

Suriname Cases, 1970-2012
Last Updated: 3 February 2018

| torg | gname | onset | min | max |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| T1033 | BRUNSWIJK JUNGLE COMMANDO | 12-Oct-87 | 1986 | 1992 |
| T1432 | NATIONAL LIBERATION UNION | | 1989 | 1989 |

I. BRUNSWIJK JUNGLE COMMANDO

Torg ID: 1033

Min. Group Date: 1986

Max. Group Date: 1992

Onset: 1987

Aliases: Brunswijk Jungle Commando, Brunswijk Gang, Surinamese Liberation Army

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 2319. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017.
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=2319>
- Alex Schmid and Albert Jongman. "Jungle Commando." Political Terrorism: A New Guide. Routledge. 1988. P. 667-668.
- Alex Schmid and Albert Jongman. "Surinam Liberation Army." Political Terrorism: A New Guide. Routledge. 1988. P. 668. PDF. gDrive.
- Merrill Collett. "After lull, Suriname's rebels intensify fight against government." Christian Science Monitor. 1987. <https://www.csmonitor.com/1987/0514/onam.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Suriname: Current information on the Jungle Commandos of Ronnie Brunswijk, 1 January 1993, SUR12965, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ac6358.html>
- "Interior War of Suriname/Jungle Commando." Global Security. N.d.
<https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/jungle-commando.htm>
- Kristian Gleditsch, David Cunningham, and Idean Salehyan. "Surinam vs SLA/Jungle Commandos." Non-State Actor Dataset Narratives. 2013. P. 555-556.
http://privatewww.essex.ac.uk/~ksg/data/NSAEX_casedesc.pdf
- Howard French. "To Suriname Refugees, Truce Means Betrayal." New York Times. 1991.
<http://www.nytimes.com/1991/04/14/world/to-suriname-refugees-truce-means-betrayal.html>

- “Timeline: Suriname.” BBC. 2012.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1218515.stm

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Surinamese Liberation Front (SLA), SNLA

Group Formation: 1986

Group End: 1992 (peace agreement)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The Jungle Commando formed in 1986 in response to perceived corruption by the Suriname government against the Maroon ethnic group (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 667; Gleditsch, Cunningham, and Salehyan 2013). The group’s first attack occurred on July 23, 1986, and targeted the military (GTD 2017). Their ultimate aim was to overthrow the Suriname government (Schmid and Jongman 1988; Christian Science Monitor 1987).

Geography

All of the attacks conducted by the Brunswijk Jungle Commando took place in cities in Suriname, particularly in Albina and Moengo (GTD 2017). The group is not transnational.

Organizational Structure

The leader of the Brunswijk Jungle Commando was Ronnie Brunswijk, a former militant and a member of the Maroon Suriname ethnic group. The group recruits fighters from these Maroon groups (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 667; Global Security n.d.).

The Maroon group is composed of descendants of slaves who escaped their harsh living conditions to live in Suriname. They are the most discriminated against group in the country (Gleditsch, Cunningham, and Salehyan 2013; Refworld 1993; Global Security. N.d.). The group does not have any distinct political or armed wings. The group’s size estimation was around 800 men, 200 armed and 600 unarmed, around 1988 and operated in a decentralized manner with cells of about 10-20 men (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 667-668).

External Ties

European mercenaries such as Britain and France worked with the group against the Bouterse government. Suriname diasporas in the Netherlands helped raise funds for the group (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 667-668). The group also received some more weaponry from an American private military contractor called the "Soldier of Fortune" (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 667-668).

Group Outcome

It is unclear why they escalated in 1987. In 1991, a democratic government took power. It partially replaced the National Military Council, which had ruled from 1982 to 1988 and a military coup, from 1990 to 1991 (Global Security n.d.; Gleditsch et al. 2013). In May of 1991, the government of Suriname proposed a peace accord (Global Security N.d.; French 1991; BBC 2012).

The peace agreement went into effect in 1992 (BBC 2012). The agreement promised amnesty in exchange for disarming (Canada IRB 1993). The group's last violent attack was also in 1992 (GTD 2017).

Notes for Iris:

- Suriname very hierarchical.
- Maroon population relatively poorer
- former Dutch colony
- unclear specifically why its 1986
- the leader is a former military officer
- after the peace agreement Brunswijk returns
- the new peace agreement provides reforms for the Maroon people and integrates them into government
- many members of the JC also join the army

II. NATIONAL LIBERATION UNION

Torg ID: 1432

Min. Group Date: 1989

Max. Group Date: 1989

Onset: NA

Aliases: National Liberation Union

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 2315. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017.
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=2315>
- "National Liberation Union." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 4155, MIPT Knowledge Base, 2008, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism,

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_HPiIkPLif0_00ansyHXnQ2_CeG-va3amIfYuVlkdlI/edit?usp=drive_web&oid=111112064775081591565

- "Timeline: Suriname." BBC. 2012.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1218515.stm

*alias for SNLA?

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: This is an alias for the SLA

Group Formation: This is an alias for the SLA

Group End: This is an alias for the SLA

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

This is an alias for the SLA

Geography

This is an alias for the SLA.

Organizational Structure

This is an alias for the SLA.

External Ties

This is an alias for the SLA.

Group Outcome

This is an alias for the SLA.

Notes for Iris from Arushi:

- ended around the same exact time
- early in the group's activity, more reason to be careful and use another alias
- same purpose as the SLA
- still not publicly agreeing it is an alias just in case they needed to bring it back
- this group is otherwise considered a one hit wonder and never heard from again