

Из архивите на ДС

Комисия за разкриване на документите
и за обявяване на принадлежност
на български граждани
към Държавна сигурност
и разузнавателните служби
на Българската
народна армия

Международният
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на ДС

Документален сборник

3



The Committee for Disclosing the Documents and
Announcing Affiliation of Bulgarian Citizens to the
State Security and the Intelligence Services of the
Bulgarian National Armed Forces
(CDDAABCSBNAF)

**International Terrorism
in the Bulgarian State Security Files**

D o c u m e n t a r y V o l u m e





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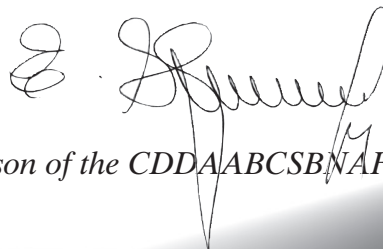
International terrorism is among the most frequently discussed problems of our time. The reason lies not only in the increased rate of mass terrorist attacks of the recent years, but above all, in the danger, hidden behind the mask of terror. It is a danger facing governments and countries, jeopardizing the lives of ordinary people, threatening world peace. Terrorism is a treacherous enemy of many faces, and constantly changing characteristics. Therefore, it is a challenging task for even the leading experts to define its nature. There are over a hundred definitions of terrorism. It is most certain that their number will increase, and none will be sufficiently comprehensive and up-to-date.

Researchers of the history of the second half of the 20th century are taking a justifiable interest in the topic of the origin and evolution of this phenomenon. It is essential to know the role and actions of individual countries and governments in combating or supporting international terrorism.

During the Cold War years, the world was engulfed in a conflict highly charged with ideology. It manifested many political and economic contrasts, along with numerous similarities, such as the behind-the-scene use of terrorism by special services as a secret form of warfare against the enemy. The nature and characteristics of the development of terrorism have changed today. A tendency is observed towards subsiding of left- and right-wing terrorism, whereas religious-political terrorism is a danger on the rise. The latter has, of course, its historical roots, and masterminds creating, nurturing and spreading it.

In today's world, efforts to fight this phenomenon follow a largely common development pattern. International terrorism and the work of secret services has always been a topic of substantial interest among foreign partners of the Committee on Disclosure of the Documents and Announcing Affiliation of Bulgarian Citizens to State Security and the Intelligence Services of the Bulgarian National Army. This was our motivation to join the common international project on investigation and research of documents related to terrorism and the role of special services during the Cold War. Furthermore, this topic has not yet been a subject of adequate scientific study in Bulgaria.

„International Terrorism in the Bulgarian State Security files“ is yet another in a series of collections of documents, with which the Committee fulfills its legal obligation to search for and publish documents. The collection traces political and ethno-religious terrorism and the attempts at creating terrorist networks of different kinds and nature, and outlines the various evolution stages in Bulgarian and East European services' assessment regarding the origin, development and impact of acts of international terrorism.



Chairperson of the CDDAABCSBNAF

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM *in the Bulgarian State Security Files*

I. Bulgarian State Security and International Terrorism (Orders, Instructions, Meetings)

- 1. Circular I-2816 regarding the rise of a dangerous phenomenon threatening air transport security, Sofia, 11 November 1970.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 508, Vol. I, Part 4, pp. 1-2)

In regard to the Warsaw meeting of the security services of socialist countries, held in September 1970, and the special measures taken for neutralizing acts of airplane hijacking.

- 2. Circular I-2166 regarding acts of air piracy, Sofia, 17 August 1973.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond I, Opis 10, Arhivna edinitsa 2010, pp. 1-4)

Having in mind the strengthening of control measures by district MVR directorates where there exist airports of Balkan Bulgarian Airlines the order is given for passenger checks to be performed by State Security (further transliterated as DS) officers.

- 3. Ministerial order No. I-2 regarding the measures taken for organization and implementation of the struggle of the Ministry of the Interior (further transliterated as MVR) units for exposure, prevention and neutralization of terrorist activities, Sofia, 2 January 1980.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond 1, Opis 11, Arhivna edinitsa 329, pp. 1-21)

According to the documents, the measures for exposure, prevention and suppression of terrorist activities are organized and managed by the DS, including officers of the People's Militia, the Border Control units, the Fire-fighters Department, the Prisons Department. In order to improve DS work against terrorist activities a new Department for combating terrorism, anonymous acts of hostility, escapes through the border and for locating state criminals is established within the Sixth Directorate -DS. Specific responsibilities are assigned to all DS directorates.

- 4. Ministerial order No. I-80 regarding the measures taken for organization and implementation of the fight of MVR units for exposure, prevention and neutralization of terrorist activities, Sofia, 8 June 1983.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond 1, Opis 11, Arhivna edinitsa 341, pp. 182-209)

A permanent coordination group for evaluation of the operational situation related to international and internal terrorism is created, as well as some new operational units such as the Unit for combating international terrorism (at the First Main Directorate of the State Security – further transliterated as PGU-DS); Department 17 for combating international terrorism (at the Second Main Directorate – further cited as VGU-DS); Department for providing security for party and state leaders, and foreign guests (at the Sixth Directorate).

- 5. Structure of the Counter-terrorism unit within Department 04 of the First Main Directorate of State Security, Sofia, 28 June 1983.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 9974, Vol. VI, pp. 144-145)

Information is provided on the responsibilities of the officers in the unit.

6. Excerpts from the shorthand transcript of the meeting of the MVR Collegium held on 30 October 1984, Sofia, 6 November 1984.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond 1, Opis 12, Arhivna edinitsa 563, p. 115, pp. 152-170)

The excerpts reflect the discussion related to the activity of the special services of some Arab countries against the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Data confirms the presence of terrorists, drug smugglers and persons involved in other currency and smuggling related activities in Bulgaria. The priority task is to prevent terrorist activities on Bulgarian territory.

7. Statement by Lt.-Gen. Petar Stoyanov, Head of the Sixth Directorate – DS at the assembly meeting on the problems of combating terrorism by MVR units, Sofia, 14 November 1984.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – S, Official archive, Reg. No. Лч 31-257, Vol. I, pp. 55-65)

It is noted that the threat of terrorist attacks is on the increase in the country. A conclusion is made that counter-intelligence work so far is not consistent with the requirements of the steadily intensifying operational situation. Countering terrorism is defined as a Fundamental priority task. Agents' apparatus is indicated as the most reliable weapon in the fight against terror.

8. Ministerial order No. I-90 regarding the organization and implementation of the MVR fight for exposure, prevention and neutralization of diversion and other terrorist acts of the enemy, Sofia, 5 June 1986.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Official archive, Booklet, Copy No. 000571, pp. 1-32)

New measures for elaboration of the organizational structure and strengthening the cadres of specialized units for combating terror are envisaged. A „T“ unit is established within the Sixth Directorate – DS as a special subdivision for combating terrorist diversion on Bulgarian territory. Strengthening of cadres is undertaken within the unit for combating international terrorism at the PGU-DS, and at Department 17 for countering international terrorism at the VGU-DS.

9. Memorandum on the operative situation regarding the „International terrorism“ objective and additional operational measures for 1989, Sofia, 17 February 1989.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 994, Vol. I, pp. 70-78)

Analysis is made of the change in the international political situation resulting in complex interweaving of conflicting political interests. In 1988, at the urgent request of the American Embassy in Sofia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted a series of meetings with employees of the Ministry of the Interior on the issues of terrorism. An informal list of leaders and members of terrorist organizations is provided, indicating US position in regard to countering international terrorism.

10. Direction plan regarding the main tasks and guidelines for work under the „Counter-terrorism“ objective, Sofia, 26 July 1990.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L (Stara Zagora), Arhivna edinitsa 271, Vol. IV, pp. 181-184)

As a consequence of the registered structural and organizational changes in the MVR, a Department 08 for combating terrorism is created at the newly established National Service for Protection of the Constitution (NSPC). The document defines the department's main working guidelines and recommendations on organization of NSPC regional divisions' countermeasures to terrorist diversion.

II. International Terrorism in the DS Operational Documents (Memoranda, Reports and Information)

11. Memorandum of the VGU-DS regarding existing information on the Hand of the Black September organization, Sofia, 21 May 1973.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, pp. 22-23)

Operational data outlined as received from Iraqi, Jordanian and Palestinian sources on acts prepared by the Palestinian terrorist organization against diplomatic representations of Israel and other capitalist countries.

12. KGB Memorandum No. 318/D on the activity of the Muslim Brothers religious-political organization, Moscow, 18 June 1973.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond 1, Opis 10, Arhivna edinitsa 1969, pp. 94-98)

KGB information regarding the increased activity by the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, the structure, leadership and political aims of the organization, notably the establishment of „a true Islamic country“. A conclusion is reached on the growing importance of the „religious-political factor“ in the Middle East.

13. KGB Memorandum No. 102 on the signs and characteristics of terrorists, Moscow, 26 February 1974.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond 1, Opis 10, Arhivna edinitsa 2080, pp. 156-159)

KGB instructions on the signs of recognition of Arab terrorists: personal ID documents, physical appearance, camouflage, legend (cover), transit routes, air transport.

14. KGB Memorandum on terrorism in Italy, Moscow, [1980]

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16168, Vol. II, pp. 71-80)

The KGB data outlines three stages in the development of political terrorism in Italy for the period 1969-1980. The different reasons for intensification of terrorism and the causes for its transformation into a public „phenomenon“ are considered. Differences between the views of separate terrorist organizations and their connections with foreign terrorist groups are indicated.

15. VGU-DS Information No. 313 regarding new data on Armenian terrorist organizations, Sofia, 14 December 1982.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16117, Vol. I, pp. 25-26)

Data is submitted on the positions and leadership of the foremost Armenian terrorist organization ASALA, its connections in West Europe, and the preparation of attempts against Turkish diplomats and political figures.

16. KGB Memorandum No. 1237 on a left-wing extremist Peruvian terrorist organization, Moscow, 27 June 1983.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 9974, Vol. VI, p. 125)

Information with regard to intelligence obtained on the preparation of terrorist acts by an ultra left-wing Peruvian organization against representations of the USSR and other socialist countries.

17. KGB Memorandum with analysis of information related to terrorist organizations, Moscow, [1983]

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 9974, Vol. VI, p. 38)

The Memorandum formulates key issues of interest to the KGB in the process of consolidation and analysis of data collected on international terrorism: sources of financing, most active participants, plans for infiltrating the USSR, intelligence on contacts with Western special services and experience of Western countries in countering terrorism.

- 18. Intelligence gathered by VGU-DS regarding a meeting of representatives of international terrorist organizations in Sofia, Sofia, 4 January 1984.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond IV-K, Arhivna edinitsa 11472, p. 53)

Operational data acquired from agent „Hasan“ concerning a secret Sofia meeting of representatives of Arab and West European terrorist organizations, with the participation of the international terrorist a.k.a. Carlos (Ilich Ramírez Sánchez).

- 19. VGU-DS Memorandum on the extremist Turkish organization Dev-Sol, Sofia, 15 March 1984.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – S, Official archive, Reg. No. Лч 31-255, Vol. II, pp. 9-12)

A record is made of the numerous terrorist acts of the radical left-wing Turkish organization for the period 1969-1983, as well as its ideology: „a fusion of anarchist, Trotskyist and Maoist views“. The main task is defined as „not allowing the use of our country’s territory for terrorist acts against Turkish objects“.

- 20. VGU-DS Memorandum on the Grey Wolves right-wing extremist Turkish organization, Sofia, 29 March 1984.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA - C, Official archive, Reg. No. Лч 31-255, Vol. II, pp. 13-17)

The ideological platform, political aims and terrorist activities of the Grey Wolves are examined, as well as their undercover branches in West Europe. The main DS tasks in the operative work against the Grey Wolves are outlined.

- 21. KGB Memorandum No. 1424 on the intensification of the activities against „the enemies of the Islamic revolution“ in Iran, Moscow, 13 July 1984.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 16116, Vol. 1, pp. 40-41)

Intelligence obtained on intensification of the activity of Iranian special services regarding involving and carrying out joint attacks with notorious international terrorist organizations, such as the groups of Carlos and Abu Nidal.

- 22. PGU-DS Memorandum on existing intelligence on Asian terrorist organizations, Sofia, 14 September 1984.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 16116, Vol. I, pp. 10-16)

Summary is made of the existing intelligence data on more than ten political, religious and separatist terrorist organizations in Afghanistan, India, Iran, Pakistan and Japan.

- 23. PGU-DS Memorandum on the Italian Red Brigades terrorist organization, Sofia, 22 November 1984.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 16167, Annex to Vol. I, pp. 1-6)

Summary information concerning the largest leftist terrorist organization in Italy for the period 1970-1983: political platform, leadership, structure and activity.

- 24. PGU-DS Memorandum on the terrorist organization Basque Country and Freedom (ETA), Sofia, 22 November 1984.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 16167, Annex to Vol. I, pp. 14-16)

Summary information on the leaders, structure, locations and activity of the most active separatist terrorist organization in Spain after its emergence in 1959.

- 25. PGU-DS Memorandum on the terrorist organization Irish Republican Army (IRA), Sofia, 22 November 1984.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 16167, Annex to Vol. I, pp. 17-21)

Summary document on the structure, tactics and specific terrorist acts of the military wing of the Irish Republican Party, Shin Féin (Provisional IRA) after the rise of armed resistance in Northern Ireland in 1969.

- 26. Memorandum of the PGU-DS station in West Germany on terrorism in the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), Bonn, 4 February 1985.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 16167, Vol. III, pp. 149-158)

Overview of the activities of the modern left- and right-wing terrorism in West Germany after 1967, with an emphasis on more notorious terrorist organizations, such as the Red Army Fraction, the Movement 2 June and the Revolutionary Cells.

- 27. PGU-DS Memorandum of the station in Italy regarding some opinions on terrorism in Italy in 1984, Rome, 11 February 1985.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela, Reg. No. 16168, Vol. I, pp. 256-259)

Information concerning left- and right-wing terrorist groups in Italy, and the presence of Arab and Armenian terrorist organizations in the country.

- 28. VGU-DS Memorandum on some new elements in the activity of left- and right-wing Turkish terrorist organizations, Sofia, 21 February 1985.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1037, Vol. V, pp. 48-51)

New data on the activities of left- and right-wing Turkish terrorist organizations in Europe, obtained as a result of DS agent-operative activities, including the identification of 183 Grey Wolves members, part of whom have transited through Bulgaria on many occasions.

- 29. VGU-DS Memorandum regarding intelligence gathered in 1984 on the activities of Greek terrorist organizations, Sofia, 26 February 1985.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – S, M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1037, Vol. V, pp. 73-75)

New data and analysis of the activity of Greek anarcho-extremist and terrorist organizations, and recommendations for DS counter-intelligence work in relation to that.

- 30. VGU-DS Memorandum on some new elements in the activity of Armenian terrorist organizations in 1984, Sofia, 26 February 1985.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – S, Official archive, Reg. No. Лч 31-255, Vol. II, pp. 109-114)

New agent-operative intelligence gathered on the activities of Armenian terrorist organizations and responsive measures taken by the Turkish Military Intelligence. The document mentions the possibility for preparation of a terrorist act on Bulgarian territory, and formulates main guidelines for DS counter-intelligence actions involving contacts with Armenian sources.

- 31. VGU-DS Memorandum on the more substantial results concerning the activity of some terrorist organizations in the Middle East region in 1984, Sofia, 5 March 1985.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1229, Vol. I, pp. 28-33)

As a consequence of DS agent-operative activities new data was obtained on the growing threat and expanded activity of Islamic terrorist organizations and groups in the Near and Middle East regions, and on planned and ongoing interaction with West European terrorist organizations.

32. PGU-DS Information report regarding terrorist organizations in Spain, Sofia, 7 March 1985.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16168, Vol. 1, pp. 263-272)

Overview of the activities of some left- and right-wing Spanish terrorist organizations, with an emphasis on the more notorious ETA, GRAPO and GAL.

33. Ciphergram and Memorandum No. 5947 from the PGU-DS station on terrorism in India, following the murders of Indira Gandhi and the Soviet diplomat Hitrichenko, Delhi, 9 April 1985.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16116, Vol. I, pp. 113-115)

Intelligence on the increased activity and the methods used by terrorist organizations and groups in India after the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, and assessment of the ineffective anti-terrorist police actions.

34. VGU-DS Memorandum on the intensification of activities of some West European extremist organizations, Sofia, 23 April 1985.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – S, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1037, Vol. V, pp. 88-93)

The document takes into account the continuous wave of terrorist acts by a number of left- and right-wing extremist, anarchist and nationalist organizations in West Europe, with an emphasis on the activities of the West German RAF, the French AD and the Belgian CCC.

35. Tasks direction regarding the work on the Group Case of Operational Investigation „Wanderers“, Sofia, 24 April 1985.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16421, Vol. 1, pp. 14-22)

Guidelines for operational investigation of the Muslim Brotherhood organization, containing intelligence on their political doctrine, social base, structure, range of activities and sources of financing. Basic actions are defined for terminating the activity of the organization on the territory of Bulgaria and the other socialist countries.

36. PGU-DS Information containing data on the international terrorist a.k.a. Carlos, Sofia, 11 September 1985.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16421, Vol. 1, pp. 223-224)

Information obtained from Bulgarian intelligence sources on the views, activity and contacts of the notorious international terrorist a.k.a. Carlos (Ilich Ramírez Sánchez). An opinion is expressed that Carlos should be prevented from entering Bulgaria.

37. VGU-DS Memorandum on the conversation held in Syria with the Hezbollah Sheikh Fadlallah, Sofia, 11 November 1985.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16421, Vol. II, pp. 46-47)

Information gathered by a Bulgarian counter-intelligence operational source on statements made by the leader of Hezbollah, regarding the planning of terrorist acts only against „the enemies of Islam“, Israel and the USA, and not against socialist countries. The leader assures that the organization is not behind the kidnapping and murder of Soviet diplomats in Beirut.

38. PGU-DS Information regarding terrorist organizations supported by the Iranian authorities, Sofia, 3 December 1985.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16116, Vol. I, p. 117)

Intelligence obtained on Iran-based training and military help for terrorist organizations „supporting Iranian revolution“.

39. Memorandum of the PGU-DS station in France on terrorism in the country in 1985, Paris, 14 January 1986.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16434, Vol. II, pp. 114-115)

Intelligence collected on the expansion of the terrorist activities of the organization Action Directe and some international Arab and Armenian terrorist groups in France.

40. Memorandum of the Sixth Directorate – DS on the Palestinian terrorist organization Revolutionary Council, led by Abu Nidal, Sofia, 20 February 1986.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1263, Vol. I, pp. 182-187)

Intelligence gathered on terror targets of the organization of Abu Nidal, and agent-operative actions taken for the exposure and neutralization of its members' activities on the territory of Bulgaria and other East European countries.

41. VGU-DS Memorandum on the Islamic terrorist organization Jihad al-Islami (translation from the Russian language), Sofia, 13 March 1986.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1229, Vol. VII, pp. 16-19)

Intelligence obtained on the leadership, structure and preparation of terrorist acts of the four autonomous groups within the Islamic Jihad organization.

42. Ciphergram from the PGU-DS station in Italy regarding resurgence of the Red Brigades, Rome, 8 October 1986.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16168, Vol. III, p. 37)

Information from intelligence source on a process of creation of new Red Brigades units in Italy, and the activities of two or three terrorist groups on French territory.

43. Information from the PGU-DS station in Japan regarding terrorism and counter-terrorist measures in the country, Tokyo, 27 November 1986.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16116, Vol. I, pp. 146-150)

Intelligence data gathered on left- and right-wing Japanese terrorist organizations and potential terror threats against representations of the socialist countries in Japan.

44. VGU-DS Information regarding the Grey Wolves, handed over by the GDR Ministry for State Security bodies (STASI), Sofia, 13 April 1987.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1382, pp. 180-186)

Intelligence received on 103 separate Turkish extremist formations-subordinate groups of the right-wing nationalist Grey Wolves-in the Federal Republic of Germany, operating under the cover of „the Turkish Federation“.

45. VGU-DS Memorandum „The Religious Terrorist Organization ‘Hizb’Allah“, Sofia, 20 November 1987.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1229, Vol. II, pp. 26-28)

Data collected on the leadership, military training, financial sources, contacts and political objectives of the Hezbollah Islamic organization in Lebanon, and the influence of Iran and Syria on its terrorist acts.

46. VGU-DS Memorandum on the interaction between Hezbollah and the French Action Directe, Sofia, 14 January 1988.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1229, Vol. II, p. 30)

Information from a Bulgarian intelligence source on reorientation of European terrorist organizations towards Islamic extremist organizations, including data on interaction between Hezbollah and the French Action Directe during Paris attacks in the summer of 1986.

47. VGU-DS Information No. 94 regarding the Armenian terrorist organization ASALA, Sofia, 7 April 1988.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16117, Vol. III, pp. 69-73)

Summary information collected on the secret military Armenian nationalist organization ASALA, its branches in Iran, the USA, Cyprus, the Middle East and West Europe, and its contacts with other international terrorist groups.

48. PGU-DS Information regarding the Death Commandos terrorist group, Sofia, 9 June 1988.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1300, pp. 121-122)

Intelligence gathered on a fanatic Arab Islamic terrorist group, supported and financed by Iran.

49. VGU-DS Memorandum on some new elements in the activity of Islamic organizations in the Middle East in 1988, Sofia, 6 July 1988.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1229, Vol. II, pp. 33-36)

Intelligence data on possible terrorist attacks by Hezbollah and other pro-Iranian Islamic groups against representations of the socialist countries in the Middle East, and identification of DS counter-intelligence response measures.

50. Memorandum of the „T“ unit at the Sixth Directorate – DS on the complicated situation of terror in Greece and some other Balkan countries, Sofia, 19 July 1988.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L (Gabrovo), Arhivna edinitsa 110, Vol. II, pp. 8-15)

Summary intelligence on the sharp increase in terrorist acts in Greece and Turkey, terrorist attempts in Yugoslavia and Romania, and the necessity of additional DS measures for countering such acts on Bulgarian territory.

51. VGU-DS Information No. 212 regarding the activity of Armenian terrorist organizations, Sofia, 21 October 1988.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1301, Vol. I, pp. 164-166)

New operative source counter-intelligence data collected on the activities of Armenian terrorist organizations against Turkey.

52. Information from the PGU-DS station in France regarding the state of terrorism in France, Europe and the world, Paris, 21 March 1989.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16434, Vol. VI, pp. 162-163)

Information received from an intelligence source on the decrease in West European terrorist threat, and increase in the activity of Islamic Fundamentalist terrorist groups from the Middle East. A conclusion is drawn on the emergence of conditions for future terrorist acts in the USSR and East Europe.

- 53. VGU-DS Memorandum regarding intelligence gathered on the activity of West European left-wing extremist organizations, Sofia, 10 April 1989.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1084, Vol. I, pp. 33-34)

New intelligence gathered on acts committed by representatives of the „third generation“ of West European terrorists from the Red Brigades, the Red Army Fraction, and their transiting through Bulgarian territory.

- 54. VGU-DS Memorandum on the Grey Wolves right-wing Turkish terrorist organization, Sofia, 10 April 1989.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1382, pp. 196-203)

Summary intelligence on the formation, structure, political platform, established leaders, bases and clubs, as well as anti-Bulgarian acts of the Grey Wolves in West Europe. It is established that 129 members of the organization have transited through Bulgarian territory.

- 55. VGU-DS Memorandum regarding newly acquired secret agent's information on the Al-Fatah Revolutionary Council organization /Abu Nidal/, Sofia, 13 April 1989.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1316, Vol. I, pp. 106-108)

A possible new „wave of terror“ by the group of Abu Nidal against targets in West and East Europe is expected, based on new intelligence data from operative sources.

- 56. PGU-DS Information regarding terrorist threats from pro-Syrian Palestinian organizations, Sofia, 26 October 1989.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, pp. 121-122)

Intelligence gathered on possible terrorist acts by pro-Syrian Palestinian groups against PLO activists in West and East Europe, including Bulgaria.

- 57. Analytical Memorandum by VGU-DS on the left-wing extremist West German organizations RAF and 2 June Movement, Sofia, 24 November 1989.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1221, pp. 44-48)

Summary information on the origin, political platform, organization structure, levels of hierarchy, leadership, international connections and assassination targets of the two West German terrorist organizations, and assessment of the counter-terrorist activity of Western special services. Guidelines are formulated for DS counter-terrorist work against the two groups.

- 58. Information notice of the National Intelligence Service regarding Al-Fatah's change of attitude towards some East European countries, Sofia, 2 April 1990.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, pp. 125-126)

Intelligence gathered on the radicalization of Al-Fatah's policy towards East European countries, with regard to the transfer of Soviet Jews to the occupied Palestinian territories.

59. **Analytical Memorandum of the National Service for Protection of the Constitution regarding new data on Palestinian terrorist organizations, Sofia, 27 April 1990.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, pp. 129-130)

Intelligence, collected from operative sources, on acute differences and disagreements between Palestinian terrorist organizations, and preparation of armed acts against representations and airplanes of some Warsaw Pact countries. The possibility remains of future terrorist attacks against Bulgaria as well.

60. **Memorandum of the National Service for Protection of the Constitution on the 17 November Greek extremist organization, Sofia, 27 May 1990.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1085, Vol. I, pp. 200-201)

Summary intelligence collected on the establishment, political platform, organization, activity, and development perspectives of the ultra left-wing Greek extremist organization.

61. **Memorandum of the National Service for Protection of the Constitution regarding new information obtained on the Muslim Brothers organization, Sofia, 13 June 1990.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1258, Vol. II, p. 99)

Counter-intelligence on a clandestine meeting held in Yemen between Islamic Fundamentalists from Algeria, Sudan and Northern Yemen-former secret emissaries and activists of the Muslim Brothers organization.

62. **Information of the National Intelligence Service regarding the religious organization Hezbollah, Sofia, 15 June 1990.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1229, Vol. I, pp. 92-95)

Summary information on the leadership, structure, political objectives and activities of the pro-Iranian extremist Islamic organization on Lebanese territory.

63. **Memorandum of the National Service for Protection of the Constitution on the increased activity of Al-Fatah Revolutionary Council on Bulgarian territory, Sofia, 17 September 1990.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, p. 140)

Counter-intelligence obtained on the increased activities by Abu Nidal's terrorist formation, and the possibility for terrorist attacks against Bulgaria, with regard to restored diplomatic relations with Israel.

64. **Information of the National Intelligence Service regarding concerns for terrorist attacks against air carriers from countries, engaged in the military confrontation with Iraq, Sofia, 12 December 1990.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. III, 85-86)

Intelligence collected on Iraq-based training of Abu Abbas group's supporters, for the purpose of committing terrorist acts against representations and airplanes of countries, engaged in military confrontation with Iraq.

65. **Alert notice from the National Intelligence Service to the National Service for Protection of the Constitution regarding the possibility of terrorist acts, in relation to the situation in the Persian Gulf, Sofia, 16 January 1991.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, pp. 170-172)

Opinions of Western special services regarding possible terrorist attacks by some extremist Islamic and Palestinian groups, in relation to the escalation of the Persian Gulf crisis.

III. International Terrorism in Bulgaria

- 66. Memorandum of the MVR Secretariat regarding verification of the state of work on alerts of terrorist attacks, diversion and underground organizations, Sofia, 9 January 1970.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1037, Vol. I, pp. 5-7)

An inspection conducted in 18 districts reveals major flaws in the work related to warnings of terror, diversion and emergence of underground organizations. It is established that the governing bodies of district offices fail to exercise sufficient control and to monitor the proper implementation of the MVR orders.

- 67. GU-DS Information No. 240 regarding the murder of the Deputy Consulate General of Turkey in Bourgas, Bora Süelkan, Sofia, 21 September 1982.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 15048, Vol. I, pp.75-85)

General conclusions are drawn regarding the objective, possible perpetrator and realization of the terrorist act, as well as the murderer's whereabouts, and the quality of work of Bulgarian services in the process of tracing and apprehending the terrorists.

- 68. VGU-DS Memorandum on airplane hijacking cases and attempted hijackings in the airspace of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Sofia, 3 November 1983.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 922, Vol. II, pp. 62-69)

Eight cases of airplane hijackings in the period 1948-1983 are described. Information indicates that the situation is strained, due to threats coming from activists of the left-wing radical Turkish youth organization Dev-Sol of an airplane detonation after landing at Bourgas Airport (24 May 1981).

- 69. Circular I-4392 regarding the complicated international situation in the Middle East region, Sofia, 23 November 1984.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1316, Vol. II, pp. 270-271)

Increased activity of Arab special services is reported, as a consequence of the complicated international situation in the region of the Iran-Iraq war, and the Lebanese events, as well as a conflict within the Palestinian resistance movement. The document mentions particular measures for prevention of potential confrontations and terrorist acts on Bulgarian territory.

- 70. PGU-DS Memorandum No. 5045 from the station in Great Britain on terrorist bombing threats against the Balkan Airlines office, London, 28 March 1985.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16141, Vol. I, p. 72)

It is signaled that there is a possible terrorist threat against the London office of Balkan Bulgarian Airlines, following an attempted terrorist bombing against the airline's Amsterdam office. Counter-measures taken are reported.

- 71. Information to the PGU-DS Head Gen. Vasil Kotsev, on measures taken regarding the Muslim Brotherhood, Abu Nidal and the Grey Wolves terrorist organizations, Sofia, [June] 1985.**

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16421, Vol. 1, p. 152)

Information regarding the counter-terrorist activities of Bulgarian special services, in response to a MVR report from 29 May 1985, in relation to the Muslim Brotherhood organization. According to the information, the measures taken include a meeting with representatives of Abu Nidal's group, joint work with Libyan and Syrian special services, and checks performed on members of the Muslim Brotherhood.

- 72. VGU-DS Memorandum to the Minister of the Interior regarding meetings with officers from the Federal Criminal Service (BKA), Sofia, 20 December 1985.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16169, Vol. III, pp. 165-171)

The document contains information on operative meetings between representatives of both countries regarding signals for the presence of dangerous West German terrorists on Bulgarian territory. The Bulgarian side raises the question of exchange of experience, and the representatives of the FRG share their evaluation of the quality of work between the BKA, the Bulgarian MVR and EEC member countries.

- 73. Memorandum regarding the meeting held between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Petar Mladenov, and the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead, Sofia, 4 February 1987.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16142, Vol. V, pp. 82-86)

During the meeting, the American side raises the question regarding the use of Bulgarian hand grenades in some terrorist acts in the West. Mention is made of the clauses related to the selling of Bulgarian small arms to foreign armies, and the multitude of channels via which they may fall into the hands of third parties. The American side proposes the establishment of a contact channel for the purpose of informing Bulgarian authorities on the use of Bulgarian weapons in acts of terrorism.

- 74. Letter from STASI to the Ministry of the Interior, informing of a supposed meeting of Palestinian terrorists in Bulgaria, East Berlin, 19 October 1988.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, p. 104)

Intelligence gathered on a supposed meeting of representatives of left-wing extremist Palestinian groups in Sofia, with the request for operational check from Bulgarian special services.

- 75. PGU-DS Memorandum regarding STASI information on a supposed meeting of Palestinian terrorists in Bulgaria, Sofia, 11 November 1988.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, pp. 110-111)

The information is in response of an enquiry from the German Democratic Republic (GDR) services regarding the possibility of extremist Palestinian activists staying on Bulgarian territory. The operative check by Bulgarian special services does not confirm the possibility of such a meeting.

- 76. Proposal from VGU-DS. Department 11 regarding the termination of the Group Case for Operational Investigation „Lynx“, Sofia, 30 March 1989.**
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond IV-K, Arhivna edinitsa 11472, pp. 291-292)

The proposal refers to termination of the operational investigation on the leader, and the most active members of the World Revolution terrorist organization. The document covers biographical information on Carlos (Ilich Ramírez Sánchez) and other terrorists, as well as an account of their actions on Bulgarian territory in the period 1983-1986.

IV. The World Combating Terrorism

77. KGB Memorandum No. 954 on counter-terrorist units in capitalist countries, Moscow, 13 September 1983.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 9974, Vol. VI, pp. 143-149)

The document examines the establishment, structure and powers of the special subdivisions for combating terrorism in the capitalist world. Special attention is paid to the FBI, SWAT, the US secret Blue Light army unit, FRG's GSG-9, the British Special Air Service (SAS), the Special Operations Group (GEO), the Spanish Rural Anti-terrorist Units (UAR), the French National Gendarmerie Intervention Group (GIGN).

78. KGB Memorandum No. 2383 on the issues of terrorism in NATO member countries, Moscow, 2 December 1983.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 9974, Vol. VI, p. 156)

The document informs of the introduction of a proposal for creation of a special counter-terrorism body within NATO, in response to the first joint meeting of terrorist organizations from Spain, Italy, the FRG, Northern Ireland and France.

79. Ciphergram No. 6271,2 from the PGU-DS station in the United States regarding the National Security Directive No. 138 of US President Ronald Reagan on the issue of combating terrorism, Washington, 25 April 1984.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 9974, Vol. VII, pp. 194-196)

According to the information, the presidential directive allows the possibility for US preventive and preemptive strikes against terrorism worldwide. The public and political attitudes towards the document are considered, as well as the issue concerning the possibility of abuse.

80. Memorandum No. 7495 from the PGU-DS station in Spain on Ronald Reagan's proposals for combating terrorism, Madrid, 23 May 1984.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 9974, Vol. VII, pp. 211-213)

The document contains information on potential targets of the American government, disguised in the four draft laws for combating terrorism, and Spain's reaction to the US President's calls for international cooperation in combating terrorism.

81. PGU-DS Memorandum on the North Atlantic Assembly's resolution on the issues.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 9974, Vol. VIII, pp. 166-167)

The document informs of the passing of a Turkish draft decision regarding international terrorism at the Political Committee of the North Atlantic Assembly. Problems in relation to the definition of „terrorism“ are reported.

82. Ciphergram No. 2023 from the Embassy in Belgium regarding the increased influx of international terrorists from the Near and Middle East, and the fight against „Euroterrorism“, Brussels, 31 January 1985.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16173, Vol. I, pp. 111-112)

A secret NATO training held on the pretext of intensification of international terrorism is reported.

83. PGU-DS Memorandum No. 6784 of the First Main Directorate of the State Security on cooperation within the EEC in relation to terrorism, Brussels, 24 April 1985.
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16173, Vol. II, p. 13)

Intelligence collected on a project, prepared by Italian Minister of the Interior, O. Scalfaro, for strengthening partnership between police authorities and special services of EEC member countries in their fight against terrorism.

84. PGU-DS Memorandum No. 19072 from the station in Belgium on measures for combating international terrorism, Brussels, 22 December 1985.
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16173, Vol. II, p. 119)

The intelligence on the formation of a multinational coordination group for combating international terrorism at the NATO headquarters, and the deployment of strike teams in Europe is confirmed.

85. PGU-DS Memorandum No. 756 from the station in the USA on international terrorism and US policy, New York, 15 January 1986.
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16142, Vol. III, pp. 34-35)

A conference held in Washington on the topic of „International Terrorism and US Policy in 1986“ is reported. The conference discusses the key principles of US policy on combating terrorism.

86. PGU-DS Ciphergram No. 7730 from the station in the USA regarding the USA and the struggle against terrorism, New York, 1 May 1986.
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16142, Vol. III, p. 173)

It is maintained that the USA puts pressure on West European countries in relation to the coordination of efforts in the fight against terrorism, advocating development of a general framework agreement. According to the source, West European countries are concerned that US actions would likely increase terrorism, instead of decrease it. A process of certain reorientation towards new and more active use of secret operations on the part of the USA is noted.

87. PGU-DS Information from the station in France regarding contacts established between Syrian and French special services, Paris, 2 November 1986.
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16434, Vol. III, pp. 19-20)

Intelligence related to indirect confirmation of cooperation between Syrian and French special services for the release of French hostages. The information clarifies French position regarding US and English demands for joint sanctions against Syria.

88. PGU-DS Ciphergram No. 16985 from the station in the USA regarding international terrorism and Syria, New York, 14 November 1986.
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16142, Vol. IV, p. 209)

Information related to the introduction of a draft resolution condemning international terrorism and countries supporting terrorism to the UN Security Council. Indication is given of the expected American „penalties“ against Syria, as well as the attempts of the latter to delay the discussions and the vote on the resolution.

89. PGU-DS Ciphergram No. 14124 from the station in Great Britain regarding the meeting of the twelve Ministers of the Interior of the EEC countries on the issues of terrorism, London, 26 September 1986.
(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16141, Vol. I, p. 176)



The document summarizes the arrangements between EEC member countries on the issues of increasing the efficiency of cooperation between special services, and strengthening border control.

90. PGU-DS Information regarding Western opinions in support of the cooperation with socialist countries in combating drug addiction, Sofia, 27 January 1987.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1067, Vol. I, pp. 42-43)

Intelligence concerning the increase of drug smuggling on annual basis, and the possibility for establishing cooperation between the West and socialist countries against drug distribution.

91. VGU-DS Memorandum on the cooperation of West European countries in the fight against terrorism, Sofia, 30 March 1987.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1084, Vol. I, pp. 129-130)

The document informs of meetings of Italian Minister of the Interior, O. Scalfaro, with his partners from the FRG, England, France and Belgium, during which he provides data regarding the contacts of the Red Brigades Italian terrorist organization in Western countries, and advocates the establishment of a permanent counter-terrorism secretariat for cooperation between EEC member countries.

92. Memorandum on the January Moscow meeting of the experts working group of Warsaw Pact countries on strengthening international cooperation in combating international terrorism, Sofia, 13 May 1987.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1118, pp. 12-14)

The document consolidates expert group proposals in relation to the use of the UN mechanism of international cooperation for combating terrorism, strengthening bilateral cooperation on the safety of air and sea communications, and diplomats, countering nuclear terrorism, as well as for cooperation with non-aligned and Western countries.

93. PGU-DS Ciphergram No. 16709 from the station in France regarding the cooperation between France and the PLO in combating terrorism, Paris, 4 December 1988.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16434, Vol. VI, p. 117)

Intelligence report concerning the first reliable confirmation of secret cooperation between France and the PLO, involving exchange of information on upcoming terrorist attacks.

94. VGU-DS Memorandum No. 131 on the issues of international cooperation in combating terrorism, Sofia, 25 January 1989.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 994, Vol. I, pp. 65-69)

US activity for the establishment of „a multi-branch network of cooperation between countries of similar ideology in the fight against international terrorism“ is indicated. The document includes information on American initiatives for creation of the network's international units, and involvement of the special services of Arab countries in the active fight against terrorism. The state of cooperation with Latin American and socialist countries, and within the EEC is examined.

95. PGU-DS Ciphergram No. 3405 from the station in France regarding a meeting of the French Council for Internal Security, Paris, 7 March 1989.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – R, Fond Literni dela , Reg. No. 16434, Vol. VI, p. 167)

Information concerning a meeting of the French Council for Internal Security on prevention measures against potential terrorist acts by Muslim extremist organizations. The document mentions the so far unknown World Revolutionary Muslim Forces, as well as Muslim Brotherhood and World Islamic Mission.

96. VGU-DS Memorandum on terrorism as a global problem, and the threat of nuclear terrorism, Sofia, 13 September 1989.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1168, p. 61)

The Memorandum contains information on the threat and forms of manifestation of „nuclear terrorism“, regarding the prospect of some Middle East countries obtaining nuclear weapons. Reference is made to the independent special unit for combating „nuclear terrorism“ (NEST), headquartered in Washington, and the responsibilities of its experts.

97. KGB Memorandum No. 365 with attached Memorandum No. 366 on possible terrorist attacks during the incoming Washington meeting between M. S. Gorbachev and George Bush, Moscow, 17 April 1990.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, pp. 14-16)

The document lists the extremist organizations active on US territory, as well as international terrorist groups, capable of an attack during the Washington visit of M. S. Gorbachev.

98. Memorandum of the National Service for Protection of the Constitution on a meeting of counter-terrorism experts from the USA and West Europe, Sofia, 30 October 1990.

(AKRDOPBGDSRSBNA – M, Fond VI-L, Arhivna edinitsa 1303, Vol. I, pp. 150-152)

Information related to a NATO member countries meeting, with evaluation of the condition of state terrorism worldwide. Information is submitted on Iraq's capability to implement terrorist acts and its support for certain terrorist organizations, Syria's harbouring and training of extremists, terrorist acts by pro-Iranian groups, the evidence of Libya's involvement in certain attacks, and the contacts between the USA and some socialist countries on a counter-terrorism level.

S U M M A R Y

*This publication on **International Terrorism in the Bulgarian State Security Files** is the third in the series of documentary volumes published by the the Committee on Disclosure the Documents and Announcing Affiliation of Bulgarian Citizens to the State Security and the Intelligence Services of the Bulgarian National Army (CDDAABCSSISBNA). The selected documents are thematically centered around various examples of international terrorism on Bulgarian soil or related to Bulgaria in the Cold War era. Cases of domestic terrorism inside the country, as well as the support on the part of the regime in Sofia for national freedom fighters and for Third World anti-colonial movements should be the subjects of other separate volumes.*

The earliest documents of DS related to issues of international terrorism date back to the beginning of the rapid expansion of the „terrorism“ phenomenon in the Middle East (1968) and Western Europe (1969). The latest documents conforms to the limits set in the Law for Disclosure of the Documents of former Bulgarian Secret Services (i.e. 1991), and corresponds to a transition period between two definite phases in the history of international terrorism.

The published archival documents within this collection included materials from the preserved records of the former DS departments directly dealing with cases of international terrorism. Separate memoranda and information reports on the topic can be found in other archives. The Central State Archives, for example, store analytical materials belonging to or related to the Bulgarian Communist Party leadership, while the Diplomatic Archive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs keeps the ciphred correspondence of Bulgarian diplomatic missions abroad. Relevant documents on the subject of international terrorism are also part of the former Military Intelligence records. They may shed substantial light on the topic too.

Most of the documents in the volume were authored by the specialized

Bulgarian intelligence and counter-intelligence departments. They were grouped under organization files and operational files on objects of interest under the label „Terror“. Unfortunately, in the process of reorganization of the security services after 1990, a part of the information records has been destroyed. By comparing the incoming/outgoing journals and the archive registers it became evident that the Bulgarian national and local counter-intelligence services had created altogether 153 organizations files labeled „Terror“ out of which 46 of them related to the period 1980-1989 were destroyed between 1991 and 1993 with special protocols preserved for that. Another 25 intelligence operational files (67 volumes in total) were preserved at the Bulgarian foreign intelligence records, which contain analytical memoranda and reports from intelligence stations (rezidentura) abroad.

The present volume is organized in four interrelated sections. The first one covers key guideline documents shedding light on the internal organization of the security services – e.g. the creation of special divisions over the years and their restructuring in line with the new tasks related to assessment and countering of international terrorism. The second section introduces operational and analytical information on more than a hundred international terrorist organizations, obtained by Bulgarian Intelligence and Counter-Intelligence units, or through information exchange with the KGB and other East European services. The third section incorporates documents on the presence and activity of international terrorists on Bulgarian territory, and the related counter-terrorist response during the last Cold War decade. The fourth section traces international counter-terrorism cooperation.

The volume comprises of 98 documents in 461 pages. An extended digital version is planned, which will be complemented by some 400 documents with the total edition exceeding 2500 pages of original documents preserved in the centralized CDDAABCSSISBNA archive.