

## BOOK REVIEW

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### Review of: *Terrorism and Organized Hate Crime: Intelligence Gathering, Analysis, and Investigations*

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**REFERENCE:** Ronczkowski MR. *Terrorism and organized hate crime: intelligence gathering, analysis, and investigations*, CRC Press: Boca Raton, FL, 2003, 256 pp.

The author of *Terrorism and Hate Crime*, Michael Ronczkowski, brings a broad background of experience to this effort, which serves as a basic tool for those interested in the fundamentals of crime analysis as it relates to terrorism and other forms of violent groups. In defining various forms of terrorism, the author emphasizes the importance of intelligence gathering and analysis.

The chapter devoted to understanding and defining terrorism lacks some degree of specificity. For example, whereas biological terrorism is listed, no mention is made of chemical or nuclear threats, although the subject is covered in a later chapter on future threats. A mere two pages are devoted to the history and roots of modern terrorism, but several pages cover the evolution of domestic terrorism, domestic terrorist groups, and organized hate groups and crimes.

Homeland security forms the basis for another chapter that covers relatively basic information, such as the Advisory color system, and a brief explanation of the Patriot Act. Other topics include

financing terrorism, which addresses the concept of *hawala* but does not adequately explain the more serious threat posed by charitable organizations that sponsor terrorism.

Chapters on gathering information and enhanced analysis are the cornerstone of the book, and the author provides a good introductory explanation of crime analysis techniques, such as link analysis, flowcharts, spatial referencing and the use of analytical reports including threat and vulnerability assessments.

Perhaps the most valuable aspect of the book is a series of appendices that offer much of the detail missing in earlier chapters. These include domestic-based terrorist organizations; known active "patriot" groups in the U.S.; symbols of hate, foreign based organizations, explosive materials, a homeland security state contact list, legislative references, a glossary of terminology and a detailed index.

As noted, this book serves largely as a primer for those who have little or no knowledge of terrorism, but will also be of interest to more astute individuals who will find the appendices to be of interest.

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