

# The Terrorist Threat

## 1.1 WHAT IS TERRORISM?

Terrorism is derived from the Latin word *terrere*, which means to tremble. Terrorism is defined by the U.S. Department of State in the *United States Code*, Title 22, Section 2656f (d), as “premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents, usually intended to influence an audience.” Terrorism is often random: attacks intentionally and indiscriminately impact noncombatants. Terrorism is premeditated, criminal in nature, politically motivated, potentially including religious, philosophical, ideological, or culturally symbolic motivations, violent, and perpetrated against a noncombatant target. Terrorism primarily seeks to assist an organization in the furtherance of its ideological ideals. Thus there are four key distinguishing elements of terrorism:

1. It is premeditated—planned in advanced and not conducted as an impulsive act of rage.
2. It is political—designed to change the existing political order.
3. It is aimed at civilians—not military personnel or facilities.
4. It is carried out by subnational groups—not a country’s army.

In the world of terrorism, physical assets including people, products, services, information, and property are viewed as targets. What sets terrorism apart from mass murder is not only that it’s an attack carried out against civilians (noncombatants), but it also has psychological effects that must be dealt with across the general population. From the terrorists’ point of view, they need to conduct just one significant attack every year or two to maintain the public’s fear and anxiety. Terrorist attacks are often spectacular, designed to disturb and influence a wide audience beyond the victims of the attack itself. There are both direct and indirect victims of terrorism. The direct victims include those who were the target of an attack and became a casualty. Indirect victims of a terrorist attack are those who were

remote from the attack, yet suffered some harm anyway. An example of a direct victim of terrorism would be a person who was killed in a suicide bomb attack at a hotel. An indirect victim from this attack would be the hotel itself, which lost business because of the attack on its property. Terrorism is more than just brutal violence; there is a strategy behind all terrorist actions. That strategy is the deliberate use of violence against civilians to achieve political, social, or religious goals. Terrorism will disrupt foreign policy, disrupt peace initiatives, and sow discomfort and domestic unrest in a geopolitical region. The true target of the terrorist is society as a whole.

## **1.2 TERRORISM STATISTICS**

The U.S. count of major world terrorist attacks more than tripled in 2004. The number of “significant” international terrorist attacks rose to about 650 in 2004, from about 208 in 2003. A total of 625 persons were killed, including 35 U.S. citizens, and 3646 persons were wounded in attacks that occurred in 2003. The increase of attacks in 2004 from previous years reflects the numerous indiscriminate attacks on “soft targets,” such as places of worship, hotels, and commercial districts, intended to produce mass casualties. Most of the attacks that have occurred during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom do not meet the longstanding U.S. definition of international terrorism because they were directed at combatants, that is, U.S. and coalition forces on duty. Attacks against noncombatants, that is, civilians and military personnel who at the time of the incident were unarmed and/or not on duty, are judged to be terrorist attacks [1].

## **1.3 PURPOSE OF TERRORISM**

The purpose of terrorism, as the name implies, is to terrify and spread fear and destruction. The randomness of an attack to inflict casualties on innocent victims is the very essence of terror—it can strike at any place and at any time and can adversely impact someone who had the misfortune to be at the wrong place at the wrong time. Terrorism strikes at our core values—the right to life, peace, and security. Terrorism is a tactic used by an adversary to accomplish one of five things:

1. Instill a sense of fear in a population.
2. Influence the policy of a government.
3. Effect the conduct of a government.
4. Get the affected population to change their daily routine.
5. Coerce or intimidate a population in furtherance of social, religious, or political objectives.

## 1.4 GOALS OF TERRORISM

Terrorists can operate individually or in large groups and can perpetrate their attacks in different ways for different goals. Terrorist goals include the following:

1. Causing casualties (injuries and fatalities).
2. Damaging or destroying critical infrastructure.
3. Disrupting the economy.
4. Harassing, weakening, or embarrassing the government.
5. Discouraging tourism or investments due to perceived insecurity.

Terrorist organizations remain intent on obtaining and using devastating weapons against the United States to cause casualties and economic damage. The development of more sophisticated weapons in the twentieth century has allowed terrorists to kill more people from a greater distance. Many terrorist organizations are not concerned about killing large numbers of innocent victims indiscriminantly, so precise targeting is not necessary. Suicide terrorism has reemerged, not because of lack of technology, but because suicide terrorism generates fear among the general population, and it allows for accurate, large-scale attacks without the use of sophisticated weapons and tactics. Suicide terrorists are not crazy but rather are extremely committed to their mission and see themselves as martyrs. Suicide bombers are often viewed as heroes; they believe that they will receive rewards in death. Their surviving family receives both financial and psychological rewards for their sacrifice. Martyrdom is the perfect manifestation of jihad.

Terrorists worldwide have favored the old reliable, low-tech high-impact weapons, such as vehicle bombs, suicide bombs, and automatic weapons, and will probably continue to do so. However, some terrorist organizations will increasingly exploit advances in science and technology as these technologies become more widespread and accessible to maximize their destructive impact. The more readily available and accessible these technological developments become, the more likely the terrorists will adapt them for nefarious purposes. Terrorist groups have embraced technology and are using the Internet to formulate plans, recruit members, communicate between individual members and cells, raise funds, and spread propaganda. The enemy adapts. As we step up security, the terrorists shift tactics in response. As examples, the Tamil Tigers have used rudimentary stealth technology to mask their suicide speedboats, and Colombia's FARC has deployed remotely controlled automobiles to deliver car bombs. The current generation of terrorists can learn their trade without traveling to a distant training camp in another country. They can train at home using materials broadcast over the Internet.

The disturbing fact is that the terrorist will change and adapt as precautions against attacks are implemented. Recent intelligence suggests that some of al Qaeda's leaders may favor smaller scale operations that employ simple technology, take less preparation, and require fewer operatives. The terrorists may be executing attacks that focus more on the psychological and economic effects resulting from smaller attacks than the mass casualties and damage caused by a large-scale event.

Terrorism has become a strategic weapon. It is capable of disrupting foreign policy and peace initiatives and has become a force multiplier in certain regions of the world, causing discomfort and domestic unrest.

### **1.5 CASE STUDY: ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF A TERRORIST ATTACK**

As an example, consider the economic effects the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack in the United States had on domestic and international markets. The U.S. monetary loss as a result of the September 11 attack is estimated at \$500 billion, besides the loss of a huge number of jobs. The economy of lower Manhattan, which by itself is the third largest business district in the United States, was devastated in the immediate aftermath of the attack. Approximately 30% (34.5 million square feet) of lower Manhattan office space was either damaged or destroyed. The attack resulted in \$50–70 billion in insured losses. The New York Stock Exchange and NASDAQ did not open on September 11 and remained closed until September 17, 2001 due to damage to the communications facilities near the World Trade Center Complex. This closure of the markets was the longest since the Great Depression of 1929. When the markets finally reopened on September 17, 2001, the Dow Jones Industrial Average stock market index fell 684 points, or 7.1%. This decline was the biggest ever one-day point decline. By Friday, September 21, 2001, the Dow Jones had dropped 1369.7 points, or 14.3%, its largest one-week point drop in history. United States stocks lost \$1.2 trillion in value for the week [2]. There has been even greater cascading economic effects caused the September 11 attack. Washington, DC's Reagan National Airport was closed for 23 days due to its proximity to many potential targets in the Nation's capital. The air space over North America was closed after the attack until September 13. When flights resumed, air travel decreased by approximately 20% due to several factors, including people's unwillingness to wait in long lines due to increased security measures and fear of additional attacks involving airplanes.

### **1.6 OBJECTIVES OF TERRORISM**

Terrorist groups exist for the purpose of planning and executing attacks to accomplish their mission. Included among the objectives of terrorism are:

- Demonstrate the group's power over the population and government.
- Show the existing government's lack of power to interfere or stop terrorist operations.
- Exact revenge for perceived persecution and satisfy the group's vengeance.
- Gain worldwide, national, or local publicity for the group's cause by attracting media coverage.

Terrorists need money, membership, and media to accomplish their goals. Therefore terrorists depend on the media to publicize their attacks, and hence their cause, which will lead to more volunteers and financial support. Terrorist groups have become expert at leveraging the media to assist in their objectives. The worldwide media, perhaps unwillingly in some cases, contributes to terrorism. Terrorism depends on the masses listening, reading, and watching terrorist attacks unfold in real time. The terrorists need their attack to garner worldwide attention to have the desired impact; 24/7 media coverage helps achieve that goal. The end result is the media attention helps the terrorists' recruiting and financing goals.

## 1.7 THE TERRORISM CHALLENGE

Advanced warning of terrorist attacks remains difficult due to the terrorists' operational security practices and their ability to take full advantage of the West's open and free society. Terrorists are fully aware that attacks lead to political fallout. That, combined with the likelihood that Western countries are prone to "cut and run" when sustaining casualties, ensures Islamic terrorists will factor political considerations into future attacks. Individual terrorist cells are now starting to finance their operations locally by criminal activity, primarily narcotics trafficking. Al Qaeda has mutated into a global insurgency, with no central leadership and many local branches, fighting the West with or without allegiance to Osama bin Laden. Osama bin Laden doesn't necessarily authorize attacks; he merely inspires them. It is now a network of global relationships. In order to stop al Qaeda, the cycle of terrorist recruitment must be broken and the appeal of radicalism diminished. Efforts must be undertaken to ensure the jihad does not become self-sustaining.

History has shown the best way to defeat and demoralize an enemy is to bring the fight to their homes. An attack from covert al Qaeda operatives inside the homeland is the biggest threat posed to the United States.

## 1.8 WHAT IS HOMELAND SECURITY?

Homeland security is a concerted national effort to prevent terrorist attacks within the United States, reduce America's vulnerability to terrorism, and minimize the damage and recover from attacks that do occur. The mission of homeland security is a very complex task that requires a long-term coordinated and focused effort from the federal government, state government, local government, the private sector, and the American people. Homeland security must be a cooperative public and private effort.

The strategic objectives of homeland security [3] in order of priority are the following:

- Prevent terrorist attacks within the United States.
- Reduce America's vulnerability to terrorism.
- Minimize the damage and recover from attacks that do occur.

In order to prepare for the many challenges associated with homeland security, the most extensive reorganization of the federal government in the past fifty years has been completed. The newly created Office of Homeland Security has been tasked with the overall responsibility for coordinating the various national homeland security missions. In July 2002, the Office of Homeland Security issued the *National Strategy for Homeland Security*. The purpose of this document was to mobilize and organize the nation to secure the U.S. homeland from terrorist attacks. This exceedingly complex mission requires coordinated and focused effort from our entire society—the federal government, state and local governments, the private sector, and the American people. The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* provides direction for the federal government departments and agencies that have a role in homeland security. It suggests steps that state and local governments, private companies and organizations, and individual Americans can take to improve our security and offers them incentives for doing so. The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* establishes a foundation on which to organize our efforts and provides initial guidance to prioritize the work ahead.

### Critical Mission Areas

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* [3] aligns and focuses the homeland security functions into six critical mission areas, which are discussed next.

***Intelligence and Warning.*** For terrorism to be effective in causing damage or casualties, the attack must be a surprise. Most Americans were taken by surprise by the events of September 11, 2001. However, upon further review, it was found there were a number of indicators that were known before the attack that might have provided a clue as to al Qaeda's plans had they been routed to a central organization for processing and review. It is critical that systems are in place to collect, analyze, evaluate, and respond to intelligence information that may provide advance warning of an impending attack. Once the intelligence has been thoroughly analyzed, it must be shared with the appropriate agencies, critical infrastructure sectors, and in some cases the general public, so the proper immediate safeguards can be implemented to prevent the attack, or at least minimize its consequences. Intelligence agencies must also look beyond the near-term information that has been collected. To be in a position to thwart future attacks by terrorists, a thorough understanding of the terrorist organizations must be developed. Knowing the identities, financial and political sources of support, motivation, goals, current and future capabilities, and vulnerabilities of these organizations will assist us in preventing future attacks and in taking long-term actions that can weaken support for organizations that seek to damage our interests. The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identifies five major initiatives in this area:

- ***Enhance the Analytical Capabilities of the FBI.*** The FBI's top priority is preventing terrorist attacks. They are creating an analytical capability within the FBI that can combine lawfully obtained domestic information with information lawfully derived from investigations, thus facilitating prompt investigation of possible terrorist activity within the United States.

- *Building New Capabilities Through the Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Division of the Office of Homeland Security.* The Office of Homeland Security will coordinate and oversee the effort of conducting comprehensive vulnerability assessments of critical infrastructure and key assets. These assessments will reveal gaps in security, evaluate the potential effects of a given attack, and identify protective measures that can be implemented.
- *Implement the Homeland Security Advisory System.* The Homeland Security Advisory System disseminates information regarding the risk of terrorism to federal, state, and local authorities, the private sector, and the American people. Each threat condition has corresponding suggested measures to be taken in response to the terrorist threat.
- *Utilize Dual-Use Analysis to Prevent Attacks.* “Dual-use” items are equipment and materials that have both a legitimate commercial use as well as potential terrorist applications that can be purchased on the open market. Examples of dual-use items include fermentors, crop dusters, and disease-causing agents.
- *Employ “Red Team” Techniques.* By applying homeland security intelligence and information, personnel view the United States from the perspective of the terrorists, seeking to discern and predict the methods, means, and targets of the terrorists.

**Border and Transportation Security.** America has historically relied on two vast oceans and two friendly neighbors for border security. Transportation security was provided by the individual carriers. All people and goods legally entering the United States must be processed through an air, land, or sea port of entry. America must now redevelop its systems for border and transportation security. With global travel readily accessible and relatively inexpensive, systems must be enhanced to tighten control of who can enter the country. American communities are tied into the global transportation network, with virtually every community connected by airports, seaports, highways, railroads, waterways, and pipelines that move people, goods, and services across our borders and into our neighborhoods. Transportation security must be enhanced to ensure terrorists do not use our transportation infrastructure to convey weapons of mass destruction but yet not impede the flow of people and goods.

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identified six major initiatives in this area:

- *Ensure Accountability in Border and Transportation Security.* The principal border and transportation security agencies are now part of the Office of Homeland Security. The Office of Homeland Security also controls the issuance of visas to foreigners and coordinates the border control activities.
- *Create “Smart Borders.”* Today’s borders will be a continuum framed by land, sea, and air dimensions, where a layered management system enables greater

visibility of vehicles, people, and goods coming into and departing from the country. The United States will screen and verify the security of goods and identities of people before they can harm the international transportation system and well before they reach our shores or land borders.

- *Increase the Security of International Shipping Containers.* Approximately 90% of the world's cargo moves by container. Each year, nearly 50% of the value of all U.S. imports arrives via 16 million containers. The core elements of this initiative are to establish security criteria to identify high-risk containers; prescreen containers before they arrive at U.S. ports; use technology to inspect high-risk containers; and develop and use smart and secure containers.
- *Implement the Aviation and Transportation Security Act of 2001.* The act establishes a series of challenging but important milestones toward achieving a secure air travel system. The act fundamentally changed the way transportation security is performed and managed in the United States. Protection of critical transportation assets such as ports, pipelines, rail and highway bridges, and more than 10,000 Federal Aviation Administration facilities is another key requirement established by the act.
- *Recapitalize the U.S. Coast Guard.* This initiative will support the recapitalization of the U.S. Coast Guard's aging fleet, as well as targeted improvements in the areas of maritime domain awareness, command and control systems, and shore-side facilities.
- *Reform Immigration Services.* This reform aims to ensure full enforcement of the laws that regulate the admission of aliens to the United States and to improve greatly the administration of immigration benefits to more than 7 million annual applicants.

**Domestic Counterterrorism.** The mission of preventing and interdicting terrorism on U.S. soil has been assigned to law enforcement agencies. These agencies will use all legal means—both traditional and nontraditional—to identify, halt, and, where appropriate, prosecute terrorists in the United States. Not only will the individuals directly responsible in the terrorist activity be pursued, but also their supporting cast: the people and organizations that knowingly provide the terrorists with logistical and financial assistance. The federal government has instituted initiatives that have increased information sharing and the coordination of operations throughout the law enforcement communities.

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identifies six major initiatives in this area:

- *Improve Intergovernmental Law Enforcement Coordination.* An effective counterterrorism effort requires the participation of law enforcement personnel at all levels of government, as well as the coordination of all relevant agencies and officials.



- *Facilitate Apprehension of Potential Terrorists.* Law enforcement officers must have access to information on suspected terrorists in order to apprehend them before they have an opportunity to execute their plans. Various crime information databases and watch lists are being updated and expanded to make this critical information available to all state and local law enforcement officers.
- *Continue Ongoing Investigations and Prosecutions.* Counterterrorism efforts include the investigation and prosecution of foreign and domestic terrorists, as well as the pursuit of individuals who provide logistical support to terrorists. The September 11 attack has resulted in the largest and most extensive criminal investigation in history, involving numerous federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, and the intelligence and law enforcement agencies of foreign countries.
- *Complete FBI Restructuring to Emphasize Prevention and Terrorist Attacks.* Our nation's highest law enforcement objective is the prevention of terrorist acts. The FBI has made several structural changes to reflect the primacy of the counterterrorism mission. New positions have been established for strengthening information sharing and coordination with state and local authorities. The FBI's counterterrorism investigative capabilities and flexibility have been increased by shifting hundreds of field agents from criminal investigations to counterterrorism investigations and activities. These changes will ensure the FBI has a concentrated, national, centralized, and deployable expertise on terrorism issues.
- *Target and Disrupt Terrorist Financing.* Terrorists cannot operate without financial resources. The U.S. Treasury Department has spearheaded the terrorist finance interdiction effort. The department works to freeze the accounts of, and seize the assets of, individuals and organizations that finance terrorist groups.
- *Track Foreign Terrorists and Bring Them to Justice.* The federal government has two key missions in regard to tracking foreign terrorists: barring terrorists or terrorist supporting aliens from the United States and tracking down and deporting any who have illegally entered our country.

***Protecting Critical Infrastructure and Key Assets.*** Our modern society and day to day activities are dependent on networks of critical infrastructure—both physical networks such as energy and transportation systems and virtual networks such as the Internet. If terrorists attack a piece of critical infrastructure, they will disrupt our standard of living and cause significant physical, psychological, and financial damage to our nation. Particular attention must be given to protecting our critical infrastructure and key assets, not only from terrorist attacks but from other, more common illegal activities such as theft, industrial espionage, and computer hackers.

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identifies eight major initiatives in this area:

- *Unify America's Infrastructure Protection Efforts in the Office of Homeland Security.* The Office of Homeland Security has been charged with the responsibility of integrating and coordinating federal infrastructure protection.
- *Build and Maintain a Complete and Accurate Assessment of America's Critical Infrastructure and Key assets.* Threat information must be translated into appropriate action in the shortest possible time, a critical factor in preventing or mitigating attacks, particularly those involving weapons of mass destruction. The Office of Homeland Security maintains a complete, current, and accurate assessment of the vulnerabilities and preparedness of key assets across the critical infrastructure sectors. The office has the ability to continuously evaluate threat information against our current vulnerabilities, inform the president, issue warnings, and effect action accordingly.
- *Enable Effective Partnership with State and Local Governments and the Private Sector.* Government at the federal, state, and local levels must actively collaborate and partner with the private sector to protect our nation's critical infrastructure. In many cases, the private sector, not the government, possesses the technical expertise and means to protect the infrastructure it controls. Government at all levels must enable, not inhibit, the private sector's ability to protect the infrastructure it controls.
- *Develop a National Infrastructure Protection Plan.* The Office of Homeland Security developed and coordinates the implementation of a comprehensive national plan to protect America's critical infrastructure from terrorist attack. The national plan provides a methodology for identifying and prioritizing critical assets, systems, and functions, and for sharing protection responsibility with state and local governments and the private sector.
- *Secure Cyberspace.* Our potential enemies have the intent, the tools of destruction are broadly available, and the vulnerabilities of our systems are myriad and well known. In cyberspace, a single act can inflict damage in multiple locations simultaneously without the attacker ever having physically entered the United States.
- *Harness the Best Analytic and Modeling Tools to Develop Effective Protective Solutions.* High-end modeling and simulation tools can greatly enhance our ability to quickly make decisions based on the best possible understanding of their consequences. State-of-the-art modeling and simulation provides another important tool for determining what assets, systems, and functions are critical, a process that involves many factors that interact with one another in complex ways.
- *Guard America's Critical Infrastructure and Key Assets Against "Inside" Threats.* The "insider threat" and personnel reliability are increasingly serious concerns for protecting critical infrastructure. Personnel with privileged

access to critical infrastructure, particularly control systems, may serve as terrorist surrogates by providing information on vulnerabilities, operating characteristics, and protective measures.

- *Partner with the International Community to Protect our Transnational Infrastructure.* We share and interconnect much of our critical infrastructure with our neighbors in Canada and Mexico, and increasingly with countries around the world. Thus terrorists need not gain access to our country to attack our infrastructure.

**Defending Against Catastrophic Threats.** The expertise, knowledge, and materials necessary to build the most deadly weapons of mass destruction—chemical, biological, radiological/nuclear, and explosive—are readily available. Several terrorist organizations have stated they are actively trying to acquire such weapons. If a weapon of mass destruction were obtained, it is likely to be used against us. The results of an effectively deployed weapon of mass destruction would be catastrophic, and the consequences of such an attack would be far more devastating than those we suffered on September 11, 2001. Much work is required to enhance our ability to detect and respond to an attack using chemical, biological, radiological/nuclear, or explosive materials.

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identifies six major initiatives in this area:

- *Prevent Terrorist Use of Nuclear Weapons Through Better Sensors and Procedures.* New inspection procedures and detection systems protect against the entry of nuclear materials at all ports of entry in the United States and at major overseas cargo loading facilities. Additional inspection procedures and detection systems are being added throughout our national transportation structure to detect the movement of nuclear materials within the United States.
- *Detect Chemical and Biological Materials and Attacks.* New sensitive and highly selective systems that detect the release of chemical or biological agents have been developed. The Environmental Protection Agency has upgraded air monitoring stations to allow for the detection of certain chemical, biological, or radiological substances.
- *Improve Chemical Sensors and Decontamination Techniques.* The Office of Homeland Security is funding and coordinating a national research program to develop, test, and field detection devices and networks that provide immediate and accurate warnings. The office is also supporting research into decontamination technologies and procedures.
- *Develop Broad Spectrum Vaccines, Antimicrobials, and Antidotes.* In many cases, our medical countermeasures cannot address all possible biological agents or may not be suitable for use by the general population. Therefore new defenses will be pursued that will increase efficacy while reducing side effects.

Short- and long-term efforts will expand the inventory of diagnostics, vaccines, and other therapies such as antimicrobials and antidotes that can mitigate the consequences of a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attack.

- *Harness the Scientific Knowledge and Tools to Counter Terrorism.* Substantial research into relevant medical sciences is necessary to better detect, diagnose, and treat the consequences of chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attacks. The Office of Homeland Security is leveraging the expertise of America's cutting edge medical and biotechnology infrastructure to advance the state of knowledge in infectious disease prevention and treatment, forensic epidemiology, and microbial forensics.
- *Implement the Select Agent Program.* The Office of Homeland Security oversees the Select Agent Program to regulate the shipment of certain hazardous biological organisms and toxins. Through the laboratory registration process, the Select Agent Program has significantly increased oversight and security of pathogens that could be used for bioterrorism.

***Emergency Preparedness and Response.*** It is critical that we are prepared to respond to any future terrorist attack. Although our primary effort is geared toward the prevention of such an attack, it is prudent to have the proper capability to have an effective response to properly mitigate a major terrorist attack. Therefore a comprehensive national system to coordinate and deploy the appropriate response assets quickly and effectively is needed. Emergency response organizations must plan, equip, train, and exercise together and with the private sector so they can mobilize without warning for any emergency, be it a terrorist attack or natural disaster.

Many pieces of this national emergency response system are in place and have been so for many years. America's first line of defense in the aftermath of a terrorist attack is its local first responders—firefighters, police officers, emergency medical services, and emergency management officials. Nearly three million first responders at the state and local levels regularly put their lives on the line to save lives, protect property, and make our country safer.

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identifies twelve major initiatives in this area:

- *Integrate All Separate Federal Response Plans into a Single, All-Discipline Incident Management Plan.* All existing federal government emergency response plans have been consolidated into one genuinely all-discipline all-hazard plan—the National Emergency Response Plan. This plan covers all incidents of national significance, including acts of terrorism.
- *Create a National Incident Management System.* The Office of Homeland Security, working with federal, state, local, and nongovernmental public safety organizations has created the comprehensive National Incident Management System (NIMS) to respond to terrorist incidents and other disasters. The NIMS ensures that there is now a national system of common terminology, provides a uniform command structure, and is scalable to address incidents of all sizes.

- *Improve Tactical Counterterrorist Capabilities.* With advance warning, we have various federal, state, and local response assets that can intercede and prevent terrorists from carrying out attacks. In the most dangerous of incidents, particularly when terrorists have chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapons in their possession, it is crucial that the individuals who preempt the terrorists do so flawlessly. It is also crucial that these individuals be prepared and are able to work effectively with each other and with other specialized response personnel.
- *Enable Seamless Communication Among All Responders.* In the aftermath of any major terrorist attack, emergency response efforts would likely involve hundreds of officials from across the government and the country. It is crucial for response personnel to have and use equipment, systems, and procedures that allow them to communicate with one another.
- *Prepare Health Care Providers for Catastrophic Terrorism.* The Office of Homeland Security will support training and equipping of state and local health care personnel to deal with the growing threat of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear terrorism. The hospital preparedness grant program is used to help prepare hospital and poison control centers to deal specifically with biological and chemical attacks and to expand their surge capacity to care for a large number of patients in a mass casualty incident.
- *Augment America's Pharmaceutical and Vaccine Stockpiles.* The National Pharmaceutical Stockpile ensures America's ability to respond rapidly to a bio-terrorist attack. This program maintains twelve strategically placed "push packs" containing 600 tons of antibiotics, antidotes, vaccines, bandages, and other medical supplies. The federal government can transport these packs to an incident site in less than 12 hours for rapid distribution by state and local authorities.
- *Prepare for Chemical, Biological, and Radiological/Nuclear Decontamination.* The Office of Homeland Security will provide grant money to emergency responders for planning, equipping, training, and exercising first responders for chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear attacks. It has launched a national research and development effort to create new technologies for the detection and cleanup of such attacks.
- *Plan for Military Support to Civil Authorities.* The importance of military support to civil authorities as the latter respond to threats or acts of terrorism is recognized in presidential decision directives and legislation. Military support to civil authorities pursuant to a terrorist threat or attack may take the form of providing technical support and assistance to law enforcement; assisting in the restoration of law and order; loaning specialized equipment; and assisting in consequence management.
- *Build the Citizen Corps.* Under the president's proposal, the Office of Homeland Security is expanding the Citizen Corps, a national program to prepare

volunteers for terrorism-related response support. These citizen volunteers would supplement the formal governmental emergency response with personnel who have been trained to perform certain tasks (such as traffic control), thus releasing the more highly trained emergency responders for life-saving missions.

- *Implement the First Responder Initiative of the Fiscal Year 2003 Budget.* The purpose of this initiative is to improve dramatically first responder preparedness for terrorist incidents and disasters. The Office of Homeland Security consolidates all grant programs that distribute federal funds to state and local first responders.
- *Build a National Training and Evaluation System.* The Office of Homeland Security launched a consolidated and expanded training and evaluation system. The system is predicated on a four-phase approach: requirements, plans, training (and exercises), and assessments (comprising evaluations and corrective action plans). The office serves as the central coordinating body responsible for overseeing curriculum standards and for training the instructors who will train the first responders.
- *Enhance the Victim Support System.* The United States must be prepared to assist the victims of terrorist attacks and their families, as well as other individuals affected indirectly by the attacks. The Office of Homeland Security will lead federal agencies and provide guidance to state, local, and volunteer organizations in offering victims and their families various forms of assistance, including crisis counseling, cash grants, low-interest loans, unemployment benefits, free legal counseling, and tax refunds.

## The Foundations of Homeland Security

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* also describes four foundations—unique American strengths that cut across all of the mission areas, all levels of government, and all sectors of our society.

**Law.** Laws have been used throughout our nation's history to promote and safeguard our security and our liberty. The law will provide mechanisms for the government to act and will define the appropriate limits of action. The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identifies twelve initiatives in this area.

### Federal Level

- *Enable Critical Infrastructure Information Sharing.* Homeland security officials need quick and complete access to information relevant to the protection of critical infrastructure. We must meet this need by narrowly limiting public disclosure of such information in order to facilitate its voluntary submission without compromising the principles of openness that ensure government accountability. Legislative reform or guidance regarding statutes governing public disclosure is needed.

- *Streamline Information Sharing Among Intelligence and Law Enforcement Agencies.* Homeland security requires improved information sharing between the intelligence community, law enforcement agencies, and government decision makers. Laws controlling intelligence operations need to be modified.
- *Expand Existing Extradition Authorities.* The war on terrorism is and must be a global effort. Our country must continue to work cooperatively with nations around the world. To that end, current extradition laws should be amended. First, new legislation must be adopted that would authorize extradition for certain crimes where the United States already has an extradition treaty, but where the treaty applies only to a limited set of crimes. Second, Congress should grant authority to extradite individuals from the United States for serious crimes in the absence of an extradition treaty, on a case by case basis.
- *Review the Authority for Military Assistance in Domestic Security.* United States federal law prohibits military personnel from enforcing law within the United States except as expressly authorized by the Constitution or an Act of Congress. The threat of catastrophic terrorism requires a thorough review of the laws permitting the military to act within the United States in order to determine whether domestic preparedness and response efforts would benefit from greater involvement of military personnel, and if so, how.
- *Revive the President's Reorganization Authority.* Only Congress can create a new department of government. Congress should revive the president's ability to reorganize and restructure the federal government to eliminate redundancies within executive agencies and address homeland security more efficiently and economically.
- *Provide Substantial Management Flexibility for the Office of Homeland Security.* The Office of Homeland Security must have the advantage of twenty-first century approaches to personnel and procurement policies. With these and other flexible practices, the secretary would have the managerial freedom necessary to accomplish not only the office's primary mission of homeland security but also the important agency functions that are not directly related to homeland security.

### State Level

- *Coordinate Suggested Minimum Standards for State Driver's Licenses.* There is no national standard for content, format, or license acquisition procedures. Terrorist organizations, including al Qaeda operatives involved in the September 11 attack, have exploited these differences. The federal government should support state led efforts to develop minimum standards for driver's licenses.
- *Enhance Market Capacity for Terrorism Insurance.* The need for insurance coverage for terrorist events has increased dramatically. State regulation will play an integral role in ensuring the adequate provision of terrorism insurance. To establish a regulatory approach that enables American businesses to spread

and pool risk efficiently, states should work together and with the federal government to find a mutually acceptable approach to enhance market capacity to cover terrorist risk.

- *Train for Prevention of Cyber Attacks.* State and local officials have requested federal training regarding the identification, investigation, and enforcement of cyber-related crimes and terrorism. The FBI should take the lead in assisting state and local law enforcement in obtaining training in this area.
- *Suppress Money Laundering.* Terrorists use unregulated financial services, among other means, to fund their operations. The Money Laundering Suppression Act (Public Law 103-325) urges states to enact uniform laws to license and regulate certain financial services. The USA PATRIOT Act also relies on state law to establish the regulatory structure necessary to combat money laundering.
- *Ensure Continuity of the Judiciary.* In the aftermath of a terrorist attack, our judicial system must continue to operate effectively. State and federal authorities should develop a system to expediently appoint judges, to ensure interaction and coordination among federal and state judiciaries, and to deal with other matters necessary to the continued functioning of the judiciary in times of crisis.
- *Review Quarantine Authorities.* State quarantine laws fail to address the dangers presented by modern biological warfare and terrorism. States should update quarantine laws to improve intrastate response while working with federal regulators to assure compliance with minimum public health standards.

**Science and Technology.** New technologies for analysis, information sharing, detection of attacks, and countering chemical, biological, and radiological/nuclear weapons of mass destruction will help prevent and minimize the damage from future terrorist attacks.

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identified eleven major initiatives in this area:

- *Develop Chemical, Biological, and Radiological/Nuclear Countermeasures.* Key initiatives include research and development to prevent terrorist use of nuclear weapons, to detect chemical and biological materials and attacks, to develop high-efficacy vaccines and antivirals against biological agents, and to track laboratory use of biological agents.
- *Develop Systems for Detecting Hostile Intent.* Terrorists may behave in a manner that reveals their criminal intent. The Office of Homeland Security is developing systems that highlight such behavior and can trigger further investigation and analysis of suspected individuals. This would allow security officials at points of interest such as airports and borders to examine more closely individuals who exhibit such characteristics and also have other indications of potentially hostile intent in their background.



- *Apply Biometric Technology to Identification Devices.* A terrorist may sneak past security personnel at an airport or border crossing thanks to false documents and a simple disguise. These challenges require new technologies and systems to identify and find individual terrorists. The Office of Homeland Security is supporting research and development efforts in biometric technology. The office is focusing on improving accuracy, consistency, and efficiency in biometric systems.
- *Improve the Technical Capabilities of First Responders.* If our first responders are not protected from the dangerous effects of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear attacks, we may lose the very people we depend on to minimize the damage of any such attacks. The Office of Homeland Security has launched a long-term effort to provide first responders with technical capabilities for dealing with the effects of catastrophic threats—capabilities that would aid both first responders and the victims of the attack. These capabilities include protective gear and masks, prophylactic treatments, detection equipment, and decontamination equipment.
- *Coordinate Research and Development of the Homeland Security Apparatus.* The Office of Homeland Security has set the overall direction for our nation's homeland security research and development. It has based these efforts on a continuous evaluation of the nation's vulnerabilities, on continual testing of security systems, and on updated evaluations of the threat.
- *Establish a National Laboratory for Homeland Security.* The Office of Homeland Security is establishing a network of laboratories that provide a multidisciplinary environment for developing and demonstrating new technologies for homeland security.
- *Solicit Independent and Private Analysis for Science and Technology Research.* The Office of Homeland Security will fund independent analytic support for our homeland security science and technical endeavors. These efforts will support planning activities, including net assessment, preparing agency guidance, and reviewing agency programs and budgets; systems analyses; requirements analyses; assessments of competing technical and operational approaches; and the Office's use of "red team" techniques.
- *Establish a Mechanism for Rapidly Producing Prototypes.* The Office of Homeland Security will work with other federal agencies to provide a means for rapid prototyping of innovative homeland security concepts based on existing technologies. It will collect unsolicited ideas, evaluate them, and maintain a capability for funding the most promising ideas.
- *Conduct Demonstrations and Pilot Deployments.* The Office of Homeland Security would systematically engage in pilot deployments and demonstrations to provide a conduit between the state and local users of technology and the federal developers of that technology. The pilot deployments and demonstrations serve as a focal point for the development of regional solutions and testing how well new technologies work under local conditions.

- *Set Standards for Homeland Security Technology.* The Office of Homeland Security will work with state and local governments and the private sector to build a mechanism for analyzing, validating, and setting standards for homeland security equipment. The office will develop comprehensive protocols for certification of compliance with these standards.
- *Establish a System for High-Risk, High-Payoff Homeland Security Research.* The Office of Homeland Security will establish a program with a high level of programmatic and budgetary flexibility to solicit private industry for innovative concepts.

**Information Sharing and Systems.** Although America's information technology system is the most advanced in the world, it has not been used adequately to support the homeland security mission. Databases maintained by different agencies need to be connected in ways that allow information gaps or redundancies to be identified. Communications systems are not compatible to allow most state and local first responders to communicate directly with each other.

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identifies five major initiatives in this area:

- *Integrate Information Sharing Across the Federal Government.* The Office of Homeland Security coordinates the sharing of essential homeland security information through the Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office. Enhancements include better information sharing methods; transportation security; emergency response; chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear countermeasures; and infrastructure protection.
- *Integrate Information Sharing Across State and Local Governments, Private Industry, and Citizens.* Several efforts are under way to enhance the timely dissemination of information from the federal government to state and local homeland security officials by building and sharing law enforcement databases, secure computer networks, secure video teleconferencing, and more accessible websites.
- *Adopt Common "Metadata" Standards for Electronic Information Relevant to Homeland Security.* The administration has begun several initiatives to integrate terrorist-related information from databases of all government agencies responsible for homeland security. This complements the effort to analyze the information with advanced "data mining" techniques to reveal patterns of criminal behavior and detain suspected terrorists before they act.
- *Improve Public Safety Emergency Communications.* The Office of Homeland Security is working to develop comprehensive emergency communications systems. These systems would disseminate information about vulnerabilities and protective measures, as well as allow first responders to better manage incidents and minimize damage.

- *Ensure Reliable Public Health Information.* The Office of Homeland Security is working to ensure reliable public health communications. Prompt detection, accurate diagnosis, and timely reporting and investigation of disease epidemics require reliable communications between medical, veterinary, and public health organizations. Once an attack is confirmed, it is crucial to have real-time communication with other hospitals, public health officials, health professionals, law enforcement, emergency management officials, and the media. Providing the public with timely and accurate risk communication during a public health emergency will inform as well as reassure concerned Americans.

***International Cooperation.*** The terrorist threat pays no respect to traditional borders; therefore our strategy for homeland security cannot stop at our borders. America must pursue a sustained, steadfast, and systematic international agenda to counter the global terrorist threat and improve our homeland security. It is critical that we work diligently and cooperatively with our friends and allies to overcome the terrorist threat.

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* identifies nine major initiatives in this area:

- *Create “Smart Borders.”* The United States is working closely with its neighbors to improve efforts to stop terrorists and their instruments of terror from entering the United States. The United States has entered into “smart border” agreements with Mexico and Canada to meet this objective.
- *Combat Fraudulent Travel Documents.* More than 500 million people cross our borders every year. Verifying that each has a legitimate reason to enter the United States requires international support. The United States is working with its international partners to set improved security standards for travel documents such as passports and visas.
- *Increase the Security of International Shipping Containers.* Sixteen million containers enter our nation every year. The United States is working with its trading partners and international organizations to identify and screen high-risk containers and develop and use smart and secure containers.
- *Intensify International Law Enforcement Cooperation.* The U.S. government is working with individual countries and through multilateral international organizations to improve cooperation on law enforcement action against terrorists. These efforts have focused on freezing the assets of terrorists and affiliated persons and organizations. Efforts have also been taken to prevent terrorist recruitment, transit, and safe haven, as well as cooperating with other countries to bring terrorists to justice.
- *Help Foreign Nations Fight Terrorism.* The U.S. government provides other countries with specialized training and assistance to help build their capabilities to combat terrorism. Some of these programs are military in nature, but many focus on improving the efforts of civilian authorities.

- *Expand Protection of Transitional Critical Infrastructure.* The United States will continue to work with both Canada and Mexico to improve physical and cyber security of critical infrastructure that overlaps with both countries.
- *Amplify International Cooperation on Homeland Security Science and Technology.* The U.S. government encourages and supports complementary international scientific initiatives. The Office of Homeland Security is also working with several close allies to improve techniques and develop new technologies for detecting hostile intent.
- *Improve Cooperation in Response to Attacks.* The United States will continue to work with other nations to ensure smooth provision of international aid in the aftermath of terrorist attacks. It will initiate bilateral and multilateral programs to plan for efficient burden sharing between friendly nations in the case of attack.
- *Review Obligations to International Treaties and Law.* The United States is party to all twelve counterterrorism instruments adopted by the United Nations in recent years. The United States is actively encouraging all United Nations members to join and fully implement all twelve conventions.

## 1.9 THE MOTIVATION FOR TERRORISM

What would give a person or group the motivation to resort to a terrorist act? Why would someone perpetrate terrorism to achieve his/her goals? How can the murder of innocent people be justified? There are many motivations for terrorism, including:

- *Religion.* Religion is an external influence that may affect the actions of a terrorist if they believe there is no other recourse. Religion often generates very strong feelings on many sensitive issues.
- *Accomplish a Goal.* The primary reason a person or group would perpetrate an act of terrorism would be to accomplish a goal, which, in the case of terrorism, is to achieve social, religious, or political change.
- *Revenge.* A terrorist may desire to avenge a previous perceived wrong.
- *Publicity.* Terrorists may perpetrate an attack to draw attention to their cause and influence people to provide support for their efforts.

## 1.10 COMMON TERMS IN TERRORISM

### Fatwa

A fatwa is an Islamic legal pronouncement, issued by a religious law specialist, concerning a specific issue. A fatwa is usually issued to address a question posed by an individual or judge. The scholar who issues the fatwa is known as a Mufti. Islam has

no centralized priestly hierarchy; thus there is no uniform method to determine who can issue a valid fatwa and who cannot. According to the Islamic science called “Usul al-fiqh” (Principles of Jurisprudence), a fatwa is binding when the following four conditions are met:

1. It is in line with the relevant legal proofs, deducted from Koranic verses and hadiths (traditions relating to the sayings and doings of the prophet Muhammad).
2. It is issued by a person (or a board) having due knowledge and sincerity of heart.
3. It is free from individual opportunism and does not depend on political servitude.
4. It is adequate with the needs of the contemporary world.

A fatwa is not binding on all Muslims, only on the Mufti who issued it and his followers. Perhaps the best known fatwa was issued in 1989 by Iran’s Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, calling for the death of Salman Rushdie, author of the novel *The Satanic Verses*. The argument posed by the fatwa was that Rushdie had included a blasphemous statement concerning the prophet Muhammad.

The Islamic Commission of Spain, which represents about 70% of the mosques in Spain, proclaimed a fatwa against Osama bin Laden in March 2005 as a result of the Madrid train bombings. The fatwa was issued on the one-year anniversary of the Madrid train bombings. The commission’s secretary general reported that the group had consulted in other countries including Morocco, Algeria, and Libya and had their support. The fatwa stated [4]: “the terrorist acts of Osama bin Laden and his organization al Qaeda . . . are totally banned and must be roundly condemned as part of Islam . . . . In as much as Osama bin Laden and his organization defend terrorism as legal and try to base it on the Qur’an . . . they are committing the crime of ‘istihlal’ (meaning making up one’s own laws) and thus become apostates that should not be considered Muslims or treated as such.”

### **Osama bin Laden’s Fatwas**

Osama bin Laden has issued several fatwa’s to justify his “holy war” or “jihad” against America and its allies. The first major fatwa, “Declaration of War Against the Americans Occupying the Land of the Two Holy Places,” was issued by Osama bin Laden in August 1996. In this fatwa, bin Laden points out that the people of Islam have suffered from aggression, iniquity, and injustice imposed by the Zionist crusaders (the U.S.) alliance and their allies. Bin Laden fears the presence of the U.S. and allied military forces on the land, air, and sea of the Islamic Gulf states as the greatest danger threatening the largest oil reserves in the world. He is concerned that the United States would rather burn the oil than see it fall into the hands of its legitimate owners and would like to cause economic damage to its competitors in Europe or the Far East. Bin Laden warns that “the money you pay to buy American goods will be transformed into bullets and used against our brothers in Palestine and tomorrow against our sons in the land of the two

holy places. By buying these goods we are strengthening their economy while our dispossession and poverty increases.” Bin Laden therefore calls for the boycotting of American goods, along with the military operations of the Mujahideen, to defeat the United States. Finally, bin Laden declares “it is a duty now on every tribe in the Arab Peninsula to fight, Jihad, in the cause of Allah and to cleanse the land from those occupiers. Allah knows that their blood is permitted to be spilled, and their wealth is a booty; their wealth is a booty to those who kill them.”

The second major fatwa, “Kill Americans Everywhere,” states the killing of Americans and their allies, civilian and military, is an individual duty on every Muslim who can do so in any country in which it is possible to do it, in order that American and allied armies move out of all the land of Islam defeated and unable to threaten any Muslim in compliance with the words of Almighty God. Justifying the call to kill U.S. civilians and military personnel, the statement declares that “U.S. aggression is affecting Muslim civilians, not just the military.” This fatwa, proclaimed on February 23, 1998 in the name of the World Islamic Front for Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders, was issued by Osama bin Laden, jointly with Ayman al-Zawahiri, leader of the Jihad group in Egypt; Abu-Yasir Rifa’i Ahmad Taha, a leader of the Egyptian Islamic group; Sheik Mir Hamzah, secretary of the Jamiat ul-Ulema Pakistan; and Fazlul Rahman, leader of the Jihad Movement in Bangladesh. The fatwa declared that in compliance with God’s order “the ruling to kill the Americans and their allies—civilians and military—is an individual duty for every Muslim who can do it in any country in which it is possible to do it, in order to liberate the al Aqsa Mosque [in Jerusalem] and the holy Mosque [in Mecca] from their grip, and in order for their armies to move out of all the lands of Islam, defeated and unable to threaten any Muslim. This is in accordance with the words of Almighty God, and fight the pagans all together as they fight you all together, and fight them until there is no more tumult or oppression, and there prevail justice and faith in God.” The justification for this fatwa was based on three grievances:

- “First, for over seven years, the United States has been occupying the lands of Islam in the holiest of places, the Arabian Peninsula, plundering its riches, dictating to its rulers, humiliating its people, terrorizing its neighbors, and turning its bases in the peninsula into a spearhead through which to fight the neighboring Muslim peoples.”
- “Second, despite the great devastation inflicted on the Iraqi people by the crusader–Zionist alliance, and despite the huge number of those killed, in excess of 1 million . . . despite all this, the Americans are once again trying to repeat the horrific massacres, as though they are not content with the protracted blockade imposed after the ferocious war or the fragmentation and devastation.”
- “Third, if the Americans’ aims behind these wars are religious and economic, the aim is also to serve the Jews’ petty state and divert attention from its occupation of Jerusalem and murder of Muslims there.”

The fatwa also “calls on every Muslim who believes in God and wishes to be rewarded to comply with God’s order to kill the Americans and plunder their money wherever and whenever they find it. We also call on Muslim, Ulema

(Muslim scholars of Islamic studies), leaders, youths, and soldiers to launch the raid on Satan's U.S. troops and the devil's supporters allying with them, and to displace those who are behind them so that they may learn a lesson" [5].

## Jihad

Jihad is an Islamic word meaning "to exert utmost effort, to strive, struggle," which can mean a number of things: anything from an inward spiritual struggle to attain perfect faith to a political or military struggle to further the Islamic cause. In as much as jihad is a struggle, it is a struggle against all that is perceived as evil in the Muslim world. The term jihadist is sometimes used to describe militant Islamic groups. Returnees from Afghanistan in the 1980s were the global jihad's first generation of terrorists.

Muslims generally classify jihad in two forms. Jihad al-Akbar, the greater jihad, is said to be inward seeking, the struggle against one's soul, while Jihad al-Asgar, the lesser jihad, is external rebellion and is in reference to physical effort (i.e., fighting). Islam exalts jihad as the greatest deed in its canonical literature. Jihad is widely used to mean "holy war." Traditional Islamic doctrine divided the world into two parts: the Dar al-Islam (land of Islam) and the Dar al-Harb (land of war). The former were the Muslim territories, governed by Islam as a political movement, while the latter were the non-Muslim territories of the world. The concept of warfare in Islam is of two distinct types: defensive jihad, which is the defense of the Dar al-Islam, and the offensive jihad, which is the military conquests of the Dar al-Harb by Islam as a political movement. In addition to this doctrine of international relations, Islamic law also lays down the basic rules of war in Islam. There are specific legal issues concerning the basic laws of jihad, such as treatment of prisoners of war, questions about who can be killed in the course of warfare, and questions about what kinds of military tactics are permissible [6].

## Mujahid

A person who engages in any form of jihad is called a mujahid, which means "striver or struggler," though it most often means a person who engages in fighting.

## 1.11 TYPES OF TERRORISTS

There are seven basic types of terrorists.

1. *Nationalist Terrorists.* These terrorists seek to form a separate state for themselves. They have been successful at gaining sympathy from others and concessions from governments by fighting for their "national liberation." The two most widely known national terrorist groups are the Irish Republican Army and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

2. *Religious Terrorists.* These terrorists use violence to further their own interpretation of divine will and perception of world order. They feel free to

target anyone who is not a member of their religion or cult. The four most widely known religious terrorist groups are al Qaeda, Hamas, Hezbollah, and Aum Shinrikyo.

3. *State Sponsored Terrorists.* These terrorists are used by their radical government as violent foreign policy tools. Since these groups are supported by their government, they have significantly more resources and can operate freely within their territory without fear of prosecution. Perhaps the best known state sponsored terrorist organization was the Iranian militants who were used to seize the American embassy in Tehran in 1979. Other examples of state sponsored terrorist groups include Hezbollah (backed by Iran), Abu Nidal (which has been backed by Syria, Libya, and Iraq), and al Qaeda (backed by the former Taliban government in Afghanistan). The U.S. State Department has accused Iran, Cuba, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria of sponsoring terrorism.

4. *Left Wing Terrorists.* Left wing terrorists generally profess a revolutionary socialist doctrine and view themselves as protectors of the people against “dehumanizing effects” of capitalism and imperialism and therefore are out to destroy capitalism and replace it with a communist or social regime. Leftist groups are on the liberal end of the political spectrum. Leftists often see themselves as defending the equality, freedom, and well-being of the common citizens. In the late nineteenth century, immigrants from eastern Europe sympathetic to the international anarchist movement launched the first domestic terrorist attacks in the United States. Anarchist Alexander Berkman attempted to murder steel tycoon Henry Clay Frick in 1892 due to his ruthless anti-union policy, and anarchists bombed Chicago’s Haymarket in 1886 because of perceived differences between the business class and working class. Left wing terrorists often use tactics that focus on hampering capitalism, such as adversely impacting businesses, and destroying government facilities. They aim to bring about change in the United States through revolution rather than through the established political process. Terrorist groups seeking to secure full Puerto Rican independence from the United States through violent means represent one of the remaining active vestiges of left wing terrorism. During the 1970s and 1980s, numerous leftist groups, including extremist Puerto Rican separatist groups such as the Armed Forces for Puerto Rican National Liberation (FALN), carried out bombings on the U.S. mainland, primarily in and around New York City. The threat posed by Puerto Rican extremist groups to mainland U.S. communities decreased during the past decade. Acts of terrorism continue to be perpetrated, however, by violent separatists in Puerto Rico. Three acts of terrorism have taken place in various Puerto Rican locales in recent years, including the March 1998 bombing of a super-aqueduct project in Arecibo, the bombings of bank offices in Rio Piedras and Santa Isabel in June 1998, and the bombing of a highway in Hata Rey. The extremist Puerto Rican separatist group Los Macheteros is suspected in each of these attacks [7]. Other examples of left wing groups include the Japanese Red Army and the Italian Red Brigades. Radical factions of otherwise reputable causes, including environmental groups such as the Earth Liberation Front, are also considered left wing terrorist groups.



5. *Right Wing Terrorists.* Right wing terrorists are the most loosely organized terrorists and often adhere to the principles of racial supremacy and embrace antigovernment, antiregulatory beliefs. Right wing terrorism can be motivated by opposition to federal taxation and regulation. These groups seek to eliminate liberal democratic governments and install fascist states in their place. Right wing terrorists are also racist and anti-Semitic. Generally, right wing extremists engage in activities that are protected by the constitutional guarantees of free speech and assembly. In 1999, the FBI interrupted plans by members of the Southeastern States Alliance—an umbrella organization of militias in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, and other southern states—to steal weapons from National Guard armories in central Florida, attack power lines in several states, and ambush federal law enforcement officers. The goal of this group was to create social and political chaos, thereby forcing the U.S. government to declare martial law, an act the group believed would lead to a violent overthrow of the government by the American people [7]. The most infamous right wing terrorist organizations include the skinheads, Ku Klux Klan, Aryan Nation, and the National Alliance.

6. *Anarchist Terrorists.* In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, anarchist terrorism was a significant global phenomenon. Anarchists and other extremist socialist groups seek to overthrow the existing government using violence. President William McKinley was assassinated on September 6, 1901 at the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, New York by Hungarian refugee and anarchist sympathizer Leon Czolgosz. Anarchists, operating individually and in small groups, caused a significant amount of damage during the 1999 World Trade Organization meetings in Seattle, Washington. The Workers World Party, Reclaim the Streets, and Carnival Against Capitalism are all anarchist groups.

7. *Special Interest Terrorists.* Special interest terrorism differs from traditional right wing and left wing terrorism in that extremist special interest groups focus on single issues and seek to resolve these specific issues rather than effect more widespread political change. Special interest extremists conduct acts of politically motivated violence to force segments of society, including the general public, to change attitudes about issues considered important to their causes.

Not all special interest groups, and their members, can be considered terrorists. These extremists are violent subgroups of otherwise well meaning legitimate organizations that have noble causes, such as right to life, protection of the environment, and animal rights. However, these extremist subgroups have chosen to resort to violence and other criminal activities to further their cause and hence have been designated as terrorist groups by federal law enforcement organizations.

In recent years, elements of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) have become some of the most active extremists in the United States. Despite the violence and damage caused by ALF's operations, its operational philosophy discourages acts that harm "any animal, human and non-human." Factions of the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) are also very active in using criminal activities to promote their cause. They claimed responsibility for the arson fires set at a Vail, Colorado ski resort in October 1998 that destroyed eight separate structures and caused \$12 million in damages. Special interest groups include ALF, ELF, and Stop Huntington Animal Cruelty.

## 1.12 HISTORICAL TERRORIST ATTACKS

For many Americans, September 11, 2001 represented our first exposure to the devastating effects of international terrorism, and the day the war on terrorism began. Others believe America's first exposure to terrorism began with the seizing of the U.S. embassy in Tehran, Iran. In reality, terrorism has existed for centuries. Terrorism is not something new.

One of the first links to terrorism involves the Greek superhero Hercules, who appears to have used the world's first biological weapon referenced in Western literature. After Hercules killed Hydra, the many headed serpent, Hercules dipped his arrowheads in Hydra's venom to increase their lethality. In 200 BC, Hannibal's sailors catapulted pots containing venomous snakes onto the decks of enemy ships. In the first century, Jewish zealots would publicly slit the throats of Romans and their collaborators. In AD 199, the Romans threw pots filled with poisonous scorpions over the walls of the city of Hatra. In seventh century India, the Thuggee cult would strangle passersby as sacrifices to the Hindu deity Kali. In the mid-fourteenth century in the Tartar attack on Caffa, plague-infected corpses were catapulted into the ranks of the enemy to spread disease. British soldiers sent Native American Indians smallpox-infected blankets during the French and Indian Wars. During the U.S. Civil War in the 1860s, Confederate troops dropped dead animals into drinking water wells. In 1914, Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated by a Serb extremist, helping to trigger World War I. During World War II, Germany experimented with biological agents on prisoners of war. British scientists were conducting experiments with anthrax on the Scottish Isle of Gruinard. Results of the testing and the remaining contamination left the island uninhabitable for years. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine executed the first terrorist hijacking of a commercial airliner on July 22, 1968.

The earliest documented use of chemical weapons occurred in the fourth century BC during the Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta. Using a crude but effective system, the Spartans used a chemical irritant (sulfur-laden smoke) against the fort at Delium, forcing the soldiers to flee. The use of chemical weapons continued in the following centuries, with mixtures of pitch, sulfur, lime, and other chemicals being placed into clay pots and thrown or catapulted against an enemy. The resulting odors when the clay pots broke and released their contents were suffocating to those exposed. Modern chemical weapons were born with the French and German military developing tear gas. On April 22, 1915, the German's unleashed the full fury of modern chemical warfare, with the use of 150 tons of chlorine against French and British troops. By the end of 1915, both sides were utilizing chlorine and phosgene as weapons. By 1917, the Germans began using mustard blister agents against Allied troops. In the Viet Nam War, the United States made extensive use of tear gas to clear tunnels of guerillas. The United States also developed and deployed numerous defoliant agents in the jungles of Viet Nam, most notably Agent Orange. Chemical weapons have reportedly also been used by Egypt, by the Soviet armies in their war with Afghanistan, and by Iraq in their war with Iran as well as against their own Kurdish population.

## 1.13 INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

International terrorism transcends national boundaries in terms of attacks, the persons they are intended to coerce or intimidate, or the locale in which the adversaries operate. International terrorism involves violent acts that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or any state. Although terrorist groups are based all across the globe, today's greatest threats stem from terrorist organizations that originated in or have ties to the Middle East.

In general terms, the international terrorist threat can be divided into three categories: loosely affiliated extremists operating under the radical international jihad movement, formal terrorist organizations, and state sponsors of terrorism.

- *Loosely Affiliated Extremists.* These terrorists are motivated by political or religious beliefs. Within this category are the Sunni Islamic extremists, such as groups affiliated with the al Qaeda organization, which have demonstrated a willingness and capability to carry out attacks resulting in large-scale casualties and destruction against U.S. citizens, facilities, and interests. However, the threat from al Qaeda is only part of the overall threat from the international jihad movement. The movement is comprised of individuals from many different nationalities and ethnic groups, who work together to achieve the extremist Sunni goals. The primary Sunni goal is the removal of U.S. military forces from the Persian Gulf, particularly Saudi Arabia. The single common element among all of these groups is the call for the use of violence against the “enemies of Islam” to overthrow all governments that are not ruled by Sharia (conservative Islamic law).
- *Formal Terrorist Organizations.* These are typically autonomous transnational organizations that have their own infrastructure, personnel, financial resources, and training facilities. These groups are capable of planning, financing, and executing attacks on a worldwide basis. A number of these organizations maintain operations and support cells throughout the world. For example, Hamas and Hezbollah have operations in both the western and eastern hemispheres, engaged in fund raising, recruiting, and intelligence gathering.
- *State Sponsors of Terrorism.* These are countries that view terrorism as a tool of foreign policy. Presently, the U.S. Department of State lists seven countries as state sponsors of terrorism: Iran, Iraq, Sudan, Libya, Syria, Cuba, and North Korea. Of these, Iran represents the greatest terrorist threat to the United States. Despite a moderation in its public anti-United States rhetoric since the election of Mohammed Khatemi as president, the government of Iran remains controlled by conservative clerics opposed to reform and normalization of relations with Western countries. The government of Iran continues to target dissidents living outside the country and supports financially and logistically anti-Western acts of terrorism by others [7].

Terrorist organizations are always seeking financial resources needed to conduct their activities. There are many different sources of financial support, some of which

may be legal and some illegal. *Narcoterrorism* refers to terrorist acts carried out by groups that are directly or indirectly involved in cultivating, manufacturing, transporting, or distributing illegal drugs. These terrorists use the drug trade to fund their operations. Narcoterrorist groups include the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), National Liberation Army, and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

*Sleeper cells* are terrorists who are already in place within the United States but are not currently active. America is an open society, with people free to come and go as they please. There are hundreds of mosques, where radicals can preach propaganda to assist in recruiting new members and solicit funds. Sleeper cells are groups of terrorists who are loyal to a cause but are living quietly in society. The group lies dormant until such time as the members receive an assignment to act. Sleeper cells may be empowered to act on their own if a target of opportunity presents itself. The general modus operandi of a sleeper cell is that members move into a community, assimilate into society as well as they can, and wait for the opportunity or order to attack.

Table 1.1 is a compilation of foreign terrorist organizations designated by the U.S. Department of State as of March 2006. The Office of Counterterrorism in the Department of State continually monitors the activities of terrorist groups active

**TABLE 1.1. United States Department of State, Foreign Terrorist Organizations, March 2006**

Abu Nidal Organization	Kach
Abu Sayyaf Group	Kurdistan Workers Party
Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi
Al-Gama'a al-Islamiyya	Lashkar-e-Taiba
Armed Islamic Group	Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam
Al Qaeda	Libyan Islamic Fighting Group
Al Qaeda Organization in the	Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group
Land of Two Rivers	Mujahedeen-e-Khaig
Ansar al-Sunnah Army	National Liberation Army
Armed Islamic Group	New People's Army
Asbat al-Ansar	Palestine Liberation Front
Aum Shinrikyo	Palestinian Islamic Jihad
Basque Fatherland and Freedom	Popular Front for the Liberation of
Continuity Irish Republican Army	Palestine
DHKP-C	Popular Front for the Liberation of
Egyptian Islamic Jihad	Palestine—General Command
Hamas	Real Irish Republican Army
Harakat ul-Mujahideen	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia
Hezbollah	Revolutionary Nuclei
Islamic Jihad Group	Revolutionary Organization 17 November
Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan	Salafist Group for Call and Combat
Jaish-e-Mohammed	Shining Path
Jemaah Islamiya	United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia

**TABLE 1.2. United States Department of State,  
Terrorist Exclusion List, March 2006**


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Aden Abyan Islamic Army (AAIA)  
 Afghan Support Committee  
 Al-Hamati Sweets Bakery  
 Al-Ittihaad al-Islami (AIAI)  
 Al-Ma'unah  
 Al-Manar  
 Al-Nur Honey Center  
 Al-Rashid Trust  
 Al-Shifa Honey Press for Industry and Commerce  
 Al-Wafa al-Igatha al-Islamia  
 Alex Boncayao Brigade (ABB)  
 Allied Democratic Forces (ADF)  
 Anarchist Faction  
 Army for the Liberation of Rwanda (ALIR)  
 Babbar Khalsa International (BKI)  
 Bank Al Taqwa Ltd.  
 Black Star  
 Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M)  
 Continuity Irish Republican Army (CIRA)  
 Darkazanli Company  
 Dhamat Houmet Daawa Salafia  
 Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM)  
 First of October Antifascist Resistance Group (GRAPO)  
 Harakat ul-Jihad-i-Islami (HUJI)  
 International Sikh Youth Federation  
 Islamic International Peacekeeping Brigade (IIPB)  
 Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM)  
 Jamiat al-Ta'awum al-Islamiyya  
 Jamiat ul-Mujahideen (JuM)  
 Japanese Red Army (JRA)  
 Jayshullah  
 Jerusalem Warriors  
 Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)  
 Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG)  
 Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)  
 Loyalist Volunteer Force (LVF)  
 Makhtab al-Khidmat  
 Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group  
 Nada Management Organization  
 New People's Army (NPA)  
 New Red Brigades/Communist Combatant Party  
 Orange Volunteers (OV)  
 Overthrown Anarchist Faction  
 People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (PAGAD)

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*(Continued)*

TABLE 1.2. (Continued)

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Rajah Solaiman Movement
Red Hand Defenders (RHD)
Revival of Islamic Heritage Society
Revolutionary Proletarian Nucleus
Revolutionary United Front (RUF)
Riyad us-Saliheyn Martyrs Brigade
Salafist Group for Call and Combat (GSPC)
Special Purpose Islamic Regiment (SPIR)
The Pentagon Gang
Tunisian Combatant Group (TCG)
Turkish Hezbollah
Ulster Defence Association/Ulster Freedom Fighters
Ummah Tameer E-Nau
Youssef M Nada & Co. Gesellschaft M.B.H.

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around the world to identify potential organizations for designation. When reviewing potential targets, the Office of Counterterrorism looks not only at the actual terrorist attacks that a group has carried out, but also at whether the group has engaged in planning and preparations for possible future acts of terrorism or retains the capability and intent to carry out such attacks. The legal ramifications of being designated as a foreign terrorist organization include the following:

1. It is unlawful for a person in the United States or subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to knowingly provide “material support or resources” to a designated foreign terrorist organization.
2. Representatives and members of a designated foreign terrorist organization, if they are aliens, are inadmissible to and, in certain circumstances, removable from the United States.
3. Any U.S. financial institution that becomes aware that it has possession of or control over funds in which a designated foreign terrorist organization or its agent has an interest must retain possession of or control over the funds and report the funds to the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury [8].

Table 1.2 is the U.S. State Department’s Terrorist Exclusion List (TEL). The USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 authorized the Secretary of State, with the assistance of the U.S. Attorney General, to designate terrorist organizations for immigration purposes. A TEL designation increases homeland security efforts by facilitating the ability to exclude aliens associated with entities on the TEL from entering the United States.

Table 1.3 is the U.S. State Department’s List of Other Selected Terrorist Organizations, which includes other selected terrorist groups deemed of relevance in the global war on terrorism.

**TABLE 1.3. United States Department of State, List of Other Selected Terrorist Organizations, March 2006**


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Aden Abyan Islamic Army (AAIA)
Al-Badr
Al-Ittihaad al-Islami (AIAI)
Alex Boncayao Brigade (ABB)
Anti-Imperialist Territorial Nuclei for the Construction of the Fighting Communist Party
Army for the Liberation of Rwanda (ALIR)
Cambodian Freedom Fighters (CFF)
Communist Party of India-Maoist
Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M)
Democratic Front for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR)
Easter Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM)
First of October Antifascist Resistance Group (GRAPO)
Harakat ul-Jihad-i-Islami
Harakat ul-Jihad-i-Islami/Bangladesh
Hizb-I Islami Gulbuddin
Hizbul Mujahideen
Irish National Liberation Army
Irish Republican Army
Islamic Great Eastern Raiders Front
Islamic International Peacekeeping Brigade
Jamatul Mujahedin Bangladesh
Jamiat ul-Mujahedin (JuM)
Japanese Red Army (JRA)
Kumpulan Mujahidin Malaysia
Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)
Loyalist Volunteer Force (LVF)
New Red Brigades/Communist Combatant Party
People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (PAGAD)
Rajah Solaiman Movement
Red Hand Defenders (RHD)
Revolutionary Proletarian Nucleus
Revolutionary Struggle
Riyad us-Saliheym Martyrs Brigade
Special Purpose Islamic Regiment (SPIR)
Tunisian Combatant Group (TCG)
Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement
Turkish Hezbollah
Ulster Defense Association/Ulster Freedom Fighters
Ulster Volunteer Force
United Liberation Front of Assam

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## 1.14 EXAMPLES OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST GROUPS

### Al Qaeda

The primary terrorist threat facing the United States today is al Qaeda and its affiliates. Osama bin Laden's plan is to attack the United States until it is bankrupt.

Osama bin Laden and his associate, Mohammed Atef, became involved in the Mujadeen rebellion to fight the Soviets after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in December 1979. Bin Laden apparently received training from the Central Intelligence Agency, which was backing the Afghan holy warriors (the mujahideen) in their fight against Soviet forces. Bin Laden used his family's money and his own business experience to recruit young Muslim men from around the world to join the mujahideen. He also used his money to buy equipment for the Afghan resistance. In 1984, Osama bin Laden moved to Pakistan and cofounded Maktub al-Khidamat (MAK) to organize approximately 20,000 anti-Soviet mujahideen rebels and to channel overseas weapons and funds to the group. In 1986, bin Laden established his own training camp in Afghanistan for Persian Gulf Arabs called al Masadah (the Lion's Den). In 1988, as the Soviet occupation in Afghanistan was failing, al Qaeda (the base) was organized from Osama bin Laden's former mujahideen members. Al Qaeda seeks to rid the Muslim regions of the world of what it believes is the profane influence of the West and to replace their governments with fundamentalist Islamic regimes. In 1989, the Soviet Union withdrew from Afghanistan, and bin Laden returned to Saudi Arabia to join his family's construction company.

In the 1980s, al Qaeda's primary focus was to depose the Saudi monarchy (and that goal remains very important today). The 1990s was the period of al Qaeda recruitment and training. After the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1991, Saudi Arabia rejected Osama bin Laden's offer to assist in fighting Iraq and allowed U.S. forces to use its military bases, fueling bin Laden's hatred of both the United States and Saudi Arabia. He moved the al Qaeda headquarters to Sudan in 1991. In 1992, Osama bin Laden established legal businesses (farms, a tannery, and a construction firm) in Sudan to increase his available funds for al Qaeda. In 1994, bin Laden's citizenship was revoked by Saudi Arabia, and his family and friends publicly disowned him due to his crimes. Bin Laden was forced to leave Sudan for Afghanistan in 1996 following intense pressure from the U.S. government after he issued the fatwa "Declaration of War Against the Americans Occupying the Land of the Two Holy Places." In 1998, Osama bin Laden released a fatwa entitled "Kill Americans Everywhere," declaring that "to kill Americans and their allies, civilians, and military is an individual duty for every Muslim who can do it, in any country in which it is possible to do it." By the late 1990s, bin Laden had taken up residence in Afghanistan and had become a mentor, guest, and inspiration to the Taliban government. Bin Laden and his followers helped the Taliban fight against the Northern Alliance. In March 2003, Osama bin Laden's plan to create a "nuclear hell storm" by constructing and detonating a radiological weapon on U.S. soil was uncovered when Kalid Sheik Mohammed, al Qaeda's military operations chief, was arrested in Pakistan. Currently, Osama bin Laden and other top al Qaeda leaders are reportedly hiding in Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan as the United States and the coalition prosecute the war on terrorism. To date approximately 75% of al Qaeda's leadership have been killed or captured.

Despite the valiant and somewhat effective efforts of the United States to capture or kill the al Qaeda terrorists, and disperse and degrade their leadership, al Qaeda has



not gone out of business. Regional al Qaeda extremist cells have a newfound importance in the new order of al Qaeda and pose an increasing threat. There are literally thousands of al Qaeda trainees spread out across the globe. Additional operatives are being trained daily in Iraq. Can al Qaeda remain effective with Osama bin Laden and other top leaders removed from the day to day operations of the organization? Unfortunately, the answer is yes. There is no need for bin Laden or other top leaders to be involved. Under bin Laden's leadership, the jihadist movement has been boosted to new heights. Despite thousands of worldwide arrests, al Qaeda is still capable of planning and launching attacks. Bin Laden has created the phenomenon, and now his followers are taking up the cause and running local terrorist cells. It is also quite possible that some attacks have been in the planning stages for years, and that al Qaeda has regrouped to some extent, and the new leaders are simply giving the orders to carry out attacks. Some individual cells may be operating on their own, planning and executing local attacks without coordination with the overall al Qaeda organization. These local cells have demonstrated a propensity for planning and executing their attacks in only a few months using locally available resources. Al Qaeda is more an ideology than an organization. The 2005 London subway bombings prove the movement continues to be viable. The bombings demonstrate a willingness and ability to strike against the very heart of the West.

In his statement to the American public on October 29, 2004, Osama bin Laden stated that his hatred toward the United States started when America permitted the Israelis to invade Lebanon and the U.S. Navy's Sixth Fleet assisted. Bin Laden stated that as he looked at the demolished towers in Lebanon, it gave birth to a strong resolve to punish the oppressors (America). This is when the idea to attack the World Trade Center first came to him. He decided that America should be punished in kind, and al Qaeda should destroy towers in America in order to taste some of what the Lebanese tasted, and so America would be deterred from killing women and children. Osama bin Laden believes that the reasons justifying the September 11 attack still exist today, thus enabling al Qaeda to execute another attack on a similar scale.

According to most Islamist religious doctrine, the jihadist is obligated to forewarn the prospective targets and provide them the opportunity to repent and rectify their actions. Osama bin Laden has been criticized several times for not providing sufficient prewarnings of attacks.

The hallmark of an al Qaeda attack is multiple, near simultaneous mass casualty attacks against separate targets.

Al Qaeda's strategic plan includes:

- Murder of infidels (all non-Muslims and Muslims who do not follow al Qaeda).
- Removal of Westerners from Muslim countries.
- Abandonment by the West of its Arab allies.
- Removal of the Western presence from the Muslim world.
- Replacement of secular leaders in the Muslim world.
- Infusion of Sharia as law of the Muslim world.

It is essential to differentiate between the threat posed by the “corporate” al Qaeda and its “franchise” groups. The al Qaeda corporate group still remains interested in executing a large-scale, mass casualty, economically damaging, and symbolic attack against the United States. With the war on terror having some success in disrupting al Qaeda’s ability to plan, communicate, and most likely execute a large-scale attack, and with key leaders being removed from the organization, the corporate group is shrinking while the number of franchise groups is rapidly growing. These franchise groups are small groups and individuals who view themselves as part of the global jihad but do not have hard links to the al Qaeda organization. These smaller cells are most likely operating independently from the corporate organization without receiving funding, operational direction, or approval for their attack plans. The franchise groups are more likely to conduct smaller, less sophisticated attacks that do not require extensive planning, funding, or logistics to execute. They have carried out several smaller scale, unsophisticated, but successful attacks (e.g., the Madrid and London train bombings) that were put together fairly quickly and did not take a lot of resources to execute. The war in Iraq has provided support for the franchise concept, much like Afghanistan spawned many of today’s terrorists during the battle against the Soviets in the 1980s. Eager individuals or small groups travel to Iraq to join the jihad. They are able to receive hands-on training on the planning of attacks, they get to build and deploy improvised explosive devices, and they execute attacks against real targets. After gaining the relevant experience, they return home and wait for the opportune time to mount domestic terror campaigns.

On April 14, 2004, Osama bin Laden issued an audio tape statement proposing a “reconciliation initiative” with Europe. The truce was a “commitment to stop operations against any state which vows to stop attacking Muslims or interfere in their affairs.” The truce was effective for three months. In Osama bin Laden’s April 14, 2004 statement he said: “I offer a peace initiative, whose essence is our commitment to stopping operations against every country that commits itself to not attacking Muslims or interfering in their affairs. The peace will start with the departure of its last soldier from our country. For those who reject peace and want war, we are ready.”

Al Qaeda has used terrorist attacks to influence elections. There have been a number of attacks that immediately preceded elections, including Spain in March 2004, the Philippines in July 2004, Chechnya in August 2004, Afghanistan in October 2004, Australia in October 2004, and Iraq in January 2005.

### **Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades**

The brigades, formed in 2000 as an offshoot of Yasir Arafat’s Palestinian nationalist movement, Fatah, are a group of West Bank militias and have been one of the driving forces behind the Palestinian uprising. The organization’s goals are to create a Palestinian state and eliminate the presence of Israeli soldiers and settlers in the Palestinian occupied territories. Al-Aqsa does not claim to be intent on destroying the state of Israel.

Initially, al-Aqsa militants exclusively attacked the Israeli Defense Force and Israeli settlers, but in 2002 they began targeting civilians in Israel. Al-Aqsa does not directly target U.S. interests. The group uses mostly knifings, shootings, kidnapping, and suicide bombings in their terror attacks. In January 2002 the group introduced the use of female suicide bombers.

### **Aum Shinrikyo**

Aum Shinrikyo, established in 1987, is a Japanese religious cult obsessed with the apocalypse. Aum aimed to control Japan and the world, and subsequently create a global utopian society after the apocalypse. The cult's leader, Asahara, preached that his followers, a race of superhumans, would rule the world after the apocalyptic war and herald a new order from chaos. Aum has sought to develop nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. The group has successfully deployed Sarin nerve agent in Japan on two occasions. On June 27, 1994 Aum released Sarin in central Japan, killing seven people and injuring hundreds. In their most infamous attack, on March 20, 1995, ten Aum followers punctured bags of diluted Sarin in five subway stations located under government offices and the National Police Agency's headquarters. Twelve people were killed and over 5000 wounded. They have also tried unsuccessfully to aerosolize the biological agents anthrax and botulism. Aum has not targeted Americans or U.S. interests.

### **Hamas**

Hamas was spawned in 1987 by the Muslim Brotherhood, the leading Islamic-Jihadist movement in the Muslim world. Hamas is the Palestinian's largest and most influential Muslim fundamentalist movement. Hamas is a determined foe of Israeli-Palestinian peace and is determined to destroy Israel. Hamas initially sought to expel Jews and the state of Israel from Palestine, and to establish an Islamic Palestinian state based on Islamic law. Hamas operates primarily inside Israel, in Gaza, and the West Bank. Hamas has used suicide bombers (their first suicide bombing took place in April 1993), mortars, short-range rockets, and small arms fire. Hamas provides the family of a suicide bomber a bounty between \$3000 and \$5000 and assures them their son died a martyr in the holy jihad. Hamas also provides funding for extensive social, welfare, cultural, and educational services such as schools, orphanages, mosques, healthcare clinics, soup kitchens, summer camps, and sports leagues. The group has not targeted U.S. interests.

### **Hezbollah**

Hezbollah was founded in 1982 by Lebanese Shiite clerics in response to Israel's invasion of Lebanon. The group is a Lebanese umbrella organization of radical Islamic Shiite groups and organizations. It opposes the West, seeks to create a Muslim fundamentalist state modeled on Iran, and is a bitter enemy of Israel. According to their manifestos, Hezbollah is dedicated to the liberation of Jerusalem, the destruction of

Israel, and the ultimate establishment of an Islamic state in Lebanon. Hezbollah is a significant force in Lebanon's politics and a major provider of social services, operating schools, hospitals, and agricultural services for thousands of Lebanese Shiites. The group reportedly shares members with the Palestinian Islamic Jihad and is an ally of Hamas. The group also reportedly has ties to al Qaeda, cooperating on logistics and training. Hezbollah has engaged in kidnappings, bombings, and hijackings, as well as rocket strikes against Israeli settlements and the firing of surface-to-air missiles at Israeli aircraft. The group was the principal supporter of anti-Western and anti-American terrorism in the 1980s. Their most significant attack against Americans was the 1983 Beirut embassy bombing and the 1983 U.S. Marine barracks bombing. Until September 11, 2001, Hezbollah was responsible for more American deaths than all other terrorist groups combined.

### **Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)**

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, also known as the Tamil Tigers, are a separatist terrorist group founded in 1976 that seeks an independent state in areas of Sri Lanka inhabited by ethnic Tamils. The Tamils are an ethnic group who live in southern India and on Sri Lanka. The LTTE have been involved in a twenty year bloody civil war. The LTTE is notorious for suicide bombings and has perfected the jacket style apparatus worn by individual suicide bombers, which has been copied and used by al Qaeda, Hezbollah, Hamas, and the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades. The LTTE is also noted for the first and most active use of female suicide bombers, who have carried out 30–40% of the suicide attacks of LTTE. Their first suicide attack was on July 5, 1987, when a rebel drove a truckload of explosives into the Nelliady army camp in northern Sri Lanka, killing 40 soldiers. The LTTE has also used conventional bombs against political and civilian targets and has assassinated both Sri Lankan officials and civilians, most notably former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991 and Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa in 1993. LTTE terrorists wear cyanide capsules around their necks so they can commit suicide if they are captured. The LTTE is the only non-Muslim group that has practiced suicide bombings on a large scale. The LTTE has not targeted or attacked U.S. interests.

## **1.15 TERRORIST GROUPS THAT CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS IN 2004**

In 2002 [9], the following groups perpetrated 651 attacks, leaving 1907 people dead and 6704 wound.

- Abu Musab al-Zarqawi
- Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)
- Informal Anarchic Federation
- United Jihad Council
- Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade

Hamas  
Hizbul-Mujahedin  
Al-Mansurian  
National Front for the Liberation of Corsica (FLNC)  
Ansar al-Sunna  
Save Kashmir Movement  
Karachayev Djamaat  
Indomitable Marxists  
Taliban  
Jamiat ul-Mujahedin  
Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)  
Jama'at al-Tawid wa'al Jihad  
Jaish-e-Mohammed  
Al Qaeida  
Ansar al-Islam  
Brigades of Martyr Ahmed Yassim  
Palestine Islamic Jihad  
Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)/United People's Front  
Ansar al-Din  
The Mujahideen Brigades (Saraya al-Mujahedin)  
Abu Sayyaf Group  
The Green Battalion  
Lashkar-e-Tayyiba  
Islamic Rage Brigade  
Comando Jaramillista 23 de Mayo  
Waqas Islamic Brigade  
Sudanese Liberation Army  
Jihad Squadrons  
Islamic Anger Brigades  
Al-Nasreen  
All Tripura Tiger Force  
The National Liberation Front of Tripura  
The Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades  
MLKP-FESK  
Khaled ibn al-Walid Brigade  
Iraqi Legitimate Resistance  
Abu al-Rish Brigades  
Black Banners Division of the Islamic Secret Army  
Islamic Army in Iraq, the 1920 Revolution Brigades

Usd Allah (Lions of God)  
 Mujahideen Corps in Iraq  
 Islamic Jihad Group of Uzbekistan  
 Mujahideen of Iraq, the Group of Death  
 United Liberation Front of Assam  
 National Democratic Front of Bodoland  
 Freedom Falcons of Kurdistan  
 Abu Hafs al-Masri Brigade  
 Kongra-Gel  
 Abu al-Abbas  
 Mahdi Army  
 Ukranian People's Party (PUP)  
 Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)  
 Islambouli Brigades  
 Riyad us-Saliheyn Martyrs Brigade  
 Islamic Resistance Movement, Nu'man Brigades  
 Fallujah Mujahideen  
 Jemaah Islamiya (JI)  
 Brigades of Al Tawhid Lions  
 United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC)  
 Salafist Brigades  
 Abu Bakr al-Siddiq  
 Jaish-e-Muslimeen  
 Battalions of the Martyr Abdullah Azzam  
 Tanzim Qa'idat al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (QJBR)  
 Al Khandaq  
 Fatah Hawks  
 Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)

## 1.16 RECENT INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ATTACKS

Terrorism is not exclusive to the Middle East, but rather has been used across the globe. A sampling of worldwide terrorist activity over the past thirty-five years includes the following:

*February 10, 1970.* Three terrorists attack El Al passengers in a bus at the Munich Airport with guns and grenades. One passenger is killed, and 11 are injured. The Action Organization for the Liberation of Palestine and the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine claim responsibility.

- May 1972.* The Irish Republican Army plots to blow up the British cruise ship *Queen Elizabeth II*.
- July 21, 1972.* Irish Republican Army bomb attacks in Belfast, Northern Ireland kill 11 and injure 130.
- March 2, 1973.* The U.S. Ambassador to Sudan and other diplomats are assassinated at the Saudi Arabian Embassy by members of the Black September organization.
- January 27, 1975.* Puerto Rican nationalists bomb a New York City bar, killing four and injuring 60.
- March 16, 1978.* Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro is kidnapped by the Red Brigade and assassinated 55 days later.
- August 27, 1979.* The Irish Republican Army explodes the British yacht *Shadow V*, killing Britain's Lord Mountbatten.
- November 4, 1979.* The U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran is seized by fundamentalist Islamic students; 52 American diplomats are taken hostage and held for 444 days.
- August 31, 1981.* The Red Army explodes a bomb at the U.S. Air Force base in Ramstein, Germany.
- October 6, 1981.* Egyptian President Anwar Sadat is assassinated by members of the Takfir Wal-Hajira Muslim extremists.
- April 18, 1983.* Sixty-three people, including 17 Americans, are killed and 120 injured when a suicide pickup truck loaded with explosives is detonated at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. The Islamic Jihad claims responsibility.
- October 23, 1983.* A suicide truck bomb is detonated at a U.S. military barracks in West Beirut, Lebanon, killing 242 U.S. Marines. The Islamic Jihad claims responsibility.
- November 8, 1983.* All 130 passengers and crew are killed when an Angolan Airlines Boeing 737 is hit by a surface-to-air missile in Angola.
- December 12, 1983.* The U.S. Embassy in Kuwait is bombed, resulting in five deaths and 80 injuries.
- March 16, 1984.* The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency Station Chief, William Buckley, is kidnapped, tortured, and executed in Beirut, Lebanon by members of the Islamic Jihad.
- September 20, 1984.* A suicide bomb explodes at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, killing 23.
- April 12, 1985.* A bomb explodes in a restaurant near a U.S. Air Force base in Madrid, Spain, killing 18 and wounding 82.
- June 14, 1985.* TWA Flight 847 is hijacked enroute from Athens to Rome and forced to land in Beirut, where the hijackers hold the plane for 17 days. A U.S. Navy diver is shot and killed when the hijackers' demands are not met.
- June 23, 1985.* A bomb destroys an Air India 747 over the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 329 aboard. Both Sikh and Kashmiri terrorists are blamed.

*August 8, 1985.* A car bomb is detonated in a parking lot at the U.S. Air Force base in Frankfurt, Germany, killing two and injuring 20.

*October 7, 1985.* Palestinian Liberation Front terrorists hijack the Italian passenger liner *Achille Lauro*, killing one American.

*March 30, 1986.* A Palestinian splinter group detonates a bomb as TWA Flight 840 approaches the Athens airport, killing four U.S. citizens.

*April 5, 1986.* LaBelle discotheque in West Berlin, Germany, a spot frequented by U.S. servicepeople, is bombed by a Libyan group, killing two soldiers and injuring 79.

*February 17, 1988.* United States Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins is kidnapped and murdered by the Iranian backed Hezbollah group.

*July 1988.* Terrorists open fire with automatic weapons and throw hand grenades at passengers on the Greek day excursion ship *City of Poros*, killing nine and wounding 100.

*December 21, 1988.* Pan Am Flight 103 from London to New York explodes over the town of Lockerbie, Scotland. All 259 people on board are killed, along with 11 people on the ground.

*September 19, 1989.* A bomb destroys UTA Flight 772 over the Sahara Desert in southern Niger. All 170 persons aboard are killed. Six Libyans are later found guilty in absentia.

*November 30, 1989.* The Red Army Faction assassinates Deutsche Bank Chairman Alfred Herrhausen in Frankfurt.

*May 13, 1990.* The New People's Army murders two U.S. Air Force personnel in the Philippines.

*May 21, 1991.* A female member of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam kills herself, former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, and 16 others by detonating an explosive vest.

*March 17, 1992.* Hezbollah claims responsibility for a bombing that leveled the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, killing 29 and injuring 242.

*February 26, 1993.* A truck bomb is detonated by Islamic terrorists in the underground parking garage at the World Trade Center, killing six and causing over 1500 injuries.

*December 11, 1994.* Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, mastermind of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, detonates a bomb on PAL flight 434 enroute to Japan, killing one passenger.

*December 24, 1994.* An Air France jumbo jet laden with fuel is hijacked in a failed attempt to fly the plane to Paris to destroy the Eiffel Tower. Four Armed Islamic Group terrorists with ties to Osama bin Laden carried out the hijackings.

*March 20, 1995.* Japan's Aum Shinrikyo cult organization releases the nerve agent Sarin in the Tokyo subway system, killing 12 people and injuring 5700.

*November 19, 1995.* Islamic Jihad explodes a suicide truck bomb at the Egyptian Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, killing 16 people and injuring 60.



- January 31, 1996.* Members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam ram an explosives laden truck into the Central Bank of Colombo, Sri Lanka, killing 90 and injuring more than 1400.
- June 25, 1996.* A truck bomb is detonated at the U.S. Air Force Khobar Towers barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, killing 19 U.S. servicepeople and wounding an additional 515.
- September 4, 1997.* Three suicide bombers from Hamas detonate bombs in a shopping mall in Jerusalem, killing five and wounding nearly 200.
- August 7, 1998.* Nearly simultaneous suicide car bombings hit the U.S. embassies in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Nairobi, Kenya, killing 291 people, including 12 Americans, and wounding 5000. Osama bin Laden is held responsible for the attack.
- October 10, 1998.* All 41 passengers and crew are killed when a Congo Airlines Boeing 727 is hit by a surface-to-air missile.
- February 25, 1999.* FARC kidnaps three U.S. citizens working for the Hawaii based Pacific Cultural Conservatory International. On March 4, their bodies are found in Venezuela.
- August 12, 2000.* The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan takes four U.S. citizens hostage in Kyrgyzstan. They later escape.
- October 12, 2000.* Suicide attackers ram an explosives laden boat into the U.S. destroyer *Cole* off the Yemen coast, killing 17 American sailors.
- December 30, 2000.* Explosions in Manila strike a train, a bus, the airport, a park near the U.S. embassy, and a gas station, killing 22 people. The attack is attributed to Jemaah Islamiyah, a Southeast Asian militant group tied to al Qaeda.
- September 11, 2001.* Hijackers fly two jetliners into the World Trade Center in New York City, one jetliner into the Pentagon in Washington, DC, and one jetliner into the ground in Pennsylvania, killing almost 3000 people.
- April 11, 2002.* A truck loaded with propane gas is blown up near El Ghriba synagogue in Djerba, Tunisia, killing 16 people.
- June 14, 2002.* A suicide bomber blows up a truck at the U.S. Consulate in Karachi, Pakistan, killing 11 Pakistanis. Harkat ul-Mujahideen, linked to al Qaeda, is blamed.
- October 2, 2002.* Suspected Abu Sayyaf guerillas, who are linked to al Qaeda, detonate a nail laden bomb in a market in Zamboanga, Philippines. An American Green Beret and three others are killed. The group detonates several more bombs during the month, killing an additional 16 people.
- October 10, 2002.* A small suicide boat crashes into the French oil tanker *Limburg* as it enters the port of Ash Shir, off the southeast Yemen coast, and explodes, killing one crew member, injuring 12, and releasing 90,000 barrels of oil into the Arabian Sea. Al Qaeda is suspected.
- October 12, 2002.* A pair of bombings in the nightclub district of Bali, Indonesia kill 202 people, including two Americans, and wound over 300. Jemaah Islamiyah is suspected.

*November 28, 2002.* Suicide bombers kill 15 people and wound 15 by driving a vehicle packed with bombs into the lobby of an Israeli owned hotel in Kenya; two shoulder launched surface-to-air missiles narrowly miss an airliner taking off with Israeli tourists. Al Qaeda is one of the groups suspected of executing the attack.

*February 22, 2003.* Al Qaeda operatives open fire at a World Cup cricket match in Karachi, Pakistan, killing nine.

*May 11, 2003.* A bomb explodes in a crowded market in the Philippines, killing nine people. The blast is blamed on the Muslim separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

*May 12, 2003.* Four explosions rock Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in American housing compounds. Eight Americans are among the 34 people killed. The suspected bombers are linked to al Qaeda.

*May 16, 2003.* A team of 12 suicide bombers attack five targets in Casablanca, Morocco, killing 43 people and injuring over 100. The targets include a Spanish restaurant, a Jewish community, a Jewish cemetery, a hotel, and the Belgian consulate. Local militant groups linked to al Qaeda are blamed.

*February 6, 2004.* Terrorists detonate explosives in a train car in a Moscow subway during the morning rush hour, killing at least 40 people and injuring at least 110.

*March 11, 2004.* A group of al Qaeda connected Moroccan Islamic extremists set off ten bombs on four commuter trains in Madrid, Spain, killing 201 people and injuring more than 1800. Three other bombs did not detonate.

*July 7, 2005.* Suicide bombers detonate bombs on three subway trains and one bus, killing 56 people in London.

*April 26, 2006.* Suicide bomber detonates a bomb inside military headquarters in Sri Lanka, killing ten people and wounding 30.

### **Case Study: Hezbollah**

On October 23, 1983, Hezbollah attacked the buildings housing the U.S. Marine's peacekeeping force with a truck containing explosives being driven by a suicide bomber; 242 soldiers were killed and 81 injured. Most of the dead were asleep at the time of the 6:20 am attack. The terrorists hijacked a water delivery truck on its way to the Beirut International Airport Marine barracks and sent the explosives laden truck in its place. The driver, an Iranian, drove the 19 ton truck over a barbed wire fence and past two guardhouses and then detonated the explosives. A separate and simultaneous suicide bombing killed 58 French paratroopers in an attack at their barracks.

A U.S. federal court order issued in 2003 in a case brought by the relatives of the victims summarized the effects of the explosion [10]:

- "The resulting explosion was the largest non-nuclear explosion that had ever been detonated on the face of the earth. It was equal in force to between 15,000 and 21,000 pounds of TNT."

- “The force of its impact ripped locked doors from their doorjambs at the nearest building, which was 256 feet away. Trees located 370 feet away were shredded and completely exfoliated.”
- “All the windows at the airport control tower, half a mile away, shattered. A crater eight feet deep was carved into the earth, and 15 feet of rubble was all that remained of the four story Marine barracks.”
- “The force of the explosion ripped the building from its foundation. The building then imploded upon itself.”

Previously, in April 1983, Hezbollah attacked the U.S. Embassy in Beirut with a 400 pound suicide truck bomb that killed 63 people, including 17 Americans.

The attacks were motivated by the American involvement in the Lebanese civil war.

### **Case Study: Tamil Tigers**

Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers claimed responsibility for a suicide bomb attack against a top military official on April 26, 2006. The bomber disguised herself as a pregnant woman and detonated her explosives near the motorcade carrying Sri Lanka's highest ranking general, Lieutenant General Sarath Fonseca. Ten people were killed and 30 wounded, including Fonseca. According to the Associated Press, the bombing occurred inside the military headquarters' complex, which is protected by fences and troops guarding all entrances. The attacker entered the grounds using fake identification and claiming to have a prenatal appointment at the army's hospital.

### **Case Study: Madrid Train Bombing, March 11, 2004**

A cell of al Qaeda connected to the Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group extremists, who had recently immigrated to Spain, perpetrated the March 11, 2004 bombings of commuter trains in Madrid, Spain that killed 200 and injured hundreds more. The terrorists boarded commuter trains outside Madrid during the morning rush hour and placed 13 improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in passenger cars on four trains bound for Madrid. The IEDs were concealed in backpacks and sport bags. After placing the IEDs, the terrorists disembarked the trains. The bombs were set to detonate when the trains were in the station. The backpacks contained approximately 10 kilograms of a gelatin dynamite, more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  kilogram of nails to produce additional shrapnel, a cellular phone timing device that initiated the explosion via its alarm feature, and a detonator. Ten of the 13 devices were successfully detonated. Three of the IEDs failed to detonate. Authorities detonated two of them near the scene of the attack. One device was inadvertently brought to a police station along with the victims' personal belongings. The attack was inspired by seasoned radicals who had attended al Qaeda's Afghan training camps before September 11, 2001. Intelligence indicates that the cell was, like most in the new order, self-driven and operated independently, despite links to al Qaeda. Several suspects, including a Tunisian believed to be the ringleader of the bombings, and several Moroccans

committed suicide by detonating explosives in their apartment on April 3, 2004 when law enforcement personnel raided the apartment in a Madrid suburb. The primary goal of the terrorists who perpetrated this attack was certainly to inflict mass casualties on the commuters. However, the very timing of the attack may be indicative of a more sinister goal: to influence the March 14th national election that was to occur in an important coalition ally nation in the war against terror. In fact, the bombing contributed to the incumbent government being removed from office, in favor of a new government that was committed to withdrawing its troops from Iraq. Osama bin Laden had threatened Spain for several months for their involvement in the war on terrorism. Jihadist propaganda websites had also posted threats against Spain. These attacks demonstrated the relative ease and speed with which local terrorist networks can develop and execute highly lethal attacks that do not require significant operational expertise. These attacks demonstrate a trend of increased operational activity by local terrorist cells, apparently without coordination or approval from the “corporate” al Qaeda organization. A Spaniard with ties to the mining community helped the terrorists obtain the explosives and the detonators used in the attack. The explosives were stolen from northern Spain over several months. The attack apparently was financed locally via criminal activity, primarily narcotics trafficking.

### 1.17 DOMESTIC TERRORISM

*Domestic terrorism* has existed in the United States for more than a century. It is the unlawful use, or threatened use, of violence by a group or individual based and operating entirely within the United States (or its territories) without foreign direction and which is committed against persons or property with the intent of intimidating or coercing a government or its population in furtherance of political or social objectives. The USA PATRIOT Act adds acts that are “dangerous to human life” to the definition. Americans were responsible for about three-quarters of the 335 domestic incidents between 1980 and 2000 that the FBI has classified as suspected or confirmed terrorism. However, not all politically motivated violence can be considered domestic terrorism. Domestic terrorist groups represent interests that span the full spectrum of political, social, and economic viewpoints. During the past decade, right wing extremism overtook left wing terrorism as the most dangerous domestic terrorist threat to the United States. As an example of the problem associated with domestic terrorism, right to life extremists have killed seven doctors, and there have also been approximately 16 attempted murders, 99 acid attacks, 153 arson incidents, and 39 bombings in the past two decades [11].

*White supremacy* is a racist ideology in which it is believed that the white race is superior to other races and therefore should dominate society. White supremacists most often view Europeans (those of white skin) as the superior race. Although white supremacists most often attack Blacks and Jews, they have also targeted Native Americans, Asians, Roman Catholics, Communists, and homosexuals among others. The group maintains a strong opposition to racial mixing, especially

interracial relationships and marriage. White supremacist groups include the American Front, Aryan Nation, Ku Klux Klan, National Alliance, and the Posse Comitatus.

The FBI defines *ecoterrorism* as the use or threatened use of violence of a criminal nature against innocent victims or property by an environmentally oriented, subnational group for environmental–political reasons, or aimed at an audience beyond the target, often of a symbolic nature. Ecoterrorist groups include Green Peace and Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. Hometown ecoterrorists and animal rights extremists have claimed credit for more than 1200 terrorist crimes and \$110 million in damage since 1990, including arson, assault, vandalism, and other crimes against scores of individuals and American companies [12]. Most animal rights and ecoextremists so far have refrained from violence against humans. Domestic terrorist groups have been used in direct action campaigns to cause economic damage or disrupt or destroy the operations of university research labs, restaurants, sports utility vehicle dealerships, new home construction developments, fur farms, the pharmaceutical and cosmetics industry, and logging operations. Over the past few years, these groups have used explosive and incendiary devices more and more. No deaths have been blamed on attacks by these groups so far, but the attacks have increased in frequency and size. ELF activists have been known to leave banners or graffiti near the attack. ELF activists have also been known to conduct burglaries in the general vicinity of the target prior to an attack. There is a growing network of support for eco and animal rights extremists. Environmental and animal rights activists who use arson and explosives are the U.S. top domestic terrorism threat. Groups such as the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), the Earth Liberation Front (ELF), and Stop Huntington Animal Cruelty (SHAC) are the leaders in terms of damage and number of violent crimes.

*American militant extremists* are right wing domestic terrorists opposed to federal taxation, federal regulation, the U.S. government itself, and the United Nations and have a hatred of racial and religious minorities.

*Cyber terrorism* refers to unlawful attacks and threats of attack by spies, thieves, and saboteurs against computers (hardware infrastructure), networks (using computer networks to take over the control systems for other critical infrastructure, such as power plants), and the information (disrupting the information systems) they contain for the same reasons as other forms of terrorism. Cyber terrorism also involves the use of computers to steal, alter, or destroy information. To qualify as cyber terrorism, an attack should result in violence against persons or property, or at least generate fear. Terrorist organizations can use cyberspace as a medium for reaching a global audience. Terrorist cells can use encryption to conceal their communications via the Web to share surveillance, planning, and operational information preparatory to an attack. The Web can also be used to broadcast a terrorist group's message and spread propaganda to the general public in multiple countries simultaneously. With American society increasingly interconnected and ever more dependent on information technology, cyber terrorist attacks could cause as much devastation as more traditional forms of terrorism. Cyber terrorism allows terrorists to leverage limited resources to instill fear. Cyber terrorism can be accomplished with limited

funds, small teams, and from remote locations. Cyber terrorism attacks could include diverse methods of exploiting vulnerabilities in network security: computer viruses, stolen passwords, insider collusion, software with secret “back doors” that could be penetrated undetected, and waves of electronic traffic that overwhelms computer systems. There could be attacks on the physical components of the information technology system itself, such as an explosive device or electromagnetic discharge that physically destroys the electronic components or the physical assets and systems.

*Third positionists* espouse a political ideology that emphasizes the commonalities between the extreme left and the extreme right. Third positionists advocate a redistribution of wealth, a ban on animal testing, and respect for the environment.

*Agroterrorism* is the intentional contamination of human food sources.

*Lone wolf terrorism* involves individual extremists who usually operate alone or on the fringes of established extremist groups, inflicting serious harm or causing significant damage. Lone wolves generally have no direct links to terrorist groups. Their activities can encourage others to act and often result in copycat crimes. Antiabortionist Eric Rudolf is an example of a lone wolf extremist.

### **Example of Cyber Terrorism**

According to an April 26, 2003, MSNBC report, Gazprom, one of Russia’s gas monopolies, was attacked by a hacker. The report said the hackers worked with a Gazprom insider to elude the company’s security and break into the system controlling gas flow in pipelines. This put the central control panel of gas flows under the control of the external hackers.

## **1.18 EXAMPLES OF DOMESTIC TERRORIST GROUPS**

### **American Coalition of Life Activists (ACLA)**

The ACLA is nationwide radical antiabortion group that intimidates abortion clinic owners, doctors, nurses, and patients. The group feels that abortion providers are committing a crime against humanity and should be punished. The group started a project in 1997 called the Nuremburg Files. The creator of the project eventually put the information onto the World Wide Web. The website features a “wanted poster” alleging crimes against humanity that targets abortion doctors. The site distributes personal information about over 200 abortion providers, including names, family members, business and home addresses, and photographs. Although the website does not threaten violence to any one person, it does provide information to radical antiabortionists looking for a target. Several providers were advised by law enforcement to wear bulletproof vests and take other precautionary measures, and some were offered protection by federal marshals. This type of activity serves to intimidate and instill fear in abortion providers. The fear is certainly well placed, as several doctors performing abortions have been killed since 1977. There have also been approximately 16 attempted murders, 99 acid attacks, 153 arson incidents, and 39 bombings in the last two decades [11].

### **Animal Liberation Front (ALF)**

The Animal Liberation Front was established in Great Britain in the mid-1970s. It is a nationwide violent animal rights activist group that began operations in the United States in the late 1970s, committed to ending the abuse and exploitation of animals. The ALF has become one of the most active extremist elements in the United States. Despite the destructive aspects of ALF's operations, its operational philosophy discourages acts that harm "any animal, human and nonhuman." ALF says on its website that it's a small, autonomous group of people who take direct action against animal abuse by rescuing animals and causing financial loss to animal exploiters, usually by destroying property.

### **Aryan Nation (AN)**

Aryan Nation is a nationwide highly militant antigovernment, white supremacist group with smaller regional groups. This group espouses the overthrow of the U.S. government using bank robberies, armed resistance, and the murder of nonwhites.

### **Earth First**

Formed in 1980 by disaffected environmentalists, this radical group engaged in a series of protests and civil disobedience events. In 1984, Earth First introduced "tree spiking," which is the insertion of metal or ceramic spikes into trees to damage the saws of lumberjacks as a tactic to thwart logging.

### **Earth Liberation Front (ELF)**

ELF was founded in 1992 in Brighton, England by Earth First members who refused to abandon criminal acts as a tactic. In the United States, the group consists of nationwide, violent, high-tech ecological activists protesting the destruction of forests, the development of open spaces, and the use of genetically altered seeds and crops. The ELF advocates acts of sabotage and property destruction against industries and other entities perceived to be damaging the natural environment. ELF is an underground movement with no public leadership, membership, or spokesperson. The group has claimed responsibility for the destruction of U.S. Forest Service facilities and equipment (attacked because the group believed the U.S. Forest Service is not doing its job of protecting the nation's forests) and have committed arson at several lumberyards, bioaltered seed facilities, and building developments across the nation. The most destructive practice of ELF is arson. ELF members consistently use improvised incendiary devices equipped with crude but effective timing mechanisms. These devices are constructed based on instructions found on the ELF website.

### **Ku Klux Klan (KKK)**

The Ku Klux Klan is a nationwide, long-lived Protestant Christian white supremacy group organized before the Civil War. The group is violently opposed to black

freedoms and has used assault, murder, bombings, and arson against blacks and black supporters.

### **Michigan Militia**

This Michigan based, antigovernment, weapons resistance militia group is the largest antigovernment group in the United States. The Michigan Militia advocates the purchase of weapons, ammunition, and explosives.

### **National Alliance (NA)**

This regional white supremacist group takes violent action against blacks and Jews and has a very active Internet site. The group advocates the halting of nonwhite immigration and the deportation of nonwhite populations. The group also espouses the withdrawal of economic and technical aid to the undeveloped areas of the nonwhite world.

### **The Order**

The group, based in the Midwest, is an extremely violent right wing neo-Nazi, white supremacist, anti-Semitic group. The group has been linked to several murders and has planned various attacks including bank robbery, assault, murder, bombings, and poisoning a reservoir.

### **Stop Huntington Animal Cruelty (SHAC)**

The SHAC is a British based worldwide campaign (since 1999) to rescue animals tortured in research labs and shut down the businesses that rely on their use.

### **Texas Militia**

This is a Texas based antigovernment, weapons rights group that advocates the manufacturing and stockpiling of automatic weapons and explosives.

## **1.19 RECENT DOMESTIC TERRORIST ATTACKS**

*September 1984.* The followers of Indian born guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh try to gain political control by disrupting a local election in Oregon by spraying water contaminated with salmonella bacteria on salad bar fruits, vegetables, and coffee creamers in ten restaurants; 751 people became ill and 45 were hospitalized.

*April 19, 1995.* Timothy McVeigh, a U.S. citizen, uses a massive truck bomb to blow up the Alfred Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, killing 168 people.

*November 10, 1995.* An abortion doctor is shot and injured in his home in Ohio.



*July 27, 1996.* A bomb is detonated at Centennial Park during the Atlanta Olympics, killing one and injuring more than 100. The attack was perpetrated by right wing extremist Eric Robert Rudolph. The justification for the attack was political. According to Rudolph, the purpose of the attack was to confound, anger, and embarrass the Washington government in the eyes of the world for its abominable sanctioning of abortion on demand. The plan was to force the cancellation of the games, or at least create a state of insecurity to empty the streets around the venues and thereby eat into the vast amounts of money invested.

*October 28, 1997.* An abortion doctor is shot and injured in his home in Rochester, New York.

*November 11, 1997.* An abortion doctor is shot and injured in his home in Manitoba, Canada.

*November 29, 1997.* The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) and Earth Liberation Front (ELF) burned down a Bureau of Land Management horse corral complex in Burns, Oregon, resulting in \$500,000 in damages.

*January 29, 1998.* Police Officer Robert Sanderson is killed during an abortion clinic bombing in Birmingham, Alabama. Nurse Emily Lyons is severely injured.

*June 28, 1998.* The ALF and ELF claim responsibility for an arson fire that destroyed a U.S. Department of Agriculture building near Olympia, Washington, causing \$2 million in damage.

*October 19, 1998.* ELF claims responsibility for the arson of the Two Elk Lodge, a Vail, Colorado ski facility, destroying seven structures and resulting in over \$12 million in damages.

*October 23, 1998.* Abortion doctor, Dr. Barnett Slepian, is shot and killed in his home in Amherst, New York.

*March 27, 1999.* The ALF firebombs circus trailers in Franklin, New Jersey.

*July 2, 1999.* An arsonist sets fire to the Country Club Medical Center Building in Sacramento, California, which houses an abortion clinic.

*Summer 1999.* Shooting sprees by lone gunmen in the Chicago and Los Angeles areas kill three people.

*September 18 and October 9, 2001.* Letters containing anthrax are mailed from a post office in New Jersey, ultimately killing five people in the eastern United States.

*August 25, 2003.* Animal Liberation Front activists release over 10,000 mink from a mink farm in Sultan, Washington.

*May 26, 2004.* Seven members of Stop Huntington Animal Cruelty are charged with burning New Jersey animal testing lab employees' cars, vandalizing the homes of company shareholders, and threatening employees' families.

*June 14, 2004.* Two terrorists from the Earth Liberation Front are convicted of an arson attack on a West Jordan, Utah lumber company that caused \$1.5 million in damage.

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