

terrorism appears to be endemic and do not have the ethnic, religious or material disparities in our society in which terrorism seems to flourish we are not untouched by international terrorism. The members of our society, police, security services, defence force and political leaders could all profit from a study of the careful analysis and thoughtful comments of Professor Laqueur. Terrorism is not new — but it is dynamic and Professor Laqueur has produced a worthy update to his classic work 'Terrorism' of a decade ago.

#### Journalist

Amir Theri was the editor-in-chief of 'Kayghan' Iran's largest selling daily newspaper between 1973 and 1977 — before the Party of Allah staged its revolution and terminated the Pavlavi dynasty to the considerable surprise of most of the free world — but not, I suspect, to Amir Taheri. He worked for the Sunday Times between 1980 and 1984 and contributed to a number of heavy dailies and weeklies, basing his articles and research for his book on interviews with many of the world's leading statesmen and women and five years of research, case studies and field reports from Iran, Turkey, Egypt, the Lebanon, Morocco, the Gulf States and the Western nations directly threatened by the 'Holy terrorists'.

#### Revolution

The number of followers of Islam in the world is estimated at between 800 million and one billion. Of that number, some 250,000 live in Australia and of them 150,000 in New South Wales.

'Day and night I beg Allah to hasten the moment promised to me when I shall become a complete human being, one chosen by Allah and then Iran to kill for the glory of Islam.'

These words from a graduate of an Iranian 'School of Martyrs' expresses the feelings of thousands of the children of the revolution determined to use force to raise the banner of Islam in every capital of the world.

The focus of world attention on terrorism is the Middle East. To understand Islamic terror and its manifestations is one of the most urgent needs for maintaining an ever more fragile world peace. How significant that at a time when the major powers are moving towards an agreement on a strategic arms limitations treaty in Geneva, their deliberations should be relegated to the inside pages by the Iranian inspired riots in Mecca against the 'Great Satan'.

Has the nuclear guarantor of world peace begun to take back seat in international debate to the activities of relatively few individuals with poisoned daggers, bombs, guns, and a willingness to die for the cause of Islam — and its manipulators?



*Detective Chief Superintendent  
Arthur Brown*

Mr Taheri's book is fascinating. He traces the many strands of the Islamic faith from the 7th Century to the visit by Robert McFarlane and Ollie North to Teheran in 1986. He identifies the leaders who have arisen as disciples of the true faith, flourished, trod their time upon the boards and then perished.

The history is replete with leaders torn down by their erstwhile followers, seduced from the city of faith by the city of war, whose blood was declared worthless and whose lives therefore became forfeit. To a Westerner, it is a doom and gloom laden faith. Contrast the declaration 'his blood is worthless' with the optimistic Australian expression 'his blood is worth bottling'.

The book is well structured. It discusses the training and motivation of the soldiers of Islam; how they plan their missions, how the interplay of religious and economic imperatives force leaders occasionally to stray from the shining path and how any accommodation sought by representatives of the Great Satan are doomed to failure.

A chilling book but compulsory reading to anyone engaged in the preservation of society from the effects of the holy terrors.

Both books have very extensive footnotes and a comprehensive index. It is significant that the two books should emerge in the same period — one by a man who has established himself as a giant among contemporary writers on the subject of terrorism, the second by a journalist who has produced a book which will take its place among the standard works as a major contribution to understanding the more recent phenomenon of holy terror.

## AFP OFFICER TO BRAMSHILL

Detective Chief Superintendent Arthur Brown will this month take up a two year posting on the directing staff at the Police Staff College, Bramshill, when he replaces Chief Superintendent Bill Antill who has completed two years there.

Chief Superintendent Peter Dawson was the first AFP officer to be invited to the directing staff in 1984 and the attachments have become regular since.

Detective Chief Superintendent Brown said that the attachment was extremely important as it affords the AFP the opportunity to study and understand policing not only in the UK but Europe and with the many visitors who come there from all over the world.

He said it would be an opportunity to compare the standards of Australian policing with those of other police forces and to hopefully identify innovations which could be used for Australians policing.

It would also be valuable in the context that the AFP was becoming increasingly involved in international policing efforts particularly drug trafficking, organised crime and complex fraud, and to see these policing efforts from a global viewpoint.

Because of his level within the AFP he also considered it would be very useful to comprehend and implement modern administrative practices in contemporary policing. It was important for any modern police force to have an administrative structure and system which was keeping up with the operational demands.

It will also be an opportunity to visit the land of his childhood of Scotland in 1946. He migrated to Australia in 1954 with his parents and was educated in Canberra. He joined the former ACT Police Force in 1965 and spent much of his detective working life in the CIB and fraud. At the amalgamation he was designated Chief Inspector and was most recently the Commander of the Fraud and General Crime Division in Canberra.

- 'The Age of Terrorism', by Walter Laqueur, Weindenfeld and Nicholson, London. Price: UK Pounds 17.95.
  - 'Holy Terror — The Inside Story of Islamic Terrorism', by Amir Taheri, Century Hutchinson Ltd. Price: UK pounds 12.95.
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