

# Five decades of terrorism in France



## URBAN-GUERRILLAS

■ **1977-87, Action Directe:** French-based anti-NATO group linked to

West German **Red Army Faction** – former **Baader-Meinhof Gang** – mounts deadly, high-profile attacks in France, West Germany and Belgium

## ANTI-SEMITISM

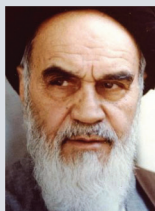


■ **1980-82:** Bomb attack at Paris synagogue kills four people and injures 20. Gun and grenade attack at Chez Jo Goldenberg restaurant in Jewish quarter of Paris kills six, injures 22

■ **2009:** Arsonists fire-bomb synagogues in Paris, Toulouse and Strasbourg

## STATE TERRORISM

■ **1985-86, Hezbollah:** Pro-Iranian **Fouad Al Saheh** group carries out 15 attacks in Paris, killing 13 people and injuring over 300 more. France accuses Iran's political and religious leader **Ayatollah Khomeini** of having personally directed bombing campaign – 34 members of Hezbollah arrested in 1987



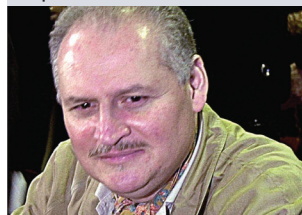
## FRENCH DISSIDENTS

■ **1962, OAS:** Former army officers opposed to Algeria's independence – **Organisation Armée Secrète** – attempt to assassinate **President Charles de Gaulle** in Paris

■ **1976-2014, FLNC:** Separatist **Corsican National Liberation Front** stages some 10,000 violent attacks over 40-year period. FLNC declares ceasefire in 2014

## PALESTINIANS

■ **1975, Carlos the Jackal:** Member of **Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)** – **Ilich Ramirez Sanchez** – makes two failed attempts to launch rocket-propelled grenades at Israeli airliners at Paris Orly Airport. Also kills two French secret agents. Masterminds Paris car bombing in 1982. In 1997 Ramirez Sanchez (*below*) is sentenced to life imprisonment



■ **1978, PFLP:** Palestinian militants open fire on El Al passengers in departure lounge of Orly Airport. Eight people killed including three assailants



## ISLAMIST MILITANTS

■ **1994, GIA:** French commandos successfully storm Air France Airbus A-300 held by members of **Algerian Armed Islamic Group (GIA)** at Marseilles airport, releasing 169 hostages and killing four hijackers. Alleged plan was to blow up aircraft over Paris

■ **1995-96:** GIA carries out multiple attacks on rail system, killing eight people and injuring 170

■ **2005:** Six **Al Qaeda** militants convicted of conspiring to bomb U.S. Embassy in Paris. Attack was to coincide with 2001 attacks on U.S. World Trade Centre and Pentagon

■ **2010:** Five French nationals arrested, suspected of conspiring to launch terror attacks in France

■ **Nov 2011:** Firebomb attack on satirical magazine **Charlie Hebdo** after it publishes image of Prophet Mohammad on its cover

■ **Mar 2012:** Al Qaeda-inspired gunman kills seven people in three separate shootings in Toulouse

■ **Dec 22, 2014:** Motorist shouting "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) drives his vehicle into crowd in city of Dijon

■ **Jan 7, 2015:** Gunmen storm Paris offices of **Charlie Hebdo**, killing at least 12 people



## BASQUES

**1990-2010, ETA:** Fast-track transfers of Basque separatist detainees from France to Spanish tribunals leads to low level insurgency on French territory