



Bundeskriminalamt

THE BUNDESKRIMINALAMT
FACTS AND FIGURES



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Updated to: 07/2007

Introductory Remarks

In the past years, the world has witnessed fundamental social and political changes. Wide-ranging political changes in Europe, the establishment of global markets and the manifold use of new technologies in the economy and society, with further developments not yet foreseeable, also widen the possibilities and spheres of activity of perpetrators and criminal organisations.

This results in new forms of crime as well as the emergence of new offender and crime structures.

The law enforcement agencies also have to adapt to these crime-related developments in a continuous process.

The mobility of perpetrators across state and national borders requires a national central agency for the Federal Republic of Germany to fight crime effectively. The Bundeskriminalamt (BKA) is this central agency.



The Bundeskriminalamt receives national and international messages and information that are important for efficient accomplishment of the

BKA's own police work and its service tasks, for example in the field of forensic science, identification of persons and criminal research for the federal states.

To optimise crime suppression not only at national but also at international level, the Bundeskriminalamt is the German law enforcement agency responsible for international police contacts.

The specific tasks and powers of the Bundeskriminalamt are governed by

the Law on the Bundeskriminalamt. Besides its national and international function as a central agency, the Bundeskriminalamt also has to carry out law enforcement tasks in certain cases. Most of the time, these are complex proceedings

which require investigations abroad, e.g. in the fields of organised crime and offences against state security.

Moreover, the Bundeskriminalamt has to perform protective tasks, e.g. it provides for the protection of members of the constitutional bodies at federal level.

For more than 50 years, the Bundeskriminalamt has been able to make an essential contribution to combating crime, i.e. maintaining internal security and preserving peace in a free, democratic Europe.

In this context, it has reacted flexibly to the national and international crime situation through changes in its organisation, personnel, equipment and budget. This development is reflected in the "Facts and Figures".



Staffing and Budgeting

Radical social and political changes in recent years have resulted in new developments in various areas of crime and the emergence of new crime structures.

In the past, the Bundeskriminalamt has always reacted flexibly to the changing crime situation. New forms of crime often entail additional tasks for the Bundeskriminalamt, and such new tasks require more personnel. This is particularly reflected by the staffing and budgeting developments at the BKA.

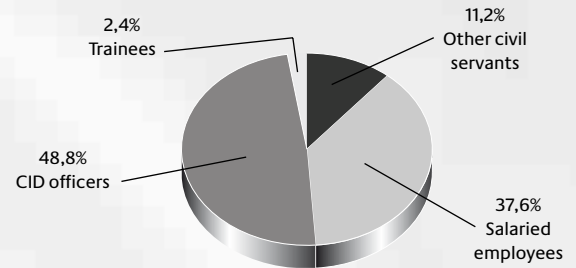
In early 2007, a total of **4,813 persons** worked at the BKA. About half of the staff is comprised of specially trained CID officers. Salaried public employees account for 37.6 per cent of the staff. 11.2 per cent are administrative and "other" civil servants. 36.7 per cent of the staff are women.

The **volume of the budget** of the Bundeskriminalamt has risen continuously in recent years, having now reached approximately **EUR 366 m**.

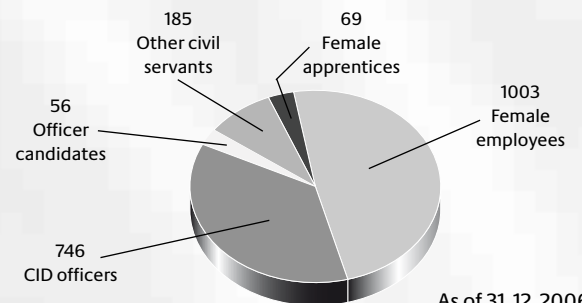
With the allocations for jobs and equipment provided by the Anti-Terror Package I and the Counter-Terrorism Act in the budgetary years 2002 and 2003, the personnel and financial resources of the Bundeskriminalamt have been further improved and, in particular, the instruments aimed at the suppression of international terrorism have been strengthened.

In addition to the area of personnel costs, expenditure for construction projects and IT measures are a cost-intensive focal point.

BKA Staff Structure

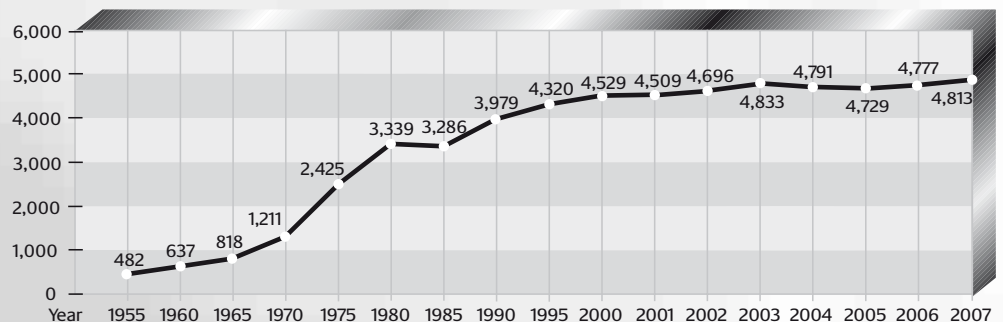


Women at the BKA

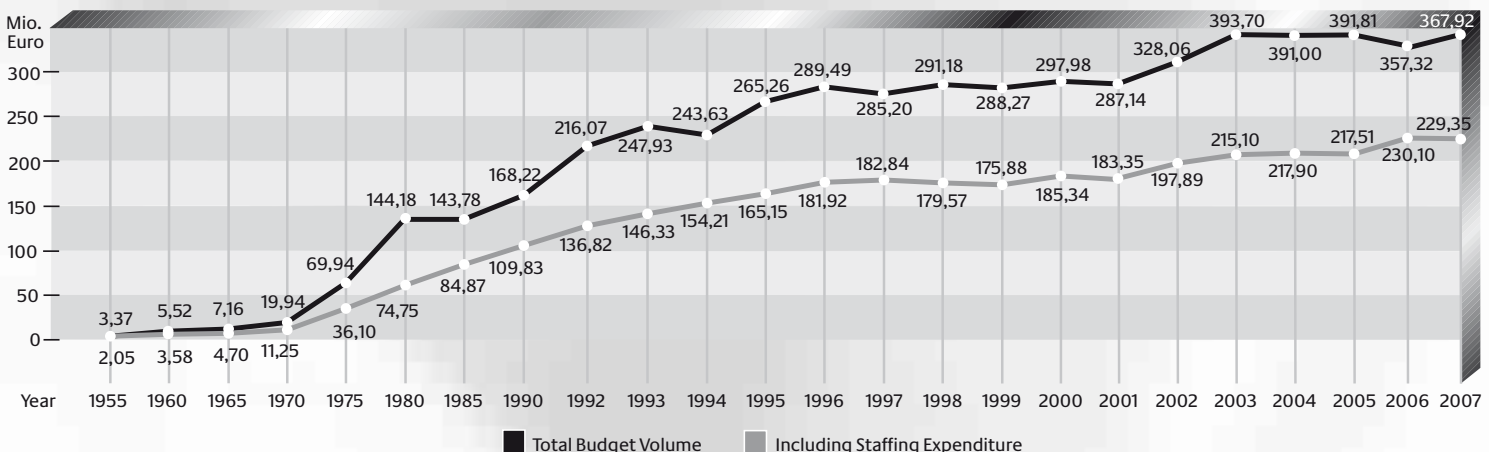


As of 31.12.2006 all employees

BKA Staff Development



Budget Development since Inception of BKA



Basic and Advanced Police Training

The **Bundeskriminalamt** trains its own **CID officers**. Officer candidates receive their training during a three-year course of study at the Federal College of Public Administration as preparation for service. The training is divided up into 21 months of theoretical instruction and 15 months of practical training. On completion of their studies at the above college, the CID officers are assigned to pay grade A 9 of the higher police career level.

Besides this, the BKA also provides training for civil servants at state and federal level to qualify them as **experts in the fields of forensic science and fingerprinting**. Numerous **special police training courses**, advanced training in scientific and technical fields, foreign language courses and task-oriented operational training complete the educational programme.

Furthermore, the BKA provides basic and advanced training for police officers from other countries.

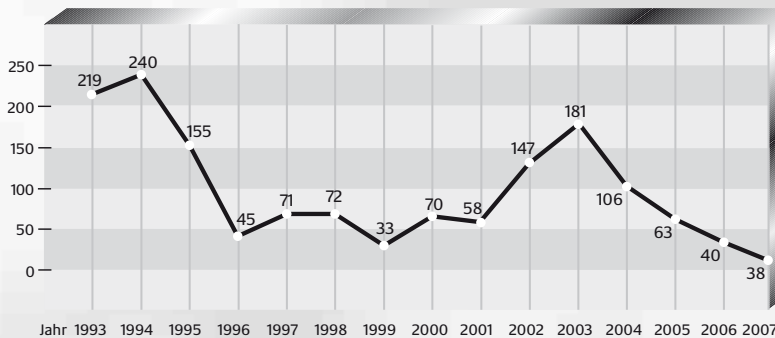
Police Crime Statistics

The **Police Crime Statistics ("Polizeiliche Kriminalstatistik")** for the Federal Republic of Germany are prepared by the BKA. They are published annually in book form during the second half of the year. Most copies are made available to police and judicial authorities, but also – for example – to universities. The Police Crime Statistics Yearbooks since 1997 and the corresponding tables of time-series data ("Zeitreihen") starting in 1987 can be viewed on the BKA homepage (www.bka.de).

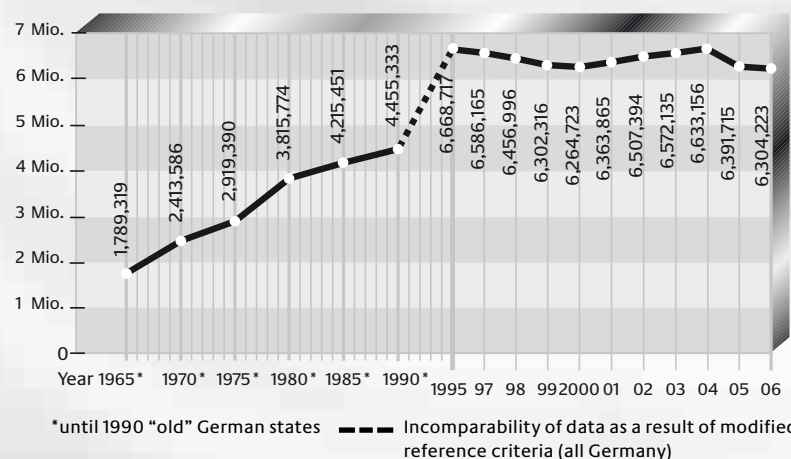
Unlawful (criminal) acts investigated by the police, including attempts subject to punishment, the number of suspects established and a wide range of further data on cases, victims or suspects are included in the Police Crime Statistics. Breaches of regulations, crimes against state security and road traffic offences are not contained in this publication. In the Police Crime Statistics for the Federal Republic of Germany, the data provided by the 16 State Criminal Police Offices are presented in the form of tables and graphics along with commentaries.

In 2006, **6,304,223** cases were recorded in the Federal Republic of Germany. Compared to the previous year, this represents a decrease of **87,492 cases** or 1.4 per cent. Although the number of theft cases has decreased continuously during the last years, theft still dominates the overall crime statistics with a share of about 41 per cent. On average, more than half of all crimes are solved, but the clear-up rate varies substantially between individual areas of crime. The clear-up rate for breaking and stealing from cars is 9.6 per cent, for murder and manslaughter, however, 95.8 per cent.

New staff comprising CID officers of the federal higher police career level, Federal College of Public Administration



Crimes (cases) recorded



International Co-operation

In principle, the BKA is responsible for **official communications** with foreign police forces and judicial authorities in order to perform its tasks as a central agency, i. e. the collection and analysis of information.

The Bundeskriminalamt houses the National Central Bureau of the Federal Republic of Germany for the **International Criminal Police Organisation (ICPO)**. This organisation is known throughout the world as "Interpol". At the present time, **186 countries** are ICPO members. Each country has designated a National Central Bureau as a point of contact through which members can liaise with each other and also with the ICPO General Secretariat in Lyons. It is the objective of ICPO to provide the most comprehensive mutual support possible for all police agencies. The limits to such co-operation are set by national legislation, agreements under international law, the UN human rights charter, and the Interpol Constitution.

The European Police Office (EUROPOL) in The Hague is an important BKA partner for police co-operation. EUROPOL's objective is to improve co-operation between the EU member states with regard to the prevention and suppression of the fields of crime laid down in the EUROPOL Convention. EUROPOL does not have any independent investigative or executive powers. All **EU member states** are represented in EUROPOL. The BKA is the EUROPOL national office for Germany. The information exchange between the individual member states is carried out through the national Liaison Office in The Hague. At domestic level, the BKA ensures the flow of information between EUROPOL on the one hand and state police, customs authorities and the Federal Police on the other hand.

In 2006, the **translating and interpreting service** at the BKA contributed to the international exchange of police information by translating al-

most **50,000 pages of text** (messages exchanged with other police agencies, reports, records of interrogation, etc.) from and into German, English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Polisch, Italian, Portuguese and Dutch. BKA translators and interpreters are also available for less widespread languages and dialects.

For the purpose of intensifying international co-operation, the BKA currently has **63 liaison officers in 49 countries at 52 locations**, who contribute to establishing an international communication network for the suppression of crime. In addition to the work of liaison officers, efforts aimed at controlling organised crime (OC), in particular drug offences in countries of production and transit, make it necessary in many cases to assist local police agencies by providing training and equipment aid, which is also handled by the BKA.



BKA Liaison Officers throughout the world



Analysis and Dissemination of Information

Efficient police co-operation requires central collection and analysis of the information obtained by police offices at state and federal level.

The aim is to identify links between perpetrators and offences and to discover criminal structures and potentials, especially with regard to supraregional **organised crime** and other dangerous forms of crime. On this basis, investigative leads and concepts of crime suppression are developed and provided to the competent law enforcement agencies.

In this context, **electronic data processing** is an indispensable instrument of crime control. Only by this means is it possible to store numerous items of personal and property data and to analyse and compare them with each other.

With the aid of electronic data processing, it can be determined within seconds at the Bundeskriminalamt whether records, fingerprints or other types of material are on file about a particular individual. The **criminal records** form the basis for the collection of information.

They continue to be an indispensable tool for the police. Such records make it possible to trace the career of a criminal offender. They can serve as an important source of information for the police in cases where the offender again comes to notice as a suspect, or in cases involving offences committed by perpetrators yet unidentified where participation by certain known individuals is suspected.

The BKA criminal records include approximately **3,620,000 items of personal data** on persons who have committed serious offences or crimes of supraregional significance. In 2006, approximately **320,000 criminal records** were created. Approximately 200,000 of the criminal records are available in digital form.

An automatic monitoring system ensures that data are deleted by the prescribed deadlines. This makes it possible to keep files up to date while complying fully with the provisions of data protection law.

Identification Service

The Bundeskriminalamt maintains centralised identification facilities and collections. These are used, among other things, for

- identification of persons
- identification of corpses
- determination of possible links between crimes
- conducting identification proceedings and
- preparing expert opinions for police and judicial authorities.

Some possibilities for identifying persons include comparison of fingerprints, photographs, voice or DNA analyses. As an unchangeable and uniquely individual characteristic, the fingerprint is of special interest to the police as a means of identification. The BKA receives a copy of every fingerprint sheet made during identification measures in Germany.



Scanners are used to read the fingerprints

into the **Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)** where they are compared with other fingerprints, for example those left behind at crime scenes by unidentified persons.

By this means, suspects can be identified quickly, innocent persons cleared of suspicion, and links between crimes discovered. At the present time, **fingerprint sheets of more than 3,270,000 persons** are on file at the Bundeskriminalamt.



Based on these files, in 2006 the BKA was able to link fingerprints to specific persons in approximately 45 per cent of the cases handled by the identification service.

On average, about **30,000 fingerprint sheets** are sent to the Bundeskriminalamt each month for comparison. At the same time, the material in the files is cleared on a regular basis in accordance with the provisions of data protection law. After a predetermined period of time, the respective fingerprint sheets are removed from the files. In 2006 this was done with approximately **323,000 fingerprint sheets**.

Since the beginning of 2006, it has been possible to identify persons by fingerprints not only at the telephoto or live scan station but also in the patrol car with the Fast-ID system. Fast-ID is a mobile single-finger scanner, with which two or more fingerprints can be recorded and checked against the entire AFIS data collection. In the case of a hit, the response time between approximately 3 and 5 minutes, in the case of no hit 1 to 3 minutes. Since the end of 2006, Fast-ID has been in operation in Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate, Bavaria, North Rhine-Westphalia and in the Federal Police.

Within the framework of international legal assistance, in 2006 the BKA also received about **5,300 fingerprint sheets** from other countries for analysis.

The identification process necessitates not only the taking of fingerprints but also the production of photographs

and physical descriptions of the persons. Since mid-2003, only digital photographs are now taken nationwide and stored centrally at the Bundeskriminalamt.

The **central photograph collection** of the BKA contains more than approximately **5.3 million photographs** of **3.2 million** different people. The photographs of **1.7 million** people are already stored digitally. The photographs of **1.5 million** people are still in the conventional central photograph collection.

At the end of 2004, we began to set up a central digital database of physical descriptions in INPOL and this work has continued since that time. So far (as per 31.03.2007), approximately **1.4 million** physical descriptions have been stored electronically. By direct access to the INPOL data, all domestic police services have the up-to-date photographs and physical descriptions at their immediate disposal for the performance of their manifold tasks. The BKA exchanges more than **40,000** photographs/ physical descriptions per year with Interpol and SIRENE units for searches and for the solving or prevention of crimes, etc.

Since 1998, there has been a **central DNA analysis database** at the BKA intended to assist in the quick and accurate identification of repeat offenders who have committed serious crimes. If physical evidence from unidentified offenders is recovered, their body cells can be analysed and, with the assistance of the DNA database, links to the crime can be established. Only data collected from ac-

cused and convicted persons and crime scene prints are stored in the database in accordance with strict legal provisions. Only the noncoding part of the DNA required for identification is analysed. Subsequently, the samples taken from persons are destroyed. At the end of 2006, almost **542,000 data records** were included in the DNA analysis database, 19 per cent of which were crime scene prints of offenders yet unidentified. At the end of 2006, the clear-up rate was 27,8 per cent, i. e. at least every 4th stored DNA sample helped to identify perpetrators.

When **“identification proceedings”** are conducted, identification aids such as fingerprinting and photography are used to ascertain the **“legitimate”** personal particulars of a person. This is important because, for example, the previous convictions of offenders are on file at the Federal Registry of Judicial Antecedents under their respective personal details. There are also ever more frequent cases in which criminals use the particulars of other persons, thus casting suspicion on innocent and law-abiding citizens.

In 2006, the Bundeskriminalamt established the personal particulars of approximately 1,000 foreign nationals who had been fingerprinted and photographed in Germany. This was done in co-operation with foreign police authorities on the basis of birth certificates and the statements of identifying witnesses. In this connection, it was found that 20 per cent of the personal particulars given were false.



Electronic Search and Information Systems

The **electronic police information system** at the BKA (known as INPOL) is indispensable for searches and investigative work. After entry into the system, data about persons wanted by the German police or judicial authorities are available within seconds to all agencies connected to the system. In addition to the BKA, state police offices, the Federal Police and the customs authorities have access to the system.

The databases on persons and property play a central role.

The wanted notices are automatically checked to ensure that data are deleted at the required time in compliance with the provisions of data protection law.

The INPOL wanted persons database currently contains about

177,000 circulations issued for the purpose of locating persons
580,000 arrest requests, including
393,000 expulsion orders / deportations of foreigners as well as

The INPOL property database includes approximately **10.5m** items that are the subject of searches because of possible links to crimes.

This total number includes, among others, the following items:

169,000 passenger cars
35,000 lorries, including trailers
107,000 mopeds, motorised bicycles and motorcycles
810,000 bicycles
4,643,000 identity documents, driving licences, etc.
228,000 firearms

An additional computer-assisted information system designed to store and retrieve data on persons and property is the **Schengen Information System (SIS)**, which can be used for searches in the countries that are parties to the Convention Applying the **Schengen Agreement (CAS)**. Establishment of the SIS is a significant compensatory measure following elimination of border controls at the international borders of the CAS countries. SIRENE (Supplementary Information REquest at the National Entry) at the BKA is the national central office for information exchange relating to SIS searches.

The search data can be accessed within seconds from almost all of the 200,000 terminals of the police, border police and customs authorities.

At the present time, Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Greece, Sweden, Finland, Denmark and the associated countries of Norway and Iceland participate in the SIS.

Searches for persons or property are entered into the system by the respective SIS country and disseminated to all national offices via a central office in Strasbourg.

The system provides information on

- persons wanted in Schengen countries with a view to extradition
- persons who are circulated with a view to refusing entry into, or deportation from, Schengen countries
- persons who are circulated with a view to location, taking them into custody, or placing a lookout for them
- missing property in the following search categories: vehicles over 50 cc, caravans and trailers over 750 kg, vehicle registration numbers, issued documents, blank documents, firearms, banknotes.

In early 2007, approximately **17,616,000** wanted notices were included in the SIS: Of these, approximately **16,409,000** involved property searches and **1,207,000** involved searches for persons. Almost one fifth of all wanted notices are submitted by Germany.

History of the Bundeskriminalamt

01 January 1946	Establishment of a "Criminal Police Office for the British Zone" (Kriminalpolizeiamt für die Britische Zone) in Hamburg.
23 May 1949	Proclamation of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany. The fundamentals for the establishment of the Bundeskriminalamt are codified in Articles 73 no. 10 and 87 section 1.
15 March 1951	The "Law on the Establishment of a Federal Criminal Police Office" (BKA Law) comes into force.
April/May 1951	The Federal Government designates Wiesbaden as the BKA headquarters. Creation of the "Protection Division" in Bonn.
31 October 1951	The BKA takes over the "Criminal Police Office for the British Zone" in Hamburg. As the so-called "Hamburg Branch", it forms the basis of the BKA.
May 1952	The "Forensic Science Institute" is the first division to move from Hamburg to Wiesbaden.
09 June 1952	The Federal Republic of Germany joins the International Criminal Police Organisation (ICPO-Interpol). The BKA becomes Germany's National Central Bureau.
01 January 1953	Introduction of uniform Police Crime Statistics based on a decision of the CID Working Group.
22 July 1971	Reformation of the career structure in police service at federal level: Only higher and senior career levels are maintained (bipartite career structure).
10 January 1972	Foundation of the "Data Processing" Division.
13 November 1972	The INPOL search system goes into operation.
28 June 1973	Amendment to the BKA Law expanding jurisdiction significantly.
07 May 1975	Establishment of an "Antiterrorist" division in Bonn-Bad Godesberg.
01 October 1979	Commencement of teaching at the "Federal College of Public Administration".

The BKA Presidents

1951	Dr. Max Hagemann	1981	Dr. Heinrich Boge
1952	Dr. Hanns Jess	1990	Prof. Hans-Ludwig Zachert
1955	Reinhard Dullien	1996	Dr. Klaus Ulrich Kersten
1965	Paul Dickopf	2004	Jörg Ziercke
1971	Dr. Horst Herold		

October 1981	The Bonn Branch moves into the new BKA building in Meckenheim-Merl with the following divisions: the "Protection Division" (SG), "State Security" (ST) and "Technical Services" (TD).
April 1983	The first liaison officer is posted at the German diplomatic representation in Bangkok (Thailand).
01 January 1986	Establishment of the BKA's own anti-drug division.
July 1988	A second BKA location in Wiesbaden-Biebrich is established.
December 1991	Creation of a Berlin branch for the "Protection Division."
09 December 1993	The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is operational throughout Germany.
September 1994	Parts of the BKA move to a former U.S. Military Camp named "Camp Lindsey" as a third location in Wiesbaden.
26 March 1995	The SIS (Schengen Information System) takes effect with the Convention Applying the Schengen Agreement. To handle searches for criminals, a SIRENE bureau (Supplementary Information REquest at the National Entry) is established at the BKA.
01 August 1997	The new BKA Law enters into force.
17 April 1998	Installation of a DNA Analysis Database.
September 1999	The greater part of the "Protection Division" moves to Berlin-Treptow.
08 March 2001	The BKA celebrates its 50th anniversary.
16 August 2003	Start-up of the police information and search system INPOL (new).
30 August 2004	Construction begins on a new building for the "Forensic Science Institute" in Wiesbaden.
14 December 2004	Setting up the "Joint Anti-Terrorism Centre" in Berlin.
01 January 2005	Setting up the "International Coordination" Division.
30 March 2007	The anti-terror database goes into operation.

www.bka.de



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