

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Assistant Secretary/Spokesman

For Immediate Release
3/5/93 TAKEN QUESTION

March 5, 1993

IRAN: SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM

Q: What is the Department's current assessment of Iran's support for terrorism?

A: -- IRAN IS CURRENTLY THE MOST DANGEROUS STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM.

-- THE IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE HAS BEEN DIRECTLY IMPLICATED IN ASSASSINATIONS IN EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE. IRAN HAS BEEN TIED TO SEVERAL BOMBINGS AND ASSASSINATIONS OVER THE PAST YEAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST, EUROPE, AND LATIN AMERICA.

-- IRANIAN OFFICIALS REAFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE DEATH SENTENCE AGAINST SALMAN RUSHDIE, AND AN IRANIAN FOUNDATION INCREASED THE REWARD FOR KILLING HIM TO MORE THAN \$2 MILLION.

-- IRAN IS THE WORLD'S PRINCIPAL SPONSOR OF EXTREMIST ISLAMIC AND PALESTINIAN GROUPS, PROVIDING THEM WITH FUNDS, WEAPONS, AND TRAINING.

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