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Psychology of Terrorism

The war on terror has undoubtedly become the primary concern of all modern states and governments. However, the fight against terror must begin with an in-depth understanding of the psychological profile of modern terrorism and its multi facet modus operandi.

The psychological make up and cultural infrastructure of terrorism is the spinal cord to understanding and developing means of preventing the rise of terror at its cultural level, leading to the implementation of attacks on modern societies. This knowledge and understanding is crucial for effectively fighting this global problem that is currently challenging the world order.

Condor offers a course in Psychology of Terrorism. This course is officially recognized by the Israeli Ministry of Defense.

Condor has all the necessary facilities in order to instruct courses in Israel. These facilities include vast equipment, firing ranges, training camps, weapons, combat equipment, conference rooms, simulation centers, accommodation and all the logical infrastructure required.

These topics are listed in a generalized version and are not in a chronological order. The list does not include sub topics. The main topics of this course include:

Preface

Summary: Mindsets of Mass Destruction

- New types of post-cold war terrorists
- New forms of terrorist - threat scenarios

Introduction

Terms of Analysis

- Defining terrorism and terrorists
- Terrorist group typologies

Approaches to Terrorism Analysis

- The multi-casual approach
- The political approach
- The organizational approach
- The physiological approach
- The psychological approach

General Hypotheses of Terrorism

- Frustration - aggression hypothesis
- Negative identity hypothesis
- Narcissistic rage hypothesis

The Psychology of the Terrorist

- Terrorist motivation
- The process of joining a terrorist group
- The terrorist as mentally ill
- The terrorist as suicidal fanatic; fanatics, suicide terrorists
- Terrorist group dynamics; pressure to conform, pressure to commit acts of violence, terrorist rationalization of violence
- The terrorist's ideological or religious perception

Terrorist Profiling

- Hazards of terrorist profiling
- Sociological characteristics of terrorists in the cold war period; a basic profile
- Age
- Educational, occupational, and socioeconomic background
- General traits
- Marital status
- Physical appearance
- Origin: rural or urban
- Gender; males, females, characteristics of female terrorists
- Practicality, coolness
- Dedication, inner strength, ruthlessness
- Single-mindedness; female motivation for terrorism

Conclusion

- Terrorist profiling
- Terrorist group mindset profiling
- Promoting terrorist group schisms
- How guerilla and terroris groups end

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