

# Jewish extremists increased use of terrorism in '85, FBI report says

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WASHINGTON — Terrorist incidents in the United States declined again last year, but Jewish extremists stepped up their activity to four domestic attacks, including the fatal bombing of an Arab-American headquarters in Santa Ana, the FBI reported Wednesday.

Jewish extremists were responsible for four of the seven bombings in 1985 that the FBI links to political terrorism, according to an annual report by the FBI's Terrorist Research and Analytical Center.

"Although there is no real ranking, you would have to say that they were No. 1 last year," said William Carter, an FBI spokesman.

The FBI report was hailed by Arab-American groups and condemned by the Jewish Defense League.

"This report supports what we have been maintaining for a long time," said Faris Bouhafa, a spokesman for the Washington-based American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

"We have been trying to bring to the public's attention two points: One, that extremist terrorist groups like the JDL have been very active in this country and; and two, that we have been the primary target in recent years."

Irv Ruben, national chairman of the JDL, said the report backs away from earlier FBI statements

directly attributing attacks to the JDL. "Now they call (them) Jewish extremists, but don't come out and say these Jewish extremists are JDL," he said.

"My God, what happened to the presumption of innocence," he said. "All I'm trying to say is that until the facts are in and the evidence is there, they should stop slandering whole groups of people and possibly endangering the lives of Jews."

In past statements, FBI officials have linked the Jewish Defense League to the Oct. 11 bombing in Santa Ana that killed Alex Odeh, western regional director of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

But Wednesday's report didn't go that far in pinning down who is responsible for last year's attacks.

"Although certain evidence leads to suspicion of elements of the JDL, final attribution to any one specific group must await further investigation," the report says.

Carter said the FBI hasn't changed its position. "It means that we are not officially attributing it to them although there is a lot of evidence linking the JDL."

Norma Odeh said she has grown frustrated that the FBI hasn't caught those responsible for the Santa Ana bombing that killed her husband. "Because it is an Arab that got killed, they could care less," she said of the FBI. "It is not fair for Alex, for the people who

killed him to go free. His murderers should be caught, even if he is an Arab."

Last year, Puerto Rican terrorist organizations were responsible for two violent attacks, both in Puerto Rico. The FBI attributed the seventh incident to an obscure New York group called the Red Guerrilla Resistance.

In addition to the Santa Ana bombing that killed Odeh and injured seven others, the incidents attributed to "Jewish extremists" last year were:

■ The May 15 pipe bombing of the Northridge home of George Ashley that caused no injuries but about \$2,000 in damage. Ashley is a professor of a private research group in Torrance that claims the Holocaust never occurred. Investigators found the letters "JDL" spray-painted on his sidewalk before the explosion.

■ The Aug. 15 bombing of the Paterson, N.J., home of Tscherim Soobzokov, that killed a passer-by and left Soobzokov seriously injured. Soobzokov was identified in a 1977 book as a suspected Nazi War criminal, which led to demonstrations and harassment by anti-Nazi extremists.

■ The Sept. 6 bombing of the home of Elmars Sprogis in Bentwood, N.Y., that injured a passer-by. Sprogis was accused of having been a Latvian police officer who guarded Jews at Nazi concentration camps. In a deportation proceeding in New York, all charges against him were dismissed.