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Appendix 6: Selected Cases of Targeted Killings and Attempted Killings Around the World, 1979-2012

By Lee Crowther and Brian Champion, 22 February 2013

“Appendix 6: Selected Cases of Targeted Killings and Attempted Killings Around the World, 1979-2012” documents selected instances for which some allegation exists that a state, at an official or quasi-official level, was responsible for an extraterritorial attempt (successful or otherwise) on the lives of citizens of other states. Due to the high number of such events in recent years, particularly with the increasing prevalence of drone strikes, this appendix features two kinds of entries:

- (1) Targeted individuals, documented in the same manner as in previous appendices. Table 6 below documents twenty events targeting twenty-six specific individuals.
- (2) Entries listing the number of people killed during a particular year in a particular country. Table 6 contains twenty such entries.

Table 6 is organized into ten columns:

- (1) **Perpetrating State:** The state accused of being responsible for the attempt(s), whether at an official or quasi-official level.
- (2) **Year:** The year during which the event(s) took place.
- (3) **Date:** The date on which the event took place, with the month listed first. When the exact date is unknown, “xx” is used. For example, if an event took place in January but the exact date is not known, the date is listed as “01/xx.” If only the year is known, the date is listed as “xx/xx.” For entries which are composites of multiple events, no date is listed.
- (4) **Dead?:** Indicates whether or not the target was killed.
- (5) **Identity of Target:** Either the name of the target, or the number of people targeted.
- (6) **Target’s Affiliation:** A description of the target as given by the sources. In some cases, the reason for which the attempt was made on the target. In other cases, the target’s occupation.
- (7) **Location:** The location in which the attempt was made. At times, the nearest metropolitan center.
- (8) **Method:** The method employed in the attempt on the target.
- (9) **Perpetrators:** Those involved in the attempt, whether those who carried it out or those who ordered it.

(10) Sources: References to the sources from which the information was drawn. The sources are listed alphabetically in the “Sources” list at the end of the appendix. Each source is assigned a number which corresponds to references to it in the table.

The table features numerical references to both sources (as mentioned above) and notes. References to sources appear in standard font. References to notes appear in superscript and brackets (e.g. Ali-Akbar Mohtashamipur^[6]). Notes are found directly after Table 6, and the sources list appears below the notes.

The table is color-coded. In columns #2-10, a green cell indicates that the information for that cell is complete. A yellow cell indicates that the information for the cell is incomplete. Sources are regarded as complete when at least two sources refer to the event, with the exception of source #2, a Wikipedia source, which is not regarded as counting towards the two sources.

Table 6

PS	Year	Date	D?	Identity of Target	Target's Affiliation	Location	Method	Perpetrators	Sources
Israel	1978	xx/xx	Yes	Wadih Haddad	PFLP leader		poison ^[1]	Mossad	5,16
Israel	1979	xx/xx	Yes	Ali Hassan Salameh	Munich massacre ^[2]	Beirut, Lebanon			5
Spain	1983	12/04	No	Segundo Marey	French furniture dealer ^[3]	Hendaye, France	kidnapping	mercenaries ^[4]	2,23
Spain	1984	03/01	Yes	Jean Pierre Leyba	railroad worker	Hendaye, France	assassination		2
Israel	1984	xx/xx ^[5]	No	Ali-Akbar Mohtashamipur ^[6]	Iran's ambassador to Syria ^[7]	Damascus, Syria ^[8]	explosives ^[9]	^[10]	4 ^[12] , 5, 25 ^[11]
Spain	1985	06/xx	Yes	Emile Weiss	not ETA ^[13]	Ciboure, France ^[14]	attack		2
Spain	1985	06/xx	Yes	Claude Doer	not ETA ^[13]	Ciboure, France ^[14]	attack		2
Spain	1985	08/31	Yes	Dominique Labeyrie	not ETA ^[13]	Saint-Jean-de-Luz, France	assassinated		2
Israel	1992	02/16	Yes	Abbas Musawi	secretary-general of Hezbollah	Jibshit, Lebanon ^[15]	helicopter attack ^[16]	Ehud Barak ^[17]	5,6,10,12,19
Israel	1992	02/16	Yes	Mrs. Abbas Musawi	wife of Abbas	Jibshit, Lebanon ^[15]	helicopter attack ^[16]	Ehud Barak ^[17]	5,6,10,12,19
Israel	1992	02/16	Yes	Musawi, son	son of Abbas ^[18]	Jibshit, Lebanon ^[15]	helicopter attack ^[16]	Ehud Barak ^[17]	5,6,10,12,19
Israel	1992	xx/xx	Yes	Atef Bseiso	PLO official	Paris, France	shooting		5
Russia	1995	xx/xx	Yes	Ivan Kivelidi	Russian banker		topical poisoning ^[19]		13

Russia	1995	xx/xx	Yes		secretary to Mr. Kivelidi		topical poisoning ^[19]		13
Russia	1996	04/23 ^[20]	Yes	Dzhokhar M. Dudayev	rebel Chechen leader		rocket attack	Russia	11
Israel	1997	xx/xx	No	Khaled Mashal ^[21]	Hamas leader	Amman, Jordan	botulin ^[22]	Mossad	5,6,16
Israel	1998	02/12	Yes	Imad Mughniyah ^[23]	Hezbollah ^[24]	Damascus, Syria	car bomb	Mossad ^[25]	6,7,10,14,24
USA	2002		Yes	6 people ^[26]	Al-Qaeda	Yemen	drone strikes	USA	17
Russia	2003	07/xx	Yes	Yuri Shcheokchikin	journalist ^[27]		(debated) ^[28]		13
USA	2006	^[29]	Yes	142 people ^[30]	Taliban/Al-Qaeda	Pakistan	drone strikes	USA	18
USA	2007	^[29]	Yes	73 people ^[31]	Taliban/Al-Qaeda	Pakistan	drone strikes	USA	18
USA ^[32]	2007	^[29]	Yes	34-73 people ^[33]	Al-Qaeda	Somalia	varied ^[34]	USA ^[32]	1
Georgia	2008	02/13 ^[35]	Yes	Badri Patarkatsishvili	opponent of Georgian president	London, England ^[36]	^[37]	^[38]	22
USA	2008	^[29]	Yes	317 people ^[39]	Taliban/Al-Qaeda	Pakistan	drone strikes	USA	18
USA ^[32]	2008	^[29]	Yes	19-21+ people ^[40]	Al-Qaeda/al Shabaab	Somalia	varied	USA ^[32]	1
USA	2009	^[29]	Yes	506 people ^[41]	Taliban/Al-Qaeda	Pakistan	drone strikes	USA	18
USA	2009	^[29]	Yes	55 people ^[42]	Al-Qaeda	Yemen	drone strikes	USA	17
USA ^[32]	2009	^[29]	Yes	5-9 people	pirates/Islamic militants	Somalia	varied	USA ^[32]	1
Israel	2010	01/12	Yes	Massoud Ali Mohammadi	Iranian nuclear physicist	Tehran, Iran	bomb ^[43]	Majid Jamali Fash ^[44]	5
Israel	2010	01/17 ^[45]	Yes	Mahmoud al-Mabhohuh	Hamas activist	Dubai, UAE		^[46]	5
Israel	2010	11/29	Yes	Majid Shahriari	professor of nuclear physics ^[47]	Tehran, Iran	bomb ^[43]	Meir Dagan ^[48]	5
Israel	2010	11/29	No	Mrs. Shahriari	wife of Majid	Tehran, Iran	bomb ^[43]	Meir Dagan ^[48]	5
Israel	2010	11/29	No ^[49]	Fereydoon Abbasi Davani	professor ^[50]	Tehran, Iran	bomb ^[43]	Meir Dagan ^[48]	5
Israel	2010	11/29	No ^[49]	Mrs. Davani	wife of Fereydoon	Tehran, Iran	bomb ^[43]	Meir Dagan ^[48]	5
USA	2010	^[29]	Yes	815 people ^[51]	Taliban/Al-Qaeda	Pakistan	drone strikes	USA	18
USA	2010	^[29]	Yes	16 people ^[52]	Al-Qaeda	Yemen	drone strikes	USA	17

USA	2011	05/01	Yes	Osama bin Laden	leader of al-Qaeda	Abbottabad, Pakistan	shooting	Team Six ^[53]	3,8,9,20
Kenya	2011	10/30	Yes	5-15 people ^[54]	al Shabaab/refugees	Jilib, Somalia	air operation	Kenya	1
USA	2011	^[29]	Yes	435 people ^[55]	Taliban/Al-Qaeda	Pakistan	drone strikes	USA	18
USA	2011	^[29]	Yes	81 people ^[26]	Al-Qaeda	Yemen	drone strikes	USA	17
USA ^[32]	2011	^[29]	Yes	19-56+ people ^[56]	al Shabaab	Somalia	air operations	USA ^[32]	1
USA	2012	^[29]	Yes	304 people ^[57]	Taliban/Al-Qaeda	Pakistan	drone strikes	USA	18
USA	2012	^[29]	Yes	228 people ^[58]	Al-Qaeda	Yemen	drone strikes	USA	17
USA ^[32]	2012	^[29]	Yes	16-19+ people ^[59]	varied ^[60]	Somalia	varied ^[34]	USA ^[32]	1
USA	2013	01/xx ^[61]	Yes	41 people ^[62]	Taliban/Al-Qaeda	Pakistan	drone strikes	USA	18
USA	2013	01/xx ^[63]	Yes	24 people ^[26]	Al-Qaeda	Yemen	drone strikes	USA	17

Notes

[1] Reuters says poisoned chocolate. Bednarz says poisoned toothpaste.

[2] Salameh was the suspected mastermind behind the killing of Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympic games in Munich.

[3] Marey was mistaken for Mikel Lujua, a suspected E.T.A. terrorist. Spain demanded the release of the four policemen arrested for the attempt on Larretxea, which release was arranged in exchange for Marey's release. Marey had no ties with the ETA.

[4] The mercenaries were hired by Spanish police.

[5] "Three months after the Beirut blasts" (Wright).

[6] Alternate spelling: Mushtashimi.

[7] Mohtashampur was described as the man who "wrote, produced, and directed" Hezbollah (Avon).

[8] The location is implicit in the Wright text, which mentions that he went to Europe for treatment and later returned to Damascus. Because Mohtashampur was the ambassador to Syria, Damascus is probably as good a guess as any for the location of the attack.

[9] The perpetrators either "packed a copy of the Koran with explosives" (Bednarz) or sent a "parcel containing a book on Shia holy places" (Wright).

[10] One person noted that there were a lot of people who would have liked to see him suffer.

[11] Pages 89-90.

[12] Page 207.

[13] The target had no known connections with the ETA.

[14] Triquete tavern.

[15] "Israeli army intelligence learned 'from the Beirut papers of Thursday' that Musawi was scheduled to visit the town of Jibshit on Sunday, and timed the assassination accordingly" (Shahak). As Sheik Musawi was attacked while riding in convoy, it is possible that he was on his way to Jibshit rather than in it.

[16] "Israeli helicopter gunships fired rockets on a convoy in which Sheik Musawi was riding" (Haberman).

[17] "The original plan had been simply to abduct him to use as a bargaining chip for the release of Israeli prisoners. But Ehud Barak, Israeli chief of staff at the time, forced through a last-minute change, convincing Prime Minister Shamir to order the cleric's assassination instead" (Bednarz).

[18] He was six years old.

[19] The telephone was doused in poison.

[20] The event occurred early on the 24th at the latest.

[21] Alternate spellings: Khalid, Meshaal.

[22] "Two operatives squirted a fast-acting agent in Meshaal's ear, but were chased down by his bodyguards and arrested. Under pressure from Jordan, one of two Arab states with which it has a peace accord, Israel handed over the antidote" (Reuters).

[23] Alternate spelling: Mugniyah.

[24] Chief of external operations.

[25] Israel denied involvement, claiming that the Americans, Saudis, and Lebanese Christians all wanted Mughniyah.

[26] All Al-Qaeda operatives.

[27] Shcheokchikin wrote about corruption in Russia.

[28] Russian authorities said it was an allergic reaction; Shcheokchikin's colleagues said it was poison.

[29] This includes a number of attacks carried out throughout the year.

[30] 20 civilians and 122 Taliban/Al-Qaeda operatives.

[31] All Taliban/Al-Qaeda operatives.

[32] Due to the scarcity of information, culpability cannot be definitively attributed to the United States. Responsible parties may also include Ethiopia and Kenya.

[33] Including anywhere from 10 to over 33 civilians. Seven or eight additional people were injured.

[34] Mostly air strikes.

[35] On this date, the policemen reported that Patarkatsishvili was found dead.

[36] Rather, it was near London.

[37] Patarkatsishvili collapsed. We don't know why he collapsed.

[38] Some blame the Georgian government, but at press time, the case was unsolved and still being investigated.

[39] 31 civilians and 286 Taliban/Al-Qaeda operatives.

[40] Including at least nine civilians. Six to eight additional people were injured.

[41] 43 civilians and 463 Taliban/Al-Qaeda operatives.

[42] 41 civilians and 14 Al-Qaeda operatives.

[43] The bomb was placed on the target's car by a motorcyclist.

[44] Fash confessed on Iranian TV to having been contacted and trained by the Israeli intelligence agency. A man named Radfur had approached him about contacting the agency.

[45] Bednarz says "exactly a year ago."

[46] "Surveillance cameras captured each stage of [the] murder" (Bednarz).

[47] Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran. Shahriari's specialty was neutron transport.

[48] Dagan directed the attacks.

[49] Davani reacted quickly when he noticed the motorcyclist sticking something to the driver's side door. Davani "braked immediately and launched himself out of the car, dragging his wife from the passenger seat and taking cover with her on the roadside, just fractions of a second before the device exploded" (Bednarz).

[50] Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran. Davani taught in the same department as Shahriari, and was one of the country's few experts on isotope separation. Davani was a long-time member of the Revolutionary Guards.

[51] 14 civilians and 801 Taliban/Al-Qaeda operatives.

[52] 6 civilians and 10 Al-Qaeda operatives.

[53] There were "two dozen commandos from the Team Six unit of the Navy SEALs special forces" (Sherwell). The CIA was also involved.

[54] Including five civilians. Forty-five to forty-seven additional people were injured.

[55] 30 civilians and 405 Taliban/Al-Qaeda operatives.

[56] Including fifteen civilians. Twenty-three or twenty-four additional people were injured.

[57] 4 civilians and 300 Taliban/Al-Qaeda operatives.

[58] 35 civilians and 193 Al-Qaeda operatives.

[59] Two additional people were injured.

[60] Including a British/Lebanese militant, al Shabaab militants, and pirates.

[61] From January 1st through January 10th.

[62] 11 civilians and 30 Taliban/Al-Qaeda operatives.

[63] From January 1st through January 23rd.

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