



# FBI TERRORIST RESEARCH CENTER

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

## A SURVEY OF DOMESTIC TERRORIST GROUPS

Terrorism in the United States has not reached the monumental proportions it has in Europe. Terrorism abroad includes kidnappings, murders, and assassinations. In the United States, terrorism is synonymous with bombings. In 1977, ninety percent (90%) of all terrorist activity incorporated the use of improvised explosive devices (IED). The remaining ten percent (10%) included bank robbery, shooting, arson and hostage taking. Total terrorist bombings for 1977 accounted for only eight percent (8%) of the total bombing activity in the United States. Though terrorism is not a major problem in the United States, it should not be assumed that it could never become one. Some believe the U.S. to be vulnerable to the type of urban guerrilla warfare employed in Europe.

The statistics are deceptive. They imply that terrorism in the United States is an insignificant problem. On the contrary. The terrorist bomber causes millions of dollars in damages annually, and death and injury to innocent people. In addition, some terrorists belonging to various groups in this country embrace and espouse the terrorist/revolutionary rhetoric and ideology common to most subversive groups; namely the overthrow of the capitalist state—America. Other terrorists are nationalistic, often seeking independence for their homeland. Such groups are the FALN and CORU; Puerto Rican and Cuban, respectively. These individuals are not the common man's freedom fighter - they are criminals.

This bulletin has been designed as a general survey of selected terrorist groups focusing on their targets, bomb devices, ideology, methodology etc. The following groups have been selected for this study.

### CHART I - SELECTED GROUPS FOR STUDY

1. NWLF . . . . .New World Liberation Front
2. FALN . . . . .Fuerzas Armadas de Liberacion Nacional Puertorriquena
3. CORU . . . . .Coördination de Organizaciones Revolucionarias Unidas
4. GJB . . . . .George Jackson Brigade
5. JDL, (JAR, JCC) ..Jewish Defense League, (Jewish Armed Resistance, Jewish Committee of Concern)
6. WUO . . . . .Weather Underground Organization

1. NWLF (New World Liberation Front) - Beginning with a November 23, 1973, attack against a public utility substation in Cupertino, California, there have been a series of bombings and attempted bombings for which responsibility has been claimed by the NWLF and its predecessor organization, the Americans for Justice. The incidents, over 70, have occurred primarily in California, specifically in the San Francisco Bay area. NWLF bombings have also occurred in Seattle, Washington; Rainier, Oregon; and Aurora, Colorado. Victims of NWLF attacks have included Federal, state and local governmental functions, diplomatic establishments, corporate facilities,

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