 World Trade Center bombing.

On October 1, 1995, a New York jury reached guilty verdicts on 48 of 50 charges. Shaykh Abdel Rahman was convicted of seditious conspiracy, solicitation to murder Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, conspiracy to murder President Mubarak, solicitation to attack a U.S. military installation, and conspiracy to conduct bombings.

One defendant, El Sayyid Nosair, was convicted of the November 5, 1990, murder of militant Jewish leader Rabbi Meir Kahane.

In the only acquittals, subjects Ibrahim Elgabrowney and El Sayyid Nosair were found not guilty of the June 1993 plot to bomb New York City landmarks. However, they were found guilty of the broader seditious conspiracy charge.

Considering the potential lethality of the plot, this case represents the most significant terrorism prevention inside the United States in recent history.

Ramzi Yousef Associate Apprehended

On December 12, 1995, the FBI arrested Wali Khan Amin Shah overseas and returned him to the United States for his suspected participation in the bombing of Philippine Air Line Flight 434 on December 12, 1994, and a January 1995 conspiracy with Ramzi Ahmed Yousef and Abdul Hakim Murad to bomb U.S. air carriers transiting the Far East.

On December 13, 1995, Shah was indicted in the Southern District of New York, on six counts relating to this case. On September 5, 1996, a New York jury found Shah guilty. He will be sentenced in December 1996.

Oklahoma

Oklahoma City Bombing

At approximately 9:02 a.m., on April 19, 1995, an improvised explosive device placed in a rented truck destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. The blast killed 168 people and wounded hundreds of others. Property damage was assessed in the hundreds of millions of dollars. The FBI classified this incident as a known act of terrorism.

On April 19, Timothy James McVeigh was arrested in Oklahoma for vehicle and weapons violations. On April 21, 1995, McVeigh was charged with violating Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 844 {f} and 2, Maliciously Damaging and Destroying a Building by Means of Explosives. On May 11, 1995, Terry Lynn Nichols was charged with the same violation.

On August 10, 1995, a federal grand jury in the Western District of Oklahoma returned an indictment charging McVeigh and Nichols with the bombing and the

homicides of several law enforcement officers who were inside the building. The indictment identified McVeigh and Nichols as co-conspirators and charged them with one count of Conspiracy to Use a Weapon of Mass Destruction to Kill Persons and to Destroy Federal Property, one count of Using a Weapon of Mass Destruction to Kill Persons, one count of Malicious Destruction of Federal Property, and eight counts of First Degree Murder.

Following a petition by defense attorneys, on December 4, 1995, the U.S. Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver appointed Colorado U.S. District Judge Richard P. Matsch to hear this matter. Although the venue moved to Denver, a trial date has not been set. If convicted, McVeigh and Nichols could face the death penalty.

Domestic Extremists Arrested

On November 11, 1995, FBI Agents prevented a potential act of terrorism by arresting Ray Willie Lampley, Cecilia Lampley, and John Dare Baird in Vernon, Oklahoma. Lampley, who has described himself as a "prophet of the most high," is a militia leader with strong anti-government views. He advocates stockpiling homemade bombs and other weapons to fight a "foreign invasion." Lampley has also written to public figures, prophesying their deaths as divine retribution for "corrupt actions."

On November 11, FBI Agents executed a search warrant on Lampley's residence. During the search, officials found and seized components necessary to manufacture an ammonium nitrate explosive and a homemade detonating device. Lampley and his associates were considering using this device to attack civil rights offices, abortion clinics, and federal agencies.

Lampley, his wife Cecilia, and Baird were arrested at the scene without incident. Larry Wayne Crow, another subject in the investigation, turned himself in to U.S. Marshals in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on November 14, 1995.

The Lampleys, Baird, and Crow were charged with one count of Conspiring to Build and Possess a Destructive Device in violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 371; Title 26, U.S. Code, Section 5822. They were convicted in U.S. court on April 24, 1996.

Current Threat

Domestic Terrorism

The face of domestic terrorism in the United States continued to change in 1995. The FBI identified a further decline in traditional left wing domestic extremism, and an increase in activities among extremists associated with right wing groups and special interest organizations.

Left Wing Terrorism

Over the last three decades, leftist-oriented extremist groups posed the predominant domestic terrorist threat in the United States. In the 1980s, the FBI neutralized many of these groups by arresting key members who were conducting criminal activity. The transformation of the former Soviet Union also deprived many leftist groups of a coherent ideology or spiritual patron. As a result, membership and support for these groups waned.

The United States still faces a threat from some leftist extremists, including Puerto Rican terrorist groups. Although Puerto Rico voted to remain within the U.S. Commonwealth in 1993, some extremists are still willing to plan and conduct terrorist acts in order to draw attention to their desire for independence.

Right Wing Terrorism

On the other side of the political spectrum, right wing extremist groups--which generally adhere to an anti-government or racist ideology--continued to attract supporters last year. Many of these recruits feel displaced by rapid changes in the U.S. culture and economy, or are seeking some form of personal affirmation. As American

society continues to change, the potential for hate crimes by extremist right wing groups is an increasing concern.

The militia movement in the United States also continued to attract supporters. Several factors have contributed to the increase of this generally anti-government effort. The changing political environment, issues such as gun-control legislation, United Nations involvement in international affairs, and clashes between dissidents and law enforcement are cornerstones of militia ideology.

One product of the militia movement is common law courts. These courts--which have no legitimate legal authority--consist of self-appointed judges and juries who sometimes issue fraudulent indictments and warrants.

Some militia members believe that the U.S. Government is part of a conspiracy to create a "new world order." According to adherents, in this new order existing international boundaries will be dissolved and the world will be ruled by the United Nations. Other militia supporters believe that the federal government is either too powerful or simply illegal.

Last year, some of these militants continued to conduct paramilitary training and stockpile illegal weapons in preparation for unlawful armed action. A few of these more extreme militia members pose a potential terrorist threat.

Special Interest Extremists

Special interest extremists continued to conduct acts of politically-oriented crime last year. Violent anti-abortion advocates were responsible for almost all of these activities.

Due to the efforts of the Department of Justice's Task Force on Violence Against Abortion Providers (TFVAAP), the number of abortion-related crimes decreased from 1994 levels. Although the number of incidents declined, the TFVAAP still investigated more than 100 violations of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act in 1995.

Two of the most prominent abortion-related events in 1995 included the following:

- On February 22, 1995, Dr. Elizabeth Karlin, a physician in Madison, Wisconsin, received two death threat letters. Vincent Whitaker--an inmate at a local county jail who was serving a 67-year sentence for reckless injury with a motor vehicle--later admitted writing the letters. On September 12, 1995, Whitaker was tried and convicted of two counts of the FACE Act and sending threats through the U.S. Mail. On November 21, 1995, Whitaker was sentenced to an additional 63 months imprisonment.
- In August 1995, John Salvi--the suspected murderer of two receptionists during a December 30, 1994, shooting spree at an abortion clinic in Brookline, Massachusetts--was declared competent to stand trial. Salvi is charged under Massachusetts law with the murders of Shannon Lowney and Lee Ann Nichols, and five other counts of aggravated assault.

The Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, through the TFVAAP, investigates any instance in which customers or providers of reproductive health services are criminally threatened, obstructed, or injured while seeking or providing services.

International Terrorism

Foreign terrorists viewed the United States as a priority target last year. Foreign terrorists and their supporters continued to live in and travel throughout this country.

State Sponsors of Terrorism

The recognized state sponsors of international terrorism--Iran, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Libya, Cuba, and North Korea--continue to maintain diplomatic establishments here. In the past, the FBI has investigated allegations that diplomats from some of these countries were involved in terrorist-related activities.

During the 1995 seditious conspiracy trial in New York of Egyptian Shaykh Omar Abdel Rahman and several followers, one Sudanese national testified that Sudanese diplomats were aware of the conspiracy to bomb major landmarks in New York City. One Sudanese diplomat allegedly offered to help the conspirators place a bomb at the United Nations by providing diplomatic license plates. The U.S. Department of State, in coordination with the FBI, declared a diplomat at the Sudanese Mission to the United Nations *persona non grata* in 1996.

Formal Terrorist Groups

Supporters of formalized terrorist groups--such as the Egyptian Al-Gama'at Al-Islamiyya, HAMAS, and Hezbollah--also continued to view the United States as an attractive refuge and staging area. Some

supporters in the United States are believed to be conducting criminal activity--to include military-style training--in support of terrorist groups' objectives. With the conviction of Shaykh Omar Abdel Rahman--the spiritual leader of the militant Egyptian Islamic Group--and the detention of HAMAS leader Musa Abu Marzook, it is possible that members of formal terrorist groups may be considering some form of retaliation.

Loosely-Affiliated Extremists

Finally, loosely-affiliated extremists continued to view the United States as both a staging area and a target. Some of these unilateral radicals--who adhere to the worst excesses of hatred spawned by a variety of international conflicts--have demonstrated the ability to use advanced technology in the United States, travel undetected here, and circumvent the letter and spirit of U.S. laws. These militants represent the most difficult international terrorist challenge to the law enforcement and intelligence communities.

Current Trends In The United States

Terrorists Are Improving

Over the past year, terrorist supporters in the United States continued a trend toward improving their ability to collect information, raise money, and issue rhetoric. Advanced technology allowed some extremists to communicate efficiently and securely. Supporters of terrorist groups also continued to send and receive information from like-minded zealots overseas.

Public computer databases are becoming ubiquitous in the United States. Some of these networks are repositories for inflammatory rhetoric which can influence or inflame extremists. Other databases contain recipes for bombs, hold information on unconventional weapons, or offer computer viruses for download.

Terrorists may also have learned from past violence in the United States, particularly the examples set by the World Trade Center and Oklahoma City bombings. Studying the attacks--including the resulting damage, media coverage, and investigative techniques used to apprehend suspects--could prompt future terrorists to plan their attacks with greater care.

Bombs Are Deadlier

Terrorists in the United States continued a general trend in which fewer attacks are occurring in the United States, but individual attacks are becoming more deadly. The 1995 Oklahoma City bombing was one of the largest explosions ever investigated by the FBI. That single bombing killed more Americans in the United States than any terrorist attack in the modern era.

Recipes for large explosives are available for any extremist willing to research them. It is likely that the United States will continue to face the threat of "spectacular terrorism" for the foreseeable future.

Unconventional Weapons

Extremists in the United States continued a chilling trend by demonstrating interest in--and experimentation with--unconventional weapons. Over the past ten years, a pattern of interest in biological agents by criminals and extremists has developed:

- In 1984, two members of the Rajneesh religious sect in Oregon produced and dispensed salmonella in restaurants in order to affect the outcome of a local election. Seven hundred and fifteen persons were affected. There were no fatalities.
- In April 1991, several members of a domestic extremist group called the Patriot's Council in Minnesota manufactured the biological agent ricin from castor beans and discussed using it against federal law enforcement officers. The amount of ricin produced could have killed over 100 people if effectively delivered.
- In May 1995, a U.S. person illegally obtained three vials of bubonic plague from a firm in Maryland. He was arrested and charged with fraud. It is still unclear why he ordered the vials.

These events indicate that terrorists and other criminals may consider using unconventional weapons in an attack here sometime in the future.

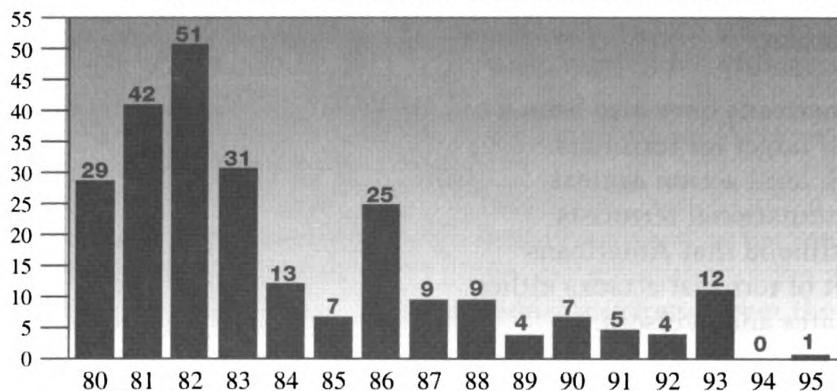
Terrorist Reprisals

Finally, in 1995, numerous foreign and domestic terrorists were either apprehended or sentenced to prison. Several known terrorist groups have publicly threatened to retaliate. Other groups may be considering revenge, but have not broadcast their intent.

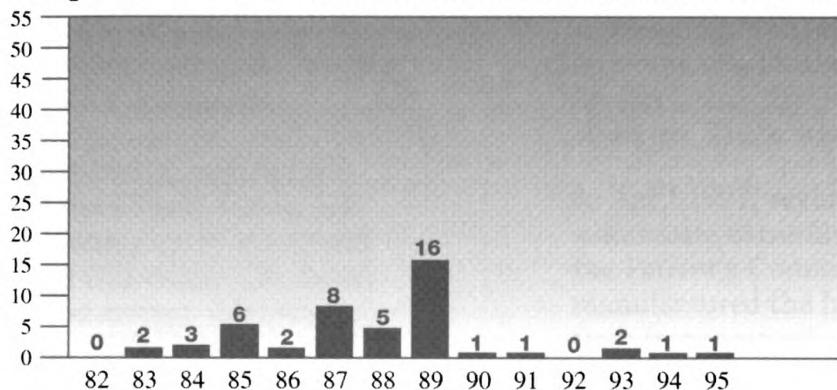
America and Americans have also been a favorite choice of target for terrorists. Reprisals for U.S. legal action against domestic and international terrorists increase the likelihood that Americans will be the target of terrorist attacks either in the United States and overseas.

Appendix One: Terrorism in the United States Statistics

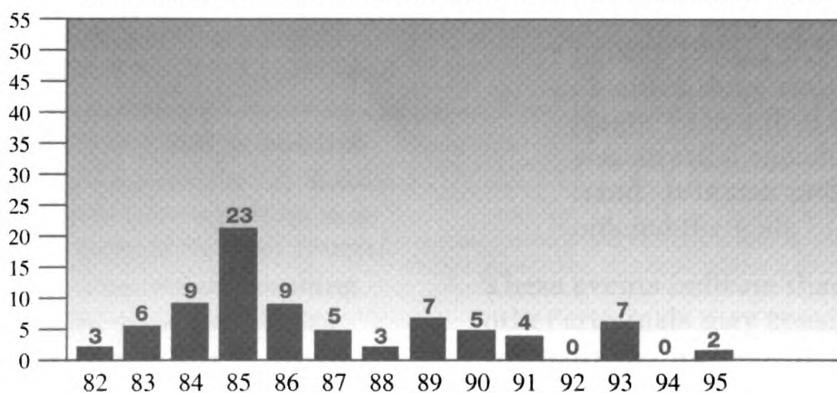
Terrorist Incidents in the United States: 1980-1995



Suspected Terrorist Incidents in the United States: 1982-1995



Terrorism Preventions in the United States: 1982-1995



Appendix Two:

FBI Counterterrorism Responsibilities

The FBI investigates terrorist groups in the United States and acts of terrorism directed at Americans overseas. The Bureau received these responsibilities through a series of presidential decisions and legislative acts. The most important of these include the following:

- In April 1982, then President Ronald Reagan signed a National Security Decision Directive giving the FBI the responsibility of investigating terrorism in the United States.
- The Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 addressed the FBI's role in responding to hostage taking.
- The Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 expanded the FBI's jurisdiction to include investigating acts of terrorism directed against Americans overseas.
- In 1995, President Clinton signed Presidential Decision Directive 39, entitled *U.S. Policy on Counterterrorism* which further articulated and defined the roles of members of the U.S. Counterterrorism Community, including the FBI.

Investigating acts of terrorism overseas includes interviewing victims, collecting forensic evidence, and apprehending terrorist fugitives. The FBI coordinates all overseas investigations with the U.S. Department of State and the host foreign government.

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