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BIOTERRORISM

Abstract: The author often mentioned in his works that there is no inhabited territory in the world that is resistant to terrorism, while the roots of terrorism, surrounded by different motives and causes, go far back in history. Therefore, the author identifies terrorism as a world problem, which is never isolated in one environment, but very quickly, like a forest fire, spreads to other areas. In the era of rapid information and technological development, the concept of terrorism is becoming less and less precise and unambiguous as it is increasingly used. Given that we have seen in the not-so-distant past that terrorist organizations are unscrupulous in their attacks, one of the main concerns of modern times is undoubtedly the possibility of using biological weapons for terrorist purposes. This paper analyzes in detail the somewhat intimidating form of terrorism, known as bioterrorism, a distinction was made between this and other types of terrorism, and we have given a historical view of the use of biological weapons, all with the aim of more precisely defining this extremely complex phenomenon.

Key words: terrorism, bioterrorism, Dark Harvest Commando, Rajneeshee cult, Aum Shinrikyo.

1 DEFINITION OF TERRORISM

Terrorism as a concept and phenomenon is a highly complex topic. The interpretation of terrorism is often covered by political premises and social stereotypes, so policy-makers and various experts who deal with this phenomenon are not entirely clear about the theoretical understanding of this very complex concept. Despite the enormous effort invested in its analysis, it is very complicated to define exactly what terrorism represents. The etymology of the term terrorism refers to the Latin term *terror* (*terror, terroris*), whose original meaning is great fear. Also, through further etymological analysis, the same word but with a different meaning is associated with France, i.e. with the reign of *la Terreur* period between 1793 and 1794, i.e. the system of rule by physical violence and the destruction of all forms of opposition in order to establish a completely new economic, social and political system. (Леви Розита, Пајовић Слободан 2002) Throughout history, terrorism has been described in many ways - it represents a kind of strategy or „modus operandi“, a heinous criminal act, an expected and legitimate response to repression and sometimes a sacred duty. A lot depends on the opinion that is present and expressed in a certain society. As we have already mentioned, terrorism is

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often seen as an effective strategy for the oppressed and exhausted parties in the conflict. Due to its mystical nature, terrorism quickly evolves into an instrument for conducting conflict, without the other side even realizing the threat that terrorism carries with it. Because of the mentioned attributes, terrorism is becoming more and more frequent among those who strive to achieve their goals extremely.

The academic community has been trying to understand and at the same time define terrorism for a long time. That effort led to the appearance of numerous scientific papers on this topic. It is indisputable that this „big library“ reveals the essential elements of terrorism, but, rarely, one of them speaks explicitly, about the „essence“ of something we define as terrorism. So, what does terrorism essentially represent, what are the causes of terrorism, is terrorism under the veil of politics or is it a type of attack based on hatred, is an essential part of terrorism fear, are all the victims of terrorism innocent, are there those who are guilty and responsible. Does this, increasingly mentioned term, mean conflicts with armed forces or does it involve conflicts with civilians and non-combatants.

Is it realistic that in the era of rapid development of information and communication technologies, terrorism is becoming less and less comprehensible, and is increasingly frequently used, what are „eco-terrorism“, „bioterrorism“ and „cyber terrorism“. A large number of researchers of this phenomenon neglect the economic aspect of terrorism, they do not provide a clear and sufficiently concrete answer to the question of whether terrorism only injures people or whether there is also a form of terrorism that affects the economy.

Is there a complementary economic system that represents solid support for terrorism, what do we concretely mean by the term state terrorism, are the causes of terrorism inflation, a high level of unemployment, a massive reduction in the number of employees, a confused education system, social insecurity, can terrorism be privatized. Is it then justified to talk about human terrorism that constantly attacks and threatens the flora and fauna (Bursać, Glumac 2017)? The answer to the above-mentioned questions is extremely complicated, because as the authors Best and Nocella state in their work „Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals“ - terrorism is a very complex concept and a very subjective, extremely burdened, emotionally and politically charged expression whose meaning depends primarily on the political ideology and program and even the culture to which a person belongs (Best, Nocella 2004). We mentioned that terrorism goes back a long way in history and that, accordingly, it has its apparent roots. So it is quite certain, Simeunović also spoke about this in his work „Критички оглед о утврђивању времена настанка тероризма и његовим претечама“ - that certain elements of terrorism existed even in the oldest political periods, such as political murder, assassination, attacks on the ruler or the order to achieve above all political goals, causing a sense of fear, the sensationalism of attacks aimed at challenging the absolute power of the order, are already known to history. Terrorism, as a relatively recent phenomenon, has its roots. Some of the elements, the notion of terrorism, certainly existed in the earliest political times. Political assassination, assassination, attack on the ruler and the order in order to achieve extreme political goals, inciting fear with violence, the spectacular attack that challenges the absolute power of order, are well-known phenomena in history. What is important to note is that none of the mentioned phenomena, nor the combination of several of them, are sufficient to be marked as terrorism (Simeunović 2010).

It is most legitimate and appropriate to assume that certain elements that the academic community sees today as integral elements of modern terrorism have their forms in distant history, but we must also add that modern forms of terrorism must be analyzed in more detail in accordance with the current security situation, of course at the international level. In modern times, the forms of manifestation of terrorism are diverse and numerous, and what is very important, we do not find them in earlier periods, but we must be aware of the fact that today's terrorism has inherited or rather taken over many attributes of terrorism from earlier eras (the first such attribute, i.e. element is certainly violence). Pluralism of opinion regarding the time of origin and appearance of terrorism is not the only problem that we associate with this phenomenon, a similar inconsistency was also observed in the very definition of this term. Even today, we do not have a clear definition of terrorism that everyone agrees on. Walter Laqueur, uses a broad definition where terrorism is the illegitimate use of force to achieve a political goal, where the targets are innocent people, with the remark that even if there were an objective, value-free definition of terrorism that would cover all its important aspects and characteristics, some would still always be rejected for ideological reasons (Laqueur 2000). Mijalkovski defines terrorism as a form of war in which unarmed content predominates, while armed content is carried out on carefully selected victims with the intention of murder, temporary or permanent physical injury or kidnapping, and all this in such a way that the result will be the intimidation of the indirect victim, and finally achieving the set terrorist goal. (Мијалковски 1988). Bruce Hoffman, in his attempt to come up with a more precise definition of terrorism, first of all made the necessary distinction between terrorism and other forms of crime, and then stated that terrorism represents „the intentional creation and exploitation of fear through violence or the threat of violence in an effort to cause political change“ (Хофман 2000). A similar inconsistency regarding the definition of terrorism is also found in the group of administrative definitions. For example, the United States Department of State views terrorism as „premeditated, politically motivated violence committed against non-combatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents, usually with the aim of influencing the target groups against whom the violence is directed“ (Legal Information Institute 2022). The Criminal Code of the Russian Federation in Article 205 under terrorism means „the execution of explosions and fires or their preparation, creating the danger of human deaths, causing significant damage or the occurrence of other socially harmful consequences if these activities are carried out for the purpose of disrupting social security, intimidating the population or influencing the authorities in the decision-making process“ (Лебедев, Скуратов 1996). In Turkey, for example, changes in the political, legal, social, secular and economic system are considered terroristic if they harm the inseparable unity of the state with its territory and nation, threaten the existence of the Turkish state and republic, weaken or destroy the authority of the state, remove basic rights and freedoms or damage the internal and external security of the state, public order or general health by pressure, violence, terror, intimidation, oppression or threats (The Financial Crimes Investigation Board of Turkey 2004). Based on a brief overview of the selected definitions, it can be confidently assumed that terrorism is an illegal act of violence, which implies the intended use of force.

So it is clear that we classify terrorism as a modern security threat and that as such it differs from traditional security threats on different grounds. Therefore, it is easy to make a distinction between terrorism and, for example, interstate war conflicts. When we talk about traditional interstate wars, things are crystal clear, we are already very familiar with the opponents and the rules of warfare are generally accepted. On the other hand, when we talk about terrorism, we already have a touch of the mystical and mysterious, so the opponents do not stand out until the very execution of an act of violence, in which not a single rule of war is respected, in other words, everything is allowed. Bearing this in mind, the fight against such an unpredictable enemy is far more exhausting and difficult. Research on the definition of terrorism conducted by leading scientists has shown that there are an incredible 109 definitions of terrorism (Schmid, Jongman, Horowitz 2005). The definitions of this intriguing term are very complicated and difficult to understand, and due to its innate cruelty and brutality, terrorism as a term has created a very dynamic stigma. As already known to the authors dealing with this phenomenon - until now, the United Nations has not decisively defined terrorism, to be precise, they have tailored a kind of working pre-definition of terrorism according to which terrorism is defined as an act of deprivation of life or injury, or an act of destruction or damage to the property of civilians or governments, without the express permission of a particular government, by an individual or group of self-acting or self-acting governments to achieve a political goal (UN Security Council resolution 1566, 2004)

In this paper, the author is looking for support in another layered but fundamental definition, that views terrorism as a multidimensional political phenomenon or a complex form of organized, individual and rarely institutionalized political violence, which is marked by frightening brachio-physical and psychological methods of political struggle, in order to achieve „great goals“, usually in times of political and economic crises, and less often in conditions of economic and political stability of a society (Simeunović 2009).

2 APPEARANCE FORMS OF TERRORISM AND ITS CHARACTERISTICS

Given that it is a well-known fact that there is, inconsistency regarding definitions and types of terrorism among authors, in the following work we will list those types of terrorism that are most frequent in the available literature (Dawson, Kisku, Phalguni, Jamuna, Weifeng 2017):

- Modern, New or Urban Terrorism: It appeared at the end of the 20th century and reached its peak in 2001, when the most famous terrorist attack on the soil of the USA in New York was carried out. What is characteristic for this type of terrorism is the threat of fierce and massive attacks by transnational terrorist organizations, which often find their bases in religious fundamentalism;
- State-sponsored terrorism: better known as state or legal terrorism is terrorism that governments carry out against their own population and can also be directed at an external enemy. In practice, it represents a method for staying in power or a some kind of strategy for maintaining the ruling regime;

- Dissident or patriotic terrorism: perpetrators of this terrorism are dissident groups, i.e. non-state movements that aim to overthrow the ruling regime in their home country;
- Religious terrorism: is terrorism based on the misinterpretation of religious rules carried out by blinded terrorist organizations. Here, religion becomes a political weapon, and the frustrating layers of society provide fertile ground for the recruitment of religious fanatics. The goal of these fanatics and their terrorist organizations is a new political order based on religious values, which they consider acceptable;
- Ideological terrorism: is terrorism that is based on ideologies, to be more precise, on a belief system that will be a guiding star and a kind of justification for terrorist activity. It is an ideology that gives terrorists strength, meaning, and purpose, therefore ideology becomes unquestionable and absolute. This terrorism has its subgroups - left-wing, right-wing, and quasi-revolutionary terrorism;
- International terrorism: is terrorism that involves both citizens and territories of more than one country. Targets are international goods, and they can be individuals, political bodies, even entire regimes;
- Criminal dissident terrorism: This type of terrorism represents an amalgamation of economics and politics, more precisely, international crime and terrorist organizations. The unifying factor of criminal and terrorist groups is certainly their interests in the international market of goods and services. It's no secret that many terrorist organizations are supported, or co-financed, by the trade in narcotics, weapons, etc.;
- Gender-selective terrorism: is terrorism directed against men or women because of their gender. This type of violence is most often the result of political conflict. For example, hostile-oriented men in such terrorist organizations become fighters, and their target is women, more precisely, female enemy groups who, as a result of this animosity, can be abused and vice versa.

According to the methods and means that terrorist organizations mostly use, terrorism can be divided into several basic forms (Гаїиновіи 2012):

- Conventional terrorism - with its two subgroups: terrorism from a distance - the use of explosive devices where the perpetrator of the terrorist act remains anonymous and yet causes a huge political effect and shock in society, and suicidal terrorism - the perpetrator consciously sacrifices his life for the work of higher goals and interests;
- Unconventional terrorism - this type of terrorism is extremely complicated to detect due to the absence of an armed attack, it is often called covert terrorism. This terrorism refers to the manipulation of information, sending threats, or inciting conflict through the media;
- Cyber terrorism: abuse of modern technologies in carrying out terrorist actions;
- Ecological terrorism with its sub-forms: nuclear terrorism (carrying out terrorist actions with nuclear weapons), chemical terrorism (carrying out terrorist actions with chemical weapons), biological terrorism (carrying out terrorist actions with biological weapons).

In the continuation of the work, we will deal with this third sub-type of ecological terrorism, biological terrorism or bioterrorism.

3 BIOLOGICAL TERRORISM

Bioterrorism refers to the deliberate release of viruses, bacteria, or other biological agents or toxins to cause disease or death in humans, animals, or plants with the intent to intimidate or compel the government or civilian population to meet the political or social goals of terrorist groups.

The application of the mentioned biological material is most often done in populated places, mainly in order to destroy morale as efficiently as possible by inflicting a larger number of victims. By biological material we therefore mean biological agents, toxins, viruses, bacteria, fungi, etc. (Милошевић 2014).

If we try to facilitate the understanding of this concept, and to further analyze bioterrorism, we can say that bioterrorism has its three manifestations (Шљуквић Паунковић 2020):

- Genocidal - bioterrorist attacks on people,
- Zoocidal / phytocidal - targeted bioterrorist attacks against domestic animals and plants, better known as agroterrorism..
- Ecocidal - refers to collective damage to the environment caused by bioterrorist attacks.

3.1 THE USE OF BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS THROUGHOUT HISTORY

The use of biological agents for offensive purposes has been documented since ancient times. Some authors claim that biological weapons were widely practiced in ancient times (Mayor 2003), but such claims should be viewed with caution because most of the alleged incidents almost never happened, we simply have no reliable evidence for them except contaminated arrows, such as those made by the Scythians in the 4th century BC (poison arrows, ie arrows soaked blood of infected people and animals) (Carus 2015). What is indisputable is that some people were afraid of deliberately spreading the disease. Also, similar claims about the use of biological weapons are related to the Middle Ages, but the only reliable and documented evidence is related to the year 1346, ie the Mongol siege of Kafa, a city located on the territory of today's Crimea.

The Mongols, who then controlled the area around Kafa, besieged the city in 1345 but were forced to withdraw in 1346 when their army suffered heavy losses due to the outbreak of the plague. Before leaving the siege, the Mongols catapulted dead infected soldiers to Kafa, which later led to the plague and caused great losses to the Genoese, who then controlled the city (Wheelis 2002).

During the late 18th and early 19th centuries, several documented attempts were made to deliberately spread biological agents. The first well-documented case of the use of biological agents for offensive purposes was by the British against the Indians in 1763.

That year, the Confederation of Indian Tribes launched what we know today as the Pontiac Rebellion - a joint attack by more than ten different tribes on fortifications built and controlled by the English. In the territory of today's states of Ohio and Illinois. The English fortifications were falling at lightning speed, which accelerated the

British to negotiate peace and a ceasefire. After vague negotiations, the British handed the Indians gifts in the form of blankets and linen fabrics, which they had previously coated with tissues infected with smallpox, to which the Indians were particularly sensitive (Trbić 2016).

In the later period, we have data that the German army was the first to rely on biology in creating a new form of warfare. During the First World War, the German General Staff made significant efforts to use biological agents against the Allies, targeting mainly horses that were used to transport equipment and supplies, but also livestock. By 1915, the Germans had developed and produced several animal pathogens, the anthrax bacillus (*Bacillus anthracis*) - Anthrax and *Burkholderia* (*Burkholderia mallei*) - an agent that causes Sakagja - a disease of the lymph nodes, most common in Equidae. The Germans operated around the world and are known to have tried to spread these diseases in Argentina, Finland (then part of Russia), France and the United States, and perhaps other countries. (Rumanian Official Documents 1917) During such covert attacks, for example on the United States, the Germans initially delivered pathogens through covert channels, after which, since it was difficult for such pathogens to survive during transport, they set up laboratories. We have such an example in Maryland, where a German laboratory was discovered in the basement of a house in Silver Spring, which was developing biological agents. In addition to the laboratory, the Germans also organized a network of operatives in several port cities to spread these pathogens. What we can conclude from this case is that the Germans were the first to organize the development and use of biological weapons for offensive purposes, which is based on the use and understanding of microbiological discoveries from previous decades.

The development of biological weapons in Japan attracted the most public attention for two reasons - the first is because Japan used this type of weapon to a large extent, causing about 10,000 victims in China, and the second reason is that the Japanese program was one of the largest ever organized.

As early as 1932, the first biological weapons research plant was established at the Military Medical School in Tokyo, and soon another facility was opened to experiment on people in Manchuria.

They quickly developed a method of spreading fleas infected with *Yersinia* (*Yersinia pestis*), the organism responsible for the outbreak of plague. (Harris, Sheldon, 1999) The Japanese program is best known for its research activities, which have included extensive human experimentation. Humans have been exposed to various biological agents while the course of their disease has been studied. In some cases, the victims were dissected while still alive. It is known that thousands of people died in those experiments, maybe as many as 10,000 (Sheldon 2002). The Japanese used their biological program mainly against China and the then Soviet Union.

In the first half of the 20th century, many other countries opted for the development of biological weapons, such as Canada, which developed bombs that spread brucellosis and tularemia, France, which developed devices that spread the rinderpest virus, Hungary, which developed glass bombs capable of carrying 1 to 50 kilograms of biological agents (whether wet or dry), the Soviet Union that researched and developed the use of numerous pathogens such as Anthrax, *Clostridium botulinum*, the agent that

causes Tularemia and *Yersinia pestis*, Great Britain that developed an aerosol pathogen transmission system while The United States invested large sums of money, more precisely about 2 billion dollars in the development of anthrax and botulinum toxin as an anti-personnel agent (The Brookings Institution 2016).

3.2 USE OF BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS FOR TERRORIST PURPOSES

Among the main concerns in modern times is undoubtedly the possibility of using biological weapons for terrorist purposes, ie the use of biological weapons by individuals or groups to fulfil their own goals or interests. The first such group appeared in 1981 under the name Dark Harvest Commando. The militant organization demanded that the British government decontaminate Gruinard Island, an island in the north of Scotland where weapons containing anthrax were tested during World War II.

This group claimed that, with the help of the local population, they managed to remove 140 kilograms of contaminated land from the island and that they would deliver it to the place where the idea to develop biological weapons on British soil came from - Porton Down in Wiltshire where the Defense Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Center is located (Croddy, Writz 2005). In addition to that location, members of this organization set up another container, with contaminated soil in Blackpool, Lancashire, a resort where the Conservative Party held a conference. In the first container, it was determined that there was soil from Gruinard Island, contaminated with Anthrax, while the second container was not contaminated, although it was determined that the soil was also from Gruinard Island (Time 1981).

In the United States, more precisely in Dallas, Oregon, in 1984, the cult better known as Rajneeshee contaminated salads with *Salmonella*, in 10 local restaurants. The idea of this group was to prevent the population from going to the polls, which will give their candidates (candidates of this group) an advantage and achieve victory. This incident was the first and largest bioterrorist attack in the United States, where 751 people were infected with the *Salmonella* bacterium.

Also in the USA shortly after the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001. years, postal letters interwoven with anthrax began to appear. The result of these biological attacks is 5 killed and 17 infected Americans (FBI 2001).

In Japan, the Aum Shinrikyo group is a well - known religious organization founded in 1986, which mixed Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist beliefs and elements of apocalyptic Christian prophecy. This organization, thanks to the membership that paid large sums of money, developed both biological and chemical weapons. One of the earliest known attacks of this organization is certainly the attack on the Japanese parliament. Namely, the members of this organization, placed around the parliament building, trucks equipped with sprinklers containing *Clostridium botulinum* - the cause of botulism to kill as many political leaders as possible. Although the squandering equipment worked, the attack failed. Their most famous attack is the attack in Tokyo where they used Sarin. In five coordinated attacks, members of this organization released Sarin on three subway lines in Tokyo in 1995. The result of these attacks was 14 killed, 50 seriously injured, and about 1,000 people with impaired vision (Gupta 2015).

There are also data that Al Qaeda started the development of biological weapons in the late 90s, more precisely that it started the construction of a laboratory in Afghanistan, but that it did not develop any biological agents. Available evidence suggests that their activities were disrupted by the US invasion of Afghanistan and that the program was never reconstituted (Hummel 2016).

4 CONCLUSION

As we have the opportunity to see while reading this paper, during the Second World War, as well as the years after, there is an accelerated development of science and technology. This development did not bypass the arms industry, even more so it was directed towards it. As a result of such development, we have the emergence of biological weapons, but what the creators of this type of deadly weapon did not hope for was the possibility of their use by non-governmental groups or terrorist organizations. At the same time, what accompanies this accelerated technological development is the accelerated process of globalization that goes hand in hand with such groups. Under the veil of globalization lies the widespread adoption of so-called dual-use technologies, those legitimate with use in trade, science, and medicine, but also those that paved the way and laid the foundations for those technologies needed for the development of biological weapons. Thanks to these related processes, we have come to the situation that these second technologies are almost the same or similarly available to various organizations and individuals. Namely, according to the estimates of experts, the development of a very serious biological arsenal requires about 10 million dollars, a very small laboratory, and a master's degree in chemical engineering. (Homeland Security, 2009) So it is clear that there have been bioterrorist attacks over the past decades just as it is clear that terrorist organizations are interested in this type of attack, what remains a mystery is an assessment of what could happen if terrorists get hold of or develop new, modern and more lethal technologies. As Seth states in his work „The History of Biological Weapons Use“ - the key question that arises here is whether or not we have become more humane in the time we live in the development of biological weapons than our predecessors, and what are the ways to prevent such threats in the future. History has shown us that the best measure of prevention is based on the creation and preservation of strong cultural norms, both individual and social and of course political, which prohibit the development and use of this type of weapon, but we must not completely close our eyes or obscure reality, but be ready to react if such unpleasant events occur.

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Борис Љ. БУРСАЋ

БИОТЕРОРИЗАМ

РЕЗИМЕ

Често је аутор у својим радовима помињао да на свету не постоји насељена територија која је резистентна на тероризам док корени тероризма, опасани различитим мотивима и узроцима сежу далеко у историју. Стога аутор тероризам идентификује као озбиљан светски проблем, који се у једној средини никада не изолује, већ рапидно, попут својеврсног шумског пожара, шири на друга подручја. У ери брзог и наглог информационог и технолошког развоја, парадоксално, појам тероризам постаје све мање прецизан и недвосмислен док је у све већој употреби. С обзиром да смо у не тако далекој прошлости видели да су терористичке организације у својим нападима бескрупулозне, међу главним бригама у савремено доба несумњиво се јавља могућност употребе биолошког оружја у терористичке сврхе, односно употреба биолошког оружја од стране појединаца или група с намером испуњавања сопствених циљева или интереса. У овом раду је детаљно анализиран, помало застрашујући облик тероризма, познатији као биотероризам, извршена је дистинкција између овог и осталих типова тероризма, и дат је један историјски приказ употребе биолошког оружја а све у циљу прецизнијег одређења овог изразито сложеног феномена.

Кључне речи: тероризам, биотероризам, Дарк харвест коадно, Раджниш култ, Аум Шинрикјо.