

## Reader's Guide

**T**errorism takes on many forms throughout the world today and throughout history, and it impacts many lives on many sides of many issues. Some practice violent terror to further a religious cause, while others attempt to strike back at government or the increasing reliance on technology. Political leaders must respond to terrorist strikes, and argue for action. In many instances, those who advocate terror and those who defend against it have put their thoughts on paper or delivered them in speeches. *Terrorism: Primary Sources* presents fifteen full or excerpted speeches and written works that reflect various perspectives of terrorism and its impact on the world. Included are a philosophy of terrorism by Maximilien Robespierre; a psychological evaluation of Theodore "Ted" Kaczynski, the Unabomber; what it is like to be a member of the Ku Klux Klan; the religious order from Osama bin Laden that urges Muslims to kill Americans and Jews wherever they are found; the address to Congress by President George W. Bush in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States; and a personal account of surviving the September 11 attack in New York City.



The excerpts in *Primary Sources* are arranged in five chapters. Each of the chapters centers on a different theme. “Philosophy of Terror” is a comprehensive look at the mindset of terrorists and terror organizations. “Terrorism and Race in the United States” examines the violence that has accompanied the fight for freedom and against bigotry. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the philosophy of Osama bin Laden are studied in “Conflict in the Middle East,” while the American response to the terrorist attacks on the United States are reviewed in “September 11, 2001.” Finally, “Experiencing Terrorism” provides riveting accounts of the fear, shock, and horror of being in the middle of a terrorist attack.

Each entry includes an introduction, things to remember while reading the excerpt, the excerpt itself, information on what happened after the work was published or the event took place, and a list of further readings. Also included are more than fifty photographs, a timeline, and an index providing easy access to the subjects discussed throughout *Terrorism: Primary Sources*.

## Related Reference Sources

- *Terrorism: Almanac* presents a history of terrorism from the French Revolution until today. The volume examines the motivation behind various forms of terrorism, as well as the strategies governments use to combat terrorism.
- *Terrorism: Biographies* profiles twenty-six individuals who figure prominently in the story and history of terrorism. The essays cover such notorious killers as Osama bin Laden, Timothy McVeigh, Abu Nidal, and Ramzi Yousef; political figures like Menachem Begin and George J. Mitchell; and those whom some see as freedom fighters, such as John Brown and Michael Collins.

## Acknowledgments

The authors extend their thanks to U•X•L senior editor Diane Sawinski and U•X•L publisher Tom Romig at the Gale Group for their assistance throughout the production of this series.

## Comments and Suggestions

We welcome your comments on *Terrorism: Primary Sources* and suggestions for other topics in this area to consider. Please write: Editors, *Terrorism: Primary Sources*, U•X•L, 27500 Drake Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48331-3535; call toll-free 800-877-4253; fax to 248-414-5043; or send e-mail via <http://www.galegroup.com>.

## Timeline

- February 5, 1794** Maximilien Robespierre delivers a speech titled “On the Moral and Political Principles of Domestic Policy” to the Committee of Public Safety in Paris.
- July 1794** Maximilien Robespierre is arrested and sentenced to death at the guillotine.
- 1816** Charlotte Brontë is born.
- 1849** Charlotte Brontë’s *Shirley: A Tale* is published.
- October 16, 1859** John Brown and an army of twenty-one abolitionists execute a raid on the armory at Harpers Ferry, Virginia, to arm slave and incite a revolt. He is captured two days later.
- November 1859** Henry David Thoreau publishes “A Plea for Captain John Brown,” a defense of the abolitionist and of those who act on their convictions.
- December 2, 1859** John Brown is hanged at Harpers Ferry, Virginia, for plotting and executing the raid.
- 1866** The Ku Klux Klan is formed in the aftermath of the American Civil War as a social organization in Pulaski, Tennessee.



- 1869** Sergei Nechayev publishes *The Revolutionary Catechism*.
- 1881** Russian anarchists assassinate Czar Alexander II.
- 1908** The Austro-Hungarian empire decides to annex Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- May 1911** Apis compiles “The Constitution of Ujedinjenjie ili Smrt” (Unification or Death), better known as the Black Hand.
- June 28, 1914** Austrian archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife are assassinated in Sarajevo by members of the Black Hand; six weeks later Europe is engulfed in World War I.
- 1927** Communist forces led by Chiang Kai-Shek attack their allies in a rebellion in Shanghai.
- 1933** *Man’s Fate*, a novel by André Malraux about an assassination during the Chinese communist revolution, is published.
- July 22, 1946** The King David Hotel in Jerusalem is bombed on the orders of Menachem Begin, leader of the resistance group Irgun Zvai Leumi. He would later write about the incident in *The Revolt*.
- 1977** Menachem Begin is elected prime minister of Israel.
- 1992** Jan Ralston tells the story of the time she spent as an active member of the Ku Klux Klan to journalist Claire Safran, who publishes the account in *Good Housekeeping* magazine.
- August 21, 1995** Two Israeli teenagers, Sarah Hof and Ortal Puchachio, survive a suicide bombing in Israel. They tell their stories to Andrea Heiman, who has them published in *Teen* magazine the following year.
- April 19, 1995** The Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is destroyed in an explosion that kills 168 people, including nineteen children. Timothy McVeigh is arrested and later convicted of the act. Journalist Nancy Gibbs recounts the attack for *Time* magazine.
- September 19, 1995** The *Washington Post* and *New York Times* share the cost of publishing the “Unabomber Manifesto” written by Theodore “Ted” Kaczynski in the hopes he will cease sending package bombs.