U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
The Nexus Between Drugs and Terrorism

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Counter-Narcoterrorism Operations Center
Special Operations Division
Drug Enforcement Administration

- Single mission agency – enforce U.S. controlled substances laws and regulations

- Relatively small Federal agency
  - 2009 Budget ~ $2.6 billion
  - 10,784 employees (5,233 Special Agents)
“Narcoterrorism” may have been coined in 1983
- Former President Belaunde Terry of Peru used the term to describe terrorist-type attacks against his nation’s anti-narcotics police.

“Narco-driven terrorism”
- Drug trafficking organizations that use terrorist tactics (high-profile violence and intimidation) to advance or protect their drug trafficking activities.
Colombian Narcoterrorism

Avianca bombing
11/27/89
110 dead

DAS HQ bombing
12/6/89
50 dead / 600 wounded
Modern Narcoterrorism Definition

“Narco-supported terrorism”

- Terrorist / insurgent organizations that use drug trafficking proceeds to advance their political agenda
$4.7 Million Seized
7.65 Million Seized
$3.57 Million Seizure
March 2007: $207 Million