

---

## PREFACE

---

Terrorism is changing, as is its effect on national security. This book brings together three complementary papers that address trends in international terrorism, the special problem of terrorism in the information age, and how to meet the terrorist challenge to U.S. interests. Each of these papers pays special attention to the effect of terrorism on the U.S. military. Each also considers the role of military forces, especially air and space power, in national counterterrorism strategy.

The study made extensive use of the RAND-St. Andrews Chronology of International Terrorism—a comprehensive database on worldwide terrorist incidents since 1968.

The papers were written as contributions to a year-long project on “Terrorism and Counterterrorism: Implications for Strategy and USAF Planning,” conducted within the Strategy and Doctrine Program of RAND’s Project AIR FORCE. The study was co-sponsored by the Deputy Chief of Staff, Air and Space Operations (AF/XO), and the Director of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (AF/XOI). It was aimed at helping the Air Force to address its own “force protection” concerns, as well as contributing to the broader national and international debate on terrorism. The findings should be of interest to a wide audience interested in terrorism, counterterrorism, and national security policy.

## **PROJECT AIR FORCE**

Project AIR FORCE, a division of RAND, is the Air Force federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) for studies and analyses. It provides the Air Force with independent analyses of policy alternatives affecting the development, employment, combat readiness, and support of current and future aerospace forces. Research is performed in three programs: Strategy and Doctrine, Force Modernization and Employment, and Resource Management and System Acquisition.