HEZBOLLAH'S HISTORY OF KILLING AMERICANS

Hezbollah is known primarily for its terrorism targeting Israel, but the Lebanese Shia group has a history of hostility and terror towards the United States.

Hezbollah's 1985 manifesto states:

"We see in Israel the vanguard of the United States in our Islamic world. It is the hated enemy that must be fought until the hated ones get what they deserve."

The Iranian proxy has been responsible for multiple attacks that have killed American citizens.

SIGNIFICANT ATTACKS:

- 1983 Beirut Barracks Bombing: On October 23, 1983, a Hezbollah suicide bomber drove a truck bomb into a barracks housing the U.S. Marine barracks and French paratroopers. The attack killed 241 U.S. servicemen (220 Marines, 18 Navy sailors, and 3 Army soldiers), and 58 French paratroopers were killed, the bloodiest day for the US Marine Corps since the battle of Iwo Jima in World War II.
- 1984 U.S. Embassy Bombing: After an attack on the U.S. Embassy in April of 1983 on September 20, 1984, a Hezbollah suicide bomber drove a truck full of explosives into the annex of the American Embassy in East Beirut. Twenty-four people were killed in the attack, including two 2 U.S. military personnel and 12 embassy staff.
- Kidnappings: Throughout the 1980s, hostage-taking became a tool employed by terror groups like Hezbollah during the Lebanese civil war. Multiple American citizens were kidnapped in Lebanon, including journalists, educators, and diplomats. William Buckley, the CIA station chief in Beirut, was kidnapped in 1984. He would die in captivity while Hezbollah claimed to have executed him.

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SIGNIFICANT ATTACKS:

1985 Hijacking of TWA Flight 847: On June 14, 1985, a TWA flight en route from Athens to Rome was hijacked by Hezbollah operatives and was diverted to Beirut. During the incident, U.S. Navy diver Robert Stethem was brutally beaten and murdered by the hijackers.

ATTEMPTED ATTACKS

In 2017, Ali Kourani of the Bronx, New York, and Samer el Debek, of Dearborn, Michigan, were arrested and charged last week by the Department of Justice with providing material support to Hezbollah. The two 2 Americans led double lives as Hezbollah agents conducting covert surveillance of potential targets, including U.S. military bases and Israeli military personnel here in New York City.

In March of 2024, a man claiming to be a Hezbollah bomb maker was stopped at the southern border and told border officials that he was going to New York to conduct a terror attack.

In recent years, Hezbollah-linked individuals have been arrested in multinational operations. Hezbollah's presence in Latin America has meant the DEA has played a significant role in disrupting the Hezbollah criminal and financial networks involved in drug trafficking and money laundering.

Hezbollah

Erroneously, some only see Hezbollah as a threat to Israel. While it is literally on Israel's borders, Hezbollah has a long history going back to its earliest days of targeting America and Americans. Ultimately, Hezbollah is just another example that Israel's enemies are America's enemies.