

Extract of NSDD 138

The U. S Government considers the practice of terrorism by any person or group in any cause a threat to our national security and will resist the use of terrorism by all legal means available.

Terrorism is a common problem for all democratic nations. We will work intensively with others to eliminate the threat of terrorism to our way of life. States that practice terrorism or actively support it, will not be allowed to do so without consequence. All available channels of communication will be used to persuade those now practicing or supporting terrorism to desist. Assistance and support shall be provided to those democratic nations suffering intimidation because of terrorist threats or activities.

State-sponsored terrorist activity or directed threats of such action are considered to be hostile acts and the U.S. will hold sponsors accountable. Whenever we have evidence that a state is mounting or intends to conduct an act of terrorism against us, we have a responsibility to take measure to protect our citizens, property, and interests.

Intelligence collection against groups and states involved in international terrorism must be improved in order to better prevent or counter attacks; warn our citizens, friends, and allies; and, thereby reduce the risk to them.

Acts of state-sponsored and organized terrorism should be appropriately exposed and condemned in ever available forum,

Secure expeditious passage of legislative instruments to implement the provisions of extant international accord on terrorism to which the United States is signatory.

Carry out appropriate bilateral and multilateral exchanges leading toward improved cooperation on combatting terrorism.

Develop a program for expanding existing sanctions against those organizations or states which support or export terrorism.

Departments and agencies with personnel in areas vulnerable to terrorist action shall pursue mandatory programs for improved awareness and security training.

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