

Terrorist Incidents and Attacks Against Jews and Israelis in the United States 1969-2016

Yehudit Barsky

Foreword by Mitchell D. Silber



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SECURITY
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About the Community Security Service (CSS)

Founded in 2007, the nonprofit Community Security Service (CSS) proactively protects the people, institutions, and events of the American Jewish community. Partnering with Jewish organizations, governmental authorities, and the police, CSS safeguards the community by training volunteers in professional security techniques, providing physical security, and raising public awareness about safety issues.

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Dedicated to the memory of the
victims whose lives were lost in attacks
and terrorism against Jews and Israelis
in the United States.



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Executive Summary

This research is an attempt to catalogue violent attacks and terrorist incidents against Jews and Israelis in the United States from 1969 to 2016.¹ It is important to note that this report focuses only on the most serious incidents, and that they occurred within the context of many thousands of other anti-Semitic acts. Indeed, of the 1,354 anti-religious hate crimes² recorded by the FBI in 2015 alone, 51.3%³ - 695 incidents⁴ - targeted Jews. The FBI hate crimes statistics report demonstrated that Jews are the most targeted religious group in the U.S. This is a consistent finding of the FBI report over many years.

This catalogue is intended to raise awareness within the American Jewish community of the real challenges that face and continue to confront our community's security and well-being.

This report catalogues 104 incidents whose analysis revealed:

- **The primacy of ideology:** Of the incidents where motivation can be ascertained, white supremacist and radical Islamist ideologies were a central influencing factor. Periods of increased levels of attack are also associated with the growth of extremist movements and terrorist organizations connected to white supremacy and radical Islamist terrorism.
- **Synagogues are most targeted:** The overwhelming majority of attacks (51%) were carried out against Jewish houses of worship, followed by Jewish communal institutions (14%), Jewish persons (13%), and educational institutions (10%).
- **The modality of incidents varies:** Arson, shootings, and explosive devices were used in about equal number.
- **Increase in severity, slight decrease in frequency:** Although the total number of attacks has declined slightly, recent incidents have been increasingly lethal and have, or would have, claimed many more victims.

The FBI hate crimes statistics report demonstrated that **Jews are the most targeted religious group** in the U.S.

¹ The chronology of incidents is based on open source research, including earlier reports by the International Institute for Counterterrorism, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. National Counter Terrorism Center, RAND Corporation, the Southern Poverty Law Center, American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League, Community Security Trust, and Secure Community Network.

² *Hate Crimes Statistics 2015*, US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, November 2016, https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2015/topic-pages/incidentsandoffenses_final

³ Ibid.

⁴ Table 4 - Offense Type by Bias Motivation, Hate Crimes Statistics 2015, US Department of Justice, FBI, 2016, <https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2015/tables-and-data-declarations/4tabledatadecpdf>

It is vital that the American Jewish community, together with our law enforcement partners, **learn the lessons of the past, understand the nature of the challenges arrayed against it, and take the proper precautions to ensure that violent acts against Jews and Jewish institutions can be prevented in the future.**

Executive Summary

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As a result, several lessons and recommendations are apparent:

- **Jewish targets often serve as precursors to larger attacks:** Perpetrators of well-known larger attacks, such as the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, were first involved in anti-Jewish incidents.
- **Awareness is critical:** In many of these incidents, perpetrators conducted pre-operational surveillance. Training and engagement of community members to detect suspicious activity is thus essential.
- **A need to invest in community security infrastructure:** The Jewish community can ill afford passivity and apathy against security threats. The community should broaden its understanding of what effective security entails, and invest in initiatives that provide tangible results. Foremost amongst these strategies is ensuring community members have the training and capacity to assist in securing their own communities, and partnering more closely with law enforcement agencies.

Unfortunately, much as we do not care to admit it to ourselves, the threats are real; there have been too many incidents to deny that. Now in the second decade of the twenty-first century, we find ourselves in an era where those who promote anti-Jewish rhetoric and instigation have the technical tools to reach a broader audience in less time than ever before. In fact, as recently as March 2016, the Islamic State in Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS) publicly encouraged its followers to attack Jews and their allies, “wherever they find them.”

It is vital that the American Jewish community, together with our law enforcement partners, learn the lessons of the past, understand the nature of the challenges arrayed against it, and take the proper precautions to ensure that violent acts against Jews and Jewish institutions can be prevented in the future. In doing so, we will work towards fulfilling the vision of CSS—*Making Jewish communities safer and stronger.*

Foreword by Mitchell D. Silber

Violence against the Jewish people as a minority community has a long and terrible history, especially from the European experience. Threats and violence came from fellow countrymen as well as from the state. In fact, it is this very phenomenon that served as the motivating factor for Jews to immigrate to the United States, which was viewed as a haven where Jews would be protected from these types of threats.

For the vast majority of the Jewish experience in the United States, this hope has proven true. American law enforcement has served a vital role in protecting the American Jewish community, as it has for so many other minority communities as well.

However, in spite of this overwhelmingly positive experience, there have been groups and individuals, some linked to groups overseas and some homegrown, who view Jews and Israelis in the United States as legitimate targets of violence based on very disparate types of ideologies.

The groups include white extremists, Neo-Nazis, Palestinian terrorist groups, Al-Qaida and its varied offshoots and progeny, Iranian supported agents, as well as lone actors who are inspired by these groups and their various hateful ideologies.

Despite law enforcement successes, numerous violent attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions continue and the variety of groups advocating for more violence against the American Jewish community only grows.

Yehudit Barsky and the Community Security Service (CSS) have done the entire American Jewish community a significant service producing this report. Barsky, the former Director of the Division on Middle East and International Terrorism at the American Jewish Committee, is a highly regarded expert in the subjects of radicalization, anti-Semitism, and terrorism. Additionally, CSS is a pioneer in community security approaches and has transformed security practices at Jewish institutions. By documenting the entirety of the most violent attacks and terrorist incidents against Jews and Israelis in the United States between 1969 and 2016, in a way not done before, this report provides the reader with an invaluable tool for conceptualizing the nature and breadth of the threats to the Jewish community.

Despite law enforcement successes, **numerous violent attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions continue** and the variety of groups advocating for more violence against the American Jewish community only grows.

I strongly urge both members of the Jewish community and law enforcement to read this report, absorb its findings, and **utilize it as a guidebook to help protect the Jewish community** from current and future potential threats.

Foreword by Mitchell D. Silber

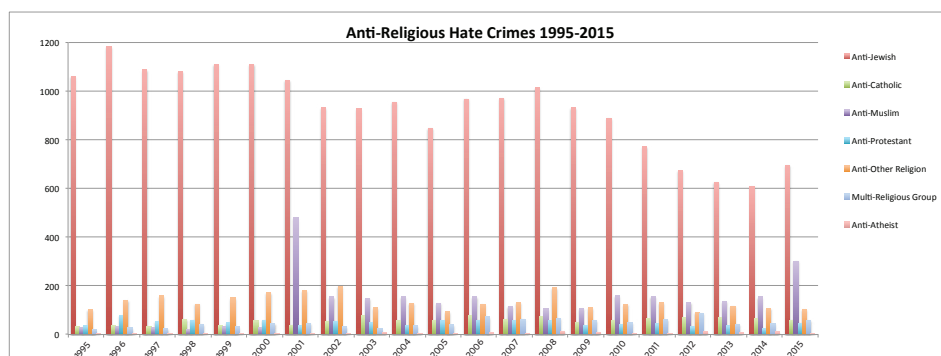
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Their report is comprehensive, detailed, and informative. The sheer number of attacks and attempted attacks over this time period is daunting and should give pause to both the American Jewish community, as well as American law enforcement, especially in the post-9/11 world where volatility and violence in the Middle East continues to have an impact in the United States, enabled by social media and other communication channels.

As the former Director of Intelligence Analysis at the New York City Police Department (2005-2012), where monitoring and preventing terrorist threats against all of the citizens of New York was our primary responsibility, I strongly urge both members of the Jewish community and law enforcement to read this report, absorb its findings, and utilize it as a guidebook to help protect the Jewish community from current and future potential threats.

Historical Background

This analysis and chronology is an attempt to catalogue the most serious anti-Semitic attacks and terrorist incidents against Jews and Israelis in the United States from 1969 to 2016. These incidents consist of arson, shooting attacks, and bombing attacks, and should be viewed in the context of the thousands of anti-Semitic hate crimes that have occurred in the U.S. and have been reported by both the FBI in its yearly national hate crimes reports, and by Jewish communal organizations. The statistics demonstrate, on a consistent basis, that Jews have been the target of the largest number of hate crimes directed against a religious group. Over the past 20 years, FBI hate crimes statistics consistently demonstrate that Jews are targeted more than any other religious group in the U.S.



(Chart based on FBI Hate Crimes statistics.)^{5 6}

This study is intended to raise awareness in the American Jewish community of the real challenges that face and continue to confront our community's security and well-being.

The Jewish community does not exist in a vacuum, and is subject to the social, political, and economic forces that affect all Americans. In many cases, these forces can affect the Jewish community more intensely. The chronology begins in 1969, a significant year in American history. The 1960s was a period of civil rights achievements, societal upheaval, and urban flight. The rapid changes brought about by civil rights legislation was perceived as a threat by those more comfortable with the status quo. Against this background, a wave of violent anti-Semitic attacks against Jewish institutions ensued.

This early period was followed by subsequent phases of unsettled political eras, each bringing forth another category of hate and/or terrorist groups that targeted the Jewish community. One type of such group in the

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⁵ FBI Hate Crimes Statistics reports, 1995-2014, <https://ucr.fbi.gov/ucr-publications>

⁶ FBI Hate Crimes Statistics 2015, https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2015/topic-pages/incidentsandoffenses_final

These groups have been able to **take advantage of periods of political and economic turmoil** in the U.S. in order to recruit followers to their cause.

Historical Background

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American context are white supremacist organizations, which include neo-Nazi groups, neo-Nazi skinheads, and gangs. These groups have been able to take advantage of periods of political and economic turmoil in the U.S. in order to recruit followers to their cause.

Another category, emanating from the Middle East but appealing to U.S. supporters of the Palestinian cause, include the Palestinian terrorist organizations of the 1970s, and Palestinian radical Islamist terrorist movements such as Hamas from the 1990s through the 2000s. More recently, radical Islamist terrorist groups such as Al-Qaida and ISIS have appealed to worldwide supporters of the Palestinian cause, and the global *jiḥād* movement, to recruit their followers.

Each of these categories of groups have agitated anti-Jewish activity and used their respective ideologies to promote violent anti-Jewish acts. To this day, methodologies for spreading messages of hate flourish in the Internet age. Extremist groups continue to find ways to espouse their ideologies in order to promote anti-Jewish rhetoric.

The extremist groups described in this report use various ideologies that feature hatred of Jews to recruit supporters. In turn, the anti-Jewish attitudes of their followers are validated through their contact with or involvement in the larger group. In a significant number of cases detailed in the chronology, followers of these groups are incited further to carry out acts of violence against Jews, Israelis, and Jewish communal institutions.

To be sure, the individual perpetrators of some of the incidents described in the chronology have not been identified, so that not all of the contexts that motivated these acts have been ascertained. In the majority of cases however, one finds direct connections between the perpetrators and a broader ideology or inspiration. As a result, the nature and history of such ideologies must be first understood.

An Unceasing Hatred: The Role of Ideology

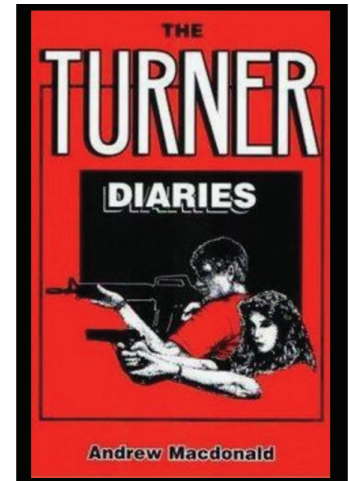
White Supremacists - The "Jewish Problem"

In reaction to the changes in society brought about by the civil rights era, white supremacist organizations experienced a period of reorganization and resurgence by the late 1970s, through the 1980s. They also began to focus their hatred more intently on Jews. Two of the most prominent white supremacist leaders, Willis Carto (1926-2015), the Holocaust denier who founded the Institute for Historical Review, and William Pierce, (1933-2002) of the neo-Nazi National Alliance, arrived at the concept that Jews are not one of the enemies of white people, but the main enemy of white people. David Duke, a younger white supremacist who is now 66, started his career as a neo-Nazi, having first adopted the stance that "there is a Jewish problem in the world today." Due to Carto's and Pierce's influence on him, when Duke later founded the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, he reassessed the "Jewish problem" to be "the most important issue of our time."⁷

In the 1980s and 1990s, the white supremacists' focus on Jews led to an upsurge in their publication of anti-Semitic conspiracy literature. It also contributed to the increased introduction of Holocaust denial materials, ranging from tracts, pamphlets, and newspaper articles, to the promotion of pseudo-academic articles claiming to disprove the Holocaust.

A key milestone in articulating white supremacist ideology was the publication of *The Turner Diaries* by William Pierce. The book became an inspiration and a blueprint for an underground radical vanguard that organized attacks against Jews. Its plotlines also became the inspiration for a white supremacist war against the U.S. government, African-Americans, and other non-white people.

Set in the 1990s, near the close of the millennium, and written in the style of a fictional diary, the *Diaries* described a nightmarish future United States. It is a multiracial society governed by the System and protected by "equality police." The police oppress white people by assaulting their women and keeping white men powerless. On the horizon is their salvation: small groups of "Aryan resistance" fighters who are scattered throughout the area. The leader of the resistance is Earl Turner, previously an electrical engineer. He and several thousand members of his organization evade being captured as violators of a "Cohen Act" gun control law.



The Turner Diaries by
Andrew Macdonald,
a.k.a. William Pierce

The book became **an inspiration and a blueprint for an underground radical vanguard** that organized attacks against Jews.

⁷ Leonard Zeskind, *Blood and Politics: The History of the White Nationalist Movement from the Margins to the Mainstream*, (New York: Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2009), p. 40.

White supremacist groups continue to **magnify Jews as responsible for what they perceive to be the significant ills the white race has suffered.** The various white supremacist ideologies see whites as victims and accuse Jews of a conspiracy to control the world.

Pierce's *Diaries* then continues: Turner and his followers mount a guerrilla war against the government. His four-person unit kills Jews and African-Americans. They decimate an FBI office using an improvised explosive device. Eventually, his organization gains enough strength to take over Southern California. African-Americans and Latinos are driven out to the desert, and all the Jews are killed. Israel and China are destroyed in a nuclear war, the Soviet Union is similarly dealt with, and the organization establishes a dictatorship in North America. Following their victory, a similar victory is won in Europe, and all non-whites on the planet are obliterated.⁷

The *Turner Diaries* have directly inspired several violent attacks by white supremacist groups. The neo-Nazi terrorist group, The Order, took its inspiration from the *Diaries* to stalk and kill Denver Jewish radio talk show host Alan Berg (see June 18, 1984), and an attempt to blow up a synagogue in Boise, Idaho (see April 29, 1984).

More recently *The Turner Diaries* became a source of inspiration for a plot to bomb the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. In 2001, Leo Felton and his girlfriend Erica Chase sought to organize a white supremacist cell called "Aryan Unit One," mimicking Turner's "Unit" in the book. They assembled a bomb and were planning to detonate it at the U.S. Holocaust Museum, but were caught before they were able to deploy it. Aspiring to the outcome of the *Diaries*, they believed that carrying out their attack would ultimately lead to the formation of an "all-white Aryan nation" (see April 19, 2001).

White supremacist groups continue to magnify Jews as responsible for what they perceive to be the significant ills the white race has suffered. The various white supremacist ideologies see whites as victims and accuse Jews of a conspiracy to control the world. For those who follow Christian Identity ideology, such as the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations, the teachings of mainstream Christianity are rejected. They instead teach that Anglo Saxons, Nordic people, and Germans are the true heirs of the ancient Israelites. Jews are considered to be "mud people," created before Adam, and therefore not human. From the same perspective, Jews are alternatively considered to be the literal descendants of Satan (the snake) and Eve. Others wholly reject anything resembling Christianity as a foreign religion imposed upon whites by Jews, and seek white supremacist versions of Nordic-themed belief systems.

⁸ Ibid., p. 29-30.

Islamist Movements and Terrorist Organizations

The anti-Semitic motivation of radical Islamist movements and terrorist organizations is based upon radical Islamist interpretations of the Qur'an and Islamic theological sources. While these sources and interpretations date from the early confrontations that the prophet Muhammad had with Arabian Jewish tribes in the seventh century, later sources come from medieval Muslim theologians who engaged in anti-Jewish polemics in disputations with Jewish philosophers.⁹

The significant role played by radical Islamist clerics in the leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood movement, Hamas, Al-Qaida, ISIS, and other organizations, demonstrates the continuing ideological importance of their clerics' radical interpretations for such groups.

Radical Islamists view Judaism through the lens of their interpretation of early Islam. They insist, based on their interpretation of the Qur'an,¹⁰ that over time Jews tampered with and corrupted the text of the Torah. This charge is known as *tahrif*, and is used to delegitimize Judaism as an authentic monotheistic religion. Radical Islamist clerics use this and other arguments to designate Judaism and Jews as polytheists who must be destroyed.

The Islamist radical Muslim Brotherhood movement, in addition to other radical Islamist terrorist organizations such as Hamas, Al-Qaida, and ISIS, also glorify the *ghazwat*, or battles, that the Prophet Muhammad and his followers fought against non-Muslim tribes in seventh century Arabia. There is a particular interest in the wars that Muhammad fought with three Jewish tribes in Arabia during that time. Among them were two Jewish tribes in Medina, the Banu Nadir and the Banu Qunayqa, which were exiled in 628. The men of the third Jewish tribe, the Banu Qurayza, were executed, their women and children enslaved, and their property distributed amongst Muhammad's followers.

At the Battle of Khaybar, the Jews of the ancient oasis town near Medina were also defeated in 628. They were permitted to stay there afterwards on the condition that they give 50 percent of their crops to Muhammad's followers. For radical Islamists, Khaybar is the culmination of Muhammad's wars with the Jewish tribes. It is an exemplar guiding them towards their own anticipated total and eschatological victory of their violent jihad over Jews. Mixing the seventh century past with the present, Khaybar has become a modern slogan and battle cry for radical Islamists: *Khaybar, Khaybar, ya yahud, jaysh Muhammad sawfa ya'ud!* – "Khaybar, Khaybar, O Jews, the army of Muhammad will return!"



2011 edition (Beirut, Lebanon) of the medieval Islamic anti-Jewish polemic *Letter in Refutation of Ibn Naghrila the Jew* by Ibn Hazm Al-Andalusi (994-1064). Ibn Naghrila was Shmuel HaNagid, the Spanish Jewish scholar and vizier of the kingdom of Granada.

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⁹ A notable example of such a disputation was Rad a'la Ibn Naghrila Al-Yahudi – "Refutation of Ibn Naghrila the Jew." The disputation took place between the Muslim theologian Abu Muhammad Ali Ibn Ahmad Ibn Hazm – known as Ibn Hazm – and the noted Spanish Jewish scholar and later vizier of the kingdom of Granada, Ismail Ibn Naghrila, better known as Shmuel HaNagid.

¹⁰ Qur'an, Surahs 2:75-79, 4:46, 5:13, and 5:41.

As the result of radical Islamists' embrace of Western anti-Semitism, **Western-themed anti-Semitic conspiracy theories have been introduced into the rhetoric of radical Islamist organizations and terrorist movements.**

A similar example of this theme comes from a *Hadith* favored by radical Islamists. A *Hadith* is an Islamic source that reports the actions of Muhammad and his followers. The *Hadith* of the Jew and the tree foretells an end of days scenario when Muslims achieve a final victory over Jews on the Day of Resurrection, which it describes as a realization of a divine promise. It is a *Hadith* that is promoted by radical Islamist clerics and radical Islamist terror organizations. Hamas, the Palestinian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood, quotes it in its 1987 Covenant.¹¹ Al-Qaida's Usama Bin Laden quoted it in an October 2001 interview with CNN.¹² Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi of ISIS similarly made prominent mention of it in his address to followers encouraging them to carry out attacks against Western civilians during Ramadan of 2016.¹³

Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger [Muhammad] (may peace be upon him) as saying: The last hour would not come unless the Muslims will fight against the Jews and the Muslims would kill them until the Jews would hide themselves behind a stone or a tree and a stone or a tree would say: Muslim, or the servant of Allah, there is a Jew behind me; come and kill him; but the tree Gharqad would not say, for it is the tree of the Jews.¹⁴

The promotion of anti-Semitism in the Muslim world became an even more noxious mixture of radical Islamist theology and European-themed anti-Semitism in the years leading up to and following World War II. Shortly after Hitler came to power, an Iraqi journalist who was attracted to Hitler's ideology translated *Mein Kampf* into Arabic and serialized it in Iraqi newspapers.¹⁵ In the 1930s, the Muslim Brotherhood founder and leader Hassan Al-Banna supported Haj Amin Al-Husseini, the mufti of Jerusalem, who worked for the Nazis to recruit Arab support throughout the Middle East for Nazi Germany.¹⁶ During the same period, the Nazi foreign ministry distributed official Arabic translations of *Mein Kampf* and the anti-Semitic tract, *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*, throughout the Muslim world.¹⁷

¹¹ *The Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement – Hamas, 1988*, translation by Middle East Media and Research Institute, 2006, <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1609.htm>

¹² "Transcript of Bin Laden's October interview," CNN, February 5, 2002, <http://edition.cnn.com/2002/WORLD/asiapcf/south/02/05/binladen.transcript/>

¹³ "That they may live by proof," An address by the official spokesman of the Islamic State, the Mujahid Shaykh Abu Muhammad Al-Adnani Ash-Shami, Al-Hayat Media Center, Sha'ban 1437 (May 2016), Pieter Van Ostaeen research files, <https://pietervanostaeyen.files.wordpress.com/2016/05/al-hayat-that-they-live-by-proof.pdf>

¹⁴ Sahih Al- Muslim, Kitab al-fitan wa ashrat al-sa'ah, 41:6985. Sahih Muslim, Book 41, Number 6985, Pertaining to the Turmoil and Portents of The Last Hour, translated by Abdul Hamid Siddiqui, http://www.documentacatholicaomnia.eu/03d/0834-0893,_Sahih_Muslim,_Hadith,_EN.pdf

¹⁵ "Mein Kampf and the Nazi role in anti-semitism," Le Monde, translation in Worldcrunch, February 11, 2016, <http://www.worldcrunch.com/culture-society/mein-kampf-and-the-nazi-role-in-arab-anti-semitism/c3s20442/>

¹⁶ Brynjar Lia, *The Society of the Muslim Brothers: The rise of an Islamic mass movement, 1928-1942*, (Reading, UK: Ithaca Press, 1998), p. 178-179.

¹⁷ Jeffrey Herf, *Nazi Propaganda for the Arab World*, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009), p.24-25.

During the cold war years of the 1970s, the Soviet Union's KGB engaged in a disinformation campaign in Islamic countries to convince Muslims that the U.S. was "a Zionist country whose aim was to transform the Islamic world into a Jewish fiefdom." The goal of the campaign was to incite terrorism against Israel and the U.S. A major component of the campaign was the distribution of several hundred thousand copies of an Arabic translation of *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion* in Muslim countries.¹⁸

As the result of radical Islamists' embrace of Western anti-Semitism, Western-themed anti-Semitic conspiracy theories have been introduced into the rhetoric of radical Islamist organizations and terrorist movements. An example from the Hamas Covenant describes "Zionists," i.e. Jews, in conspiratorial terms:

The enemies have realized [the significance of] her [the woman's] role, and they believe that if they can educate her according to their wishes, guiding her away from Islam, they will have won the war. You find, therefore, that they continually make great efforts [to do this] by means of the media, the cinema and school curricula, through their agents who are incorporated in Zionist organizations that assume various names and forms such as the Freemasons, Rotary Clubs, espionage groups, etc. - all of which are dens of sabotage and saboteurs.¹⁹

In 2000, Al-Qaida mentor Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman issued an Islamic legal edict, or *fatwa*, from jail in the U.S. From the standpoint of radical Islamists, such an edict cannot be rescinded, except by the cleric who issued it. Abd Al-Rahman's *fatwa* called for all of his Muslim followers to fight Jews and "kill them wherever they are,"²⁰ essentially continuing his part in Al-Qaida's mission until today.

More recently, the Islamic State in Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS) published an article in its March 2016 *Al-Naba* weekly, describing its position concerning fighting *jihad* in Palestine. ISIS told its followers that they must help Palestinian Muslims to fight against the Jews. At the same time, they are also obligated to help the Palestinians from wherever they may be situated, including attacking and killing Jews throughout the world:

It is the duty of Muslims worldwide to aid [the Palestinian Muslims in their fight] by sending them whatever men and money they can send. In addition, [they must] help [the Palestinians] and target their enemies by attacking the Jews and their allies wherever they find them, [by] killing them, destroying their property, and harming their interests in any way they can.²¹



Symbol of the Islamic Resistance Movement of Palestine - Hamas. Crossed swords signify Hamas' intent to wage violent jihad to destroy Israel and replace it with a radical Palestinian Islamist state.

ISIS told its followers that they **must help Palestinian Muslims to fight against the Jews.**

¹⁸ "Former Soviet spy sees the long arm of the KGB in today's Muslim anti-semitism," Tablet, August 7 2013, <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-news-and-politics/140328/timmerman-disinformation>

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ "A lawyer's co-defendant aided in call to kill Jews," New York Times, June 24, 2004.

²¹ "Bayt al-maqdis: Qidayat al-sharia awalan," Al-Naba, Issue 22 (ISIS), "Jerusalem - Primarily an issue of shar'ia law," Middle East Media Research Institute, March 22, 2016, http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/9089.htm#_ednref8



Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi,
leader of ISIS

ISIS issued a video entitled “The Slaughter of the Jews,” declaring: **“Stab the Jew with a knife or run over him with a car, poison him, bring back explosives, the [use of] explosive belts and IEDs, burn their faces and their houses.”**

In October 2015, ISIS initiated a call directed at its followers among Palestinians, and in Islamic countries and communities worldwide to kill Jews throughout the world. The campaign was in parallel with a wave of terrorist incidents occurring in Israel at that time. ISIS’ Al-Masra Foundation issued a video entitled “The Slaughter of the Jews.” The voiceover declared:

Stab the Jew with a knife or run over him with a car, poison him, bring back explosives, the [use of] explosive belts and IEDs, burn their faces and their houses.²²

The video accused Jews of having “distorted the books of Allah [i.e., the Torah] and fought against the [Muslim] believers,” and included a statement by ISIS leader Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi, who called for a violent campaign against Jews.²³

For radical Islamist terrorist organizations and their followers, the clock has been turned back to the seventh century. Its clerics have declared an eternal war against Jews that must only finish in a final physical and eschatological victory that signifies the destruction of Jews.

Pseudo-Islam: Gateway to Radical Islamism

Several of the incidents described in this study note the affiliation or religious/ideological tendency of some of the perpetrators to the Nation of Islam (NOI). The NOI, today led by Louis Farrakhan, is a pseudo-Islamic, African-American nationalist, anti-white and anti-Semitic movement. Preaching Black Nationalism and self-reliance during the Civil Rights era, it attracted African-Americans to its ranks who sought a Muslim African-American identity, perceiving it to be a recovered expression of their ancestors’ religion prior to their enslavement in the U.S.

From its inception, the NOI was considered to be beyond the mainstream of orthodox Islam due to the promotion of its late founder, Wallace Fard Muhammad, as the “Messiah, the second coming of Jesus, the Christ, Jehovah, God, and the Son of Man [a Biblical reference to the prophet Ezekiel].” Wallace Fard Muhammad is also referred to as “the Mahdi,”²⁴ the Muslim redeemer who will rule the world before the Day of Resurrection, i.e., the Day of Judgment. In a similar vein, Farrakhan himself has asserted that he has had an Ezekiel-like vision.²⁵ Orthodox Muslims reject these tenets of the NOI belief system as blasphemous. From orthodox Muslims’ perspective, the

²² “ISIS campaign inspiring murder of Jews inspired by Palestinian wave of terrorism,” Meir Amit Terrorism and Intelligence Information Center, October 21, 2015, http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/Data/articles/Art_20891/E_185_15_511090063.pdf

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Minister and wife of Elijah Muhammad, Mother Tynetta Muhammad, “Nation of Islam in America: A Nation of Beauty and Peace,” March 28, 1996, NOI History, Nation of Islam website, <https://www.noi.org/noi-history/>

²⁵ “Revisiting Minister Farrakhan’s vision-like experience on September 17, 1985 – the Magnificent Wheel within a Wheel, the Mother’s Wheel,” The Final Call (Nation of Islam weekly), September 23, 2013, http://www.finalcall.com/artman/publish/Columns_4/article_100797.shtml

prophet Muhammad was the last prophet and therefore neither Wallace Fard Muhammad, nor Louis Farrakhan can claim to be a prophet or a Messiah-like figure. Radical Islamists have also called upon Farrakhan and his followers to abandon their heterodox beliefs. Both mainstream Muslims and radical Islamists insist that followers of the NOI must renounce the NOI's teachings and convert and conform to their respective interpretations of religious teachings.

Over the period of this study a number of followers of the NOI's ideology subsequently became further radicalized and engaged in attacks against the Jewish community. A breakaway faction of the NOI calling themselves "Hanafi Muslims" were responsible for the March 1977 takeover of the B'nai B'rith building in Washington D.C. In more recent years, some followers of NOI became admirers of Usama Bin Laden and the 9/11 attacks. John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo, who carried out a shooting attack at a synagogue, were adherents of the NOI. Muhammad taught Malvo the ideology of the NOI. Both of them were also sympathetic to the goals of the 9/11 hijackers (see May 1-4, 2002).

In other cases, the individuals became adherents of NOI while in prison and then gravitated towards radical Sunni Islamism. Recruiters for radical Islamist groups tell potential converts that theirs is the "true" form of Islam. Kevin James, the founder of Jami'at Al-Islam Al-Sahih (JIS), ("Association for Authentic Islam") in a California prison was initially a follower of the NOI. He left the NOI to become a radical Sunni Islamist. James then founded JIS, a radical Sunni Islamist cell, to carry out terrorist attacks from prison. The cell intended to target the Israeli Consulate, El Al at LAX, and Los Angeles synagogues (see July 5, 2005).

Overview of Incidents and Methodologies

White Supremacists

Adherents of white supremacist ideology focused their attacks for many years on synagogues, schools, and prominent Jewish community leaders. Their attacks ranged from using firebombs, carrying out shootings, and using mail bombs to employing larger improvised explosive devices.

In 1993, a plot was foiled by the raid of a U.S. Federal task force of the Fourth Reich Skinheads and White Aryan Resistance in California. The first part of their plan was to attack a rabbi and Orange County Jewish leaders by sending them mail bombs. Their further plans were to attack a prominent African-American church with explosives and gunfire (see July 15, 1993).

The white supremacist brothers Matthew and Tyler Williams carried out a series of three arson attacks at three Sacramento area synagogues in one night. Both were followers of the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations. They also kept a hit list of prominent Jews from the Sacramento area, officers and congregational members of the three synagogues, and of Jews in Redding, California (see June 18, 1999).

In 2002, a driver alerted police to the activities of Michael Edward Smith, of both the neo-Nazi National Alliance and the Ku Klux Klan. Smith was sitting in his car and aiming an assault rifle at a Nashville area synagogue with a preschool (see January 4, 2002).

In 2009, as a security officer opened the door for him, James Wenneker von Brunn, an 88-year-old white supremacist, opened fire inside the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, killing the officer. A second security officer wounded von Brunn, and a manifesto with Holocaust denial and white supremacist stances was found in a notebook in his car (see June 10, 2009).

More recently, David Pedersen, who became a white supremacist in prison, and Holly Grigsby, who adopted a white supremacist worldview from her involvement with racist skinheads, first engaged in a series of killings to fund their larger plans. They shot and slashed Pedersen's parents to death, shot and killed an African-American man, and shot and killed a man who they thought was Jewish because of his last name. They were arrested on their way to California with a hit list of names and locations of Jewish communal leaders from three communities (see October 5, 2011).

Another trend reflected in attacks carried out by white supremacists has been a focus, particularly since the beginning of the twenty-first century, of **targeting Holocaust museums.**

Several aging members of the white supremacist movement have carried out attacks on Jewish institutions in recent years. A longtime neo-Nazi and member of the terror group The Order, Frazier Glenn Miller, then 73, opened fire outside of the Greater Kansas City Jewish Community Center and the Village Shalom retirement home in 2014. Miller killed three people, although they were not Jewish. He believed their mere presence at the JCC and Village Shalom would guarantee that his victims would be Jewish. Miller described “his sole mission” that day was to “find and kill as many Jewish people as he could”²⁶ (see April 13, 2014).

However, some younger white supremacists who carried out attacks trend toward affiliations with smaller organizations, such as white supremacist skinhead groups, neo-pagan groups, and prison gangs. Leo Felton was both a neo-Nazi skinhead and involved with the White Order of Thule, a neo-pagan group (see April 19, 2001). Holly Grigsby became involved in white supremacist activity after coming into contact with white supremacist skinheads at the age of 13. While he was in prison, David Pedersen joined the Aryan Soldiers, an extremely violent white supremacist prison gang (see October 5, 2011). Richard Schmidt was involved with several of the larger neo-Nazi organizations – the National Alliance and the National Socialist Movement, but also referred to himself as a Vinlander, a member of a smaller white supremacist skinhead group (see December 21, 2012).

Another trend reflected in attacks carried out by white supremacists has been a focus, particularly since the beginning of the twenty-first century, of targeting Holocaust museums. Attacks ranged from arson, such as the destruction of the CANDLES Holocaust museum in Terre Haute, Indiana (see November 18, 2003), to the murder of a security officer outside of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington (see June 10, 2009), and the bomb plot by Leo Felton and Erica Chase, who were constructing a bomb and plotting to blow up the Boston Holocaust Museum and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington (see April 19, 2001).

Such attacks are violent actions that parallel the rhetoric of white supremacists who deny the Holocaust. Their acts are meant to serve as the “propaganda of the deed,” a violent exemplar of political action to inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

²⁶ “As trial opens, F. Glen Miller puts himself at scene of Jewish center shootings,” Kansas City Star, August 24, 2015, <http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/crime/article32097543.html>

In recent years both **Al-Qaida** and **ISIS** have indoctrinated their followers and sympathizers, providing them with information on how to conduct more small-scale, but nevertheless lethal, attacks on their own

Palestinian Extremists

During the 1970s, Fatah's Black September Organization targeted Jews and Israelis in the U.S. as part of a worldwide terror campaign. Their attacks included a series of letter bombs sent to Jewish and Israeli officials, a foiled a triple car bombing attempt in New York during a visit by then Israeli prime minister Golda Meir (see March 4, 1973), and the assassination of Yosef Alon, the deputy Israeli military attaché to the U.S. (see July 1, 1973).

Parallel to the establishment of the Islamist terrorist Hamas organization in Gaza in 1987, supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas established a presence in the U.S., including fundraising organizations such as the Occupied Land Fund²⁷ and the Holy Land Foundation.²⁸ Although Hamas itself has not officially claimed to carry out terrorist acts in the U.S., ideological fellow travelers of Hamas have targeted Jews and Israelis on U.S. soil. In an unusual move, Hamas made a statement praising the 1994 Brooklyn Bridge shooting attack (see March 1, 1994).

Another example was a radical Islamist Palestinian who found common cause and inspiration with Hamas from a wave of lethal suicide bombings it carried out in 1997. He was foiled before he could carry out a suicide bombing attack on a New York subway 24 hours after a Hamas bombing in Jerusalem (see July 31, 1997).

And in another unusual case, Hamas itself planned to send a Canadian-Palestinian operative who was trained in Gaza to the US. His mission was to carry out attacks targeting Israeli officials visiting the U.S., and U.S. and Canadian Jews. He was told, however, that due to political sensitivities he was to claim responsibility for the attacks in the name of Al-Qaida rather than Hamas (see November 1, 2003).

Radical Islamist Terrorist Organizations

The expansion of radical Islamist movements and terrorist organizations from the Middle East and other countries to the U.S. became evident during the 1980s and 1990s. During that time, radical Islamist clerics visited the U.S. and indoctrinated and recruited some American Muslims to join their organizations. Their American followers were sent to fight for the various clerics' groups in the Afghan *jihad*, and after the war many returned to the U.S.

The earliest example of radical Islamists targeting the Jewish community took place in 1989. Some of the U.S. foreign fighters were recruited by the Pakistan-based *jihadist* cleric Sheikh Mubarak Ali Shah Gilani of the Jama'at Al-Fuqara group to fight in the Afghan *jihad*. Members of the group in the U.S. targeted a JCC in Denver, Colorado (see September 16, 1989).

²⁷ "Guy Aviad, "Keren eretz hakodesh," in Lexicon Hamas, (Moshav Ben Shemen, Israel: Modan Publishers, 2014), p. 300-301.

²⁸ "Federal judge hands down sentences in Holy Land Foundation case," Office of Public Affairs, US Department of Justice, May 27, 2009, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/federal-judge-hands-downs-sentences-holy-land-foundation-case>

Al-Qaida, ISIS, ideological followers of Hamas, as well as followers of other radical Islamist terrorist organizations, have repeatedly targeted the Jewish community over the period of study of this report. Their focus in targeting Jews in the United States ranged from targeting synagogues and rabbis, and in some cases, rabbis' homes, such as the shooting attack by Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad (see May 30 - June 1, 2009). They are also particularly focused on targets that officially represent Israel, namely Israeli officials, Israeli diplomatic facilities, and the Israeli airline, El Al.

Adherents of Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula attempted to target the Jewish community on two occasions, in 2009, with the May shootings at two rabbis' homes by the self-declared operative of AQAP, Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad (see May 30 - June 1, 2009), and the October 2009 AQAP air cargo bomb plot that targeted Chicago synagogues (see October 29, 2010).

Individuals who have become followers of radicalized Islamist ideology without an organizational affiliation also target the Jewish community. Some of them became radicalized and organized in prison, such as the perpetrators of the foiled Riverdale synagogues bomb plot (see May 12, 2009), and the radical Islamist cell that targeted Israeli officials, the Israeli Consulate, El Al at LAX, and synagogues in Los Angeles. The latter created their own group in prison, Jami'at Al-Islam Al-Sahih, the "Association of Authentic Islam," which became a cell outside of prison to carry out the attack (see July 5, 2005).

One example of a foiled state-sponsored terrorism attack occurred in 2011, when Manssor Arbabsiar, an Iranian American who was directed by the Al-Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards, planned to carry out the bombing of the Saudi ambassador to the U.S. He also planned to follow up by bombing the Israeli Embassy in Washington (see September 24, 2011).

In recent years both Al-Qaida and ISIS have indoctrinated their followers and sympathizers, providing them with information on how to conduct more small-scale, but nevertheless lethal, attacks on their own. A recent example is that of James Medina, also known as John Mohammed. Medina is a radical Islamist convert who was arrested before he could reportedly carry out a bombing at a Florida synagogue in the name of the Islamic State in Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS) (see April 29, 2016).

Individuals who have become **followers of radicalized Islamist ideology without an organizational affiliation** also target the Jewish community.

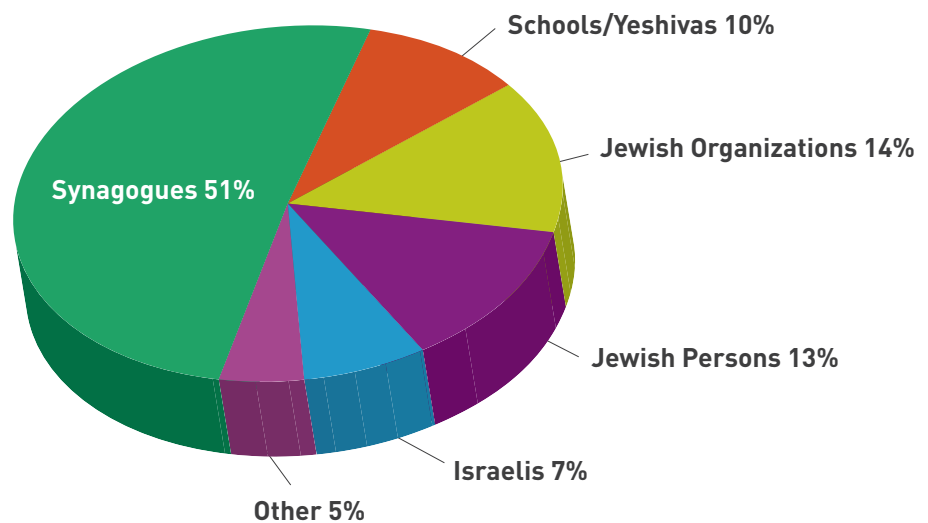
Analysis of Incidents

Targets of Attacks

During the period considered by this study, the overwhelming majority of attacks (51%) were carried out against Jewish houses of worship. For the perpetrators of attacks, synagogues continue to serve as the central representation of Jews and the Jewish community. At the same time, it should be remembered that from a numerical perspective, synagogues represent the largest number of Jewish institutions, and are more widely distributed throughout the country than other institutions.

The second most common communal targets are Jewish organizations, mostly with independent larger facilities (14%). In recent years, targeted Jewish organizations included JCCs and Holocaust museums, and a Jewish Federation.

Targets of Attacks



Jewish persons (13%), both specific and non-specific, are the next most common communal targets. This category includes Jewish leaders and Jewish individuals who have been targeted. In recent years, an American adherent of Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) targeted two rabbis. Similarly, a white supremacist assembled lists of Jewish leaders as potential targets in Detroit.

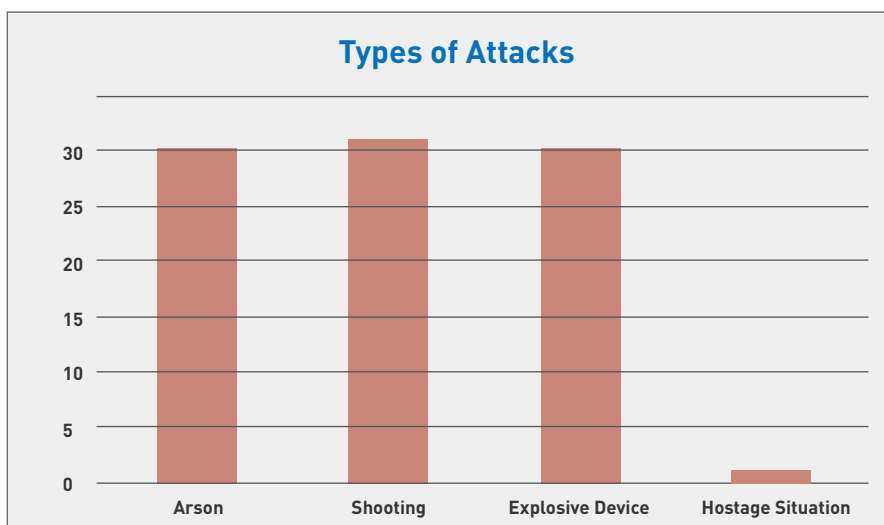
Schools/Yeshivas, including adult educational institutions, (10%) follow as the next most targeted type of institution.

Israelis (7%) include Israeli officials, diplomats, and El Al representatives. It should be noted that in a significant number of cases, Jews (and by extension, Jewish institutions) are freely associated and interchanged with Israel in the ideology and rhetoric of white supremacist and radical Islamist groups. In times of political turmoil in the Middle East, Jews and/or Jewish institutions often serve as stand-ins for Israel. One relatively recent example of such behavior was the attack on the Seattle Jewish Federation in 2006 during the Hizballah-Israel war. Naveed Haq chose the Federation as his target, but before opening fire, Haq specifically announced he was angry about Israel (see July 28, 2006).

The last category, Other, (5%) refers to targets that do not fit the other categories, and targets that are considered Jewish by the perpetrators, but may not actually be Jewish. The former includes places often frequented by Jews, such as New York's Diamond District (see April 1993 – June 23, 1993 and June – August 2000). The latter includes the New York B line train at the Pacific Avenue subway station in Brooklyn (see July 31, 1997), or other places that perpetrators view in their own minds as "Jewish."

Types of Attacks

An examination of the main types of types of attacks throughout the period considered by this study indicates that the total number of arsons, shootings, and use of explosive devices are nearly equal to one another. Over the full scope of the period covered by this study however, the distribution of attacks in which spikes of activity are prominent is indicative of historical periods in which Jews and Israelis were targeted.

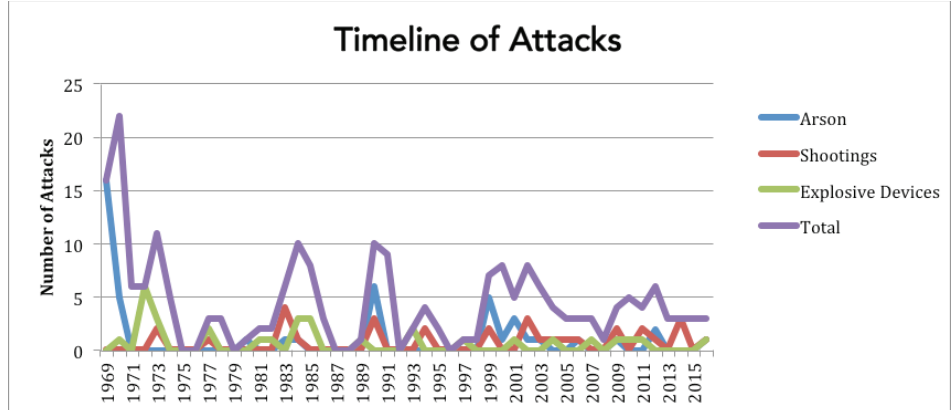


The U.S. Jewish community is at an increased risk

because of its identity and history, international threats emanating from the Middle East, and the tendency of Middle Eastern-linked terrorists and radical movements to demonize and legitimize violence against both Jews and Israelis.

White supremacists traditionally **target the Jewish community during periods of social change and economic instability.** They also take advantage of societal grievances in order to focus blame on Jews and Israel, and to legitimize violent action against the Jewish community.

Types of Attacks Over Time



Examining these types of attacks over time suggests they should also be studied from a historical perspective. The Jewish community in the United States does not exist in a vacuum and is subject to the social and political forces that exist in American society. It is therefore prone to acts of violence as well as terrorism, which affect our society as a whole. White supremacists traditionally target the Jewish community during periods of social change and economic instability. They also take advantage of societal grievances in order to focus blame on Jews and Israel, and to legitimize violent action against the Jewish community.

At the same time, the U.S. Jewish community is at an increased risk because of its identity and history, international threats emanating from the Middle East, and the tendency of Middle Eastern-linked terrorists and radical movements to demonize and legitimize violence against both Jews and Israelis.

Arson Incidents

An examination of the frequency of arsons and attempted arsons indicates that the largest number of arsons occurred in 1969-1970, during a period of significant political and social turmoil. It dropped precipitously afterward and peaked again during a series of synagogue fire-bombings, mostly by white supremacists in California from 1989 to 1991. White supremacists experienced a period of growth from late 1980s through the 1990s.

Arson incidents peaked again beginning with the 1999 “Summer of Hate” series of attacks against synagogues by white supremacists.²⁹ They dropped in 2000 and rose again with a smaller series of synagogue arsons in 2001-2002, and plateaued by 2003 with the arson of the CANDLES Holocaust Museum (see November 18, 2003). There was a small spike recently due to a series of synagogue arsons in New Jersey in 2012.

²⁹ Ken Stern, Understanding the Summer of Hate: Contemporary Antisemitism Takes a Violent Turn, American Jewish Committee, September 1999, Berman Jewish Policy Archive, Stanford University, <http://www.bjpa.org/Publications/downloadFile.cfm?FileID=12904>

Shooting Incidents

A review of shooting incidents demonstrates a number of small upturns in incidents, the first of which was in 1973, notable for the assassination of the Israeli military attaché to the U.S., Yosef Alon (see July 1, 1973).

Another spike in shooting incidents occurred from 1983-1984, with a series of four drive-by shootings targeting students at Yeshiva University starting in June of 1983 (see June 7, 1983 – September 21, 1983). The Order assassinated Denver Jewish talk show host Alan Berg in his driveway in June 1984 (see June 18, 1984). A smaller upturn occurred in 1990, reflecting two incidents: the drive-by shooting of a Nashville synagogue by the Tennessee White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and the Aryan Nations (see June 10, 1990), and the Al-Qaida linked assassination of Meir Kahane (see November 5, 1990).

Following that was another small spike from 1993-1994, representing the shooting attack by a radical Islamist terrorist on a van of Lubavitch rabbinical seminary students that killed Ari Halberstam (see March 1, 1994), and the drive-by shooting attack on a synagogue by the neo-Nazi Volksfront skinheads on a synagogue in Oregon (see March 20, 1994).

Another upturn in activity occurred in 1999 with two incidents carried out by known white supremacists. Benjamin Nathaniel Smith of the World Church of the Creator stalked and shot six Jewish men in a Chicago Orthodox Jewish neighborhood on a Sabbath night (see July 2-4, 1999), and Buford Furrow opened fire inside a California JCC injuring three small children, a teenager, and an adult (see August 10, 1999).

A more recent small spike and slightly lower plateau in shooting incidents occurred between 2002-2006. The attacks include the 2002 shooting attack against a Tacoma, Washington synagogue by John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo, known as the “DC snipers” (see May 1-4, 2002); the 2002 shooting attack by a radical Islamist terrorist that killed Victoria Hen and Yaakov Aminov at the El Al counter at Los Angeles Airport (see July 4, 2002); a 2005 foiled shooting and bombing attack by a radical Islamist terrorist cell targeting El Al, the Israeli Consulate, Israeli officials, and Los Angeles area synagogues (see July 5, 2005); and Naveed Haq’s 2006 shooting attack at the Jewish Federation in Seattle.

Additionally, over the past few years, there were upturns in activity in 2009 and 2014 reflected in the foiled shooting attack at a synagogue by white supremacist Keith Luke (see January 21, 2009), and the shooting attacks at rabbis’ homes carried out by Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad (see May 30 - June 1, 2009), the shooting attack at the U.S. Holocaust Museum by white supremacist James Wenneker von Brunn (see June 10, 2009), and the shooting attack on the JCC in Overland Park, Kansas by the neo-Nazi Frazier Glenn Miller (see April 13, 2014).

In contrast, in the more recent attacks, individuals carried out shootings during the daytime or at community times of activity.

The perpetrators walked into Jewish communal institutions or places identified with Israel and opened fire.

Since 1999, the victims of shooting attacks have increased due to the brazenness of the perpetrators. In many earlier attacks, the perpetrators carried out drive-by shootings during the late night or early morning hours, such as the Volksfront skinhead drive-by shooting on a Nashville synagogue by the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (see June 10, 1990).

In contrast, in the more recent attacks, individuals carried out shootings during the daytime or at community times of activity. The perpetrators walked into Jewish communal institutions or places identified with Israel and opened fire. Examples of such attacks were those carried out by Hisham Muhammad Hedayat at the El Al counter at LAX (see July 4, 2002), Buford Furrow at the North Valley JCC (see August 10, 1999), and Frazier Glenn Miller at the Overland Park JCC and Village Shalom (see April 13, 2014), and Nathaniel Smith, who stalked and shot at six Orthodox Jews in an Orthodox Jewish neighborhood as they returned from synagogue on a Sabbath evening (see July 2-4, 1999).

Bombing Incidents

The use of explosive devices peaked in the early 1970s during the period when Fatah's Black September Organization targeted Jews and Israelis in the U.S. using letter bombs from 1972-1973.

Another upturn in the use of explosive devices was from 1983 to 1985, when white supremacist terrorists from The Order carried out a bombing attack on an Idaho synagogue (see April 29, 1984). A series of explosive device attacks by white supremacists during the next years included two attempted pipe bomb attacks by Coy Ray Phelps (see July 1, 1985 and September 16, 1985). Another small upturn occurred in 1993, reflecting a 1993 foiled plot to send mail bombs to Orange County, California Jewish leaders by the Fourth Reich Skinheads (see July 15, 1993).

More recently, two white supremacists, Leo Felton and Erica Chase, sought to construct an improvised explosive device with the intent to attack and destroy the U.S. Holocaust Museum and the Boston Holocaust Museum in 2001. In 2007, a group of radical Islamists sought to target a Jewish school or neighborhood as part of a foiled plot to bomb JFK Airport (see June 2, 2007).

Another small upturn and plateau occurred from 2009-2011. A cell of radical Islamists were foiled in their 2009 plot to bomb two Riverdale synagogues (see May 12, 2009). In 2010, a plot to ship cargo bombs via plane by Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula destined for two synagogues in Chicago was foiled by intelligence cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Western intelligence agencies (see October 29, 2010). In 2011, Manssor Arbabsiar, an Iranian American who was being directed by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' Al-Quds Force, was foiled in his future plans to bomb the Israeli Embassy in Washington D.C. (see September 24, 2011). Although these latter incidents are slightly fewer in frequency, the more ambitious goals and sophisticated use of explosive devices in recent years by various terrorist organizations and perpetrators made these attacks more deadly.

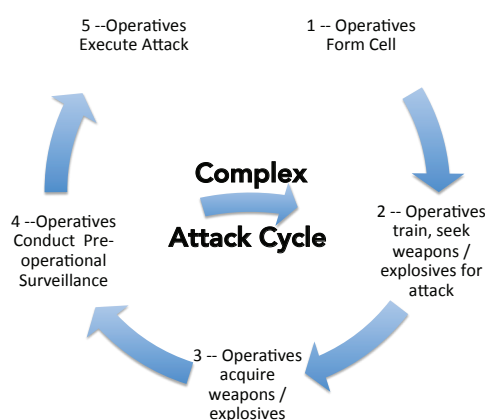
A Trend Toward More Complex Attacks

Since 2000, there has been a trend among both radical Islamist terrorist organizations and white supremacists toward attempting to organize more complex and lethal terror attacks.

White supremacists modeled their cell organizations on the *Turner Diaries*, studying the trajectory of The Order. In more recent years they organized into white supremacist militia and skinhead groups. In some cases, white supremacists previously completed military service and used their experience to train others.

Al-Qaida, ISIS, and other radical Islamist terrorist organizations have had operatives with varying levels of knowledge and training. Some of the early Al-Qaida perpetrators engaged in target shooting training in the U.S. and several went abroad as foreign fighters to Al-Qaida's early training camps, and fought in the 1980s Afghan war. Later, others learned terrorism skills from individuals who were schooled at Al-Qaida training camps prior to 9/11.

Since 1999, the relative number of overall attacks against the Jewish community and Israelis were slightly fewer in number, but at the same time, the attacks that were carried out or planned have been more deadly. This is due to the perpetrators' investment in longer-term planning of complex attacks that may require more preparation, training, weapons, and attack planning.



The perpetrators who carry out complex attacks are also more brazen in their anticipated goals. Examples of these attacks include:

- The 2001 foiled plot by white supremacists Leo Felton and Erica Chase to bomb the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington.
- The foiled 2005 plot by Kevin James and his Jami'at Al-Islam Al-Sahih cell to attack Los Angeles area synagogues, Israeli officials, El Al at Los Angeles Airport, and the Los Angeles Israeli Consulate.
- The 2009 foiled Riverdale synagogues bomb plot.

In a parallel move to more recent developments, both Al-Qaida and ISIS have separately issued calls to their individual followers to **carry out attacks at places and times of their own choosing.**

In each of these cases, the perpetrators spent time studying targets and choosing venues that they considered to be both symbolic and significant. In the latter two cases, they also spent considerable time engaging in pre-operational surveillance of their intended targets prior to the dates of the impending attacks. In the Riverdale plot, the perpetrators engaged in two rounds of pre-operational surveillance prior to the foiled execution of their plot (see May 21, 2009). In the 2005 Jami'at Al-Islam Al-Sahih foiled plot, the perpetrators surveilled Los Angeles area synagogues, Israeli officials, El Al at LAX, and the Israeli Consulate. They acquired weapons, but were also seeking to acquire explosives for their planned attacks (see July 5, 2005).

A Trend Toward Attacks by Ideologically Motivated Individuals

In a parallel move to more recent developments, both Al-Qaida and ISIS have separately issued calls to their individual followers to carry out attacks at places and times of their own choosing. More recently, AQAP and ISIS were promoting what they call “lone *mujahid*” perpetrators, providing instructions on how one individual can weaponize common objects and create improvised explosive devices from supplies that are relatively easy to procure.

The late American radical Islamist cleric and AQAP ideologue Anwar Al-Awlaki continues to serve as a resource to provide inspiration and indoctrination to potential adherents of both organizations in the U.S. and worldwide. From his AQAP base of operations in Yemen, Al-Awlaki went beyond his initial role as a source of inspiration for terrorist acts, and began to dispense practical advice on terrorist methodology. As a demonstration of this trajectory, he authored a book entitled *44 Ways to Support Jihad*³⁰ whose first page asserted, “[J]ihad today is obligatory on every capable Muslim.”³¹

Al-Awlaki recorded instructional videos for adherents who remained in the U.S. In AQAP's *Inspire* magazine, Al-Awlaki published articles intended to incite acts of terrorism³² and endorsed instructions detailing how to construct explosive devices and other weapons for his English-speaking audience. An *Inspire* article called “Open Source Jihad: Make a bomb in the kitchen of your mom,” called upon AQAP followers to train at home and carry out attacks in their home countries by constructing improvised explosive devices from common ingredients in order to carry out simple, yet deadly, terror attacks.³³

³⁰ Anwar Al-Awlaki, *44 Ways to Support Jihad*, (no city: Victorious Media, no date), previously at <http://www.anwar-awlaki.com>

³¹ Ibid.

³² “May our souls be sacrificed for You!” Anwar Al-Awlaki, *Inspire*, Issue 1, Summer 1431/2010, p. 26-28.

³³ “Open Source Jihad: Make a bomb in the kitchen of your mom,” *Inspire*, Issue 1, Summer 1431/2010.

For his part, Al-Awlaki was involved in a number of AQAP attacks directed against the U.S. Both U.S. and U.K. officials considered him to have been involved in sending the two inkjet printers that were converted to bombs and sent via air cargo to two Chicago synagogues in 2010.³⁴ The two packages were intercepted before they reached the U.S.

At the same time, some individual adherents are still motivated to seek training abroad. In recent years, AQAP attracted American recruits to train in Yemen, such as Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad.³⁵ Muhammad carried out shooting attacks on the homes of two rabbis prior to attacking the military recruitment center in Little Rock, Arkansas (see May 30 - June 1, 2009).

Two recent examples of individuals motivated by ideology include James Gonzalo Medina, a self-declared follower of ISIS who was a radicalized convert to Islam also known as James Mohamed. Medina was foiled in his plot to bomb the Aventura Jewish Center on the last day of Passover in 2016. He reportedly planned to carry out a bombing inside the courtyard of the synagogue during services (see April 29, 2016).

Similarly, Mahin Khan, a self-declared “American *jihadi*” and ISIS supporter, was arrested before he was able to carry out an attack on a motor vehicles office in Mesa, Arizona in July 2016. Khan also discussed targeting the JCC of Tucson, and was seeking information on how to build pipe bombs and pressure cooker bombs (see July 1, 2016).

³⁴ “Yemen cargo bomb plot may have been targeted at Britain,” Telegraph (UK), October 30, 2010, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/8099345/Yemen-cargo-bomb-plot-may-have-been-targeted-at-Britain.html>

³⁵ “Muslim who shot soldiers wanted to cause more death,” Knoxville News Sentinel, November 13, 2010, <http://archive.knoxnews.com/news/state/muslim-who-shot-soldier-in-arkansas-says-he-wanted-to-cause-more-death-ep-407169853-358338211.html>

Pre-operational surveillance is the weak link in the planning of an attack. It is the point at which the perpetrator(s) approach their intended target for the purpose of surveillance – but at the same time expose themselves to being caught

Lessons Learned

Analyzing the almost half a century of violent attacks and terrorist incidents included in this report provides the following important insights for Jewish community organizations and law enforcement agencies:

The Critical Role of Pre-Operational Surveillance

Pre-operational surveillance is the weak link in the planning of an attack. It is the point at which the perpetrator(s) approach their intended target for the purpose of surveillance – but at the same time expose themselves to being caught. A significant number of the perpetrators involved in the incidents examined in this research engaged in this activity:

- In 1977, for months prior to their attack and hostage standoff, the self-styled Hanafi terrorists who took over the B'nai B'rith building managed to get themselves onto a building construction job to surveil the building from within (see March 9-11, 1977).
- The white supremacist serial killer John Paul Franklin also engaged in pre-operation surveillance of a Chattanooga synagogue. He called the synagogue to find out the time of Friday night services, and was able to place explosives inside the building to carry out a bombing attack (see July 29, 1977).
- Following up on the foiled Diamond District plot in New York of 1993 (see April 1993 - June 23, 1993), Al-Qaida carried out two instances of pre-operational surveillance of the Diamond District in New York prior to 9/11. The first took place in the summer of 2000, and was carried out by two of the 9/11 hijackers (see June – August, 2000). The second was carried out by Al-Qaida's surveillance specialist operative Dhiren Bharot, who monitored surveillance of "Jewish targets" as defined by Al-Qaida in early 2001.
- More recently, neo-Nazi Frazier Glenn Miller carried out pre-operational surveillance at both of the locations that he attacked – the Overland Park JCC and Village Shalom (see April 23, 2014).

Attacks on Jews as Precursors to Larger Attacks

Prior to some well-known larger attacks, Jewish targets have been the earlier, smaller targets of terrorist organizations. This phenomenon has unfortunately been misunderstood or ignored.

- For example, at the time it occurred, El-Sayyid Nosair's assassination of Meir Kahane in 1990 was understood to be the action of a lone gunman, unconnected to a group or ideology, and not a terrorist cell. Subsequently, two of his accomplices participated in the February 1993 World Trade Center bombing. After Nosair was sentenced to prison, a group of his friends who, like himself, were also followers of the Islamist radical cleric and Al-Qaida

mentor Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman, regularly visited him there. Together they plotted the June 1993 New York Landmarks plot. By that time that incident was understood to be an act of terrorism (see November 5, 1990).

- More recently, the 2009 attack carried out by Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad on the Little Rock military recruitment center in Arkansas, was preceded by his two shooting attacks on rabbis' homes. Two days prior to the recruitment center attack, Muhammad, a self-declared AQAP operative, carried out his first attack on the house of a rabbi in Little Rock. He followed with another attack on the house of a second rabbi in Nashville, Tennessee. The Nashville attack took place the day before his larger attack on the Little Rock military recruitment center that killed two servicemen (see May 30 - June 1, 2009).

Perpetrators of "Lone Wolf" Attacks Are Not Always Lone

Similarly, investigators initially viewed a number of incidents as the actions of "lone wolves." This term is defined as individuals who have had no outside influence on their actions, a situation that is extremely rare in our highly interconnected society. Yet further understanding of perpetrators' social contacts and environment, both in person and online, can reveal the context and influences, particularly ideological ones, that drove that individual to commit that act.

- Examples of such incidents include the 1994 Brooklyn Bridge attack, in which Rashid Baz opened fire on a van of Lubavitch rabbinical seminary students, killing Ari Halberstam. Rather than being a "lone wolf," Baz was a convert to radical Islamism, had a Muslim mentor, and expressed himself in Islamist radical terms (see March 1, 1994).
- Another example is Naveed Haq, who opened fire at the Seattle Jewish Federation during the 2006 war between Hizballah and Israel. Haq killed Pamela Waechter and wounded five others. Haq, who was born a Muslim, had been baptized as a Christian³⁶ in the year before the attack. At some time prior to the attack, Haq reportedly experienced a change of heart, re-identified as a Muslim, and became radicalized. Significantly, before he opened fire, Haq made a declaration openly re-identifying himself as a Muslim. After his arrest, in telephone conversations with his parents from jail that were entered as evidence at his trial, Haq spoke of his actions in radical Islamist terms. Haq referred to himself as a "martyr," insisting his parents should be proud of what he had done, and told them that as a result of his actions, he would go to heaven. (see July 28, 2006).

Yet further understanding of perpetrators' social contacts and environment, both in person and online, can reveal the context and influences, particularly ideological ones, that drove that individual to commit that act.

³⁶ "Shooting suspect was baptized," Seattle Post Intelligencer, July 28, 2006, <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/Shooting-suspect-was-baptized-1210337.php>

It is critical that **members of the Jewish community** complete training to detect hostile, pre-operational surveillance.

Prison Radicalization Plays a Role in Recruitment

An important lesson of the chronology that follows is that hatred rarely grows in a vacuum. Despite their ideological differences and attitudes towards potential adversaries, terrorist organizations learn from one another. Over the past decades, both radical Islamists and white supremacists learned to use their time in prison to recruit followers and subsequently plot attacks outside of prison.

- Kevin James established the radical Islamist terror organization Jami'at Al-Islam Al-Sahih in prison. He also directed his followers from prison and provided them with guidance on how to recruit a cell, conduct surveillance, and take the steps necessary to carry out attacks on Israeli targets and synagogues (see July 5, 2005).
- The white supremacist Leo Felton also used his time in prison to recruit two other members to his cell. He wrote letters to Erica Chase while he was still in prison. After his release, he moved into her apartment and set up his cell's operations there. He recruited another member, Thomas Struss, a fellow prisoner who was also a white supremacist, for their plot to blow up the U.S. Holocaust Museum (see April 19, 2001).

Threat Awareness is Critical

The importance of being informed and knowledgeable about the nature of threats facing the American Jewish community cannot be overstated. The chronology of attacks in this report that follows shows the geographic, ideological, and altogether disparate nature of the perpetrators and types of attacks that occurred against Jewish targets.

Consequently, the importance of community members being knowledgeable about the nature of threats facing the American Jewish community, and being able to detect this type of surveillance, cannot be overstated. Awareness of threats by analysis of local demographics, history, and politics is critical to safeguarding Jewish institutions. Only by being aware of the challenges we face can we dialogue well with the political and law enforcement agencies that thankfully protect us. And only by being aware of such threats can we make proper decisions about the steps we need to take to ensure our safety.

Complacency is Deadly

The most important lesson is that the Jewish community can ill afford passivity and apathy against the threats it faces. Unfortunately, much as we do not care to admit it to ourselves, the threats are real; there have been too many incidents to deny that. And in the second decade of the twenty-first century, we find ourselves in an era where those who promote anti-Jewish rhetoric and instigation have the technical tools to reach a broader audience in less time than ever before.

It is vital that the American Jewish community learns the lessons of the past, understands the nature of the challenges arrayed against us, and takes the proper precautions to ensure that violent acts against Jews and Jewish institutions can be prevented in the future.

Toward a Culture of Security Awareness and Resilience:

Recommendations and Conclusions

This report provides the first-ever comprehensive examination of violent attacks against Jews over the last 50 years. The nature and origination of the threats are as varied as the methodologies used to attack the communal and religious heart of Jewish communities. However, the following recommendations can be undertaken immediately to mitigate these types of attacks.

Awareness Training for the Jewish Community

In many cases, the first indicator of an impending attack has been pre-operational surveillance. This phase of a typical attack cycle is the most likely point for detection and thus recognizing it can avert or minimize an impending attack.

Therefore, it is critical that members of the Jewish community complete training to detect hostile, pre-operational surveillance. This surveillance may take place over a period of days and weeks, or even just a few minutes. As a result, members of the Jewish community need to be aware of what surveillants are typically looking for, what a surveillant may do to hide their true intentions, and what types of behavior a suspicious person displays while engaging in surveillance activities. Significantly, many perpetrators use the cover of night to carry out such surveillance. Jewish institutions need to also raise awareness of this larger area of concern to go beyond building entrances.

An essential complement to this capacity is training community members to report suspicious activities. Community members need to be able to systematically produce descriptions of people and vehicles to assist law enforcement agencies. These reports must also be shared with other neighboring Jewish institutions to ensure that suspicious individuals are correctly identified and apprehended before simply targeting another less secure institution.

In certain instances, perpetrators conduct Internet research to find potential targets for an attack. It is therefore crucial to train staff of Jewish institutions and organizations to detect suspicious requests for information stemming from e-mail, social media, and even phone calls. Staff must also be trained to detect suspicious packages and letters, as numerous attacks against Jews were perpetrated through the use of mail and letter bombs.

To maximize security, **trained members of the community must be organized in active security postings** in cooperation with Jewish community organizations.

CSS provides a tested and proven model for this approach. Since its founding in 2007, CSS has trained and managed **thousands of community volunteers who safeguard tens of thousands of people.**

Invest in a Comprehensive Communal Security Infrastructure

The American Jewish community needs to broaden its understanding of security and its responsibility to protect its members. In particular, investing in training community volunteers will provide a committed group of dedicated security personnel. Community institutions will receive the dividends of dedicated individuals who know the community and are deeply concerned about it.

However, simply conducting training is not sufficient, as it will not guarantee that these trained individuals are in the proper location at a given time to utilize their training. To maximize security, trained members of the community must be organized in active security postings in cooperation with Jewish community organizations. Equally important is that these teams coordinate closely with law enforcement agencies, as their unparalleled knowledge of the community enables them to also act as sophisticated “eyes and ears.”

A network of these sorts of teams at synagogues and other organizations will thus be able to deter and detect potential threats, and is the most effective way to prevent the attacks described in this report.

CSS provides a tested and proven model for this approach. Since its founding in 2007, CSS has trained and managed thousands of community volunteers who safeguard tens of thousands of people. Such an approach should not be understood as condoning or encouraging the creation of a fortress-like or alarmist mentality. Instead, by fostering a “culture of security responsibility,” CSS acts to empower those most affected and most able to contribute to their own security. As only when a parent, synagogue congregant or student notices something odd and notifies proper respondents, will the American Jewish community have fully utilized its best and most overlooked asset—its own members.



Chronology of Incidents

CHRONOLOGY OF INCIDENTS

January 3, 1969

NY: Long Island

Congregation Shaaray Tefila in Far Rockaway was destroyed in a fire.³⁷ Congregants managed to rescue the Torah scrolls before the roof of the building collapsed. There were no injuries. The cost to rebuild at the time was \$1 million, and the congregation was only able to rebuild the synagogue in 1981.³⁸

January 11, 1969

MD: Prince George's County

A firebomb severely damaged Shaare Tikvah synagogue. The power of the explosion shook blocks in the vicinity. There were no injuries, but the synagogue sustained \$200,000 in damage.³⁹

January 23, 1969

NY: Long Island

A fire was set at the Hebrew Institute of Long Island in Far Rockaway.⁴⁰

January 30, 1969

NY: Brooklyn

A fire at Yeshiva Torah VaDaath destroyed Jewish texts and school supplies.⁴¹

February 16, 1969

NY: Brooklyn

The gymnasium of the United Lubavitcher Yeshiva was burned down in a three-alarm fire.⁴²

March 15, 1969

NJ: Plainfield

A Jewish day school was attacked with a firebomb.⁴³

March 1969

NH: Manchester

An attempted arson at the Jewish Community Center of Manchester was foiled when chemicals distributed throughout the corridor of the center failed to ignite.⁴⁴

April 29, 1969

CT: Hartford

The Hebrew Shelter Home was attacked with firebombs.⁴⁵

May 6, 1969

NY: Brooklyn

A firebomb was thrown into Yetev Lev D'Satmar Chasidic congregation in Williamsburg during a Lag BaOmer celebration. There were no injuries.⁴⁶

May 16, 1969

NJ: Newark

Firebombs were hurled through a window of the B'nai Abraham synagogue that had been forcibly opened. A part of the building's structure was burned. The Newark police officially classified the attack as arson. They were seeking members of the left-wing extremist Black Panther Movement who were foiled in a plot earlier in the month to extort \$5000 from the rabbi of the synagogue, Rabbi Joachim Prinz, a nationally known civil rights activist.⁴⁷

July 8, 1969

NH: Manchester

Arson destroyed the rabbi's study at Temple Adath Jeshurun.⁴⁸

July 14, 1969

NY: Brooklyn

A room at the Yeshiva of Flatbush was damaged in what was described as a "deliberately" set fire.⁴⁹

September 12, 1969

NY: Brooklyn

As evening Rosh Hashanah services concluded, three teenagers, aged 17, 15 and 14, hurled two firebombs into the vestibule of the Kehilath Yakov Synagogue in Williamsburg. Members of the congregation extinguished the fire before it caused any damage. The 17-year-old, Cornelius Leach, was sent to Kings County Hospital for psychological evaluation. All three were later charged with arson.⁵⁰

³⁷ Testimony of Jerome Bakst, director of research and evaluation for the ADL, to the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, US Senate, 91st Congress, Second Session, Part 25, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5634, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/Digitization/82211NCJRS.pdf>

³⁸ "Long Island Journal," New York Times, September 13, 1981, <http://www.nytimes.com/1981/09/13/nyregion/long-island-journal-011036.html>

³⁹ "Washington area synagogue rededicated after \$200,000 fire bomb attack," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, October 13, 1969, <http://www.jta.org/1969/10/13/archive/washington-area-synagogue-rededicated-after-200000-fire-bomb-attack>

⁴⁰ Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5634.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5633.

⁴⁴ "Manchester fire destroys rabbi's study, believed set by arsonists," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, July 17, 1969, <http://www.jta.org/1969/07/17/archive/manchester-fire-damages-rabbis-study-destroys-records-believed-set-by-arsonists>

⁴⁵ Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5633.

⁴⁶ "Brooklyn police hunt youths who threw fire bomb at Hasidic synagogue," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, May 7, 1969, <http://www.jta.org/1969/05/07/archive/brooklyn-police-hunt-youths-who-threw-fire-bomb-at-hasidic-synagogue>

⁴⁷ "Newark police search for suspected black militants in firebombing of Prinz's temple," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, May 20, 1969, <http://www.jta.org/1969/05/20/archive/newark-police-search-for-suspected-black-militants-in-fire-bombing-of-prinzs-temple>

⁴⁸ "Manchester fire destroys rabbi's study, believed set by arsonists," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, July 17, 1969, <http://www.jta.org/1969/07/17/archive/manchester-fire-damages-rabbis-study-destroys-records-believed-set-by-arsonists>

⁴⁹ Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5634.

⁵⁰ "Two firebombs doused at shul," Jewish Post, September 19, 1969, <https://newspapers.library.in.gov/cgi-bin/indiana?a=d&d=JPOST19690919-011.8>

October 5, 1969*CA: Los Angeles*

On the Simchat Torah holiday, a fire was set at the Hillel Jewish students' organization building at the University of Southern California. An estimated \$10,000 in damage was reported.⁵¹

November 28, 1969*NY: Brooklyn*

A fire destroyed Yeshiva Marbetse Torah, causing an estimated \$100,000 in damages.⁵²

December 7, 1969*NY: Queens*

The Woodside Jewish Center was set on fire on the fourth night of Chanukah. Three teenagers were later arrested and charged with arson.⁵³

January 28, 1970*NY: New York*

A fire was set inside the lobby of the Minsker Congregation synagogue in the South Bronx using prayer books, three cans of naphtha, and rags. The lobby was smeared with a four-foot tall black swastika and a two-foot tall white swastika. The building was unoccupied at the time of the fire, and there were no injuries.⁵⁴

February 6, 1970*WA: Seattle*

An explosion caused by dynamite demolished a synagogue's door.⁵⁵

February 28, 1970*NY: New York*

An arson damaged Congregation Ahavath Torah in the Bronx.⁵⁶ The synagogue's five Torah scrolls and other religious objects were severely damaged.⁵⁷

March 26, 1970*NY: New York*

Two incendiary devices were thrown at the Mosholu Jewish Center in the Bronx. There were no injuries.⁵⁸

June 18, 1970*NJ: Elizabeth*

Two firebombs were thrown through the window of Temple B'nai Israel. A neighbor who was awakened by the noise of the smashed glass immediately notified the fire department. The synagogue suffered only minor damage.⁵⁹

July 7, 1970*NY: Long Island*

Congregation Derech Emunoh in Rockaway Beach was attacked with two firebombs.⁶⁰

April 18, 1971*NJ: West Orange*

Bombing of West Orange Jewish Center.

An explosive device detonated at the West Orange Jewish Center, culminating in structural damage, including blowing off its roof and tearing out the walls of its main lobby. Additional damage included the destruction of offices, furnishings and its gymnasium, and shattered windows.⁶¹ There was no claim of responsibility.⁶² The perpetrators were never found.⁶³

September 20, 1971*NY: Great Neck*

Bomb removed from Temple Israel of Great Neck.

During services on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, a bomb was discovered and removed from Temple Israel in Great Neck. Police evacuated 2700 worshippers from the building and detonated it in a parking lot nearby. There was no claim of responsibility.⁶⁴

September 20, 1972 – November 10, 1972

Two weeks after the Munich Olympics massacre of 11 Israeli athletes by Fatah's Black September Organization, a series of letter bombs were dispatched to Israeli diplomats and leaders of Jewish groups in the U.S. Fatah was and still is the largest faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Fatah's Black September Organization and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – General Command (PFLP-GC), both PLO factions, were responsible for mailing a series of pen-sized letter bombs⁶⁵ that originated from Europe, India,

⁵¹ Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5634.

⁵² Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5634.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ "Rash of fires hit synagogues," The Jewish Transcript, February 12, 1970, <http://jtn.stparchive.com/Archive/JTN/JTN02121970p07.php>

⁵⁵ Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5634.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ "Orthodox Jews worship in private home while awaiting new synagogue structure," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, March 29, 1971, <http://www.jta.org/1971/03/29/archive/orthodox-jews-worship-in-private-home-while-awaiting-new-synagogue-structure>

⁵⁸ Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5634.

⁵⁹ "Neighbor saves bombed Temple," Jewish Post, June 26, 1970, <https://newspapers.library.in.gov/cgi-bin/indiana?a=d&d=JPOST19700626-01.11>

⁶⁰ Testimony of ADL research director Jerome Bakst to the US Senate Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee of Government Operations, July 1 – August 6, 1970, p. 5634.

⁶¹ "Oren book recalls unsolved local mystery," New Jersey Jewish News, July 14, 2015, <http://njewishnews.com/article/27833/oren-book-recalls-unsolved-local-mystery#.VaUZuX1shl8.facebook>

⁶² "Police Investigating Explosion That Rocked West Orange Jewish Center," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, April 20, 1971, <http://www.jta.org/1971/04/20/archive/police-investigating-explosion-that-rocked-west-orange-jewish-center>

⁶³ "Oren book recalls unsolved local mystery," New Jersey Jewish News, July 14, 2015, <http://njewishnews.com/article/27833/oren-book-recalls-unsolved-local-mystery#.VaUZuX1shl8.facebook>

⁶⁴ "Bomb scare empties synagogue," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, September 22, 1971, <http://www.jta.org/1971/09/22/archive/bomb-scare-empties-synagogue>

⁶⁵ "Mail clerk hurt by letter bomb," New York Times, October 15, 1972.

and Malaysia. They also targeted individuals in Israel, Israeli diplomats in Europe, and prominent Jewish figures in Europe.

In the U.S., one of the letter bombs targeted U.S. Secretary of State William Rogers. Another of the letter bombs intercepted in London included a statement by Fatah's Black September Organization that took responsibility for the Munich Olympics attack that culminated in the murder of the 11 Israeli athletes on September 5, 1972.⁶⁶

September 20, 1972

NY: New York

Three letter bombs from Fatah's Black September Organization / PFLP-GC⁶⁷ were intercepted at the New York General Post Office before being delivered to Israeli diplomats in New York. One of the devices was intended for Yosef Tekoa, then Israel's ambassador to the UN, another was addressed to Jacob Barmore, then minister plenipotentiary, and the third was addressed to Jacob Doran, then deputy chief delegate.⁶⁸ All three devices originated in Amsterdam.⁶⁹

October 10, 1972

NY: New York

Two letter bombs from Fatah's Black September Organization / PFLP-GC originating in Malaysia were delivered to two New York Jewish women active in Hadassah.⁷⁰ They failed to detonate.⁷¹

October 14, 1972

NY: New York

A letter bomb exploded in the hands of postal worker William Figueroa, who was seriously injured at a Bronx post office facility.⁷² He lost the small finger of his right hand and required surgery to remove fragments of the device from his left hand.⁷³ The Fatah-Black September Organization / PFLP-GC device originated in Malaysia. It was addressed to a former Hadassah Organization official in New York.⁷⁴

November 10, 1972

NY: New York

Letter bombs from Fatah's Black September Organization / PFLP-GC that were to be delivered to U.S. Jewish organizations in New York were intercepted in Malaysia.

November 10, 1972

NY: New York

A Fatah-Black September Organization / PFLP-GC letter bomb originating in India was delivered to the president of Hadassah Organization in New York.⁷⁵

November 10, 1972

NY: New York

A postal worker in New York was injured after a Fatah-Black September Organization / PFLP-GC letter bomb originating in India detonated.⁷⁶

March 1, 1973

CA: Los Angeles

During Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir's visit to the U.S., FBI agents arrested Sharif Bishara Sirhan in Pasadena. Sirhan sent a letter threatening Meir would be killed.

FBI agents arrested Sharif Bishara Sirhan at his home in Pasadena, California for threatening that Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir "will be shot and killed"⁷⁷ during her visit to the U.S.⁷⁸ Court documents described the letter as being signed "'PLO,' presumably for 'Palestine Liberation Organization.'"⁷⁹ Sirhan mailed the threat to U.S. Secretary of State William Rogers. He was known as a forceful promoter of the Palestinian and Arab causes, and is the brother of the assassin of Robert F. Kennedy.⁸⁰ Sirhan was convicted and sentenced to six months in prison starting in March 1974.⁸¹

March 4, 1973

NY: New York and Queens

Foiled trio of car bomb attacks on the day of Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir's visit to New York, by Fatah's Black September Organization. The attacks were planned against two Israeli banks on New York's Fifth Avenue and at the El Al terminal in Queens.

An operative of Fatah's Black September Organization (FBSO), Khalid Duhham Al-Jawary, traveled on an Iraqi passport⁸² to the U.S. Al-Jawary is also known as Khalid Muhammad Al-Jassem, and by his nom de guerre, Abu Walid Al-Iraqi. He was tasked with the mission of bombing Israeli targets in New York. Al-Jawary flew from Beirut to Montreal, made a stopover in Boston, and arrived in New York on January 12, 1973.⁸³

⁶⁶ "Bombs mailed to many Israeli officials," New York Times, September 21, 1972.

⁶⁷ Edward Mickolus, *Transnational Terrorism: A Chronology of Events: 1968 - 1979*, (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1980), p. 347.

⁶⁸ "Mail bombs turn up in 7 more cities," Los Angeles Times, September 21, 1972.

⁶⁹ "Bombs mailed to many Israeli officials," New York Times, September 21, 1972.

⁷⁰ "Mail clerk hurt by letter bomb," New York Times, October 15, 1972.

⁷¹ Mickolus, p. 352.

⁷² "Mrs. Matzkin: Letter bombs will not deter us from our activities," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, October 17, 1972, <http://www.jta.org/1972/10/17/archive/mrs-matzkin-letter-bombs-will-not-deter-hadassah-from-its-activities>

⁷³ "Mail clerk hurt by letter bomb," New York Times, October 15, 1972.

⁷⁴ Mickolus, p. 352.

⁷⁵ Ibid., p. 361.

⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷ "Sirhan's brother goes on trial for threat to Golda," Jerusalem Post, June 8, 1973.

⁷⁸ "Sirhan's brother indicted in LA," Los Angeles Times, March 20, 1973.

⁷⁹ United States vs. Sirhan, January 31, 1974, http://www.leagle.com/decision/19741322504F2d818_11192.xml/UNITED%20STATES%20v.%20SIRHAN

⁸⁰ "Brother of Sirhan held for threat to Meir," Jerusalem Post, March 21 1973.

⁸¹ "Jailed for threat to Golda's life," Jerusalem Post, March 6, 1974.

⁸² "Iraqi linked to Black September is linked to bomb-planting here," New York Times, March 18, 1973, <http://www.nytimes.com/1973/03/16/archives/iraqi-linked-to-black-september-is-sought-in-bombplanting-here.html>

⁸³ Adam Goldman and Randy Herschaft, "AP Impact: Freedom looms for terrorist," Associated Press, January 24, 2009; <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/huff-wires/20090124/mystery-terrorist/>

After his arrival in the U.S., the FBI office in Tel Aviv received information related to a separate investigation. The FBI investigation was of another man who subsequently turned out to be Al-Jawary. The FBI interviewed Al-Jawary, who claimed he was from Baghdad, held “nonpolitical” beliefs, and was in the U.S. to study at the Teterboro School of Aeronautics in New Jersey for a commercial pilot’s license. He also told the FBI agents who interviewed him that he was planning on going back to Iraq, following the completion of his flight training, in a month’s time.⁸⁴

In preparation for the attack, Al-Jawary sought cover for his surveillance activities. He seemingly befriended a woman with a young son and grew close to her. At the same time, he took her son with him on trips into New York to surveil potential targets without arousing suspicion.⁸⁵

Al-Jawary chose the El Al terminal in Queens, the First Israeli Bank and Trust Company, and Israel Discount Bank as his targets, the latter two of which are on Fifth Avenue in New York. The two bombs intended for the banks were timed with alarm clocks, and were composed of large containers of gasoline, propane tanks, blocks of Semtex military grade explosives, batteries, and blasting caps.

The components of the El Al device, which was twice the size of the other two, included propane tanks, plastic containers filled with gasoline, blocks of Semtex, blasting caps, batteries and fuses.⁸⁶ The timer was an electro-chemical cell, or E-cell, a more sophisticated and powerful timing device. The NYPD bomb disposal expert who later dismantled the device noted that this was the first time that an E-cell was used in an explosive device in the U.S.⁸⁷ Additionally, the Semtex military grade explosives used in all three devices were brought from Czechoslovakia, and were found to match the Semtex used earlier in the series of FBSO letter bomb devices sent to the U.S. (see September 20 – November 10, 1972).⁸⁸

Al-Jawary, who was believed to have received assistance from two other accomplices, rented three cars: a 1973 Dodge Dart, a 1972 Plymouth Duster, and a Plymouth Fury. The first two bombs were placed inside the Dart and the Duster; the larger device, which Al-Jawary drove to the El Al terminal himself, was placed in the Fury. An Israeli newspaper with Black

September and PLO propaganda materials inserted inside of each was also placed on the dashboard of all three cars.

On the morning of March 4, the day of Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir’s visit to New York, Al-Jawary drove the Fury to the El Al terminal and parked it. The devices were set to explode simultaneously at 12 noon. All three devices failed to explode due to defective circuitry in each of the three fuses.⁸⁹

The National Security Agency received an intercepted communication from a foreign intelligence agency on March 5 revealing the exact location of the three devices and notified the FBI.⁹⁰ On the morning of March 5, the Dart on Fifth Avenue was towed away and impounded. On March 6, the Duster was also towed away. A rental car supervisor was called to the impound lot, and discovered the bombs inside the Dart, and later on, in the Duster. The New York Police Department’s bomb disposal unit was called to the lot. On the night of March 6, the third device was found at the El Al terminal and was dismantled by the NYPD.⁹¹

The NYPD detonated one of the smaller devices, which produced a fireball 25 feet in diameter and between 50 and 75 feet in height. John Malone, the FBI New York office assistant director in charge, stated, “Anyone within 100 yards would have been killed. Hundreds would have been killed.”⁹²

The FBI and NYPD assessed that had the device at the El Al terminal detonated, it would have created a fireball measuring 50 yards in both height and width. It would have emitted a shock wave of 150 yards in both height and width that would have torn through the terminal and into the ground beneath it. Any planes flying in the vicinity at an altitude of 100 yards or higher would have been propelled sideways.⁹³

Al-Jawary and two accomplices escaped from the U.S. before they could be found and arrested. A false passport, bomb making components, and his fingerprints were recovered from Al-Jawary’s motel room in Queens⁹⁴ and additional fingerprints were found inside the three rental cars.⁹⁵ The FBI further discovered that he had received a wire transfer of \$1500 from Beirut.⁹⁶ A grand jury filed an indictment against Al-Jawary and any accomplices in absentia on May 22, 1973. He was believed to have made his way to Europe.⁹⁷

⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁸⁵ Goldman and Herschaft, “AP Impact: Freedom looms for terrorist,” Associated Press, January 24, 2009.

⁸⁶ Tim Weiner, *Enemies: A History of the FBI*, (New York: Random House, 2012), p. 321.

⁸⁷ “FBI special agent Mike Finnegan’s relentless pursuit of terrorist bomber Khalid Al-Jawary,” Government Security News, September 16, 2014, http://gsnmagazine.com/article/42480/fbi_special_agent_mike_finnegan's_relentless_pursu

⁸⁸ Adam Goldman and Randy Herschaft, “AP Impact: Freedom Looms for Terrorist,” January 24, 2009, Associated Press, <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/huff-wires/20090124/mystery-terrorist/>

⁸⁹ Weiner, *Enemies: A History of the FBI*, p. 320-321.

⁹⁰ “How the US foiled a Black September plot to assassinate Golda Meir,” Jerusalem Post, March 7, 2016, <http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/How-the-US-foiled-a-Black-September-plot-to-assassinate-Golda-Meir-447106>

⁹¹ Weiner, *Enemies: A History of the FBI*, p. 321.

⁹² “Iraqi linked to Black September is linked to bomb-planting here,” New York Times, March 18, 1973, <http://www.nytimes.com/1973/03/16/archives/iraqi-linked-to-black-september-is-sought-in-bombplanting-here.html>

⁹³ Weiner, *Enemies: A History of the FBI*, p. 321.

⁹⁴ Ibid.

⁹⁵ “Iraqi wanted in US for 18 years is seized,” New York Times, January 19, 1991, <http://www.nytimes.com/1991/01/19/us/war-in-the-gulf-iraqi-wanted-in-us-for-18-years-is-seized.html>

⁹⁶ Weiner, *Enemies: A History of the FBI*, p. 321.

⁹⁷ “Terrorist indicted for bomb plot against Israeli installations,” Jewish Telegraphic Agency, May 23, 1973, <http://www.jta.org/1973/05/23/archive/terrorist-indicted-for-bomb-plot-against-israeli-installations>

On the first day of the 1991 US-Iraq war, Al-Jawary was arrested in Rome on January 16 for using forged documents while traveling. He was attempting to travel to Tunisia to attend the funeral of Salah Khalaf, a.k.a. Abu Iyad, a top official in both Fatah and Black September. At the time of his arrest, Al-Jawary was using his nom de guerre, Abu Walid Al-Iraqi.⁹⁸ He was extradited to the U.S., and his trial began on March 5, 1993.⁹⁹ Al-Jawary was convicted three days later and sentenced in April 1993 to 30 years in prison.¹⁰⁰

After the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1993, and following the PLO's establishment of the Palestinian Authority (PA) in 1994, Al-Jawary's Fatah comrades actively sought his early release from prison from U.S. officials. In August 1995 Nasser Yusuf, then the PA director general of public security, made an appeal to the National Security Council of the Clinton Administration. Yusuf requested that Al-Jawary receive an early release from prison and referred to him as "Khalid Al-Jassem." In an attempt to minimize Al-Jawary's responsibility for the execution of the bomb plot, Yusuf asserted that Al-Jawary was simply "following orders." Yusuf further "argue[d] that Israel-PLO peace supports his request for early release." Yusuf's request was denied.¹⁰¹

In 2000, Al-Jawary gave a sworn statement to U.S. immigration officials asserting that he is both a member of the PLO and Hamas.¹⁰² After he served 16 years of his sentence, he was released from prison in January 2009 with credit for time served and good behavior. He was deported to Sudan on March 3, 2009.¹⁰³

July 1, 1973

MD: Chevy Chase

Assassination of Israeli assistant air force and naval attaché Colonel Yosef Alon, reportedly by Fatah's Black September Organization, outside of his home in suburban Washington, D.C.

At close to 1:00 am, Colonel Yosef ("Joe") Alon, an assistant air and naval attaché at the Israeli Embassy, was returning home with his wife Devora from a farewell party for a colleague. He parked his car in the driveway and Devora Alon exited the car and walked onto the porch. Alon exited the car, and reached for his jacket. Devora Alon suddenly heard

gunfire, and she ran into the house to call emergency services, the police, and the embassy. An unidentified assassin opened fire on Alon from approximately six feet away with a .38 caliber revolver of foreign manufacture. Devora Alon came back outside to find Alon lying on his back in a pool of blood and saw a light colored car slowly drive away. She and her 17-year-old daughter Dalia tried to staunch Alon's wounds while they waited for an ambulance. Alon died after arriving at the hospital.¹⁰⁴

On the same day, the Cairo-based radio station Voice of Palestine (VOP) broadcast a claim of direct responsibility for the attack. Fatah ran the Voice of Palestine together with the Palestinian Affairs department of the Egyptian military's General Intelligence Division.¹⁰⁵ The VOP declared that Alon, whom it described as "the air attaché and deputy military attaché at the enemies' embassy in Washington, was executed." It continued, "This is the first execution operation carried out against a Zionist official in the U.S."¹⁰⁶

Although the FBI and the Montgomery County Police never officially solved Alon's murder, in recent years the involvement of Fatah's Black September Organization (FBSO) has become more clear due to new histories of the period, releases of memoirs by Western government officials and PLO figures, and investigative reporting on the terrorist attacks of that time.

A recent biography of the late CIA Beirut station manager Robert Ames provided the perspective of the FBSO on the attack. Ames developed a long-term intelligence backchannel in the 1970s with the PLO's Ali Hassan Salameh, who was also operations chief of FBSO and the architect of the Munich Olympics attack.¹⁰⁷ Following Alon's assassination, Ames sent an urgent message to Salameh asking if the FBSO was operating on U.S. soil. It is not known if Salameh answered him. Mustafa Zein, an associate of Salameh who also assisted Ames as a liaison to Salameh, believed that Salameh himself ordered Alon's "execution."¹⁰⁸

The account further describes that the FBSO's original assassination target was then Israeli ambassador to the U.S., Yitzhak Rabin, who served in that post until March 1973 and was replaced afterward by Simcha Dinitz. After surveilling the security surrounding the ambassador, the FBSO

⁹⁸ "Iraqi wanted in US for 18 years is seized," New York Times, January 19, 1991, <http://www.nytimes.com/1991/01/19/us/war-in-the-gulf-iraqi-wanted-in-us-for-18-years-is-seized.html>

⁹⁹ "Twenty years later, Iraqi faces trial in case of 3 bombings that failed," New York Times, March 2, 1993, <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/03/02/nyregion/20-years-later-iraqi-faces-trial-in-case-of-3-bombings-that-fizzled.html>

¹⁰⁰ "Freedom looms for convicted terrorist," Associated Press, January 24, 2009, http://www.nbcnews.com/id/28828003/ns/world_news-terrorism/t/freedom-looms-convicted-terrorist/#.V6Ns1lcazBk

¹⁰¹ FOIA 2009-0258-F - Khalid (also spelled Khaled) Al-Jawary (also spelled Al-Jawari)," Clinton Digital Library, accessed June 2, 2016, <http://clinton.presidentiallibraries.us/items/show/14625>.

¹⁰² "Terrorist in NY bomb plot deported to Sudan," Associated Press, March 4, 2009, http://www.nbcnews.com/id/29510024/ns/world_news-terrorism/t/terrorist-ny-bomb-plot-deported-sudan/#.V2zJkVFYtTc

¹⁰³ "Convicted Black September terrorist Khalid Al-Jawary deported to Sudan," Associated Press, March 4, 2009, <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/crime/convicted-black-september-terrorist-khalid-al-jawary-deported-sudan-article-1.366053>

¹⁰⁴ Adam Goldman and Randy Herschaft, "FBI, CIA offer clues in slaying of Israeli diplomat," Associated Press, July 1, 2007, <http://www.nysun.com/national/fbi-cia-documents-offer-clues-in-slaying/57648/>

¹⁰⁵ Correspondence with Ehud Yaari, Middle East analyst for Israel's Channel 2 Television.

¹⁰⁶ "5 shots kill Israeli aide in Bethesda," Washington Post, July 2, 1973.

¹⁰⁷ "In the end, CIA-PLO links weren't helpful," Washington Post, November 12, 2004, http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/uniontrib/20041112/news_lz1e12ignatiu.html

¹⁰⁸ Kai Bird, *The Good Spy*, (New York: Crown Publishers, 2014), p. 148.

perpetrators regarded assassinating him as insurmountable and reconsidered their capabilities. Alon was chosen as their target instead. An FBSO operative using the nom de guerre “Abu Faris,” who was African in appearance, led the team of assassins.¹⁰⁹

Additionally, as the result of a 2007 investigative project by the Associated Press, a 1977 FBI document that was partially declassified revealed the CIA received information from a PLO “senior official” indicating that the FBSO was responsible for the assassination. The document reported that two Arab students who were FBSO operatives entered the U.S. through Canada using either Lebanese or Cypriot passports.¹¹⁰ A recent history of the FBI indicated that two accomplices of the FBSO terrorist Khalid Al-Jawary were most likely responsible for the assassination of Alon (see March 4, 1973).¹¹¹

The two FBSO operatives traveled to Washington D.C., where they contacted an Arab professor who assisted them logistically in carrying out the attack. While they were in Washington, they lodged with other students and rented a car. The professor rented a separate car, prepared their weapons, and positioned the weapons in the car before the attack. After the two FBSO operatives assassinated Alon, they disposed of the car with the weapons and drove to Dulles Airport with the car they rented. They flew to the West Coast, then to the Far East, and escaped back to the Middle East.¹¹²

March 9-11, 1977

Washington, D.C.

Hanafi Muslim takeover of B'nai B'rith's national office building and subsequent 40-hour hostage standoff.

During the late morning and afternoon of Wednesday, March 9, 1977, 11 radicalized African-American men led by Khalifa (Caliph) Hamaas Abdul Khaalis calling themselves Hanafi Muslims attacked and took over three separate buildings in Washington D.C. The Hanafis were a self-styled extremist breakaway group from the anti-Semitic Nation of Islam.

Abdul Khaalis and his group demanded that the film *The Message*, also called *Muhammad Messenger of God*, not be shown in U.S. theaters because they asserted it depicted the Prophet Muhammad and was therefore “blasphemous”¹¹³ and offensive to Muslims. Abdul Khaalis also demanded that the government turn over five Nation of Islam members¹¹⁴ to him to be beheaded, in accordance with his own interpretation of Islam. The five men were convicted and sentenced for the murder of seven members of Abdul Khaalis' family in 1973.¹¹⁵ He also demanded that the three Black Muslims who assassinated Malcolm X be turned over to him for similar retribution.¹¹⁶

Prior to the attack, members of the group conducted surveillance of the B'nai B'rith office by getting construction jobs on the building expansion project that was taking place at the time.¹¹⁷ In preparation for the attacks, Abdul Khaalis engaged his men in daily military-style drills at the Hanafi Muslim Center.¹¹⁸

Armed with guns, machetes, and hatchets, Abdul Khaalis and six of his followers drove up to the B'nai B'rith national office building in a U-Haul truck.¹¹⁹ They burst into the building at 11 a.m. and violently rounded up B'nai B'rith employees floor by floor, firing shots and pistol-whipping them. They took over 120 hostages.¹²⁰ One of the hostages, Rae Ehrlich, recalled that Abdul Khaalis told the hostages “[I]f anyone does anything wrong, he'll cut their head [off] and throw it out of the window.”¹²¹

Some of the hostages were beaten and stabbed.¹²² One of the Hanafi terrorists, Abdul Hamid, also known as Hilvan Judge Finch, struck Charles Fenyvesi in the eye with the barrel of a gun, and then punched him in the mouth.¹²³ Another of the Hanafi terrorists struck Paul Green with his rifle barrel, breaking his cheekbone in six places.¹²⁴ Green described Abdul Khaalis as being “violently anti-Semitic.” Green further recalled Abdul Khaalis telling the hostages that “the Jews are responsible for the ills of the world, that we should be prepared to die, that they [the Hanafis] were soldiers in a holy

¹⁰⁹ Bird, *The Good Spy*, p. 148-149.

¹¹⁰ Adam Goldman and Randy Herschaft, “FBI, CIA offer clues in slaying of Israeli diplomat,” Associated Press, July 1, 2007, <http://www.nysun.com/national/fbi-cia-documents-offer-clues-in-slaying/57648/>

¹¹¹ Tim Weiner, *Enemies: A History of the FBI*, (New York: Random House, 2012), p. 322.

¹¹² Adam Goldman and Randy Herschaft, “FBI, CIA offer clues in slaying of Israeli diplomat,” Associated Press, July 1, 2007, <http://www.nysun.com/national/fbi-cia-documents-offer-clues-in-slaying/57648/>

¹¹³ “No apologies, says Khaalis after Hanafis are sentenced,” Associated Press, September 7, 1977,

¹¹⁴ Ibid.

¹¹⁵ Sean Patrick Griffin, *Philadelphia's Black Mafia: A Social and Political History*, (Massachusetts: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2003) notes, p. 38-39.

¹¹⁶ “Muslims still hold 100 hostages as negotiations in capital go on; police hope to wait out gunmen,” New York Times, March 11, 1977, <http://www.nytimes.com/1977/03/11/archives/moslems-still-hold-100-hostages-as-negotiations-in-capital-go-on.html>

¹¹⁷ “Diabetic tells of captivity under Hanafis,” Washington Post, June 17, 1977, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1977/06/17/diabetic-tells-of-captivity-under-hanafis/9c64ecd3-abb1-4326-a0e7-facff6127b8f/>

¹¹⁸ “Hamaas Khaalis: A 4-year grudge,” New York Times, March 11, 1977, <http://www.nytimes.com/1977/03/11/archives/hamaas-khaalis-a-4year-grudge-hamaas-khaalis-fouryear-grudge.html>

¹¹⁹ “The Message: The movie that sparked a hostage crisis in DC,” The Atlantic, November 20, 2012, <http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2012/11/the-message-the-movie-about-islam-that-sparked-a-hostage-crisis-in-dc/264939/>

¹²⁰ “12 Hanafis given stiff sentences,” Washington Post, September 7, 1977, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/09/07/12-hanafis-given-stiff-sentences/703ca3b3-ccb8-4a78-844c-49b7ecc52fcf/>

¹²¹ “Some things you never forget,” Washington Post, March 12, 2007, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/03/11/AR2007031101562.html>

¹²² “The Hanafi siege of 1977,” Boundary Stones, WETA, March 14, 2014, <http://blogs.weta.org/boundarystones/2014/03/14/hanafi-siege-1977#footnote-3>

¹²³ “Diabetic tells of captivity under Hanafis,” Washington Post, June 17, 1977, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1977/06/17/diabetic-tells-of-captivity-under-hanafis/9c64ecd3-abb1-4326-a0e7-facff6127b8f/>

¹²⁴ “Boynton man recalls being held hostage in 1977 DC terrorist attack,” Palm Beach Post, March 17, 2016, <http://www.mypalmbeachpost.com/news/news/local/boynton-man-recalls-being-held-hostage-in-1977-dc-/nqmdW/>

war, that they were prepared to die and that more civilians die in a holy war than soldiers.”¹²⁵ Abdul Khaalis also cited the notorious anti-Semitic propaganda tract, “The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion,”¹²⁶ to the B’nai B’rith hostages.

At one point during the incident, Abdul Khaalis told Hank Siegel, the B’nai B’rith press officer, to come over to him and ordered one of his men to aim a gun at Siegel’s head. Khaalis announced, “The elevator is coming up. If there’s a cop on it, he’s dead and you’re dead.” The elevator was empty.¹²⁷ Siegel witnessed the Hanafis attacking and stabbing one of the African-American employees of B’nai B’rith, tormenting him in particular “because he was working for the Jews.”¹²⁸

One of the female hostages was stabbed twice. Sandra F. Rosen, who was struck in the eye, provided first aid to the stabbed hostage. Abdul Adam, another of the Hanafis, approached her. He told her, “I see the hate in your eyes, you Yahudi [Jewish] whore, and when we go to work on you, you’ll be sorry.”¹²⁹

Approximately one hour after the takeover of the B’nai B’rith building, the Hanafis took over the Islamic Center of Washington and the District Building, Washington D.C.’s city hall, at Judiciary Square. Abdul Khaalis was reported to be enraged at the Islamic Center over an earlier comment of one of its representatives. Following the trial of the murderers of his family, an Islamic Center spokesman stated that the Hanafis’ understanding of Islam was “superficial.”¹³⁰

At the District Building, Abdul Muzikir, also known as Marquette Anthony, fired double-O buckshot into the face of WHUR radio news reporter Maurice Williams, killing him.¹³¹ He wounded Mark P. Cantrell, a security officer who later died in the hospital of a heart attack.¹³² Muzikir also shot and wounded a Washington D.C. city council aide, Robert Pierce.¹³³ Muzikir fired double-O buckshot at Pierce at point-blank range into his back as Pierce was lying on the floor with his hands tied behind his back.¹³⁴ Pierce was described as “crippled for life” as the result of his wounds.¹³⁵ A ricocheted bullet fired by the Hanafis wounded Marion Barry, then a Washington D.C.

councilman.¹³⁶ A total of 40 people were wounded in the three takeovers.

Three ambassadors from Muslim countries volunteered to assist in the hostage negotiations with the police: Ardeshir Zahedi of Iran (then representing the Shah’s government), Ashraf Ghorbal of Egypt, and Sahabzada Yaqub Khan of Pakistan. They called Abdul Khaalis from the Islamic Center and spoke to him for many hours on the telephone. They also read Qur’anic passages to him focused on the theme of compassion, and asked him to be compassionate towards the hostages.¹³⁷

On Thursday night, March 10, the three ambassadors met Abdul Khaalis in person at the B’nai B’rith building together with Metropolitan Police Chief Maurice Cullinane. They met for three hours, and concluded at 11 p.m. with an agreement that the hostages would be released the next day. At that time, the three ambassadors left the negotiations, and Abdul Khaalis still had to negotiate the terms of the Hanafis’ surrender to the police. In the meantime, the Hanafis poured highly flammable liquid, reported to be paint thinner, throughout the stairwells of the building. They were preparing to set fire to the building with the hostages inside of it. Abdul Khaalis told the police chief he needed to save face, and continued to make threats. One of the men who was involved in the negotiations described the B’nai B’rith building as, “literally a torch without a match.”¹³⁸

At approximately 1 a.m. on Friday, March 11, Chief Cullinane was ultimately successful in convincing Abdul Khaalis and his men to surrender. Abdul Khaalis agreed that they would put down their weapons in exchange for leniency before their trial. Abdul Khaalis was allowed to go home and his followers were allowed to be released on bail.¹³⁹

Abdul Khaalis and his group were indicted on May 3, 1977, and were convicted of armed kidnapping and conspiracy on July 24, 1977.¹⁴⁰ At the trial, Abdul Khaalis asserted that there was a “Zionist Jewish conspiracy” to take over the United States and the world.¹⁴¹

¹²⁵ “Diabetic tells of captivity under Hanafis,” Washington Post, June 17, 1977, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1977/06/17/diabetic-tells-of-captivity-under-hanafis/9c64ecd3-abb1-4326-a0e7-facff6127b8f/>

¹²⁶ Ibid.

¹²⁷ Griffin, Philadelphia’s Black Mafia: A Social and Political History, notes, p. 38.

¹²⁸ Ibid.

¹²⁹ “Diabetic tells of captivity under Hanafis,” Washington Post, June 17, 1977, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1977/06/17/diabetic-tells-of-captivity-under-hanafis/9c64ecd3-abb1-4326-a0e7-facff6127b8f/>

¹³⁰ Griffin, Philadelphia’s Black Mafia: A Social and Political History, notes, p. 39.

¹³¹ Ibid., notes, p. 38.

¹³² “12 Hanafis given stiff sentences,” Washington Post, September 7, 1977, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/09/07/12-hanafis-given-stiff-sentences/703ca3b3-ccb8-4a78-844c-49b7ecc52fcd/>

¹³³ “No apologies, says Khaalis after Hanafis are sentenced,” Associated Press, September 7, 1977, <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1298&dat=19770907&id=4t9NAAAIBAJ&sjid=CosDAAAIBAJ&pg=6722,960583>

¹³⁴ Griffin, Philadelphia’s Black Mafia: A Social and Political History, notes, p. 38.

¹³⁵ “12 Hanafis given stiff sentences,” Washington Post, September 7, 1977, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/09/07/12-hanafis-given-stiff-sentences/703ca3b3-ccb8-4a78-844c-49b7ecc52fcd/>

¹³⁶ “The Hanafi siege of 1977,” Boundary Stones, WETA, March 14, 2014, <http://blogs.weta.org/boundarystones/2014/03/14/hanafi-siege-1977#footnote-3>

¹³⁷ “The Hanafi siege of 1977,” Boundary Stones, WETA, March 14, 2014, <http://blogs.weta.org/boundarystones/2014/03/14/hanafi-siege-1977#footnote-3>

¹³⁸ “Officials say Hanafi posed arson threat near end of siege,” New York Times, March 14, 1977, http://www.nytimes.com/1977/03/14/archives/officials-say-hanafi-posed-arson-threat-near-end-of-siege-moslems.html?_r=0

¹³⁹ Ibid.

¹⁴⁰ Griffin, Philadelphia’s Black Mafia: A Social and Political History, notes, p. 39

¹⁴¹ Ibid., p. 38.

Hamaas Abdul Khaalis was sentenced to 41-123 years in prison, with a requirement to serve the full minimum term. Following his sentencing, Abdul Khaalis stated to the court, "I am not going to apologize," and went on to assert that he was defending his religion and country when he and his group took over the B'nai B'rith building, the Islamic Center, and the District Building.¹⁴² Abdul Khaalis further warned, "Today America is in very, very grave trouble, and nobody seems to listen. These problems are grave problems and you need my help bad [sic]." He continued, "We've strayed so far that the people laugh and smile when they see homosexuals. God destroyed them – Sodom and Gomorrah . . . Whatever happens is the will of Allah."¹⁴³

Despite the takeover of the Islamic Center, Dr. Mostafa Momen, the advisor to the Islamic Center in the United Arab Emirates, sent a cable to Abdul Khaalis' defense attorney to be read at the sentencing attesting that, "We Arabs in the Arab world bear witness that Khalifa [caliph] Hamaas is a true Muslim leader who stood for the character and respect of Islam and he showed mercy by releasing 129 souls."¹⁴⁴ Abdul Khaalis died in prison in 2003.¹⁴⁵

The others involved in the B'nai B'rith takeover were Abdul Adam, who received a sentence of 44-132 years in prison, Abdul Latif, also known as Carl E. Roper, who received 36-108 years in prison, Abdul Shaaheed, also known as Marvin Sadler, who received 36-108 years in prison, Abdul Salaam, also known as Clarence White, who received a sentence of 40-120 years in prison, Abdul Hamid, also known as Hilvan Judge Finch, received a sentence of 36-108 years in prison, and Abdul Razzaq, also known as Nelson McQueen, Jr. and Norman Lee, who received a sentence of 40-120 years in prison.¹⁴⁶

The two Hanafis who took over the District Building were Abu Muzikir, who was convicted of second-degree murder for killing Maurice Williams. He received a sentence of 77 years to life in prison.¹⁴⁷ Abdul Nuh, also known as Mark E. Gibson, received a sentence of 47 years to life in prison.¹⁴⁸

The three Hanafis who took over the Islamic Center were three brothers: Abdul Rahman, also known as Clyde Young, who received a sentence of 28-84 years in prison, Abdul Rahim, also known as Philip Young, who received a sentence of 28-84 years

in prison, and Abdul Al-Qawee, also known as Samuel Young, who received a sentence of 24-72 years in prison. The judge asked the Justice Department that each of the 12 Hanafis, including Khaalis, be sent to a separate prison.¹⁴⁹

July 25, 1977

MD: Rockville

White supremacist and serial killer Joseph Paul Franklin bombed the home of then AIPAC Executive Director Morris Amitay.

At 3:20 a.m., the force of an explosion blasted out a door and a window and ripped a 10-foot hole into the side of the house of then AIPAC Executive Director Morris Amitay.¹⁵⁰ He and his family were asleep in the house at the time. The family's beagle puppy was killed in the explosion. There were no human injuries. Investigators discovered 400 feet of electrical cord leading from the house that they surmised was connected to a detonator for the bomb.¹⁵¹ Serial killer and white supremacist Joseph Paul Franklin later confessed his responsibility for the incident.

July 29, 1977

TN: Chattanooga

Bombing and destruction of Beth Sholom synagogue on a Sabbath evening.

Four days after the bombing of Amitay's home, white supremacist Joseph Paul Franklin drove to Chattanooga and chose Beth Sholom synagogue as his next target. He placed a mixture of 50 pounds of water gel explosives and five sticks of dynamite¹⁵² inside a crawl space under the floor of Beth Sholom synagogue. He intended to set it off with worshippers inside. Franklin later called the synagogue to determine the time of Friday night services.

On that Friday night, eight men came for Sabbath services, but since they did not have a quorum, they completed their prayers early. Less than an hour after the congregants completed services, Franklin detonated the explosives and the building exploded. The blast utterly demolished the synagogue,¹⁵³ but the congregation's three Torahs were somehow unscathed.¹⁵⁴ There were no injuries. Investigators discovered 100 yards of wire used to detonate the bomb that

¹⁴² "No apologies, says Khaalis after Hanafis are sentenced," Associated Press, September 7, 1977, <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1298&dat=19770907&id=4t9NAAAIBAJ&sjid=CosDAAAIBAJ&pg=6722,960583>

¹⁴³ "12 Hanafis given stiff sentences," Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/09/07/12-hanafis-given-stiff-sentences/703ca3b3-ccb8-4a78-844c-49b7ecc52fcl/>

¹⁴⁴ "12 Hanafis given stiff sentences," Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/09/07/12-hanafis-given-stiff-sentences/703ca3b3-ccb8-4a78-844c-49b7ecc52fcl/>

¹⁴⁵ "Boynton man recalls being held hostage in 1977 DC terrorist attack," Palm Beach Post, March 17, 2016, <http://www.mypalmbeachpost.com/news/news/local/boynton-man-recalls-being-held-hostage-in-1977-dc-/nqmDw/>

¹⁴⁶ "12 Hanafis given stiff sentences," Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/09/07/12-hanafis-given-stiff-sentences/703ca3b3-ccb8-4a78-844c-49b7ecc52fcl/>

¹⁴⁷ "No apologies, says Khaalis after Hanafis are sentenced," Associated Press, September 7, 1977, <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1298&dat=19770907&id=4t9NAAAIBAJ&sjid=CosDAAAIBAJ&pg=6722,960583>

¹⁴⁸ "12 Hanafis given stiff sentences," Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/09/07/12-hanafis-given-stiff-sentences/703ca3b3-ccb8-4a78-844c-49b7ecc52fcl/>

¹⁴⁹ "No apologies, says Khaalis after Hanafis are sentenced," Associated Press, September 7, 1977, <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1298&dat=19770907&id=4t9NAAAIBAJ&sjid=CosDAAAIBAJ&pg=6722,960583>

¹⁵⁰ "Probe continues into bombing incident," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, July 27, 1977, <http://www.jta.org/1977/07/27/archive/probe-continues-into-bombing-incident>

¹⁵¹ "Israel lobbyist's home damaged by bomb blast," Washington Post, July 20, 1977, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/07/26/israel-lobbyists-home-damaged-by-bomb-blast/6beb8322-654d-46e5-924a-56a18cc221e5/>

¹⁵² "Confessions of a Chattanooga serial killer," Times Free Press, November 19, 2013, <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/local/story/2013/nov/19/confessions-of-a-hate-killertoo-many-deaths-to/124466/>

¹⁵³ "Confessions of a Chattanooga serial killer," Times Free Press, November 19, 2013, <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/local/story/2013/nov/19/confessions-of-a-hate-killertoo-many-deaths-to/124466/>

¹⁵⁴ "Torah covers, sacred textiles on exhibit at the Jewish Cultural Center," Chattanooga.com, December 5, 2011, <http://www.chattanooga.com/2011/12/5/214831/Torah-Covers-Sacred-Textiles-On.aspx>

led from the synagogue to a nearby motel.¹⁵⁵ Franklin later confessed to police that he came to Chattanooga “to kill Jews.”¹⁵⁶ He further stated to a detective, “I was trying to kill as many Jews as I could.”¹⁵⁷

October 8, 1977

MO: *Richmond Heights*

Gerald Gordon was killed and William Lee Ash was injured when Joseph Paul Franklin, a white supremacist serial killer, shot at worshippers leaving a bar mitzvah at Brith Sholom Kneseth Israel Congregation on a Sabbath afternoon

On a Sabbath afternoon as they departed a bar mitzvah luncheon at Brith Sholom Kneseth Israel Congregation (BSKI), a sniper shot at three Orthodox Jewish men at shortly before 1 p.m. Gerald Gordon died from his injuries, and William Lee Ash lost a finger and was wounded in the hip. A bullet passed through the suit coat of a third man, Steve Goldman, who was not injured.¹⁵⁸ White supremacist serial killer Joseph Paul Franklin was later arrested for a series of other attacks and confessed to the murder at the synagogue. He later told an interviewer, “I wanted to kill as many Jews as I could.”¹⁵⁹

During his 1997 trial, prosecutors explained that Franklin prepared for the attack by purchasing a Remington 700 hunting rifle in Texas. He then drove to Oklahoma City, but changed his mind about carrying out an attack at a synagogue there because he thought there was a larger Jewish community in St. Louis. During the last week of September or early October, Franklin arrived in St. Louis and began to research targets. First, he looked up synagogues in the telephone book. Franklin chose BSKI in the Richmond Heights area after he surveilled other nearby synagogues.

Franklin chose a spot behind a telephone pole with a view of the BSKI parking lot that had tall grass and bushes that would give him adequate cover to carry out his attack. He purchased a bicycle, a guitar case to hide his rifle, and 10-inch nails. Franklin ground off the hunting rifle’s serial number and placed it into the guitar case and wiped both clean of fingerprints.¹⁶⁰ He used gloves afterward to avoid leaving fingerprints. On

the morning of the attack, he parked his car close to the synagogue and rode his bicycle the rest of the way. He hid in the grass and prepared for his ambush by hammering the 10-inch nails into the telephone pole to serve as rifle rests. He fired five shots at the men leaving synagogue, then rode his bicycle back to his car and escaped to Memphis.¹⁶¹

From 1977 to 1980, Franklin (born James Clayton Vaughn) carried out a three-year series of sniper shootings and bombings targeting Jews, African-Americans, and interracial couples. He confessed to having killed or tried to kill over 20 people. He also attempted to kill civil rights leader Vernon Jordan, and adult magazine publisher Larry Flynt.¹⁶² At a relatively young age, Franklin became an admirer of Hitler and by the age of 19, became involved in the American Nazi Party and subsequently the National Socialist White People’s Party.¹⁶³ To evade arrest, he changed his name in 1976¹⁶⁴ to reflect his ideological admiration for both World War II Nazi propagandist Joseph Goebbels and Benjamin Franklin.¹⁶⁵ Franklin confessed to the murder of Gordon and was sentenced to death in 1997. He was executed in 2013.¹⁶⁶

William Pierce, the late leader of the neo-Nazi National Alliance, considered Franklin to be a hero. In 1989 Pierce wrote *Hunter*, a work of fiction based on Franklin’s murderous racist and anti-Semitic attacks. It became a best seller among followers of white supremacist groups.¹⁶⁷

December 6, 1980

CA: *Temple City*

Arson at Temple Beth David of Temple City by two local officials of the American Nazi Party.

At 3 a.m. on December 6, during the Chanukah holiday, Temple Beth David was set on fire. The fire caused extensive damage. American Nazi Party chapter commander Michael Canale was arrested on December 12, and his chapter lieutenant, Donald Neilson,¹⁶⁸ was arrested on December 13.¹⁶⁹ Canale confessed to investigators that he climbed through an unlocked window in order to start the fire.¹⁷⁰ In August of 1981 Canale was sentenced to four years in prison.¹⁷¹

¹⁵⁵ “Federal agents studying similarities between explosion in synagogue and bombing of Amitay’s home,” JTA, August 5, 1977, <http://www.jta.org/1977/08/05/archive/federal-agents-studying-similarities-between-explosion-in-synagogue-and-bombing-of-amitays-home>

¹⁵⁶ “Former Klansman indicted in bombing of a synagogue,” New York Times, March 8, 1984, <http://www.nytimes.com/1984/03/08/us/former-klansman-indicted-in-bombing-of-a-synagogue.html>

¹⁵⁷ “Confessions of a Chattanooga serial killer,” Times Free Press, November 19 2013, <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/local/story/2013/nov/19/confessions-of-a-hate-killertoo-many-deaths-to/124466/>

¹⁵⁸ “Three decades later, the effects of synagogue shooting are still being felt,” St. Louis Beacon, May 25, 2010, [https://www.stlbeacon.org/#/list/AND\[AUTHOR\[ellen_futtermann\]\]](https://www.stlbeacon.org/#/list/AND[AUTHOR[ellen_futtermann]])

¹⁵⁹ “Up next for execution: The man who shot Larry Flynt and Vernon Jordan,” St. Louis Post Dispatch, November 17, 2013, http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/up-next-for-execution-the-man-who-shot-larry-flynt/article_e7c787c5-c30f-5a3e-b5bf-1441b21254a4.html

¹⁶⁰ “State of Missouri v Joseph P. Franklin, 969 S.W.2d 743 (Mo.banc 1998),” Missouri Death Row, December 11, 2013, <http://missourideathrow.com/2008/12/Franklin-Joseph/>

¹⁶¹ “Three decades later, the effects of synagogue shooting are still being felt,” St. Louis Beacon, May 25, 2010, [https://www.stlbeacon.org/#/list/AND\[AUTHOR\[ellen_futtermann\]\]](https://www.stlbeacon.org/#/list/AND[AUTHOR[ellen_futtermann]])

¹⁶² Ibid.

¹⁶³ “Killer fueled by racial hate set to be executed,” USA Today, October 27, 2013, <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/10/27/killer-fueled-by-racial-hate-set-to-be-executed/3272387/>

¹⁶⁴ “Joseph Paul Franklin Timeline,” Salt Lake City Tribune, November 20, 2013, <http://archive.sltrib.com/story.php?ref=/sltrib/mobile3/57119474-219/franklin-1980-american-african.html.csp>

¹⁶⁵ “Part 4: Serial Killers - White supremacist Joseph Franklin,” Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, January 14, 2014, <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2014/january/serial-killers-part-4-joseph-paul-franklin>

¹⁶⁶ “Missouri executes serial killer after Supreme Court clears way,” Reuters, November 20, 2013, <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-execution-missouri-idUSBRE9AJ06B20131120>

¹⁶⁷ “Extremist Files: William Pierce,” Southern Poverty Law Center, no date, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/william-pierce>

¹⁶⁸ “Two American Nazi Party members who allegedly told police that they set fire,” United Press International, May 18, 1981, <http://www.upi.com/Archives/1981/05/18/Two-American-Nazi-Party-leaders-who-allegedly-told-police/8393359006400/>

¹⁶⁹ “Two charged with synagogue fire in Temple City,” Los Angeles Times, December 4, 1980.

¹⁷⁰ “Two Nazis admit setting blaze at synagogue,” Los Angeles Times, May 19, 1981.

¹⁷¹ “The Southland,” Los Angeles Times, August 21, 1981.

May 25, 1981*TN: Nashville*

Foiled bombing attempt at The Temple by members of the Ku Klux Klan and American Nazi Party.

Two KKK members and an American Nazi Party member were arrested for conspiring together in an attempt to plant dynamite at The Temple synagogue in Nashville.¹⁷² Law enforcement officials sought seven others for a conspiracy to bomb Jewish-owned pawn shops.¹⁷³ In 1982, the three were sentenced. Gladys Girenti received 15 years, and Billy Joe Norton received five years. Both were members of the Confederate Vigilantes of the Ku Klux Klan.¹⁷⁴ The third perpetrator, William Foutch, of the American Nazi Party, was sentenced to 219 days in jail that he had already served, and 500 hours of community service.¹⁷⁵

October 8, 1982*NY: New York*

The New York offices of the Jewish Defense League were bombed. An unnamed woman claimed responsibility in the name of Palestinians.

At 11:57 p.m. a bomb exploded outside the sixth floor offices of the Jewish Defense League (JDL). Two walls and the front door were blown out, but there were no casualties.¹⁷⁶ A woman called to claim responsibility in the name of the Palestinians, declaring, "Long live the Palestinians. The JDL are the real terrorists."¹⁷⁷ The perpetrators were not found.

June 7, 1983 – September 21, 1983*NY: New York*

Four drive-by sniper shootings at Yeshiva University.

A series of four drive-by sniper shootings against Jewish targets took place in the vicinity of Yeshiva University from June to September of 1983. The first three incidents took place within the space of 15 days in June. The last incident occurred in late September. There were no claims of responsibility for any of the incidents. The sniper and his possible accomplices were never apprehended.¹⁷⁸

June 7, 1983 – Men in a car were reported to have carried out a drive-by shooting attack, spraying four bullets at the front door of Yeshiva University's Furst Hall.¹⁷⁹

June 9, 1983 – Six to nine shots were fired at the Jewish Memorial Hospital building, located in the same vicinity as the university. There were no injuries, and there was no claim of responsibility.¹⁸⁰

June 22, 1983 – In the third drive-by shooting, 20 rounds were fired into a local restaurant on the Yeshiva University campus popular with students. The injured included two rabbinical students, Abraham Weintraub and Yosef Aaron Zimmerman, and a 14-year-old high school student, Lee Needleman. They were brought to the hospital for treatment.¹⁸¹

Shortly afterward, the New York Police Department stated that ballistics tests showed the three sniper attacks were linked, having indicated that the same high velocity weapon was used in all three incidents.¹⁸²

September 21, 1983 – In the fourth sniper attack at Yeshiva University, a high school student was wounded in the knee while riding in a car with other students on the highway in the vicinity of the school. It was believed that the sniper and his accomplices followed the students' car as they departed from campus.¹⁸³

August 14 1983*IN: Bloomington*

Arson attack on the sanctuary of Beth Shalom synagogue by the survivalist white supremacist group, The Covenant, the Sword, and the Arm of the Lord.

A firebomb ignited a blaze at the base of the ark inside the sanctuary of Beth Shalom Jewish Religious and Community Center. One Torah scroll was significantly damaged, and prayer books were destroyed.¹⁸⁴ There were no injuries. James Ellison, the founder of the survivalist white supremacist group The Covenant, the Sword, and the Arm of Lord was indicted in April 1985 together with William Thomas, another member of the group. They were charged with conspiring to bomb the synagogue, an LGBT church in Springfield, Missouri, an interstate natural gas pipeline in Arkansas, and for mail fraud.¹⁸⁵

¹⁷² "Three held in Nashville in plot to bomb a synagogue," New York Times, May 26, 1981, <http://www.nytimes.com/1981/05/26/us/around-the-nation-3-held-in-nashville-in-plot-to-bomb-a-synagogue.html>

¹⁷³ "Lawmen searching for KKK members involved in synagogue bombing try," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, May 27, 1981, <http://www.jta.org/1981/05/27/archive/lawmen-searching-for-kkk-members-involved-in-synagogue-bombing-try>

¹⁷⁴ "Prison terms set in Klan bomb plot," Toledo Blade, January 6, 1982, <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1350&dat=19820105&id=uU5PAAAAIBAJ&sjid=qgIEAAAAIBAJ&pg=3965,1475199&hl=en>

¹⁷⁵ "Temple plotter is sentenced," New York Times, January 10, 1982.

¹⁷⁶ "JDL says it is investigating leads into bombing of its office," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, October 13, 1982, <http://www.jta.org/1982/10/13/archive/jdl-says-it-is-investigating-leads-into-bombing-of-its-office>

¹⁷⁷ "Bomb blast damages JDL's 38th St. office," New York Times, October 9, 1982.

¹⁷⁸ "Chilling reminder of city terror," New York Daily News, October 10, 2002, <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/chilling-reminder-city-terror-article-1.494203>

¹⁷⁹ "Yeshiva University shooting probed by FBI," New York Jewish Week, July 1, 1983.

¹⁸⁰ "All-out security set at YU after renewal of shootings," New York Jewish Week, September 23, 1983.

¹⁸¹ "Gunmen wound three students near Yeshiva U.," New York Times, June 23, 1983.

¹⁸² "Yeshiva shooting believed linked to 2 others," New York Times, July 24, 1983, <http://www.nytimes.com/1983/07/24/nyregion/crime-update-yeshiva-shooting-believed-linked-to-2-others.html>

¹⁸³ "\$15,000 reward for information leading to arrest of persons involved in sniper attack," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, September 22, 1983, <http://www.jta.org/1983/09/22/archive/15000-reward-offered-for-information-leading-to-arrest-of-person-or-persons-involved-in-sniper-att>

¹⁸⁴ "Arson seen possibility at Bloomington temple," Indiana Jewish Post Opinion, September 7, 1983, <http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/JPO/id/44171/show/44151>

¹⁸⁵ "Survivalist leader pleads innocent," Associated Press, April 26, 1985, <http://www.apnewsarchive.com/1985/Survivalist-Leader-Pleads-Innocent/id-1eaada514ad68262b732b214be0891e0>

Ellison was convicted of federal racketeering and weapons charges in July. In August he entered a plea bargain, admitting to one count of conspiracy and one weapons charge. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison on September 5, 1985.¹⁸⁶

Ellison received early release for agreeing to testify against members of the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations, another violent group. Upon his release from prison, Ellison went to Elohim City, a white supremacist enclave in Oklahoma.¹⁸⁷

April 29, 1984

ID: Boise

Bombing of Ahavath Israel synagogue by The Order, a neo-Nazi terrorist group.

As part of a larger campaign of attacks by the neo-Nazi terrorist group The Order, Bruce Carroll Pierce and Richard Kemp planted a time bomb underneath Congregation Ahavath Israel. The bomb detonated shortly after children left a class they attended in the building. The kitchen was destroyed, but there were no injuries. Robert Matthews, the founder of The Order, was furious the attack caused no casualties.¹⁸⁸ Pierce and Kemp were arrested and later tried and convicted on federal racketeering charges in December 1985. Pierce was sentenced to 100 years in prison, and Kemp received a 60-year sentence.¹⁸⁹

June 18, 1984

CO: Denver

Drive-by shooting murder of Denver Jewish talk show host Alan Berg by The Order.

Bruce Carroll Pierce of the neo-Nazi terrorist group The Order carried out the drive-by shooting of Alan Berg, an outspoken Denver Jewish talk show host. Berg was stalked by Pierce and murdered at 9:21 p.m. in the driveway of his own home. Armed with an Ingram MAC-10 machine gun, Pierce fired 12 bullets into Berg as he was exiting his car with groceries.¹⁹⁰ At Pierce's trial, a cooperating witness testified that The Order drew up a list of prominent Jews, media figures, and bankers they intended to assassinate.¹⁹¹ Pierce was arrested in 1985 and tried in 1986 for Berg's murder and other crimes.¹⁹² He was sentenced to a total of 252 years imprisonment, and died of natural causes at the Allenwood, Pennsylvania federal prison in August 2010.¹⁹³

October 31, 1984

NY: Bensonhurst

Arson at the Mapleton Park Hebrew Institute.

An explosion and subsequent fire at 2:16 a.m. severely damaged the Mapleton Park Hebrew Institute in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn.

The explosion blew out the building's windows and destroyed its interior, including six Torah scrolls.¹⁹⁴ Two young men were seen running out of the building immediately prior to the explosion. Fire marshals declared the incident an act of arson. The building housed a synagogue, a kindergarten, and a junior high school. There were no casualties and no claim of responsibility.¹⁹⁵

November 1, 1984

NY: Bensonhurst

Attempted arson at Congregation and Talmud Torah Tifereth Israel.

Arson was attempted against Congregation and Talmud Torah Tifereth Israel, a synagogue two blocks away from the Mapleton Park Hebrew Institute.¹⁹⁶ A flammable liquid was ignited and flung against the door of the three-story synagogue. The fire was extinguished by a passer-by, and caused only minor damage.¹⁹⁷

July 1, 1985

CA: San Francisco

A pipe bomb was wired to the door of a synagogue in San Francisco by white supremacist Coy Ray Phelps.

Phelps, a neo-Nazi and white supremacist, wired a bomb to the door of the Adath Israel synagogue with a coat hanger. Its fuse was lit but it went out. There was no claim of responsibility.¹⁹⁸

September 16, 1985

CA: San Francisco

Pipe bombs were placed at a rabbi's home and synagogue by white supremacist Coy Ray Phelps.

A bomb wrapped in anti-Zionist and racist literature¹⁹⁹ was placed outside the home of Rabbi Jacob Traub, rabbi of Adath Israel synagogue, and another at Congregation Beth Shalom

¹⁸⁶ "The leader of the Covenant, the Sword, and the Arm of the Lord," United Press International, September 5, 1985, <http://www.upi.com/Archives/1985/09/05/The-leader-of-the-Covenant-the-Sword-and-the/2701494740800/>

¹⁸⁷ "Elohim City an extremists' underground railroad," Los Angeles Times, February 23, 1997, http://articles.latimes.com/1997-02-23/news/mn-31595_1_elohim-city

¹⁸⁸ Daryl C. McClary, "Robert Jay Mathews, founder of the white-supremacist group The Order, is killed during an FBI siege on Whidbey Island on December 8, 1984," HistoryLink.org Essay 7921, December 6, 2006, http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&file_id=7921

¹⁸⁹ "Homegrown Terrorists," Washington Post, January 11, 1987, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/opinions/1987/01/11/home-grown-terrorists/44ff8510-067a-47b9-87ef-72e9c483eb0c/>

¹⁹⁰ Daryl C. McClary, "Robert Jay Mathews, founder of the white-supremacist group The Order, is killed during an FBI siege on Whidbey Island on December 8, 1984," HistoryLink.org Essay 7921, December 6, 2006, http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&file_id=7921

¹⁹¹ "Neo-Nazi targets: 'Jews or bankers,'" Chicago Tribune, September 14, 1985, http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1985-09-14/news/8503030216_1_armored-car-assassination-denver-daw-parmenter

¹⁹² Wally Hilke, "Death of an assassin: The Order's Bruce Pierce dies in prison," Southern Poverty Law Center website, <https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2010/08/18/death-assassin-order-s-bruce-pierce-dies-prison>

¹⁹³ "Neo-Nazi gunman in Alan Berg's murder dies in prison," Denver Post, August 17, 2010, http://www.denverpost.com/ci_15805243

¹⁹⁴ "Blast, fire gut Brooklyn synagogue," New York Jewish Week, November 2, 1984.

¹⁹⁵ "Blaze damages Jewish school and synagogue," New York Times, November 1, 1984.

¹⁹⁶ "Arson attempt made at second synagogue," New York Times, November 3, 1984.

¹⁹⁷ "Synagogue arson probes seeking clues," New York Jewish Week, November 9, 1984.

¹⁹⁸ "An alleged member of a neo-Nazi group and the KKK was arrested," United Press International, September 20, 1985, <http://www.upi.com/Archives/1985/09/20/An-alleged-member-of-a-neo-Nazi-group-and-the/7579496036800/>

¹⁹⁹ "Attempted SF shul bomber sent back to US prison," JWeekly.com, March 29, 2002, <http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/17522/attempted-s-f-shul-bomber-sent-back-to-u-s-prison/>

synagogue, both in San Francisco. No claim for responsibility was made. Coy Ray Phelps, a neo-Nazi white supremacist, was arrested on September 20, 1985 on charges of placing pipe bombs at Jewish and non-Jewish targets.²⁰⁰

Phelps, the self-appointed founder and only member of the Church of the Holy Brotherhood, was convicted of threatening Aduh Israel, Congregation Beth Shalom, and an African-American studies program at San Francisco State University. In 1986, he was found not guilty by reason of insanity and sent to a mental hospital at the federal prison in Springfield, Missouri. He was conditionally released in 1999 after prison hospital staff determined that he did not need inpatient hospitalization. The decision was vacated and he was returned to a federal prison hospital in Butner, North Carolina in March 2002.²⁰¹

September 16, 1989

CO: Denver

Surveillance documents and photographs targeting the JCC in Denver were discovered by investigators in a storage locker belonging to the radical Islamist group, Jama'at Al-Fuqara. A cache of explosives, weapons, and ammunition belonging to the organization were also found.

An investigation of the radical Islamist Jama'at Al-Fuqara organization ("The Association of the Impoverished," also known as Al-Fuqra and Muslims of the Americas) led law enforcement officials to a storage locker in Colorado Springs. Jama'at Al-Fuqara is led by the jihadist cleric Sheikh Mubarak Ali Shah Gilani of Pakistan. Gilani provided military training and recruited his American followers as foreign fighters for the jihad in Afghanistan during the 1980s.²⁰²

Prior to the discovery of the locker, Jama'at Al-Fuqara carried out the bombing of a Hare Krishna temple in Denver, and the murder of a Muslim cleric whose teachings the group considered to be blasphemous.²⁰³ An examination of the locker's contents revealed surveillance documents and photographs targeting the Jewish Community Center in Denver.²⁰⁴

Other items discovered included a cache of explosives, weapons, and ammunition. They included 30-40 pounds of explosives, three large pipe bombs, improvised explosive devices, and shape charges. Among the weapons found at the site were 10 handguns, a number of them with their

serial numbers removed, reloading equipment, and silencers in different stages of manufacture. The storage locker also contained bomb-making instructions, military training manuals, and blank documents to create false identities. Maps, surveillance photographs and other materials indicated the group was also preparing for future attacks by surveilling a variety of military and infrastructure targets in Colorado and Wyoming.²⁰⁵

Additional materials found included bullet-riddled target shooting silhouettes that were used by Jama'at Al-Fuqara members. They were marked "Zionist Pig," "Delta Team," "FBI Anti-Terrorist Team," and "SAS" (UK Special Air Service).²⁰⁶ A large photograph of the jihadist cleric Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman, then the leader of the Egyptian jihadist organization, Al-Gama'a Al-Islamiya, was also found.²⁰⁷ Al-Rahman is also a figure of admiration for Jama'at Al-Fuqara followers.²⁰⁸

June 10, 1990

TN: Nashville

Members of the Tennessee White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and the Aryan Nations carry out a drive-by shooting attack on the West End synagogue.

Damion Patton, a juvenile skinhead, met with KKK leader Leonard William Armstrong and Jonathan David Brown, of both the KKK and Aryan Nations, in Nashville. The three met at a gathering for white supremacists on the night of July 9.²⁰⁹ Armstrong was the Grand Dragon of the white supremacist Tennessee White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Brown was both a Klan member and a member of the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations.²⁰⁹

At approximately 1 a.m. on the morning of July 10, Patton drove a car while Armstrong shot at the synagogue. Armstrong fired several shots at the West End synagogue with a TEC-9mm assault pistol,²¹⁰ shattering a window.²¹¹ They were arrested and indicted in December 1991.²¹² Brown was charged with perjury and being an accessory after the fact for assisting Patton from being found and arrested. He helped Patton spray paint his car, changing the color from white to black, gave him a license plate from one of his trucks, and cash so that he could flee Tennessee. Brown was convicted in August 1992 and sentenced to two years and three months in prison; three years supervised release with special conditions, and a \$10,000 fine.²¹³ Armstrong admitted to the shooting

²⁰⁰ "Interest in white hate groups: Suspect held in 1 bombing, 3 attempts," Los Angeles Times, September 22, 1985, http://articles.latimes.com/1985-09-22/local/me-18174_1_white-hate-group

²⁰¹ "Attempted SF shul bomber sent back to US prison," JWeekly.com, March 29, 2002, <http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/17522/attempted-s-f-shul-bomber-sent-back-to-u-s-prison/>

²⁰² "Made in the USA: Hundreds of Americans have followed the path to jihad. Here's how and why," US News and World Report, June 10, 2002.

²⁰³ "Another holy war, waged on American soil," Newsweek, February 27, 1994, <http://www.newsweek.com/another-holy-war-waged-american-soil-190202>

²⁰⁴ "Fuqra sect is waging a holy war against Jews, report charges," Denver Post, October 30, 1993.

²⁰⁵ "September 11 renews Al-Fuqra focus," Denver Post, December 16, 2001.

²⁰⁶ "69-year term in temple blast," Denver Post, March 17, 2001, <http://extras.denverpost.com/news/news03171.htm>

²⁰⁷ "Fuqra sect targets bore names, slurs, officer says in trial," Denver Post, September 28, 1993.

²⁰⁸ US v Jonathan David Brown, March 21, 2005, <http://aselaw.findlaw.com/us-6th-circuit/1051306.html>

²⁰⁹ "Klansman held in synagogue attack, December 21, 1991, http://articles.latimes.com/1991-12-21/news/mn-457_1_synagogue-attack

²¹⁰ US v Jonathan David Brown, March 21, 2005, <http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-6th-circuit/1051306.html>

²¹¹ "KKK leader pleads guilty in shooting," Deseret News, April 12, 1992, <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/220575/KKK-LEADER-PLEADS-GUILTY-IN-SHOOTING.html?pg=all>

²¹² "KKK leader faces charge that he shot at a synagogue," Orlando Sentinel, December 21, 1991, http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/1991-12-21/news/9112211242_1_klan-synagogue-armstrong

²¹³ US v Jonathan David Brown, US Court of Appeals for 6th Circuit, 49 F.3d 1162 (6th Cir. 1995), May 11, 1995, <http://law.justia.com/cases/federal/appellate-courts/F3/49/1162/551123/>

and entered a plea agreement, telling the judge they wanted to intimidate the synagogue's congregation. The court did not release his exact jail term, which could have been up to 10 years.²¹⁴

August 23, 1990

CA: San Francisco

An attempted arson at Adath Israel synagogue left its entrance scorched.²¹⁵

August 27, 1990

CA: San Francisco

An arson attempt at Congregation Beth Israel-Judea left the synagogue's stained glass windows damaged by fire. The spokesman of the San Francisco Fire Department noted that the fire was started with diesel fuel.²¹⁶

November 5, 1990

NY: New York

Assassination of Rabbi Meir Kahane by El-Sayyid Nosair, a member of what was later understood by investigators to be a nascent Al-Qaida cell in New York.

Starting in 1989, a New York group of radical Islamist followers of Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman, a spiritual leader of Al-Qaida, coalesced into a "jihad army."²¹⁷ They and other members of Al-Qaida who formed such groups referred to themselves as an "Islamic Army."²¹⁸ El-Sayyid Nosair was one of its members in New York, and coordinated the group's activities with Abd Al-Rahman, both prior to Al-Rahman's arrival in New York and afterwards.²¹⁹

On November 5, 1990, after delivering a speech at the Marriott East Side hotel, Rabbi Meir Kahane stood speaking with members of the audience. Nosair was accompanied by two other members of the cell, Bilal Al-Kaisi and Muhammad Salameh.²²⁰ Armed with a .357 Magnum revolver and wearing a yarmulke, Nosair approached Kahane and shot him in the neck and chest, fatally wounding him. As Nosair fled the room, his path was impeded by one of the audience members and Nosair shot him in the leg. On the street, Carlos Acosta, a postal police officer, tried to stop Nosair. Nosair shot Acosta twice, but Acosta managed to wound Nosair and detain him.²²¹ Bilal Al-Kaisi and Muhammad Salameh escaped the room separately. The two men later carried out the 1993 World Trade Center bombing.

In 2005 Nosair admitted that his first assassination target was then Israeli Minister of Housing and Construction Ariel Sharon. Nosair had gone to surveil a hotel where Sharon was scheduled to speak, but decided against the attack.²²²

Following Nosair's arrest, a hit list of six Jewish Americans he compiled was discovered. It included then Rep. Gary Ackerman of Queens, two New York federal judges - Edward Korman, and Jack Weinstein; former U.S. Assistant Attorney Jacques Semmelman, and an unnamed individual. The judges and former U.S. assistant attorney were involved in the New York extradition case of Mahmoud Abed Atta, an Abu Nidal terrorist. The sixth was Howard Adelman, a columnist for the Jewish Press of New York.²²³

A search of Nosair's home yielded a case of 1,440 rounds of 7.62-millimeter military grade ammunition, and literature on combat and weapons, covering bomb-making, hand grenades, and guns. Materials indicating that Nosair stalked Kahane were discovered, including an advertisement for the lecture and a future event, and a yarmulke. Additionally, a vial of the poison sodium cyanide was found inside Nosair's work locker at the Centre Street courts building.²²⁴

In order to mount a legal defense, a cousin of Nosair, Ibrahim El-Gabrowni, reportedly traveled to Saudi Arabia and received \$20,000 for Nosair's legal expenses from Usama Bin Laden.²²⁵ In 1992, Nosair was convicted on weapons charges but was acquitted of second-degree murder. He was sentenced to the maximum of 7½ to 22 years.²²⁶ In early 1993, U.S. officials were reported to have asserted that Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman, the jihadist cleric who was a mentor of Usama Bin Laden, made arrangements for Nosair's wife and family to receive financial support until his release.²²⁷

In 1995, Nosair was tried for his involvement from prison in the 1993 New York Landmarks plot. During the trial, prosecutors noted that a wave of terrorism was launched starting with Nosair's assassination of Kahane in 1990. Nosair was convicted of strategizing targets in the New York Landmarks plot by using coded messages and communicating with the co-conspirators during visits to him in prison. Included in Nosair's plans was a plot to kidnap and murder then New York Supreme Court Justice Alvin Schlesinger, the Jewish judge who presided over Nosair's first trial, and the murder of the Jewish

²¹⁴ "KKK leader pleads guilty in shooting," Deseret News, April 12, 1992, <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/220575/KKK-LEADER-PLEADS-GUILTY-IN-SHOOTING.html?pg=all>

²¹⁵ "San Francisco Police alert after 3 synagogues vandalized," Northern California Jewish Bulletin, September 6, 1990.

²¹⁶ "San Francisco Police alert after 3 synagogues vandalized," Northern California Jewish Bulletin, September 6, 1990.

²¹⁷ US v. Rahman et al., 89F. 3d Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, August 16, 1999, p. 105, https://scholar.google.com/scholar_case?case=15567456123097509844&q=United+States+v+Bin+Laden+%22el-sayyid+nosair%22&hl=en&as_sdt=2006#p91

²¹⁸ "Gamal Ahmed Mohamed Al-Fadel" (Jamal Al-Fadl), FBI FD-302, November 10, 1996, http://kronosadvisory.com/FD-302_Jamal_al_Fadl_1996.pdf

²¹⁹ US v. Rahman et al., August 16, 1999, p. 105.

²²⁰ "El-Sayed Nosair on 12/20/2005," FBI FD-302, December 20, 2005, p. 1, <https://www.scribd.com/doc/35687185/FBI-302-El-Sayyid-Nosair-12-20-05>

²²¹ US v. Rahman, 189 F. 3d 88 - Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit 1999, p. 105, https://scholar.google.com/scholar_case?case=15567456123097509844&q=United+States+v+Bin+Laden+%22el-sayyid+nosair%22&hl=en&as_sdt=2006#p109

²²² "El-Sayed Nosair on 12/20/2005," FBI FD-302, December 20, 2005, p. 2, <https://www.scribd.com/doc/35687185/FBI-302-El-Sayyid-Nosair-12-20-05>

²²³ "FBI finds list at house of Kahane suspect," Washington Post, December 1, 1990, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1990/12/01/fbi-finds-list-at-house-of-kahane-suspect/a2095301-f3ab-4667-8305-3d40147dfbb2/>

²²⁴ "Kahane suspect said to have arms cache," New York Times, November 11, 1990, <http://www.nytimes.com/1990/12/11/nyregion/kahane-suspect-said-to-have-arms-cache.html>

²²⁵ "Tracing terror's roots," US News and World Report, March 3, 2003, <http://chitraragavan.com/usnews/24wtc.pdf>

²²⁶ "Judge gives maximum term in Kahane case," New York Times, January 30, 1992, <http://www.nytimes.com/1992/01/30/nyregion/judge-gives-maximum-term-in-kahane-case.html>

²²⁷ "A cry of Islamic fury, taped in Brooklyn for Cairo," New York Times, January 7, 1993, <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/01/07/world/a-cry-of-islamic-fury-taped-in-brooklyn-for-cairo.html>

assemblyman from Brooklyn, Dov Hikind.²²⁸ Nosair was sentenced to life imprisonment in January 1996.²²⁹

November 15, 1990

CA: San Francisco

Arson attempt at San Francisco Jewish Community Center. A firebomb was thrown into an office window of the San Francisco Jewish Community Center at 3 a.m. There was minor damage but no injuries.²³⁰

November 15, 1990

CA: San Francisco

Arson at Congregation Beth Israel-Judea in San Francisco.

Shortly prior to dawn, the back door of Congregation Beth Israel-Judea was doused with an unidentified inflammable liquid and set ablaze. The door was charred and windows of the synagogue were damaged as well.²³¹

November 20, 1990

CA: San Francisco

During the night, two bullets were fired into Congregation Beth Israel-Judea, leaving holes in the synagogue's stained glass windows.²³²

November 20, 1990

CA: Lakeshore

A fire was set at Congregation Beth Israel-Judea in Lakeshore.²³³

November 26, 1990

CA: Oakland and San Leandro

Fire bombings of two synagogues in Oakland and San Leandro.

The early morning times of the attacks, combined with their close proximity to one another, the use of similar materials for the firebombs, and the synagogues' close proximity to the freeway, caused law enforcement officials to surmise that the two incidents were connected. Similar attacks in the San Francisco area took place from November 15 to 20. There were no injuries.

November 26, 1990

CA: Oakland

Firebombing of Temple Beth Abraham
At Oakland's Temple Beth Shalom between 2 and 3 a.m., a firebomb was thrown into the window of a room adjacent to the synagogue's sanctuary.²³⁴

November 26, 1990

CA: San Leandro

Firebombing at Temple Beth Shalom
At 3 a.m., a firebomb was thrown into the window of Temple Beth Shalom's auditorium.²³⁵

April 1, 1993

MO: St. Louis

A cell of the Abu Nidal Organization (ANO), which plotted to bomb the Israeli Embassy in Washington and to kill Jews, was arrested in St. Louis.

A four member cell of the ANO was arrested in St. Louis for plotting to blow up the Israeli Embassy in Washington D.C., kill Jews, and carrying out the murder of the daughter of one of its cell members. The four received directives for their terror activities in a 1987 Mexico City meeting with Mahmoud Abed Atta,²³⁶ the North American coordinator of the ANO.²³⁷

In earlier conversations intercepted by the FBI, Zein Issa declared that if their cell indoctrinated and trained a group of young followers in the U.S. and Europe, they could kill 3,000 Jews. "Let's teach them how to hit people and slaughter," he said. In 1988, Luie Nijmeh agreed to a plan to blow up the Israeli Embassy and requested a bomb. His brother, Saif Nijmeh, after having acquired a rocket-propelled grenade launcher and other weapons, boasted of his cache and discussed its uses.²³⁸ The fourth member of the group, Tawfiq Musa, told Issa to destroy any record of their meeting with Atta.²³⁹ Before they could execute their plans, Zein Issa was arrested together with his wife in 1989 for stabbing their own daughter to death.

Zein Issa did so at the demand of Tawfiq Musa and Saif Nijmeh, who were concerned Issa's daughter overheard their plans.²⁴⁰ Issa was convicted of the murder and sentenced to death in 1991.²⁴¹ He died in prison in 1997.²⁴²

²²⁸ "Bomb trial told of idea to kidnap a judge," New York Times, March 9, 1995, <http://www.nytimes.com/1995/03/09/nyregion/bomb-trial-told-of-idea-to-kidnap-a-judge.html>

²²⁹ "Man acquitted of killing Kahane gets life sentence for terror plot," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, January 21, 1996, <http://www.jta.org/1996/01/21/archive/man-acquitted-of-killing-kahane-gets-life-sentence-for-terror-plot>

²³⁰ "San Francisco target of series of anti-semitic attacks," Northern California Jewish Bulletin, December 6, 1990.

²³¹ Ibid.

²³² Ibid.

²³³ "San Francisco target of series of anti-semitic attacks," Northern California Jewish Bulletin, December 6, 1990.

²³⁴ "Anti-semitic acts, firebombings, hit wide area of San Francisco," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, November 30, 1990, <http://www.jta.org/1990/11/30/archive/anti-semitic-acts-firebombings-hit-wide-area-of-san-francisco>

²³⁵ "Anti-semitic acts, firebombings, hit wide area of San Francisco," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, November 30, 1990, <http://www.jta.org/1990/11/30/archive/anti-semitic-acts-firebombings-hit-wide-area-of-san-francisco>

²³⁶ "Four Palestinians indicted in plot linked to terrorist group," New York Times, April 2, 1993, <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/04/02/us/4-us-palestinians-are-indicted-in-plot-linked-to-terrorist-group.html>

²³⁷ "US indicts four tied to terrorist Abu Nidal Group," April 2, 1993, Los Angeles Times, http://articles.latimes.com/1993-04-02/news/mn-18130_1_abu-nidal

²³⁸ "A terror suspect talked of 'slaughter,'" FBI says, New York Times, April 6, 1993; <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/04/06/us/a-terror-suspect-talked-of-slaughter-fbi-says.html>

²³⁹ "US indicts four tied to terrorist Abu Nidal," Los Angeles Times, April 2, 1993, http://articles.latimes.com/1993-04-02/news/mn-18130_1_abu-nidal

²⁴⁰ "US indicts four tied to terrorist Abu Nidal Group," April 2, 1993, Los Angeles Times, http://articles.latimes.com/1993-04-02/news/mn-18130_1_abu-nidal

²⁴¹ "Parents get death in teen's murder," St. Louis Dispatch, December 20, 1991, http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/from-parents-get-death-in-teen-s-murder/article_08bee720-11c0-5da2-867d-6eba275fc3c6.html

²⁴² "Justice story: 'Die, my daughter, die!'" New York Daily News, November 10, 2013, <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/justice-story/justice-story-honor-killing-article-1.1510125>

In 1994, Musa and the Nijmeh brothers pleaded guilty to federal racketeering charges, including plotting terror attacks, buying weapons, recruiting members, illegally obtaining passports, and obstructing investigations. Further charges against Issa were dropped, due to his death sentence. Musa and the Nijmeh brothers were sentenced to 21 months in prison in November 1994.²⁴³

April 1993 - June 23, 1993

NY: New York

Foiled Diamond District Plot as part of the New York Landmarks Plot: Foiled plot to bomb the New York Diamond District.

Followers of the jihadist Egyptian cleric and Al-Qaida mentor, Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman, planned to simultaneously bomb New York City landmarks. Their targets included the Lincoln and Holland Tunnels, the George Washington Bridge, the Statue of Liberty, the United Nations, the New York Federal Building, and the Diamond District. Their intent in bombing the Diamond District was to inflict severe casualties among the large concentration of Jewish businessmen who worked there. One of the eight plotters, Amir Abdelgani, described the notion of bombing the Diamond District as "being like hitting Israel itself."²⁴⁴ Another of the plotters was reported to have said, "Boom – broken windows. Jews in the streets."²⁴⁵

On May 29, 1993, two of the plotters, Amir Abdelgani and Siddig Ibrahim Siddiq Ali, conducted surveillance and drove near the Diamond District on West 47th Street and discussed bombing it.²⁴⁶

The plot was foiled on June 23, 1993, when FBI agents raided the warehouse where the chemicals for constructing the multiple bombs for the attacks were being prepared by the perpetrators.²⁴⁷ Eight radical Islamist followers of Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman, the jihadist cleric and mentor of Usama Bin Laden, were arrested and later convicted in 1996 in the New York landmarks trial. Amir Abdelgani was sentenced to 30 years in prison.²⁴⁸ Others received sentences ranging from 57 years to 25 years.²⁴⁹ Siddig Ibrahim Siddig Ali cooperated with the Department of Justice investigation of the plot, and was sentenced to 11 years in 1999.²⁵⁰

Later, Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman himself was arrested and tried together with the other perpetrators. Abd Al-Rahman was convicted of involvement in the landmarks plot in October 1995 and was sentenced to life in prison in January 1996.²⁵¹

El-Sayyid Nosair was also charged in the case for aiding the perpetrators of the plot from prison. He was convicted in October 1995 and sentenced in January 1996 to life in prison.²⁵² The plot was later understood by investigators to be directed by Al-Qaida.

July 15, 1993

CA: Orange County

A U.S. federal task force arrested eight white supremacists of the Fourth Reich Skinheads before they could initiate a series of attacks. The group was preparing to send a mail bomb to a rabbi and prominent members of the Orange County Jewish community, bomb an African-American church, and assassinate African-American leaders.²⁵³

In a series of federal raids in four California counties, six adults and two minors affiliated with the Fourth Reich Skinheads (FRS) group were arrested. The FRS was affiliated with the neo-Nazi White Aryan Resistance. The group was planning to launch a "race war" by sending letter bombs to a rabbi and to Orange County Jewish community leaders.²⁵⁴

It also planned to blow up the First African Methodist Episcopal Church in Los Angeles by placing pipe bombs beneath the pews and attacking worshippers using machine guns. They had additional plans to assassinate prominent African-American leaders throughout the U.S., and Rodney King, a well-known Los Angeles victim of a police beating.²⁵⁵

Following their arrests, law enforcement officials displayed pipe bombs, semi-automatic weapons, paramilitary uniforms, and a poster of Adolf Hitler that had either been purchased or confiscated from the perpetrators.²⁵⁶

The leader of the group, Christopher David Fisher, admitted to having attempted to carry out a failed firebomb attack at Temple Beth David in Westminster in January 1993, and plotting to attack a rabbi and prominent members of the

²⁴³ Edward F. Mickolus and Susan L. Simmons, *Terrorism 1992-1995: A Chronology of Events and a Selectively Annotated Bibliography*, (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press), p. 359.

²⁴⁴ *US v. Rahman*, 189 F. 3d 88 - Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit 1999, p. 109, https://scholar.google.com/scholar_case?case=15567456123097509844&q=United+States+v+Bin+Laden+%22el-sayyid+nosair%22&hl=en&as_sdt=2006#p109

²⁴⁵ "US says bomb plot suspects talked of blowing up Manhattan jewelry district," *New York Times*, June 30, 1993, <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/06/30/nyregion/us-says-bomb-plot-suspects-talked-of-blowing-up-manhattan-jewelry-district.html>

²⁴⁶ *US v Rahman et al*, US District Court of New York, Indictment SR 93 CR 181 (MBM), October 21, 1994, p. 20, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/935.pdf

²⁴⁷ "Suspected terrorists came from Sudan's elite," *Washington Post*, July 16, 1993, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1993/07/16/suspected-terrorists-came-from-sudans-elite/e338daf0-c06c-437c-9606-ac38300f0d36/>

²⁴⁸ "Sheikh gets life sentence in terror trial," *CNN.com*, January 17, 1996, http://www.cnn.com/US/9601/terror_trial/update/

²⁴⁹ "Man acquitted of killing Kahane gets life sentence for terror plot," *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, January 21, 1996, <http://www.jta.org/1996/01/21/archive/man-acquitted-of-killing-kahane-gets-life-sentence-for-terror-plot>

²⁵⁰ "Remorseful terrorist conspirator gets an 11 year sentence," *New York Times*, October 16 1999, <http://www.nytimes.com/1999/10/16/nyregion/remorseful-terror-conspirator-gets-an-11-year-sentence.html>

²⁵¹ "Sheikh sentenced to life in prison in bombing plot," *New York Times*, January 18, 1996, <http://www.nytimes.com/1996/01/18/nyregion/sheik-sentenced-to-life-in-prison-in-bombing-plot.html?pagewanted=all>

²⁵² "Man acquitted of killing Kahane gets life sentence for terror plot," *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, January 21, 1996, <http://www.jta.org/1996/01/21/archive/man-acquitted-of-killing-kahane-gets-life-sentence-for-terror-plot>

²⁵³ "Other investigations aborted," *Associated Press*, July 18, 1993, <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/07/18/us/skinhead-violence-grows-experts-say.html>

²⁵⁴ "Synagogue in O.C. Targeted, FBI Alleges," *Los Angeles Times*, July 17, 1993, http://articles.latimes.com/1993-07-17/news/mn-13968_1_prime-target

²⁵⁵ Edward F. Mickolus and Susan L. Simmons, *Terrorism 1992-1995: A Chronology of Events and a Selectively Annotated Bibliography* (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press), p. 454.

²⁵⁶ "8 arrested in conspiracy to ignite race war," *Chicago Tribune*, July 16, 1993, http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1993-07-16/news/9307160293_1_race-war-undercover-agents-rap-music-stars

Jewish community in Orange County.²⁵⁷ The night before his arrest he was preparing a bomb to mail to a rabbi, and was targeting members of the Orange County Jewish community with a series of mail bombs.²⁵⁸ Fisher pleaded guilty to those acts and to other arson and weapons charges.²⁵⁹ He was sentenced to 97 months in prison.²⁶⁰

March 1, 1994

NY: Brooklyn

Brooklyn Bridge Attack – Rashid Baz, a convert to radical Islamism, opened fire with a machine gun and semi-automatic pistol on a van of Lubavitch Hasidic rabbinical students as they traversed the Brooklyn Bridge. They were returning from a prayer vigil for the late Lubavitcher Rebbe. Ari Halberstam was mortally wounded,²⁶¹ Nachum Sasonkin was severely wounded, and Levi Wilhelm sustained abdominal injuries.²⁶²

At 10:30 a.m., Rashid Baz, a Brooklyn livery cab driver and convert to Islamist extremism of Lebanese Druze origin, stalked a van of Lubavitch seminary students as it traveled over the Brooklyn Bridge. As he drove, Baz first held a Cobray 9mm machine gun outside his driver's side window and directed his fire at the rear and right side of the van.²⁶³ He strafed the van of seminary students with the machine gun, aiming at the driver's side of the van,²⁶⁴ until it jammed.²⁶⁵ Baz then shot out his own passenger window so he could continue shooting. He fired with a second weapon, a Glock 9mm semi-automatic pistol, until it, too, jammed.²⁶⁶

Ari Halberstam was shot in the back of his head and died four days later. Nachum Sasonkin was shot in the back of his head and was critically wounded, but was able to substantially recover after a very long period of physical and speech therapy. A third student, Levi Wilhelm, was wounded in the abdomen,²⁶⁷ and a fourth student, Yaakov Shapiro, was wounded superficially on his head and hand.²⁶⁸

Baz was arrested on March 2. When police questioned him, he bizarrely claimed that his actions – following the van and opening fire on it with multiple high-powered weapons – were not premeditated. Instead, he claimed they were due to a traffic

dispute between himself and the seminary students' van.²⁶⁹

At the trial, Baz's psychiatrist testified about his motivation for the shooting. The psychiatrist stated that before the attack, Baz's employer, Bassam Reyati, described Baz as being enraged over the February 25 Hebron massacre carried out by Baruch Goldstein. Reyati stated that Baz told him, "We should kill all the Jews who did this."²⁷⁰

Further testimony revealed that on February 25, Baz met with the man he described as his "Palestinian uncle," his friend and mentor, Muafaq Askar. In a discussion at Askar's pizza shop, Askar told Baz he would be eager to "make jihad" against the Israelis. Later on, Askar took Baz to the Islamic Society of Bay Ridge, where they heard an anti-Semitic sermon by an imam, who declared, referring to the attack in Hebron, "This takes the mask off of the Jews. It shows them to be racist and fascist as bad as the Nazis."²⁷¹ Askar was suspected of providing Baz with the weapons he used in the attack.²⁷²

After hearing the sermon, Baz prepared for the attack by taking weapons he usually kept in the trunk of his car and moving them to the front of his car.²⁷³ He took his Cobray machine gun and Glock pistol into the front of the car and left a 12-gauge Streetsweeper in the trunk.²⁷⁴

Ten days after the shooting, the terrorist organization Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement in Palestine, issued a communiqué. Hamas embraced Baz's act and honored him as a mujahid, or "holy warrior," and praised him as an *ibn Islam*, a "son of Islam." The term refers to one who serves as a role model and inspires others:

Only Islam is the legitimate and exclusive representation of our people and its predicament; and the living proof of this is namely the holy warrior and Lebanese immigrant Rashid Al-Baz, the son of Islam who took action against the souls of the evil dregs of the Jews in Brooklyn in America. His deed proclaims that you [i.e., the Jews] do not have the ability to tear Palestine away from our hearts, may a curse be on your heads.²⁷⁵

²⁵⁷ "Skinhead Leader Pleads Guilty to Violence, Plot," Los Angeles Times, October 20, 1993, http://articles.latimes.com/1993-10-20/news/mn-47770_1_skinhead-guilty-pleads

²⁵⁸ "Synagogue in O.C. Targeted, FBI Alleges," Los Angeles Times, July 17, 1993, http://articles.latimes.com/1993-07-17/news/mn-13968_1_prime-target

²⁵⁹ "Skinhead pleads guilty to 'race wars' plots," New York Times, October 21, 1993, <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/10/21/us/skinhead-pleads-guilty-to-race-wars-plots.html>

²⁶⁰ "Ex-O.C. Man, 2nd Skinhead Sent to Prison," Los Angeles Times, January 14, 1994, http://articles.latimes.com/1994-01-14/news/mn-11750_1_prison-population

²⁶¹ "For bullet's victim, a vigil triumphs," New York Times, May 28, 1994, <http://www.nytimes.com/1994/05/28/nyregion/for-bullet-s-victim-vigil-triumphs-against-medical-odds-yeshiva-student-emerges.html?pagewanted=all>

²⁶² "Van survivors look back in sadness," New York Times, March 10, 1994, <http://www.nytimes.com/1994/03/10/nyregion/van-survivors-look-back-in-sadness.html>

²⁶³ People of the State of New York vs. Rashid Baz, 2463:2-3.

²⁶⁴ Ibid, 2467:12-19.

²⁶⁵ Ibid, 2472:12-14.

²⁶⁶ Ibid, 2472:14-17.

²⁶⁷ "Van survivors look back in sadness," New York Times, March 10, 1994, <http://www.nytimes.com/1994/03/10/nyregion/van-survivors-look-back-in-sadness.html>

²⁶⁸ "Lubavitchers shot by unknown gunman who may have shouted 'kill the Jews,'" JTA, March 2, 1994, <http://www.jta.org/1994/03/02/archive/lubavitchers-shot-by-unknown-gunman-who-may-have-shouted-kill-the-jews>

²⁶⁹ "Brooklyn Bridge Shooting: Suspect arrested in shooting of Hasidim," New York Times, March 3, 1994, <http://www.nytimes.com/1994/03/03/nyregion/brooklyn-bridge-shooting-suspect-arrested-in-shooting-of-hasidim.html?pagewanted=all>

²⁷⁰ "New Focus on Motives Focus in Killing on Bridge," New York Times, April 7, 1994, <http://www.nytimes.com/1994/04/07/nyregion/new-focus-on-motives-in-killing-on-bridge.html>

²⁷¹ People v Baz, 2107: 2-19.

²⁷² "Arrested cigarette smuggler linked to 1994 murder of Yeshiva student Ari Halberstam on Brooklyn Bridge," New York Daily News, May 16, 2013, <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/crime/arrested-cigarette-smuggler-linked-1994-murder-yeshiva-student-article-1.1346215>

²⁷³ People v Baz, 1975: 2-12.

²⁷⁴ Ibid, 2472: 23-24.

²⁷⁵ "Islamic militants threaten revenge in Brooklyn," Associated Press, March 11, 1994.

At Baz's trial, his psychiatrist testified that Baz thought of himself as an "Arab soldier crusader,"²⁷⁶ the equivalent in Western terms of a mujahid, an individual who engages in violent jihad as understood by radical Islamists. Additionally, Baz showed the psychiatrist a poem he wrote about a mujahid during the time of the Crusades. Baz's poem was described by the psychiatrist as being about a mujahid who is "going off and fighting the infidels" on the side of the Muslim forces during the Crusades. He further described Baz's verse as "a heroic, heroic poem."²⁷⁷

Baz was convicted of one count of second-degree murder and 14 counts of attempted murder. He was sentenced to 141 years imprisonment in January 1995.²⁷⁸

Two other men, Bassam Reyati and Hilal Mohammed, were arrested for hindering prosecution and weapons possession.²⁷⁹ Both men assisted Baz in disposing of the shattered windows of his car after the attack. Reyati entered a plea bargain and pleaded guilty to hindering prosecution. He was sentenced to pay a \$1,000 fine and five years of probation.²⁸⁰ Hilal Mohammed, an illegal immigrant, pleaded guilty to altering evidence and hindering prosecution by assisting Baz. He was ordered to leave the U.S. by September of 1997 or face deportation to Jordan.²⁸¹

In December 2000, the U.S. Department of Justice designated the attack as an act of terrorism.²⁸² In 2007 media reports disclosed that at an earlier date, Baz confessed, after his conviction and sentencing, that he saw the rabbinical seminary students' van outside of the Beth Israel Medical Center in Manhattan and chose it as his target. The hospital was the site where the students held their prayer vigil for the Lubavitcher Rebbe. Baz admitted that he stalked the van from the hospital to carry out the attack. When asked by police if he would have shot at the van if African-Americans or Latino people were the passengers, he replied, "No, I only shot them because they were Jewish."²⁸³

March 20 1994

OR: Eugene

Drive-by shooting attack by two neo-Nazi Volksfront skinheads on Temple Beth Israel synagogue.

At 7 p.m., Volksfront member and neo-Nazi skinhead Christopher Vertrice Lord drove his car while his accomplice, George Dennis Smith, a Volksfront member and a member of the Southeast Boot Boys, a Portland skinhead gang, fired 11 shots from an assault rifle into the Temple Beth Israel synagogue. The building was empty at the time, and some of the synagogue's stained glass windows were damaged.²⁸⁴ There were no injuries. Lord admitted his participation in the shooting and entered a plea bargain. He was sentenced to 4½ years in prison.²⁸⁵ Smith also admitted guilt and entered a plea bargain. He was sentenced to four years and nine months imprisonment.²⁸⁶

July 31, 1997

NY: Brooklyn

Foiled suicide bombing of the Atlantic Avenue subway station by two Palestinians, Ghazi Ibrahim Abu Mezer and Lafi Khalil.

At 10:45 p.m. on the night of July 30, 1997, Abd Al-Rahman Al-Mossabah, an Egyptian who recently arrived in the U.S., approached a Long Island Railroad police car and urgently attempted to tell the officers inside in broken English that his two roommates, Ghazi Ibrahim Abu Mezer and Lafi Khalil, assembled bombs in their apartment and were planning to carry out an imminent attack. The officers brought him to the 88th Precinct in Fort Greene and found an interpreter.²⁸⁷ Al-Mossabah told the police his roommates were "going to follow up on Jerusalem,"²⁸⁸ referring to a Hamas double suicide bombing that took place a day earlier.

Al-Mossabah further described Abu Mezer as having told him that he was "very angry because of what happened between Jerusalem and Palestine." He described Abu Mezer as showing him a black bag containing pipe bombs. Abu Mezer additionally told Al-Mossabah that he was planning to take the bombs to a crowded subway station or bus terminal to detonate them.²⁸⁹ Al-Mossabah provided the police with his keys to the apartment, a description of the interior, and a drawing of the apartment's internal layout.²⁹⁰

In a pre-dawn raid launched by the New York Police Department (NYPD) early on the morning of July 31, Abu Mezer, Khalil, and a third roommate in the front room were awakened from their sleep. As police arrived in the back room where Abu Mezer and Khalil were located, one of the men tried to grab a police

²⁷⁶ *People v. Baz*, 2106: 21-25.

²⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, 2107: 2-14.

²⁷⁸ "Bridge gunman gets 141-year term," *New York Times*, January 19, 1995, <http://www.nytimes.com/1995/01/19/nyregion/bridge-gunman-gets-141-year-term.html>

²⁷⁹ "Brooklyn Bridge shooting: suspect arrested in shooting of Hasidim," *New York Times*, March 3, 1994, <http://www.nytimes.com/1994/03/03/nyregion/brooklyn-bridge-shooting-suspect-arrested-in-shooting-of-hasidim.html?pagewanted=all>

²⁸⁰ "Man is sentenced in the hiding of evidence in terrorist slaying," *New York Times*, October 17, 1996, <http://www.nytimes.com/1996/10/17/nyregion/man-is-sentenced-in-the-hiding-of-evidence-in-terrorist-slaying.html?ref=topics>

²⁸¹ "After guilty plea, man is told to leave US," *New York Times*, March 6, 1997, <http://www.nytimes.com/1997/03/06/nyregion/after-guilty-plea-man-is-told-to-leave-us.html?ref=topics>

²⁸² "94 shooting of Hasidic teen was terror crime, feds rule," *New York Daily News*, December 6, 2000, <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/94-shooting-hasidic-teen-terror-crime-feds-rule-article-1.885052>

²⁸³ "Killer: Jews my target," *New York Post*, March 26, 2012, <http://nypost.com/2012/03/26/killer-jews-my-target/>

²⁸⁴ "Synagogue shooter sentenced," *Eugene Register-Guard*, April 22, 1994, <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1310&dat=19940422&id=IExWAAAAIBAJ&sjid=hesDAAAIBAJ&pg=2552,4871731&hl=en>

²⁸⁵ "Skinhead sentenced in temple shooting," *Eugene Register-Guard*, April 19, 1994, <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1310&dat=19940419&id=kUxWAAAAIBAJ&sjid=hesDAAAIBAJ&pg=4969,4357878&hl=en>

²⁸⁶ "Synagogue shooter sentenced," *Eugene Register-Guard*, April 22, 1994.

²⁸⁷ "Police break up suspected bomb plot in Brooklyn," *New York Times*, August 1, 1997, <http://www.nytimes.com/1997/08/01/nyregion/police-break-up-suspected-bomb-plot-in-brooklyn.html?pagewanted=all>

²⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁹ *US v. Lafi Khalil, Ghazi Ibrahim Abu Mezer*, US Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, Docket Nos. 98-1723(L), 99-1134, May 31, 2000, <http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-2nd-circuit/1418757.html>

²⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

officer's gun.²⁹¹ The other rushed toward one of the explosive devices, and he was able to throw one of its switches in an attempt to set off one of the devices before police fired at him. The police officers opened fire, wounding both men.²⁹² Five explosive devices were retrieved from the apartment and defused by police. In a joint statement following the raid, the FBI and NYPD stated that Abu Mezer and Khalil planned to "target U.S. and Jewish interests worldwide."²⁹³ In an August 3 statement, Hamas denied any connection to the foiled attack.²⁹⁴

In early July, Abu Mezer and Khalil traveled to North Carolina to procure the materials necessary to build an explosive device. They purchased gunpowder, pipes, nails, and other components from a Wal-Mart and hardware stores in Greenville, North Carolina.²⁹⁵

In Jerusalem at 1:15 p.m. on July 30, Hamas carried out a double suicide bombing in the Mahane Yehuda open-air market. The bombers dressed in white shirts and ties and each carried a 22-pound bomb packed with nails in a briefcase. They stationed themselves 90 feet away from each other, and detonated their explosive devices 15 seconds apart. A total of sixteen Israelis were killed on the scene or later succumbed to wounds sustained in the explosions.²⁹⁶

After hearing the news of the Jerusalem suicide bombing attack by Hamas, Al-Mossabah later testified that Abu Mezer was "happy" and decided to carry out his own attack, announcing to Al-Mossabah that he (Abu Mezer) would "do the same."²⁹⁷ In another conversation with Al-Mossabah, Abu Mezer was igniting gunpowder in the apartment. As he did so, he told Al-Mossabah, "I will burn them like this." Al-Mossabah asked, "Who will you burn?" Abu Mezer replied, "The Jews."²⁹⁸

In an interview with an FBI agent after the raid, Abu Mezer told the agent he intended to detonate an explosive device on a rush hour train on the B line because, "there are a lot of Jews that ride that train."²⁹⁹ He further told the agent he "want[ed] to blow up a train and kill as many Jews as possible."³⁰⁰ He

planned to board the B line train at Pacific Avenue where the line travels through the Borough Park section of Brooklyn, a large Orthodox Jewish neighborhood. When asked if he intended to detonate the explosive device as a suicide bomber, Abu Mezer simply responded, "Poof."³⁰¹

Abu Mezer was planning to carry out his attack during the rush hour commute of July 31,³⁰² within 24 hours of the Hamas attack in Jerusalem.

Found in their apartment was a portrait of Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman,³⁰³ the jihadist cleric and mentor to Usama Bin Laden who is serving a life sentence for his involvement in a 1993 plot to blow up New York landmarks. Bomb making manuals and anti-Israel propaganda were also found in their apartment.³⁰⁴

A suicide note draft threatening a series of bombings of sites in New York, including Jewish targets,³⁰⁵ also demanded the release of Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman.³⁰⁶ It demanded the release from prison in the U.S. of Ramzi Ahmad Yusuf, the architect of the explosive device constructed inside a van employed in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. The note also demanded Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, the founder of Hamas, be freed from prison in Israel.³⁰⁷

During Abu Mezer and Khalil's trial, Al-Mossabah testified that Abu Mezer justified attacks against Americans because of the United States' support of Israel. He described Abu Mezer as having expressed opposition to the Israel-Palestinian Authority peace process, and believed that the only way for Palestinians to return to their land was through violence.³⁰⁸ Although he had no direct ties to Hamas, Abu Mezer's position on the peace process and the Palestinians' use of violence to regain territory paralleled those of Hamas.

Abu Mezer declared at his trial that he came "to the United States because I feel that the United States is supporting the Jewish state and the United States should be punished for supporting Israel." He also testified he planned to use the

²⁹¹ "Police break up suspected bomb plot in Brooklyn," New York Times, August 1, 1997, <http://www.nytimes.com/1997/08/01/nyregion/police-break-up-suspected-bomb-plot-in-brooklyn.html?pagewanted=all>

²⁹² "A tip leads to finding explosive devices as 2 are arrested," New York Times, August 1, 1997.

²⁹³ "Intent to blow up subways alleged, possible Mideast terrorist tie probed," Washington Post, August 1, 1997.

²⁹⁴ "Bomb plot's investigators seek conspirators in US," New York Times, August 3, 1997.

²⁹⁵ "Lawyer says defendant is a cheat, but not a terrorist, as trial starts in subway bomb plot," New York Times, July 7, 1998.

²⁹⁶ "Suicide bombers kill 15 in Jerusalem market; militant Islamic group Hamas claims responsibility for attack, demands release of all prisoners," Baltimore Sun, July 31, 1997, http://articles.baltimoresun.com/1997-07-31/news/1997212035_1_jerusalem-palestinian-authority-palestinians-and-israelis

²⁹⁷ "Israel bomb inspired bomb plot, he sez," New York Daily News, July 7, 1998.

²⁹⁸ "Israel bomb inspired bomb plot, he sez," New York Daily News, July 7, 1998.

²⁹⁹ "Defendant Told of Plan To Use Bomb, Agent Says," New York Times, July 15, 1998. Academic OneFile, <http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CA150175475&v=2.1&u=nyp&it=r&p=AONE&sw=w&asid=ac2d30ba82ab3ba00e54baf2563b5714>

³⁰⁰ United States of America, Appellee, v. Lafi Khalil, Gazi Ibrahim Abu Mezer, Defendant-appellants, 214 F.3d 111 (2d Cir. 2000), Argued: January 7, 2000, Decided: May 31, 2000, <http://law.justia.com/cases/federal/appellate-courts/F3/214/111/533486/>

³⁰¹ US, Appellee, v. Lafi Khalil, Gazi Ibrahim Abu Mezer, Defendant-appellants, 214 F.3d 111 (2d Cir. 2000), Argued: January 7, 2000, Decided: May 31, 2000, <http://law.justia.com/cases/federal/appellate-courts/F3/214/111/533486/>

³⁰² "Defendant Told of Plan To Use Bomb, Agent Says," New York Times, July 15, 1998. Academic OneFile, <http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CA150175475&v=2.1&u=nyp&it=r&p=AONE&sw=w&asid=ac2d30ba82ab3ba00e54baf2563b5714>

³⁰³ "Motive sought in New York subway bomb plot," CNN.com, August 2, 1997, <http://www.cnn.com/US/9708/02/brooklyn.bomb.pm/>

³⁰⁴ "Suspects in bomb plot took two paths from the West Bank," New York Times, August 3, 1997.

³⁰⁵ "Lawyer says defendant is a cheat, but not a terrorist, as trial starts in subway bomb plot," New York Times, July 7, 1998.

³⁰⁶ "State Department got bomb note, but doesn't know why," New York Times, August 6, 1997.

³⁰⁷ Ibid.

³⁰⁸ "Lawyer says defendant is a cheat, but not a terrorist, as trial starts in subway bomb plot," New York Times, July 7, 1998.

bomb, “blowing myself up,”³⁰⁹ and wanted to take “as many [Jews] as I could take” with him when he would carry out the suicide bombing attack on the subway.³¹⁰ He further stated that he “always dreamed to be a martyr.”³¹¹

Abu Mezer was convicted of conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction on July 24, 1998. Following the jury’s pronouncement of his conviction, Abu Mezer jumped from his chair, raised a Qur’an over his head and shouted “Allahu Akbar!” – “God is great!” He was returned to his chair by federal marshals, but followed up with pointing his index fingers skywards,³¹² an Islamist gesture.

At his sentencing, Ghazi Abu Mezer launched a litany of complaints against the Jewish people, beginning with Biblical times through the present, and asserted that the murder of six million Jews during the Holocaust was “a lie.”³¹³ He was sentenced to life in prison in March of 1999. Khalil was acquitted of the bombing charges, but was convicted of immigration fraud³¹⁴ and sentenced to three years in prison.³¹⁵

June 18, 1999

CA: Sacramento

Followers of the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations attacked three synagogues in one night in the Sacramento area.

Three synagogues in Sacramento, California were attacked by arsonists who were adherents of the Aryan Nations. At two of the synagogues, leaflets were left claiming Jews were responsible for the war in Kosovo that was occurring at the time.

The first attack took place at 3:24 a.m. at Congregation B’nai Israel, which suffered the most damage. Its library was destroyed in the attack. At 3:48 a.m., arsonists set a small fire inside of Congregation Beth Shalom in Carmichael. A third fire was started at 3:58 a.m., at the Knesset Israel Torah Center.³¹⁶

In early July 1999, two brothers, Benjamin Matthew Williams and James Tyler Williams, were arrested for the horrific

shooting murder of a gay couple, the synagogue arsons, and an abortion clinic arson. Matthew Williams was an adherent of anti-Semitic Christian Identity ideology.³¹⁷ Both were also followers of the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations.³¹⁸

One of the brothers kept a hit list of Sacramento area Jews, including officials and congregational members of the three attacked synagogues, and several prominent Jews from Redding, where the brothers murdered the couple.³¹⁹ In a television interview from jail, Matthew Williams admitted his involvement in the synagogue arsons, declaring, “I mixed up all the, all the Jewish cocktails, so to speak.” He added, “I was part of an organization that was involved in that.”³²⁰

Both Matthew and Tyler Williams formally admitted to the synagogue arsons and pleaded guilty in 2001. They were to be sentenced to 30 and 20 years, respectively.³²¹ Other sentences related to the other crimes that they had engaged in were pending against them as well. While awaiting sentencing, Matthew Williams committed suicide in prison.³²²

July 2-4, 1999

IL: West Rogers Park

Six Orthodox Jews were wounded by gunfire when Benjamin Nathaniel Smith, a neo-Nazi, went on a shooting rampage.

Benjamin Nathaniel Smith was a follower of Matt Hale, the “Pontifex Maximus,” or supreme leader, of the neo-Nazi World Church of the Creator (now known as the Creativity Movement). Armed with a .22 caliber semi-automatic pistol³²³ and a .380 semi-automatic pistol, he embarked on a murderous three-day spree of shooting attacks from July 2-4.³²⁴ Seven months earlier, Smith received the WCOTC’s highest award of recognition from Hale.³²⁵

From 8:20 p.m. to 8:35 p.m.³²⁶ on Friday night, July 2, Smith drove his car and stalked and shot six Orthodox Jews as they walked home from Sabbath evening services in West Rogers Park. The five injured men and a teenager included Hillel Goldstein, 34, who was shot five times,³²⁷ Eric Yates, 31, who

³⁰⁹ “He spills on bomb plot: I targeted Jews, defendant testifies,” New York Daily News, July 21, 1998.

³¹⁰ “Defendant in bomb plot tells of plan to kill Jews,” New York Times, July 21, 1998, Academic OneFile, <http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CA150172017&v=2.1&u=nyp&it=r&p=AONE&sw=w&asid=6b3358ab22fb5da096db03a3725b069a>

³¹¹ “Jury convicts man in scheme to set a bomb in the subway,” New York Times, July 24, 1998.

³¹² “Jury convicts man in scheme to set a bomb in the subway,” New York Times, July 24, 1998.

³¹³ “Palestinian gets life sentence for planning to bomb subway,” New York Times, March 2, 1999.

³¹⁴ “Jury convicts man in scheme to set a bomb in the subway,” New York Times, July 24, 1998.

³¹⁵ “Life for subway bomb plot,” New York Daily News, March 2, 1999.

³¹⁶ “Arson hits 3 synagogues in Sacramento area,” Los Angeles Times, June 19, 1999, <http://articles.latimes.com/1999/jun/19/news/mn-48016>

³¹⁷ “July 1, 1999,” Terror from the Right, Southern Poverty Law Center, November 1, 2015, <https://www.splcenter.org/20100126/terror-right>

³¹⁸ “November 30, 2001 – Sentencing of White Supremacist Brothers for Synagogue Arsons,” Terrorism 2000/2001, Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, <https://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/terror/terrorism-2000-2001#Foreword00011>

³¹⁹ “Synagogue arson suspects kept ‘hit list’ of Sacramento-area Jews,” Jewish Telegraphic Agency, July 13, 1999, <http://www.jta.org/1999/07/13/archive/synagogue-arson-suspects-kept-hit-list-of-sacramento-area-jews-2>

³²⁰ “Arson suspect admits mixing synagogue firebombs,” Jweekly, December 17, 1999, <http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/12251/arson-suspect-admits-mixing-synagogue-firebombs/>

³²¹ “California: Hate-crime guilty pleas,” New York Times, September 8, 2001, <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/09/08/us/national-briefing-west-california-hate-crime-guilty-pleas.html>

³²² “Arsonist Williams dies in jail,” Sacramento Bee, November 18, 2002, http://web.archive.org/web/20091022190829/http://geocities.com/three_strikes_legal/williams_dies_shasta_jail.htm

³²³ “Racial slayer killed himself in struggle,” Washington Post, July 6, 1999, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/national/longterm/hatecrimes/stories/hatecrimes070699.htm>

³²⁴ “July 2, 1999,” Terror from the Right, Southern Poverty Law Center, November 1, 2015, <https://www.splcenter.org/20100126/terror-right>

³²⁵ “World Church of the Creator,” Anti-Defamation League, July 6, 1999, <http://archive.adl.org/backgrounders/wcotc.html>

³²⁶ “Smith’s legacy of hate and fear,” Chicago Tribune, January 3, 2000, http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2000-01-03/news/0001030073_1_sabbath-white-supremacist-orthodox-jews

³²⁷ “Rampage left lasting wounds,” Chicago Tribune, July 4, 2004, http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2004-07-04/news/0407040345_1_shooting-sprees-orthodox-jews-white-supremacist

was wounded in the upper leg,³²⁸ Dean Bell, 31, who was shot five times,³²⁹ Gidon Sapir, 34, who was wounded in the lower back,³³⁰ Ian Hupert, 31, who was shot twice,³³¹ and Ephraim Wolfe, 15, who was shot in the leg.³³²

Later that night, Smith killed Ricky Byrdsong, an African-American basketball coach formerly at Northwestern University, and shot at an Asian couple. Over the weekend he also killed Won-Joon Yoon, a Korean doctoral student, and wounded two African-Americans, one of them a minister. Smith committed suicide in his car as police closed in on him.³³³

August 10, 1999

CA: *Granada Hills*

Buford Furrow, an adherent of the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations group, carried out a shooting attack against the North Valley Jewish Community Center. A five-year-old child was seriously wounded. Two six-year-old children, a teenaged counselor, and a receptionist were also wounded. After he fled the JCC, Furrow killed a Filipino-American postal worker.

Buford O'Neal Furrow, a longtime member of the neo-Nazi group Aryan Nations,³³⁴ drove from Washington state to Los Angeles on August 8 in order to carry out a shooting attack on a Jewish institution. Before setting out on his way to the attack, he purchased a van in Tacoma the week before and stocked it with arms and supplies. They included: an AR-15 assault rifle, an Uzi type submachine gun, several handguns,³³⁵ four boxes of high-powered military grade ammunition, including 9mm magazines and boxes of assault weapon ammunition, a web belt for additional ammunition, smoke grenades, a flak jacket, a knife, pre-packaged freeze-dried food, a canteen, and a first aid kit.³³⁶

Furrow first surveilled three prominent Jewish sites: the Museum of Tolerance, the Skirball Cultural Center, and the University of Judaism. Furrow decided the security at each of the sites was too strong for him to execute his attack. After driving further on the freeway to refuel, he came upon the North Valley Jewish Community Center, which he judged to be a softer target.³³⁷

At 10:50 a.m., Furrow walked into the lobby of the JCC and opened fire with the Uzi-type submachine gun, spraying from right to left. His barrage of gunfire, which totaled 70 rounds, wounded five people: Isabelle Shalometh, 68, a receptionist, Mindy Finkelstein, 16, a counselor, and three boys - Benjamin Kadish, 5, Joshua Stepakoff, 6, and James Sidell, 5.³³⁸

Of the five victims, Kadish was the most seriously wounded. He was shot in his left leg and abdomen and lost a great deal of blood.³³⁹ Stepakoff was wounded in his left leg, and Sidell was shot in his foot. Finkelstein was injured in her right thigh and shin, and bullets grazed Shalometh on her arm and back.³⁴⁰

Fifteen minutes after the attack, Furrow abandoned his van and stole a woman's car near the Van Nuys airport. Soon afterward he arrived in Chatsworth and saw Joseph Ileto, a Filipino American postal worker, and stopped him. Furrow asked if Ileto would mail a letter for him. Furrow pulled out a 9mm pistol and shot and killed Ileto. Furrow abandoned the stolen car and fled California in a taxi, heading for Las Vegas.³⁴¹

When he arrived in Las Vegas, Furrow researched the names of several local synagogues and contemplated attacking one of them. However, he reconsidered the idea because his name and picture were being broadcast all over the media. Instead, on the morning of August 11, he decided to turn himself in to the Las Vegas office of the FBI. He told the FBI upon his surrender that he carried out the shooting at the JCC in order to send "a wake-up call for Americans to kill Jews."³⁴² He told the FBI that he targeted Joseph Ileto because he was a U.S. government employee and non-white, and referred to Ileto as a good "target of opportunity."³⁴³

Prior to the shooting attacks, Furrow was a longtime adherent of the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations. He previously served as an official of the group's security force in 1995.³⁴⁴ Furrow was also briefly married to Debra Matthews, the widow of Robert Matthews, the founder of the neo-Nazi terrorist group The Order.³⁴⁵ Richard Butler, the leader and ideologue of the Aryan Nations, performed their wedding ceremony.³⁴⁶

³²⁸ "Chicago's Jewish community shaken after rampage," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, July 6, 1999, <http://www.jta.org/1999/07/06/life-religion/features/behind-the-headlines-chicagos-jewish-community-shaken-after-shooting-rampage-2>

³²⁹ "Rampage left lasting wounds," Chicago Tribune, July 4, 2004, http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2004-07-04/news/0407040345_1_shooting-spree-orthodox-jews-white-supremacist

³³⁰ "Chicago's Jewish community shaken after rampage," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, July 6, 1999, <http://www.jta.org/1999/07/06/life-religion/features/behind-the-headlines-chicagos-jewish-community-shaken-after-shooting-rampage-2>

³³¹ "Rampage left lasting wounds," Chicago Tribune, July 4, 2004, http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2004-07-04/news/0407040345_1_shooting-spree-orthodox-jews-white-supremacist

³³² "Chicago's Jewish community shaken after rampage," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, July 6, 1999, <http://www.jta.org/1999/07/06/life-religion/features/behind-the-headlines-chicagos-jewish-community-shaken-after-shooting-rampage-2>

³³³ "Racial slayer killed himself in struggle," Washington Post, July 6, 1999, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/national/longterm/hatecrimes/stories/hatecrimes070699.htm>

³³⁴ "First a loner, then a separatist," Los Angeles Times, August 22, 1999, <http://articles.latimes.com/1999/aug/22/news/mn-4015>

³³⁵ "The kids got in the way," Time, August 23, 1999.

³³⁶ "Gunman eludes police after shooting 5 at Jewish community center," CNN, August 10, 1999, <http://www.cnn.com/US/9908/10/california.shooting.07/index.html>

³³⁷ "Suspect scouted 3 prominent LA Jewish sites as targets," Los Angeles Times, August 13, 1999, <http://articles.latimes.com/1999/aug/13/news/mn-65230>

³³⁸ "LA shooting suspect charged with hate crimes," CNN, August 12, 1999, <http://www.cnn.com/US/9908/12/california.shooting.03/index.html?s=PM:US>

³³⁹ "Gunman eludes police after shooting 5 at Jewish community center," CNN, August 10, 1999, <http://www.cnn.com/US/9908/10/california.shooting.07/index.html>

³⁴⁰ "LA shooting suspect charged with hate crimes," CNN, August 12, 1999, <http://www.cnn.com/US/9908/12/california.shooting.03/index.html?s=PM:US>

³⁴¹ "Suspect scouted 3 prominent LA Jewish sites as targets," Los Angeles Times, August 13, 1999, <http://articles.latimes.com/1999/aug/13/news/mn-65230>

³⁴² "Furrow spared by his mental history," Los Angeles Times, January 25, 2001, <http://articles.latimes.com/2001/jan/25/local/me-16825>

³⁴³ "LA shooting suspect charged with hate crimes," CNN, August 12, 1999, <http://www.cnn.com/US/9908/12/california.shooting.03/index.html?s=PM:US>

³⁴⁴ "LA Rampage," Southern Poverty Law Center, December 15, 1999, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/intelligence-report/1999/la-rampage>

³⁴⁵ "State blamed for fatal shooting spree at Jewish day care," Seattle Post Intelligencer, August 20, 2006, <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/State-blamed-for-fatal-shooting-spree-at-Jewish-1212237.php>

³⁴⁶ "Furrow gets 5 life terms for racist rampage," Los Angeles Times, March 27, 2001, <http://articles.latimes.com/2001/mar/27/local/me-43302/2>

In the year before the attacks, Furrow served eight months in prison and at a mental health care facility after he violently confronted a mental health care worker with a knife in 1998. In the wake of that incident, he was arrested and told police he was a white supremacist with homicidal thoughts. In June 1999 he was released on probation.³⁴⁷

Due to Furrow's previous history of psychiatric problems, in 2001, prosecutors decided to permit Furrow to enter a plea agreement to plead guilty and receive a life sentence in order to avoid the death penalty.³⁴⁸ In March 2001, Furrow was sentenced to five life terms.³⁴⁹

Following the shooting, prison officials reviewed the circumstances of Furrow's 1999 release from prison. They concluded his parole officer was unaware that Furrow was a domestic terrorist with longstanding ties to white supremacist groups, and had been improperly classified as only a moderate risk upon his release on parole.³⁵⁰

August 15, 1999

NY: Hauppauge

Central office damaged in arson at Temple Beth Chai in Long Island.

At 2:55 a.m., an arsonist broke a rear office window at Temple Beth Chai, poured an inflammable liquid inside, and set it ablaze. The fire activated the synagogue's fire alarm and was extinguished quickly by the fire department. Fire damage was contained in the synagogue's central office. The Suffolk County Police Bias Crime Unit designated the arson as a bias crime.³⁵¹

November 30, 1999

NV: Reno

Failed arson attack carried out by five neo-Nazi skinheads against Temple Emanu-El in Reno.

Five neo-Nazi skinheads initially tried to break a synagogue window at Temple Emanu-El with a plastic liter bottle filled with cement. The window shattered but did not break. They then attempted to hurl a firebomb through the window to start a fire inside the building. The firebomb fell to the ground and damaged only the sidewalk.³⁵² It was the third arson attempt against Temple Emanu-El that year, and the FBI investigated the incident as both a hate crime and arson.³⁵³

Four skinheads, including a 17-year-old girl, were arrested for the arson on December 5. Two others were arrested near McClellan Air Force Base on December 8 in the Sacramento area.³⁵⁴

The five skinheads who were charged included Carl DeAmicis, 25, Christopher Hampton, 22, Scott Hudson 23, Daniel McIntosh, 19 and Joshua Kudlacek, 18, all of whom pleaded guilty to the firebombing.³⁵⁵ In December 2000, DeAmicis, Hampton, Hudson, and McIntosh each received a 14-15 year sentence. Kudlacek received a five-year sentence.³⁵⁶

June - August 2000

NY: New York

Future 9/11 Al-Qaida operatives surveil the Diamond District and "Jewish areas" to plot an attack.

One year before the 9/11 attacks, Al-Qaida operations chief Khalid Sheikh Muhammad directed several Al-Qaida operatives, including Muhammad Atta and Marwan Al-Shehhi, to look for symbolic places in New York to execute future terrorist attacks. They were instructed to carry out surveillance on "Jewish areas" such as the Diamond District and the NY Stock Exchange.³⁵⁷ A year later, Atta and Al-Shehhi each led a group of suicide hijackers in executing the 9/11 attacks, piloting and crashing planes into both of the World Trade Center towers.

October 13, 2000

NY: Syracuse

Two Palestinian American men set fire to Temple Beth El in Syracuse, New York.

At 11 p.m. a fire severely damaged the building of Temple Beth El in Syracuse, NY. There were no injuries.³⁵⁸ The arson took place on a Sabbath evening that began the holiday of Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles. The FBI, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and the local police investigated the incident as a hate crime.³⁵⁹

In March of 2003, Onandaga County District Attorney William Fitzpatrick announced that the arsonist, Ramses "Ramzi" Uthman, a Palestinian American who was born in Venezuela, was arrested in California.³⁶⁰ Uthman carried out the arson with the assistance of his longtime friend Ahed Shehadeh.

³⁴⁷ "First a loner, then a separatist," Los Angeles Times, August 22, 1999, <http://articles.latimes.com/1999/aug/22/news/mn-4015>

³⁴⁸ "Furrow spared by his mental history," Los Angeles Times, January 25, 2001, <http://articles.latimes.com/2001/jan/25/local/me-16825>

³⁴⁹ "Furrow gets 5 life terms for racist rampage," Los Angeles Times, March 27, 2001, <http://articles.latimes.com/2001/mar/27/local/me-43302/2>

³⁵⁰ "State blamed for fatal shooting spree at Jewish day care," Seattle Post Intelligencer, August 20, 2006, <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/State-blamed-for-fatal-shooting-spre-at-Jewish-1212237.php>

³⁵¹ "Fueling Hate," New York Jewish Week, August 19, 1999, http://www.thejewishweek.com/news/national/fueling_hate

³⁵² "Skinheads sentenced for bombing attempt at Jewish temple," Amarillo Globe News, Amarillo.com, December 2, 2000, http://amarillo.com/stories/2000/12/02/usn_skinheads.shtml

³⁵³ "Attack on Jewish temple is 3rd in year," Los Angeles Times, December 4, 1999, <http://articles.latimes.com/keyword/jews-nevada>

³⁵⁴ "Two men sought in synagogue attack arrested in Sacramento," Las Vegas Sun, December 8, 1999, <http://lasvegassun.com/news/1999/dec/08/two-men-sought-in-synagogue-attack-arrested-in-sac/>

³⁵⁵ "Five plead guilty in attempted bombing of Reno synagogue," Las Vegas Sun, July 14, 2000, <http://lasvegassun.com/news/2000/jul/14/five-plead-guilty-in-attempted-bombing-of-reno-syn/>

³⁵⁶ "Skinheads sentenced for bombing attempt at Jewish temple," Amarillo Globe News, Amarillo.com, December 2, 2000, http://amarillo.com/stories/2000/12/02/usn_skinheads.shtml

³⁵⁷ "Al-Qaida's 'Pre-Election' plot," Newsweek, August 15, 2004, <http://www.newsweek.com/al-qaeda-pre-election-plot-126131>

³⁵⁸ "Explosion and fire at temple prompt an inquiry in Syracuse," New York Times, October 15, 2000, <http://www.nytimes.com/2000/10/15/nyregion/explosion-and-fire-at-temple-prompt-an-inquiry-in-syracuse.html>

³⁵⁹ "Metro Briefing: Syracuse synagogue reopens after arson," New York Times, November 13, 2001, <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/11/13/nyregion/metro-briefing-new-york-syracuse-synagogue-reopens-after-arson.html>

³⁶⁰ "Arrest of suspect in Temple Beth El arson - Suspect born in Venezuela of Palestinian parents was treated in Michigan for burns shortly after 2000 fire," Syracuse.com, March 17, 2003.

Shehadeh, also a Palestinian American, drove Uthman to the site of the synagogue on the night of the attack. In June 2003, Shehadeh was serving a 2-4 year prison sentence for unrelated burglary charges.³⁶¹ He became a state witness at Uthman's trial.

Uthman injured himself during the arson as he ignited a substantial amount of gasoline and was burned. He initially escaped to Dearborn, Michigan where he entered a hospital for medical treatment. He was located after a search for him that lasted more than two years and encompassed Michigan, Florida, and California. Uthman evaded capture by making use of numerous aliases and addresses, family connections, and different passports.³⁶²

During Uthman's trial, Shehadeh testified that Uthman dedicated the synagogue arson to God, declaring in Arabic, "I did this for you, God!"³⁶³ Uthman was convicted of burglarizing and setting fire to Temple Beth El in November 2003.³⁶⁴ He was sentenced to 25 years in prison and ordered to pay \$856,278 in restitution.³⁶⁵

January 2, 2001

NV: Reno

Arson attempt at Temple Emanu-El of Reno, Nevada.

The door of Temple Emanu-El of Reno was doused with flammable liquid and set on fire. The incident was designated as both arson and a hate crime by law enforcement agencies.³⁶⁶ Neo-Nazi skinheads previously attacked the synagogue in November 1999.

Early 2001

NY: New York

Al-Qaida dispatches a surveillance operative to New York to surveil economic and Jewish targets.

In the early part of 2001, Al-Qaida leader Usama Bin Laden tasked Khalid Sheikh Muhammad to send Dhiren Barot (a.k.a. Isa Al-Britani), an Al-Qaida surveillance operative, to New York. Barot was directed to surveil economic and Jewish targets in New York to plan future attacks.³⁶⁷

April 19, 2001

MA: Boston

Foiled plot by Leo Felton and Erica Chase, two white supremacists in Boston, to bomb the Holocaust museums in Boston and Washington.

Leo Felton, a neo-Nazi skinhead and member of the neo-pagan White Order of Thule, and Erica Chase, a member of the neo-Nazi World Church of the Creator, were arrested as they were organizing a five-person underground cell called "Aryan Unit One" to initiate a "racial holy war."³⁶⁸

Chase became acquainted with Felton via correspondence before his release from prison. Upon his release, Felton moved into Chase's apartment. The cell members studied and were inspired by The Order.³⁶⁹ Using an explosives mixture similar to Timothy McVeigh's device in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, Felton was assembling the components of a fertilizer bomb. It was composed of 50 pounds of ammonium nitrate, the wiring, heating and timing elements of a coffee maker, 10 "bird bombs," and fuel.³⁷⁰ Material found in a search of the pair's apartment indicated that they intended to target the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, the Holocaust Museum in Boston, and the Lenny Zakim Bunker Hill Memorial Bridge in Boston.³⁷¹ The latter site was named after the late director of the Boston Anti-Defamation League. The pair believed that the execution of their attack would ultimately lead to the formation of an "all-white Aryan nation."³⁷²

Additionally, Felton spoke with Thomas Struss, a fellow white supremacist from prison and another cell member, about his desire to murder Jews and African-Americans, such as Steven Spielberg and David Geffen, the heads of the DreamWorks studio; prominent African-Americans, including Jesse Jackson and Al-Sharpton;³⁷³ and civil rights activist Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center.³⁷⁴

Chase and Felton were arrested when they attempted to pass a counterfeit \$20 bill at a local doughnut shop.³⁷⁵ They were convicted in July 2002. Felton was sentenced to 22 years and 10 months in December 2002,³⁷⁶ and Chase was sentenced to 57 months. In 2006, an appeals court reinstated gun charges against them, which resulted in Felton receiving five more

³⁶¹ "Second arrest made in temple fire," Syracuse.com, June 1, 2003.

³⁶² "Arrest of suspect in Temple Beth El arson - Suspect born in Venezuela of Palestinian parents was treated in Michigan for burns shortly after 2000 fire," Syracuse.com, March 17, 2003.

³⁶³ "Arab man sentenced to 25 years for burning down a Jewish temple," Associated Press, December 17, 2003, <https://web.archive.org/web/20040114105545/http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/news/archive/2003/12/17/national1143EST0552.DTL>

³⁶⁴ "New York: Arab man guilty in hate attack on Jewish temple," Los Angeles Times, November 25, 2003.

³⁶⁵ "Arab man sentenced to 25 years for burning down a Jewish temple," Associated Press, December 17, 2003, <https://web.archive.org/web/20040114105545/http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/news/archive/2003/12/17/national1143EST0552.DTL>

³⁶⁶ "Reno Synagogue is attacked again," Los Angeles Times, January 2, 2001, <http://articles.latimes.com/2001/jan/02/news/mn-7310>

³⁶⁷ "Al-Qaida Aims at the American Homeland," National Commission on the Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, June 22, 2004; http://govinfo.library.unt.edu/911/report/911Report_Ch5.pdf

³⁶⁸ "White supremacists guilty of bomb plot," July 22, 2002, Boston.com, http://archive.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2002/07/22/white_supremacists_guilty_of_bomb_plot/

³⁶⁹ US v Leo Felton and Erica Chase, US District Court, District of Massachusetts, Second Superseding Indictment, 1:01 CR 10198-NG, p. 2, <http://news.findlaw.com/hdocs/docs/crim/usfelton901supind.pdf>

³⁷⁰ "Hate Thy Neighbor," Boston Magazine, January 2002, <http://www.bostonmagazine.com/2006/05/hate-thy-neighbor/>

³⁷¹ "White supremacist trial starts," United Press International, July 15, 2002, http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2002/07/15/White-supremacist-trial-starts/20441026754135/

³⁷² "Boston couple plotted blasts to incite race war, prosecutor says," New York Times, July 16, 2002, <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/16/us/boston-couple-plotted-blasts-to-incite-race-war-prosecutor-says.html>

³⁷³ "White supremacists found guilty of bomb plot," July 22, 2002, http://archive.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2002/07/22/white_supremacists_guilty_of_bomb_plot/

³⁷⁴ "Feds: Supremacists plotted race war," United Press International, July 16, 2002, http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2002/07/16/Feds-Supremacists-plotted-race-war/27101026828980/

³⁷⁵ "Boston couple plotted blasts to incite race war, prosecutor says," New York Times, July 16, 2002, <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/16/us/boston-couple-plotted-blasts-to-incite-race-war-prosecutor-says.html>

³⁷⁶ Prison for bomb plot supremacist," Los Angeles Times, December 12, 2002, <http://articles.latimes.com/2002/dec/12/nation/na-supremacist12>

years, and Chase receiving an additional three months, due to her renouncing her white supremacist views.³⁷⁷

September 23, 2001

WA: Tacoma

Attempted synagogue arson started under a gas line at Tacoma's Temple Beth El.

At 12:42 a.m., a small fire was started at Temple Beth El³⁷⁸ by using two fire-starting logs. At the back wall of the synagogue, one log was placed under a gas line and the second was placed next to it.³⁷⁹ A neighbor alerted emergency services and the fire was extinguished before any serious damage could occur. The incident took place during the Jewish High Holiday season between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The Tacoma Police, FBI, and the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms investigated the attempt as a hate crime.³⁸⁰

December 22, 2001

NY: New York

Matthias Gueldner, a German UN employee, was arrested after he admitted setting the door of his Jewish neighbor on fire, and scratching anti-Semitic graffiti into it. The fire spread into the apartment, but was extinguished by a neighbor.

Matthias Gueldner was a press officer of German background at the UN headquarters in New York. Starting in mid-December of 2001, Gueldner harassed his Jewish neighbor across the hall from his own apartment. He scratched anti-Semitic slurs into the door, including "Jew Pig. You Kill Arab Children. We Kill You. Auschwitz [sic]," and "Killers of Iraquee [sic] Babies Will Be Killed in Cold Blood."³⁸¹ Gueldner also wrote in Arabic: "Death to Jews."³⁸² On December 22, he set the door on fire using newspapers and rubbing alcohol. The door was charred and the fire entered the apartment, but was extinguished by a neighbor. Police confiscated neo-Nazi literature, an Arabic grammar book, and a notebook with writing in Arabic.³⁸³

Gueldner was indicted on arson and hate crimes charges,³⁸⁴ and was convicted and sentenced to eight years in prison. He died in prison from a drug overdose that was under investigation by prison authorities.³⁸⁵

January 4, 2002

TN: Nashville

Foiled shooting attack on a Nashville area synagogue by white supremacist Michael Edward Smith of the neo-Nazi National Alliance and the Ku Klux Klan.

The FBI arrested white supremacist Michael Edward Smith on January 4 after he threatened a synagogue with a pre-school by aiming an assault rifle at it. Additionally, he amassed an arsenal of explosives and weapons in a shed outside of Nashville. An accomplice, Jack Spores, was arrested in Oklahoma City on January 8, for procuring the explosives and weapons for Smith.

Smith, a follower of the neo-Nazi National Alliance and the Ku Klux Klan, was arrested in Nashville after a passing driver saw him sitting in his car aiming a rifle at a synagogue.³⁸⁶ The driver contacted police and provided a license plate number.³⁸⁷ Smith subsequently led police on a car chase while intermittently holding a gun to his own head.³⁸⁸ After his arrest, police found an assault rifle, a 9mm pistol, and numerous rounds of ammunition in his car.³⁸⁹

Smith told police he stockpiled a small arsenal of weapons. Some weapons were stored in, and others were buried near, a riverside shed outside of Nashville. Police found a shoulder-fired anti-tank rocket, 13 pipe bombs, and chemicals for bomb-making. White supremacist literature from the Ku Klux Klan, the National Alliance, and similar groups were found together with the weapons.³⁹⁰

At Smith's apartment, police found 11 hand grenades, a rifle, a pistol, military fuse igniters, electronic blasting caps, and thousands of rounds of ammunition.³⁹¹ Smith told FBI and ATF agents he procured his explosives, weapons and ammunition from Spores.

On January 8, Jack Ray Spores was arrested by the Joint Terrorism Task Force of Oklahoma City. When they searched his residence, federal agents discovered a pipe bomb, ammunition cans, and a home "cluttered" with bomb making components. They also found neo-Nazi literature, a Nazi flag, and a framed quote from Adolf Hitler.³⁹²

³⁷⁷ "Judge resents convicted neo-Nazis," Boston Globe, December 14, 2006, http://wayback.archive.org/web/20070103125406/http://www.boston.com/news/globe/city_region/breaking_news/2006/12/judges_resenten.html

³⁷⁸ "Arson attack on Tacoma synagogue," Seattle Post Intelligencer, September 23, 2001, <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/Arson-attack-on-Tacoma-synagogue-1066634.php>

³⁷⁹ "Arson thwarted at synagogue," Seattle Times, September 28, 2001, <http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=20010928&slug=temple28m>

³⁸⁰ "Arson thwarted at synagogue," Seattle Times, September 28, 2001, <http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=20010928&slug=temple28m>

³⁸¹ "DA: Jewish man nearly killed by 'Nazi' next door," New York Post, January 4, 2002, <http://nypost.com/2002/01/04/d-a-jewish-man-nearly-killed-by-nazi-next-door/>

³⁸² "UN employee charged with hate crime," Associated Press, January 10, 2002, http://www.mrt.com/import/article_6c54747f-0ef3-5b3c-9962-e23e2a29358c.html

³⁸³ "UN worker in hi-rise hate case," New York Daily News, January 11, 2002, <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/worker-hi-rise-hate-case-german-denied-bail-article-1.486036>

³⁸⁴ "Worker at UN is held in arson," New York Times, January 11 2002, <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/01/11/nyregion/worker-at-un-is-held-in-arson.html>

³⁸⁵ "Ex-UN official's jail death to be probed," New York Daily News, May 23, 2005, <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/ex-un-official-jail-death-probed-article-1.595606>

³⁸⁶ "Pipe bomb found in home, police testify," NewsOK, January 12, 2002, <http://newsok.com/article/2778255>

³⁸⁷ "Man accused of supplying explosives," NewsOK, January 10, 2002, <http://newsok.com/article/2777996>

³⁸⁸ *US v Michael Edward Smith*, On appeal from the US District Court from the Middle District of Tennessee, November 18 2005, p. 2, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/d/dc/United_States_v_Smith_gfsza.pdf

³⁸⁹ "Man accused of supplying explosives," NewsOK, January 10, 2002.

³⁹⁰ "Man arrested in Tennessee weapons case," Associated Press, January 9, 2002, http://www.mylainview.com/article_7bbd04fa-b5f7-5c1a-9b4e-65febdd1ad83.html

³⁹¹ "Man accused of supplying explosives," NewsOK, January 10, 2002, <http://newsok.com/article/2777996>

³⁹² "Pipe bomb found in home, police testify," NewsOK, January 12, 2002, <http://newsok.com/article/2778255>

Spores pleaded guilty to possessing two pipe bombs, one assembled, and another disassembled.³⁹³ Smith pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm in a school zone, possession of unregistered firearms, unlawful manufacture of a firearm, and transporting unregistered firearms.³⁹⁴

March 22, 2002

CA: San Francisco

Arson attempt at Congregation Beth Israel-Judea.

On a Sabbath night, synagogue members reported that they smelled gasoline. A janitor went up to the synagogue roof and discovered several cans of gasoline. At 7:30 p.m., firefighters arrived and discovered empty cans of gasoline and propane on the roof, along with what they described as "wick material." There were no injuries.³⁹⁵

May 1-4, 2002

WA: Tacoma

John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo, who later became infamous on the East Coast as the "D.C. snipers," fired two shots into Temple Beth El.

Two shots were fired into Temple Beth El by John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo, the serial killers who later that year became known as the "D.C. snipers."³⁹⁶ There were no injuries. One round tore through an outside wall, through a meeting room and continued through the wall of the chapel, and the door of the ark, lodging into its back wall. The Torah scrolls were undamaged. Tacoma police and the BATF connected the bullets to the snipers in October 2002.³⁹⁷

Muhammad and Malvo went on a rampage of murders, starting in Tacoma, continuing in California, Florida, Texas, Alabama, and Louisiana. The two then carried out a series of sniper shootings focused on the Washington DC area. Muhammad was originally a follower of the anti-Semitic Nation of Islam led by Louis Farrakhan, but in recent years, attended a mosque not affiliated with it.³⁹⁸

Muhammad expressed extremist beliefs, including approval of the 9/11 attacks, stating, "America got what it deserved."³⁹⁹ Muhammad indoctrinated Malvo in the ideology of the Nation of Islam and trained him as a sniper.⁴⁰⁰ Additionally, both he and

Malvo were sympathetic to the goals of the 9/11 hijackers.⁴⁰¹

Muhammad was convicted of the shootings in 2003 and sentenced to death. He was executed in 2009.⁴⁰² Malvo was convicted in 2003 and was sentenced to life imprisonment in 2004.⁴⁰³

July 4, 2002

Los Angeles Airport

Hisham Muhammad Ali Hedayet opened fire at the El Al counter at LAX, killing Victoria Hen and Yaakov Aminov.

Armed with a .45-caliber and a 9mm handgun, a 6-inch knife and additional ammunition clips, Hisham Muhammad Ali Hedayet entered Los Angeles International Airport and headed for the El Al counter.⁴⁰⁴ Ten El Al customers were waiting to be checked in at 11:30 a.m. as he approached the ticketing counter.⁴⁰⁵ Hedayet came up to Victoria Hen, an Israeli American ticket agent standing behind the counter. He pulled out a gun and shot her. Hedayet started shooting in the direction of the 80 to 90 people who were standing in line.⁴⁰⁶ Yaakov Aminov, an Israeli American diamond trader who drove a friend to the airport, was killed.⁴⁰⁷

An unarmed El Al security officer and a private citizen, Aryeh Golan, tackled Hedayet and pushed him to the floor. As the security officer struggled to wrest the gun from Hedayet's grip, Hedayet pistol-whipped the security officer in the forehead.⁴⁰⁸ Haim Sapir, El Al's chief security officer, jumped over the counter and ran over to try to subdue Hedayet. In the commotion and fight that followed, Hedayet shot and stabbed Sapir. Sapir then shot Hedayet. Hedayet died at the scene of the attack. By the end of the struggle, Hedayet fired 10 shots, but the two security officers engaged him and prevented him from reloading his semi-automatic gun with a fresh clip of ammunition and attempting to kill more people.⁴⁰⁹

Following the attack, one woman was wounded, and three others were treated for stress related to the incident. At the time of the attack, Hedayet was carrying two California drivers' licenses, one with the name "Hesham Mohamed Hedayet," and the other with "Hesham Mohamed Ali." Each had a different birth date and year.⁴¹⁰

³⁹³ "Guilt admitted in bomb case," NewsOK, April 9, 2002, <http://newsok.com/article/2788760>

³⁹⁴ US v Michael Edward Smith, On appeal from the US District Court from the Middle District of Tennessee, November 18 2005, p. 4, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/d/dc/United_States_v_Smith_gfsa.pdf

³⁹⁵ "Arsonist may have targeted synagogue," Los Angeles Times, March 24, 2002, <http://articles.latimes.com/2002/mar/24/local/me-sbriefs24.4>

³⁹⁶ "Sniper suspect linked to Tacoma slaying, synagogue shooting," October 29, 2002, Napa Valley Register, http://napavalleyregister.com/news/sniper-suspect-linked-to-tacoma-slaying-synagogue-shooting/article_42f3c9b6-f3b8-5eea-b235-af545754f637.html

³⁹⁷ "Sniper's link to Tacoma shul shooting shocks area," Jweekly, November 1, 2002, <http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/18757/sniper-s-link-to-tacoma-shul-shooting-shocks-area-jews/>

³⁹⁸ "Suspects' lives are probed for links to terrorist group," Washington Post, October 25, 2002.

³⁹⁹ "Sniper suspect tied to anti-US views," Los Angeles Times, August 19, 2003, <http://articles.latimes.com/2003/aug/19/nation/na-briefs19.2>

⁴⁰⁰ "Snipers planned reign of terror targeting children, school buses, New York Sun, May 24, 2006, <http://www.nysun.com/national/snipers-planned-reign-of-terror-targeting/33291/>

⁴⁰¹ "Sniper suspects in hand," Christian Science Monitor, October 25, 2002.

⁴⁰² "Sniper who killed 10 is executed in Virginia," New York Times, November 10 2009, http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/11/us/11sniper.html?_r=1

⁴⁰³ "Lee Boyd Malvo - Fast Facts," CNN, February 7, 2016, <http://www.cnn.com/2013/04/03/us/lee-boyd-malvo-fast-facts/>

⁴⁰⁴ "Gunman kills 2 at LAX," Los Angeles Times, July 5, 2002, <http://articles.latimes.com/2002/jul/05/local/me-laxshoot5>

⁴⁰⁵ "Los Angeles airport shooting kills 3," CNN, July 5, 2002, <http://www.cnn.com/2002/US/07/04/la.airport.shooting/index.html?s=PM:US>

⁴⁰⁶ "Lives cut short: mourning the victims of the LAX attack," JWeekly.com, July 12, 2002, <http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/18111/lives-cut-short-mourning-the-victims-of-lax-attack/>

⁴⁰⁷ "Gunman kills 2 at LAX," Los Angeles Times, July 5, 2002, <http://articles.latimes.com/2002/jul/05/local/me-laxshoot5>

⁴⁰⁸ "Lives cut short: mourning the victims of the LAX attack," JWeekly.com, July 12, 2002, <http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/18111/lives-cut-short-mourning-the-victims-of-lax-attack/>

⁴⁰⁹ "Happiness turns to grief," Jewish Journal, July 11, 2002, http://www.jewishjournal.com/cover_story/article/happiness_turns_to_grief_20020712/

⁴¹⁰ "Gunman kills 2 at LAX," Los Angeles Times, July 5, 2002, <http://articles.latimes.com/2002/jul/05/local/me-laxshoot5>

Hedayet was described by one of his former employees as having a vehement hatred of Israel. Abd Al-Latif Abdul Zahab, a former driver for Hedayet's limousine company stated, "He had hate for Israel, for sure." Hedayet also promoted two of the many anti-Semitic conspiracy theories circulating in the Arab world. As Zahab recounted, "He told me that the Israelis tried to destroy the Egyptian nation and the Egyptian population by sending prostitutes with AIDS to Egypt. He said the two biggest drug dealers in New York are Israeli."⁴¹¹

The origins of Hedayet's possible connections to radical Islamists are more opaque. Hedayet grew up in Egypt in a Muslim upper class family described as "pious," and his father served as a brigadier general in the Egyptian air force.⁴¹² He studied at Saint George's College, a private preparatory school run by Christians, and was exempted from military service in Egypt due to the fact that he was an only son.⁴¹³ For his college degree he studied at Ain Shams University, where he received a degree in commerce. Hedayet began working at the Misr-Iran (Egypt-Iran) Bank, and in an unusual trajectory for someone of his age in Egypt, he became chief of the securities and credit division by the age of 30.⁴¹⁴ Hedayet later claimed to an acquaintance in California that he was "framed" and forced out of his job at the bank. Afterward he came to the U.S. on a six-month visitor's visa in 1992 and violated its terms by working. He then applied for political asylum.⁴¹⁵

In his 1992 request for political asylum in the U.S., Hedayet asserted to Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)⁴¹⁶ officials that the Egyptian government arrested him and accused him of being a member of the Egyptian jihadist organization Al-Gama'a Al-Islamiya. Al-Gama'a Al-Islamiya was then led by Sheikh Umar Abd Al-Rahman, who was already living in the U.S. and sending his directives to the organization in Egypt from abroad.⁴¹⁷ At that time, Al-Gama'a Al-Islamiya was carrying out a series of murderous terrorist attacks against Coptic Christians, Egyptian government officials, members of parliament, intellectuals, and Western tourists, with the declared goal of overthrowing the Egyptian government and replacing it with an Islamist state.

Hedayet claimed that the Egyptian government would persecute him for his religious beliefs if he were sent back, and denied being a member of the group. However, following an interview with him, the INS determined that Hedayet was inconsistent in his answers on his asylum application.⁴¹⁸ A five page letter of asylum denial that was sent to him in 1995 stated, "Each of these inconsistencies is suggestive of concealment, and call into question your assertion that all you wish for the government of Egypt is that it be overthrown by peaceful means."⁴¹⁹

Hedayet did admit to INS officials to being involved in another organization in Egypt that promoted the Islamist goal of pursuing the application of Islamic law throughout society. He claimed involvement in the Assad Ibn Furat Mosque Association, whose goals, as Hedayet described them, were to "understand truly and apply Islamic law in the twentieth century under any circumstances."⁴²⁰

Hedayet moved to a new address in California and never received the letter, and the INS did not follow up on deportation proceedings. His wife won a U.S. diversity visa lottery in 1997, which granted her citizenship and also made him eligible to apply for citizenship. Hedayet re-applied for citizenship, stating that his asylum request was pending.⁴²¹ An INS investigation following the attack determined that the information from his asylum interview and the rejection letter were never sent to the FBI and CIA for their security review of his citizenship request.⁴²²

In September 2002, federal investigators concluded the shooting was a terrorist act carried out by a lone gunman and determined that Hedayet intended to become a martyr.⁴²³

The Department of Justice and FBI designated the attack as an act of international terrorism⁴²⁴ in April 2003.⁴²⁵ They further determined Hedayet's "political and religious beliefs"⁴²⁶ were his primary motivation.

⁴¹¹ "Officials puzzled about motive of gunman who killed 2," New York Times, July 6, 2002, <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/06/us/officials-puzzled-about-motive-of-airport-gunman-who-killed-2.html?pagewanted=all>

⁴¹² "LA shooter's family: Hedayet no extremist," UPI, July 6, 2002, <http://www.upi.com/NA-shooters-family-Hadayet-no-extremist/52551025973287/>

⁴¹³ "Those who knew LAX killer say personal agenda died with him," Los Angeles Times, July 14, 2002, <http://articles.latimes.com/2002/jul/14/local/me-hadayet14>

⁴¹⁴ "Paper: Airport shooter had money woes," Associate Press, July 15, 2002, http://cjonline.com/stories/071502/usw_airportshooting.shtml

⁴¹⁵ "Those who knew LAX killer say personal agenda died with him," Los Angeles Times, July 14, 2002, <http://articles.latimes.com/2002/jul/14/local/me-hadayet14>

⁴¹⁶ Currently known as US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

⁴¹⁷ "A cry of Islamic fury, taped in Brooklyn for Cairo," New York Times, January 7, 1993, <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/01/07/world/a-cry-of-islamic-fury-taped-in-brooklyn-for-cairo.html>

⁴¹⁸ Statement of William Yates, deputy executive associate commissioner, Immigration Services Division, Immigration and Naturalization Services at "Immigration and Naturalization Service's Interaction with Hesham Mohamed Ali Hedayet," Hearing before the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, 107th Congress, Second Session, October 9, 2002, serial no. 110, http://commdocs.house.gov/committees/judiciary/hju82238.000/hju82238_Of.htm

⁴¹⁹ "Panel probes LAX gunman," Los Angeles Times, October 10, 2002, <http://articles.latimes.com/2002/oct/10/local/me-lax10>

⁴²⁰ "INS: Airport gunman spoke of terrorism allegation in '92 interview," CNN.com, September 25, 2002,

⁴²¹ "Airport shooter raised INS suspicions in mid-1990s," Atlanta Journal Constitution, October 10, 2002, <http://www.cnn.com/2002/LAW/09/25/lax.shooting.asylum/>
<http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CA92663864&v=2.1&u=nyp1&it=r&p=GPS&sw=w&asid=ae8d2b6cc5fcacc2535d746e1a52dd80>

⁴²² Statement of William Yates, deputy executive associate commissioner, Immigration Services Division, Immigration and Naturalization Services at "Immigration and Naturalization Service's Interaction with Hesham Mohamed Ali Hedayet," Hearing before the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, 107th Congress, Second Session, October 9, 2002, serial no. 110, http://commdocs.house.gov/committees/judiciary/hju82238.000/hju82238_Of.htm

⁴²³ "Federal investigators: L.A. airport shooting a terrorist act," CNN, September 5, 2002, <http://www.cnn.com/2002/US/09/04/lax.shooting/index.html>

⁴²⁴ "Conclusion," Terrorism 2002-2005, Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, <https://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/terrorism-2002-2005>

⁴²⁵ "FBI, Justice: El Al attack was terrorism," CNN, April 12, 2003, <http://www.cnn.com/2003/US/West/04/12/airport.shooting/>

⁴²⁶ "Strategic Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Protect the Nation's Security," US Department of Justice, FY 2004 Performance and Accountability Report, II-2, <https://www.justice.gov/archive/ag/annualreports/pr2004/P2/p02-3.pdf>

FBI investigators determined that Hedayet became radicalized in his beliefs in the years leading up to the attack. An indication of Hedayet's radicalization was his assertion to individuals who were close to him of his belief in violent jihad, and the targeting of innocent civilians.⁴²⁷

Additionally, investigators found that Hedayet's motivation for the attack was his anger over Israel's treatment of the Palestinians, and he chose El Al as his target viewing it as a representation of the Israeli government. Prior to the incident, Hedayet was found to have methodically planned for the attack, and liquidated several of his bank accounts. He then purchased one of the weapons he used in the attack, and sent his wife and two sons out of the country to vacation in Egypt prior to carrying it out.⁴²⁸

October 25, 2002

OR: Eugene

During Sabbath night services, Temple Beth Israel in Eugene was attacked by members of the neo-Nazi skinhead Volksfront group armed with rocks.

As 80 congregants worshipped inside Temple Beth Israel, Jacob Albert Laskey, his brother, Gabriel Doyle Laskey, Jesse Lee Baker, and his brother, Jeremy Allan Baker, and Gerald Anthony Poundstone, all members of the extremely violent neo-Nazi skinhead group Volksfront, hurled rocks etched with swastikas through its stained glass windows. All five fled.⁴²⁹

Jacob Laskey was arrested and entered a plea bargain admitting his responsibility for the synagogue attack and a series of other hate crimes. He was sentenced to 11 years and three months imprisonment in April of 2007.⁴³⁰ Poundstone pleaded guilty and received a 15-month sentence in September 2006. After his arrest, Gabriel Laskey renounced his anti-Semitic beliefs and attempted to make amends. He wrote letters of apology to the synagogue, met with some of its members, and studied Jewish history with a rabbi and his wife.⁴³¹ In November 2007, he pleaded guilty, and received six months imprisonment with work release, six months of home detention, and five years of probation.⁴³²

November 1, 2003

US and Canada

Foiled attacks by Hamas operative Jamal Aql against Israeli officials and U.S. and Canadian Jews.

Jamal Aql, a Gaza-born Hamas operative, was arrested by the Israel Security Agency at the Rafah crossing for planning attacks on Israeli officials while they were visiting the U.S., and on U.S. and Canadian Jews. Aql left Gaza for Canada four years prior and became a Canadian citizen. While in Canada, Aql spoke with Muhammad Bashir Abu Matar, a recruiter from Hamas' military wing.⁴³³ He reportedly asked Aql to carry out attacks on Jews in the U.S. and Canada. In preparation for doing so, Aql returned to Gaza for training.⁴³⁴

Aql reportedly arrived in Gaza in October. Ahmad Wahbeh, a senior Hamas terrorist trained him as a sniper and in bomb-making skills. Aql was tasked to assassinate an Israeli official traveling in the U.S. He was also directed to carry out shooting or bombing attacks on the houses or cars of members of the Jewish communities in the U.S. and Canada. Wahbeh specifically told him, "New York is an easy place to find Jews."⁴³⁵

Wahbeh taught Aql how to use an M-16 rifle, and theoretical and practical instruction in making bombs. He also instructed Aql that he would be able to acquire an M-16 in the U.S. via criminal networks in the Detroit area. Wahbeh also directed Aql to raise funds by contacting Islamic charitable organizations that raised funds for the families of suicide bombers. Aql stated that because of the unusual and politically sensitive nature of the attack, he was required to await the approval of the Hamas leadership.⁴³⁶ Subsequently Aql received an answer: he was directed to carry out the attack claiming responsibility in the name of Al-Qaida rather than Hamas.⁴³⁷

Aql was charged with conspiracy to commit murder, receiving illegal training to take part in a Hamas plot to "assassinate a senior Israeli official in the U.S., and attack members of the U.S. and Canadian Jewish communities."⁴³⁸ He was sentenced to four years in prison and returned to Canada upon his release in August 2007.⁴³⁹

⁴²⁷ "No link to extremists in LAX shootings," Los Angeles Times, April 12, 2003, <http://articles.latimes.com/2003/apr/12/local/me-lax12>

⁴²⁸ "No link to extremists in LAX shootings," Los Angeles Times, April 12, 2003, <http://articles.latimes.com/2003/apr/12/local/me-lax12>

⁴²⁹ "Oregon white supremacist sentenced to 11 years in prison for attack on synagogue," US Department of Justice press release, April 3, 2007, https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2007/April/07_crt_219.html

⁴³⁰ "Springfield man sentenced in hate crimes," The Oregonian, April 3, 2007, http://blog.oregonlive.com/breakingnews/2007/04/white_supremacist_sentenced_in.html

⁴³¹ "Synagogue attacker wins second chance," Eugene Register-Guard, November 14, 2007, <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1310&dat=20071114&id=9CdRAAAIBAJ&sjid=qPADAAAIBAJ&pg=4689,2931902&hl=en>

⁴³² "Oregon White Supremacist sentenced for attack on synagogue," US Department of Justice press release, November 14, 2007, https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2007/November/07_crt_916.html

⁴³³ "Ishum: tichnun l'hitnaqesh b'ishiyut yisra'elit ubayehudim b'kchutz la'aretz," Ynet, December 15, 2003, <http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-2840355,00.html>

⁴³⁴ "Israel remands Canadian in alleged attack plot," TheAge.com.au, December 16, 2003, <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2003/12/15/1071336890251.html>

⁴³⁵ "Canadian man's ties to Hamas raise calls for greater vigilance," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, December 10, 2003, <http://www.jta.org/2003/12/10/archive/around-the-jewish-world-canadian-mans-ties-to-hamas-raise-calls-for-greater-vigilance>

⁴³⁶ "Hamas-trained terrorist - Canadian national - arrested by ISA," Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs website, December 8, 2003, <http://mfa.gov.il/MFA/PressRoom/2003/Pages/Hamas-trained%20terrorist-%20Canadian%20national-%20arrest.aspx>

⁴³⁷ "Ishum: tichnun l'hitnaqesh b'ishiyut yisra'elit ubayehudim b'kchutz la'aretz," Ynet, December 15, 2003, <http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-2840355,00.html>

⁴³⁸ Israel remands Canadian in alleged attack plot," TheAge.com.au, December 16, 2003, <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2003/12/15/1071336890251.html>

⁴³⁹ "Canadian freed from Israel jail heads home," CTV News, August 30, 2007, <http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/print/ctvnews/%2020070829/gaza%20prisoner%20070830/>

November 18, 2003*IN: Terre Haute*

CANDLES Holocaust Museum was destroyed by arson.

Arson carried out by unknown assailants destroyed the Children of Auschwitz Nazi Deadly Experiments Survivors (CANDLES) Holocaust Museum. A brick was thrown through a window of the museum at 12:12 a.m. It was followed by a firebomb, which ignited a fire inside the building.⁴⁴⁰ Scrawled on an outside wall of the museum was the slogan, "Remember Timothy McVeigh." McVeigh was a white supremacist terrorist who was convicted of the 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building. There were no injuries. The FBI investigated the incident as domestic terrorism and a possible hate crime.⁴⁴¹ The museum was rebuilt and reopened in April 2005.⁴⁴² The arson remained under investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Terre Haute police.⁴⁴³

April 1, 2004*OK: Oklahoma City*

White supremacist Sean Gillespie attempts arson at Temple B'nai Israel in Oklahoma City.

Using a Molotov cocktail, Sean Michael Gillespie, a self described racist skinhead,⁴⁴⁴ and previously a follower of the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations, attempted to set Temple B'nai Israel on fire. The firebomb caused smoke damage.⁴⁴⁵ Gillespie video-recorded himself in the act of throwing the firebomb onto the synagogue.⁴⁴⁶ Upon throwing the lit Molotov cocktail, Gillespie declared on video, "I will film it for your viewing pleasure, my kindred. White power!"⁴⁴⁷

Gillespie was arrested on April 16, 2004. In April 2005 he was found guilty on charges of possessing and using an explosive device. In August 2005, Gillespie was sentenced to 39 years in prison.⁴⁴⁸

October 7, 2004*TN: Nashville*

Ahmed Hassan Al-Uqaily was arrested by the FBI for illegal possession of weapons. Al-Uqaily had discussed "going jihad" and targeting two Jewish institutions in the vicinity of Nashville.

Ahmed Hassan Al-Uqaily, a radicalized Iraqi American Muslim immigrant, expressed anger over the situation in Iraq and declared to an acquaintance of his that he was, "'going jihad' and that he was going to blow up something."⁴⁴⁹ The acquaintance told federal law enforcement Al-Uqaily wanted to purchase weapons, and Al-Uqaily was introduced to an undercover informant. In discussions with the undercover informant, Al-Uqaily "expressed animosity toward the Jewish community," and discussed targeting two Jewish institutions in the Nashville area.⁴⁵⁰

Al-Uqaily was arrested following his purchase of two disassembled M-16 machine guns, components for four hand grenades, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition for machine guns from an undercover law enforcement agent posing as a weapons dealer.⁴⁵¹ Al-Uqaily pleaded guilty to weapons charges, and was sentenced to 57 months in prison, followed by deportation from the U.S.⁴⁵²

October 12, 2004*TN: Knoxville*

Former National Guards soldier and neo-Nazi Ivan Duane Braden left his home armed with weapons and explosives he intended to use against a National Guard armory, and to carry out a suicide attack at a synagogue. He reconsidered his plans as he set out to commit the attack, and turned himself in at a mental health care facility.

Ivan Duane Braden, a former National Guards soldier and neo-Nazi, departed from home with the intent of carrying out an attack but changed his mind and turned himself in at a mental health facility. At that moment he decided, "Jewish people were not worth dying for."⁴⁵³

Braden confessed he was plotting to blow up a National Guard armory, and kill a retired captain and a sergeant. He further described his intent to suicide bomb a synagogue by wearing a trench coat filled with explosives and to "get as close to children and the rabbi as possible."⁴⁵⁴ Braden assembled a "war bag" that he took on the day of the incident that included sword-like knives, the components of a small explosive device, dark clothing, and rope.⁴⁵⁵ Braden was sentenced to 15 years in prison.⁴⁵⁶

⁴⁴⁰ "A crime of hate: Arsonist reduces CANDLES Holocaust Museum to ashes," Tribune Star, November 19, 2003.

⁴⁴¹ "Vow to rebuild burned Holocaust museum," New York Times, November 25, 2003, <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/11/25/us/vow-to-rebuild-burned-holocaust-museum.html>

⁴⁴² "Holocaust museum reopens after arson," Chicago Tribune, April 4, 2005, http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2005-04-04/news/0504040070_1_holocaust-museum-reopens-arson

⁴⁴³ "Holocaust museum celebrates reopening after arson fire," WTHR.com, April 3, 2005, <http://www.wthr.com/story/3160831/holocaust-museum-celebrates-reopening-after-arson-fire>

⁴⁴⁴ "Caught on tape: Brash bomber gets justice," CNN.com, May 3, 2005, http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/05/03/schuster.column/index.html?_s=PM:US

⁴⁴⁵ "April 1, 2004 - Arson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma," Terrorism 2002-2005, Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, <https://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/terrorism-2002-2005>

⁴⁴⁶ "United States Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit. United States of America, Plaintiff-Appellee, v. Sean Michael Gillespie, Defendant-Appellant. No. 05-6292, Decided: June 30, 2006, <http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-10th-circuit/1151798.html>

⁴⁴⁷ "Caught on tape: Brash bomber gets justice," CNN.com, May 3, 2005, http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/05/03/schuster.column/index.html?_s=PM:US

⁴⁴⁸ "April 1, 2004 - Arson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma," Terrorism 2002-2005, Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, <https://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/terrorism-2002-2005>

⁴⁴⁹ "Nashville resident arrested on charges of possessing machine guns in plan for jihad attack," FBI Washington DC, October 8, 2004, <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/nashville-resident-arrested-on-charges-of-possessing-machine-guns-in-plan-for-jihad-attack>

⁴⁵⁰ "Iraqi native arrested after weapons sting," Associated Press, October 8, 2004, http://www.nbcnews.com/id/6209879/ns/us_news-security/t/iraqi-native-arrested-after-weapons-sting/#.V6eXV2WMLww

⁴⁵¹ "Nashville resident arrested on charges of possessing machine guns in plan for jihad attack," FBI Washington DC, October 8, 2004, <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/nashville-resident-arrested-on-charges-of-possessing-machine-guns-in-plan-for-jihad-attack>

⁴⁵² *US v Ahmed Hassan Al-Uqaily*, US District Court Middle District of Tennessee, Judgment in a criminal case, February 21, 2006, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/1628.pdf

⁴⁵³ "Ex-Guardsman planned slaughter of Jews, police say," Southern Poverty Law Center, December 21, 2004, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/intelligence-report/2004/ex-guardsman-planned-slaughter-jews-police-say>

⁴⁵⁴ "Ibid.

⁴⁵⁵ "ET man gets 15 years for plot," Knoxville News Sentinel, September 18, 2007, <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/local/et-man-gets-15-years-for-plot-ep-412667155-360162431.html>

⁴⁵⁶ "Judge: Deciding term for ex-guardsman with mental illness 'extremely difficult,'" Knoxville News Sentinel, September 18, 2007, <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/local/et-man-gets-15-years-for-plot-ep-12667155-360162431.html>

July 5, 2005

CA: Los Angeles and Orange County

Foiled plot of a homegrown Islamist extremist terror organization called Jami'at Al-Islam Al-Sahih to carry out terrorist attacks at El Al at Los Angeles Airport, the Israeli Consulate, and LA-area synagogues.

After a series of 11 gas station robberies in the Los Angeles and Orange County area, police found a cell phone at the scene of one of the robberies in Torrance. It led to the arrest on July 5 of Levar Washington and Gregory Patterson, two members of a Sunni Islamist extremist terror organization called Jami'at Al-Islam Al-Sahih (JIS), the "Association of Authentic Islam." A search of their apartment revealed that their activities, along with those of a third member, Hammad Riaz Samana, were being directed from prison.

Kevin James established JIS in 1997 while he was serving time in prison. James was previously a follower of the anti-Semitic Nation of Islam,⁴⁵⁷ but left it to become a Sunni radical Islamist. Members of JIS were required to pledge an oath of loyalty to James "until death by martyrdom,"⁴⁵⁸ and to swear to keep the existence of the group secret.⁴⁵⁹ James recruited Levar Washington as a follower before Washington was released on parole. He instructed Washington to recruit a cell outside of prison that would be able to prepare for attacks. James subsequently continued to direct the group's activities from prison, requiring that Washington keep in contact with him at least every 90 days.⁴⁶⁰

Washington recruited Gregory Patterson and Riad Samana, who each pledged a loyalty oath to him. An individual who Washington had failed to recruit described Washington as having "regarded Usama Bin Laden very highly."⁴⁶¹ Washington and Patterson rented an apartment together that became the group's base of operations. Washington and the other group members purchased weapons and practiced martial arts in preparation for their activities.⁴⁶² Days before they were arrested, Patterson purchased a .223 caliber rifle.⁴⁶³

Members of the group conducted surveillance of El Al at Los Angeles International Airport, the Israeli Consulate,⁴⁶⁴ and of Israeli officials.⁴⁶⁵ Additionally, they conducted surveillance, collected weapons, and plotted attacks on Los Angeles area

synagogues. The attacks were planned to coincide with the Jewish high holidays in October that year. They were particularly interested in attacks on Yom Kippur, with the intent of maximizing the number of victims.⁴⁶⁶ They also carried out surveillance of military targets in the Los Angeles area, including recruitment centers and military bases, and prepared various means of attack in order to cause the maximum number of victims.⁴⁶⁷ They intended to carry out an attack on a military target on September 11, 2005.⁴⁶⁸

In order to fund their attacks, they carried out the series of 11 gas station robberies. Documents retrieved from their apartment included a list of targets, a poster of Usama Bin Laden,⁴⁶⁹ and instructions on recruiting and indoctrinating five-man "special operations cells" outside of prison. One of the five would be tasked to find explosives or to learn bomb making.⁴⁷⁰

Commenting on this incident in December 2007, Los Angeles Police Department Deputy Chief Michael Downing stated, "This cell was closer to going operational at the time than anyone since 9/11."

James pleaded guilty to having plotted "to levy war against the United States through terrorism" in 2007. In March 2009 he was sentenced to 16 years in prison.⁴⁷¹ Washington was sentenced to 44 years in total. He entered a plea agreement for the JIS plot together with James, and received 22 years, and received another 22 years for the 11 gas station robberies.⁴⁷² Patterson also entered a plea agreement and in July 2008, received 151 months (over 12.5 years) in prison.⁴⁷³ Samana pleaded guilty in 2009 and received 70 months in prison.⁴⁷⁴

July 7, 2006

CA: Tarzana

Arson and anti-Semitic graffiti at Beith David Educational Center Synagogue.

An arson was carried out two days prior to the dedication of a new synagogue building at the Iranian Jewish community's Beith David Educational Center. The fire was started at 3 a.m. using carpet scraps and cardboard boxes that were placed underneath the front door of the synagogue. The wooden

⁴⁵⁷ Mark Hamm, "Prisoner Radicalization: Assessing the Threat in U.S. Correctional Institutions," National Institute for Justice, October 27, 2008, <http://www.nij.gov/journals/261/pages/prisoner-radicalization.aspx>

⁴⁵⁸ US v Kevin James et al, Indictment, October 2005, p. 7, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/1089.pdf

⁴⁵⁹ US v Kevin James et al, Indictment, October 2005, p. 2, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/1089.pdf

⁴⁶⁰ US v Kevin James et al, Indictment, October 2005, p. 2, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/1089.pdf

⁴⁶¹ Terror plot hatched in California prison," ABC News, August 16, 2005, <http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/Investigation/story?id=1042853&page=1>

⁴⁶² "Four men indicted on terrorism charges related to conspiracy to attack military facilities, other targets," Department of Justice, August 31, 2005, https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2005/August/05_crm_453.htm

⁴⁶³ US v Kevin James et al, Indictment, October 2005, p. 9, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/1089.pdf

⁴⁶⁴ US v James, Indictment, October 2005 p. 5.

⁴⁶⁵ US v James, Indictment, October 2005 p. 9.

⁴⁶⁶ US v James, Indictment, October 2005, p. 7.

⁴⁶⁷ US v James, Indictment, October 2005 p. 4-5, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/1089.pdf

⁴⁶⁸ Mark Hamm, "Prisoner Radicalization: Assessing the Threat in U.S. Correctional Institutions," National Institute for Justice, October 27, 2008, <http://www.nij.gov/journals/261/pages/prisoner-radicalization.aspx>

⁴⁶⁹ "Four men indicted on terrorism charges related to conspiracy to attack military facilities, other targets," Department of Justice, August 31, 2005, https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2005/August/05_crm_453.htm

⁴⁷⁰ US v Kevin James et al, Exhibit 2, "Blueprint 2005," http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/536.pdf

⁴⁷¹ "Founder of prison based terrorist group sentenced to 16 years," Los Angeles Times, March 7, 2009, <http://articles.latimes.com/2009/mar/07/local/me-terror-sentence7>

⁴⁷² "Torrance terrorist sentenced in robbery," Daily Breeze News, August 25, 2008, <http://www.dailybreeze.com/article/ZZ/20080825/NEWS/808259814>

⁴⁷³ "Second Man involved in domestic terrorism plot targeting military, Jewish facilities sentenced to prison," US Department of Justice, July 21, 2008, <https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2008/July/08-nsd-634.html>

⁴⁷⁴ "Man sentenced for role in plot to kill Jews, attack military bases, Orange County Register, August 17, 2009, <http://www.ocregister.com/articles/samana-168436-months-carney.html>

door of the synagogue was charred, but further damage was prevented by the building's fire-suppression system. In addition to the fire, the synagogue's retaining wall and a window were defaced with anti-Semitic graffiti that included a satanic symbol. There were no injuries.⁴⁷⁵ The cost of damage to the synagogue was estimated to be \$9,000.⁴⁷⁶ The Los Angeles police designated the incident as a hate crime.⁴⁷⁷

July 28, 2006

WA: Seattle

During the 2006 war between Hizballah and Israel, Naveed Afzal Haq, a radicalized Muslim with a history of psychological issues, forced his way into the Jewish Federation of Seattle by taking a 13-year-old girl hostage. Once inside the building, Haq killed one woman and wounded five others.

Two weeks after the start of the 2006 war between Hizballah and Israel, Naveed Afzal Haq, a radicalized Muslim with a history of psychological issues, spent several days planning his attack targeting a Jewish institution. He purchased weapons and ammunition, and chose the Seattle Jewish Federation as his target by randomly researching for Jewish institutions on the Internet. He drove over 200 miles from his home in Pasco, Washington to the Seattle Federation building to carry out the attack. Waiting for an opportunity to force his way in, he hid behind a potted plant. Haq was armed with two semi-automatic pistols – one a .45 caliber and the second a .40 caliber, and additional ammunition.⁴⁷⁸

At 4:03, Haq took a 13-year-old Jewish girl hostage by holding a gun to her head and forcing her to open the security door. Before opening fire inside the building he announced, "I am a Muslim American, angry at Israel."⁴⁷⁹ He approached the receptionist Layla Bush and asked for a manager. As he walked with Bush towards Cheryl Stumbo, the marketing director, Stumbo told Carol Goldman, who was sitting nearby, to call emergency services. Before Goldman could do so, Haq proceeded to shoot at Goldman, wounding her in the knee, and shot Bush in the abdomen and left shoulder. Continuing on his rampage, he shot both Stumbo and Christina Rexroad in the abdomen. He then shot Pamela Waechter, the Federation's assistant director, in the chest. In an attempt to flee, Waechter ran to the stairs, but Haq followed her there and shot her fatally in the head.⁴⁸⁰

After shooting Waechter, Haq arrived at the door of Dayna Klein's office. He shot Klein, who was pregnant at the time, in her arm. Haq told her if she called 911 he would kill her.⁴⁸¹ During Haq's trial, Klein testified that he went on to declare to her, "that the Jews ... need to get out of Lebanon and Iraq. This is his Hezbollah; this is his personal statement."⁴⁸² Despite Haq's threat, Klein called emergency services. Haq aimed his pistol at Klein's head and told her, "Because you were too [expletive] stupid to listen, you are my hostage now."⁴⁸³ Klein nevertheless handed Haq the receiver to talk to the dispatcher. Haq declared, "This is a hostage situation and I want the Jews to get out." Later on, Haq said, "These are Jews and I'm tired of getting pushed around and our people getting pushed around by the situation in the Middle East."⁴⁸⁴ After he gave himself up to the police Haq stated, "I am making a statement, okay, that's what this is all about." He continued, "This is about the Jews and what they are doing. The Jews are running the country."⁴⁸⁵

In total, Haq shot six people, killing Pamela Waechter. Of the five who were wounded, Cheryl Stumbo, Layla Bush, and Christina Rexroad were in serious condition.⁴⁸⁶

Approximately six months prior to the attack, Haq was baptized as a Christian.⁴⁸⁷ At some time before the attack, Haq apparently had a change of heart and re-identified as a Muslim. Significantly, before he opened fire, Haq made a declaration identifying himself as a radicalized Muslim. Additionally, transcripts of telephone calls Haq made to his parents after his arrest indicated he viewed himself and his actions through the lens of radical Islamist ideology. In those calls Haq reportedly described himself as being a "martyr."⁴⁸⁸ He further told his parents, "You should be proud of what I did," "I did the right thing," and "I did it for God."⁴⁸⁹ He told his mother he was taking his medication at the time of the attack and knew what he was doing. He further told her, "I did it purposely," and insisted to her, "You be proud of me . . . Now I'm going to heaven."⁴⁹⁰

Haq's first trial ended in a mistrial in 2008. He was convicted in his second trial in December of 2009 and was sentenced to life in prison without parole in January 2010.⁴⁹¹

⁴⁷⁵ "Arsonist attacks Persian synagogue in Tarzana," Jewish Journal, July 6, 2006, http://www.jewishjournal.com/community_briefs/article/arsonist_attacks_persian_synagogue_in_tarzana_20060707

⁴⁷⁶ "Sprinklers snuff arson at LA temple," FireRescue1.com, July 7, 2006, <http://www.firerescue1.com/incident-reports/110829-Sprinklers-Snuff-Arson-Fire-at-LA-Temple/>

⁴⁷⁷ "City officials vow justice for vandalized synagogue," Jewish Journal, July 13, 2006, http://www.jewishjournal.com/community_briefs/article/city_officials_vow_justice_for_vandalized_synagogue_20060714

⁴⁷⁸ Detective Russ Weklych, "Certification for determination of probable cause," Seattle Police Department, Incident Number 06-313988, July 28, 2006, <http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/ABPub/2006/07/29/2003162310.pdf>

⁴⁷⁹ "Six shot, one killed at Seattle Jewish federation," Seattle Post Intelligencer, July 27, 2006, <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/Six-shot-one-killed-at-Seattle-Jewish-federation-1210235.php>

⁴⁸⁰ State of Washington v Naveed Afzal Haq, Charge sheet, August 1, 2006, <https://web.archive.org/web/20060904002050/http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/news/local/links/chargingpapersnew.pdf>

⁴⁸¹ "Victim pregnant at time of Jewish Federation shootings testifies in Haq trial," Seattle Times, April 21, 2008, https://web.archive.org/web/20080422180800/http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2004363419_webhaq21m.html

⁴⁸² "After shooting at Federation, victim feared what she might find," Seattle Times, April 21, 2008, <http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/after-shooting-at-jewish-federation-stopped-victim-feared-what-she-might-find/>

⁴⁸³ "After shooting at Federation, victim feared what she might find," Seattle Times, April 21, 2008, <http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/after-shooting-at-jewish-federation-stopped-victim-feared-what-she-might-find/>

⁴⁸⁴ Detective Russ Weklych, "Certification for determination of probable cause," Seattle Police Department, Incident Number 06-313988, July 28, 2006, <http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/ABPub/2006/07/29/2003162310.pdf>

⁴⁸⁵ "Trial begins in shootings at Jewish Center in Seattle," New York Times, April 18, 2008, <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/18/us/18haq.html>

⁴⁸⁶ State of Washington v Naveed Afzal Haq, Charge sheet, August 1, 2006, <https://web.archive.org/web/20060904002050/http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/news/local/links/chargingpapersnew.pdf>

⁴⁸⁷ "Shooting suspect was baptized," Seattle Post Intelligencer, July 28, 2006, <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/Shooting-suspect-was-baptized-1210337.php>

⁴⁸⁸ "2nd Jewish Federation trial postponed," Seattle Times, July 16, 2008, https://web.archive.org/web/20091215230206/http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2008053891_haq16m.html

⁴⁸⁹ "Haq's calls can be used in new trial," Seattle Post Intelligencer, July 15, 2008, <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/Haq-s-calls-can-be-used-in-new-trial-1279364.php>

⁴⁹⁰ State v Haq - Case Profile, King County TV, YouTube video, April 6, 2010, 3:03, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fUB_eONP-Nc

⁴⁹¹ "Haq apologizes, receives life sentence for Jewish Federation shooting," Seattle Times, January 14, 2010, https://web.archive.org/web/20100117181439/http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2010792702_webhaq14m.html

June 2, 2007

NY: Queens

Jewish school and neighborhood targeted in JFK Airport Plot: Four Islamist extremists were arrested before they were able to carry out a plot to bomb fuel tanks and pipelines beneath JFK International Airport. Part of the plot included targeting a Jewish school and a Jewish neighborhood in the airport's vicinity.

A plot to bomb fuel tanks and pipelines under JFK International Airport in Queens was averted by the arrests of four radicalized Muslim men. The leader of the group, Russell Defreitas, also discussed with the others targeting a Jewish school or neighborhood near the airport.⁴⁹² Defreitas, a retired airport worker, told a co-conspirator who was a government informant of his motivation for carrying out the attack. He claimed he saw military parts being shipped to Israel including missiles, which he believed would be used against Muslims. Defreitas declared he "wanted to do something to get those bastards."⁴⁹³ He further told the informant, "Muslims always incur the wrath of the world while Jews get a pass."⁴⁹⁴

Defreitas and his co-conspirators sought to enlist the assistance of Iran and major terrorist organizations, such as Al-Qaida, for their plot.⁴⁹⁵ A second co-conspirator, Karim Ibrahim, was approached by Defreitas to join the plot because he had ties to the Iranian government.⁴⁹⁶ During his trial, Ibrahim admitted to passing sensitive information to the Iranian government. Ibrahim also directed a third co-conspirator, Abdul Kadir, to contact Muhsin Rabbani, the former Iranian cultural attaché to Argentina who was indicted for involvement in the bombing of the AMIA, the Buenos Aires Jewish cultural center of Argentina.⁴⁹⁷ Kadir had training as an engineer and had ties to terrorist organizations in Iran and Venezuela. He also garnered a network of individuals who were knowledgeable in terrorist tradecraft, including providing advice on explosives and a bank account to finance the attack.⁴⁹⁸

Defreitas and Kadir were both convicted in 2010 and sentenced in 2011 to life imprisonment. Ibrahim was convicted in May 2011 and sentenced to life in prison in 2012.⁴⁹⁹

January 21, 2009

MA: Brockton

Keith Luke, a self-described neo-Nazi,⁵⁰⁰ was arrested before he could fulfill his plan to "kill as many Jews as possible" at Temple Beth Emunah on bingo night.⁵⁰¹

Keith Luke, a self-described neo-Nazi, was arrested after he raped and shot a Cape Verdean woman and shot two other Cape Verdeans, a woman and a man, killing the latter two.

Luke declared to police he was only beginning a murderous killing spree, targeting African-Americans, Latinos, and Jews. He planned to kill Jews by going to Temple Beth Emunah, a synagogue close to where he lived, on bingo night and open fire to "kill as many Jews as possible." At his trial, Luke appeared with a swastika carved into his forehead. He was convicted of first-degree murder in 2013 and sentenced to life in prison.⁵⁰² Luke committed suicide in prison in 2014.⁵⁰³

May 19, 2009

NY: Riverdale

Riverdale Synagogues Bomb Plot: Foiled plot of four men who were arrested for positioning explosive devices in cars outside of two synagogues, the Riverdale Temple and the Riverdale Jewish Center. They also planned to shoot down military planes with a Stinger surface-to-air missile system at the New York Air National Guard base.

Following an 11-month investigation, four men were arrested at approximately 9 p.m. outside of the Riverdale Jewish Center and Riverdale Temple. The arrests occurred after they positioned what they thought to be activated bombs in two cars outside of each house of worship.⁵⁰⁴ An informant supervised by the FBI provided the men with inert explosive materials for the synagogues plot. An inert Stinger surface-to-air-missile system was also provided to them by the informant for their planned simultaneous plot to shoot down U.S. military planes at the Air National Guard Base at Stewart Airport in Newburgh, New York.⁵⁰⁵

Three of the four men – James Cromitie, Onta Williams, and Laguerre Payen – had converted to a form of extremist Islam while serving time in prison. David Williams IV was born to

⁴⁹² US v Defreitas, United States Eastern District of New York, June 3, 2010, <http://www.leagle.com/decision/In%20FDCO%2020100603D28/U.S.%20v.%20DEFREITAS>

⁴⁹³ US v Defreitas et al., US District Court Eastern District of New York, June 1, 2007, p. 15, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/419.pdf

⁴⁹⁴ Ibid., p. 8.

⁴⁹⁵ "Russell Defreitas Sentenced to Life in Prison for Conspiring to Commit Terrorist Attack at JFK Airport," FBI New York Field Office, US Attorney's Office Eastern District of New York, February 17, 2011, <https://www.fbi.gov/newyork/press-releases/2011/russell-defreitas-sentenced-to-life-in-prison-for-conspiring-to-commit-terrorist-attack-at-jfk-airport>

⁴⁹⁶ "Russell Defreitas Sentenced to Life in Prison for Conspiring to Commit Terrorist Attack at JFK Airport," FBI New York Field Office, US Attorney's Office Eastern District of New York, February 17, 2011, <https://www.fbi.gov/newyork/press-releases/2011/russell-defreitas-sentenced-to-life-in-prison-for-conspiring-to-commit-terrorist-attack-at-jfk-airport>

⁴⁹⁷ "Imam from Trinidad convicted of conspiracy to launch terrorist attack at JFK Airport," FBI, US Attorney's Office, Eastern District of New York, May 26, 2011, <https://www.fbi.gov/newyork/press-releases/2011/imam-from-trinidad-convicted-of-conspiracy-to-launch-terrorist-attack-at-jfk-airport>

⁴⁹⁸ "Abdul Kadir sentenced to life in prison for conspiring to commit terrorist attack at JFK Airport," FBI New York Field Office, US Attorney's Office Eastern District of New York, December 15, 2010, <https://www.fbi.gov/newyork/press-releases/2010/nyfo121510a.htm>

⁴⁹⁹ "Imam sentenced to life in prison for JFK airport terror plot," CNN, January 14, 2012, <http://www.cnn.com/2012/01/13/justice/new-york-airport-plot/>

⁵⁰⁰ "Self-described neo-Nazi guilty of 2009 Brockton murders, rape," Boston Globe, May 30, 2013, <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2013/05/30/self-described-white-supremacist-keith-luke-convicted-first-degree-murder-for-rampage/UO11ACrLJgGbnY2Qluti/story.html>

⁵⁰¹ "DA says racism drove Brockton killings, rape," Boston Globe, January 23, 2009, http://archive.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/01/23/da_says_racism_drove_brockton_killings_rape/

⁵⁰² "January 21, 2009," Terror from the Right, Southern Poverty Law Center, November 1, 2015, <https://www.splcenter.org/20100126/terror-right>

⁵⁰³ "Keith Luke, neo-Nazi convicted of Brockton murders, dead after apparent suicide, MassLive, May 14, 2014, http://www.masslive.com/news/worcester/index.ssf/2014/05/keith_luke_neo-nazi_convicted.html

⁵⁰⁴ "NY bomb suspects acted alone, police say," New York Times, May 21, 2009, <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/22/nyregion/22terror.html>

⁵⁰⁵ "Four arrested for plot to bomb synagogue and Jewish community center and to shoot military planes with missiles," US Attorney Southern District of New York, May 20, 2009,

a Muslim father and Roman Catholic mother and considered himself Muslim. A family member who saw him a week before the attack observed a change from his previous behavior.⁵⁰⁶

Almost a year prior to the planned attack, James Cromitie, a.k.a. Abdul Rahman, met with the informant and claimed his parents lived in Afghanistan (In an interview after his arrest, Cromitie's mother denied that the family had any ties to Afghanistan.)⁵⁰⁷ Cromitie expressed distress that, from his point of view, American military forces were killing Muslims in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Cromitie went on to discuss his interest in returning to Afghanistan, and that he would like to die "like a shahid, a martyr," and thereafter "go to paradise."⁵⁰⁸ Continuing the conversation, Cromitie declared he was interested in doing "something to America."⁵⁰⁹

Cromitie again met with the informant in July 2008. The informant told Cromitie he was involved with Jaish-e-Muhammad (JEM), the "Army of Muhammad," a Pakistani terrorist organization that was fighting against U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan. Cromitie was intrigued and discussed his interest in joining JEM and told the informant he wanted to join JEM to "do jihad."⁵¹⁰

Three months later, Cromitie began to meet with the informant in a house in Newburgh, New York. Cromitie recruited the other members of the group who joined the plot - David Williams, Onta Williams, and Laguerre Payen. They initiated a discussion of the targets they intended to attack: a synagogue in the Bronx and military aircraft at the Air National Guard base. Cromitie asked the informant to procure surface-to-air missiles and explosives for them. The informant responded to Cromitie he would be able to supply them with C-4 plastic explosives.⁵¹¹

After the Mumbai attacks in November 2008, in a discussion with the informant regarding which targets he considered to be the best in New York, Cromitie asserted, "The best target [World Trade Center] was hit already." Later on, after they saw footage of the funeral of one the Jewish victims of the Mumbai attack, Cromitie declared, "Look at the Jewish guy. You're not smiling no more, you [expletive]. I hate those bastards. I hate

those [expletives], those [expletive] Jewish bastards. I'd like to get one of those. I'd like to get [destroy] a synagogue. Me. Yeah, personally."⁵¹²

In preparation for their planned attack, in April 2009 Cromitie, David Williams, Onta Williams, and Payen chose a synagogue and Jewish community center located in the Bronx as their targets.⁵¹³ On April 10 Cromitie, David Williams, and the informant drove to the Riverdale Jewish Center and the Riverdale Temple to conduct surveillance and take photographs. On April 28, the four perpetrators met with the informant to discuss the details of their attack. Each confirmed that he was willing to participate in the "jihad" operation and to support Jaish-e-Muhammad. As they discussed their plans, Onta Williams stated, "they [the U.S. military] are killing Muslim brothers and sisters in Muslim countries, so, if we kill them here [in the U.S.] with IEDs and Stingers, it is equal."⁵¹⁴

They performed surveillance and photographed the airfield and military aircraft, and also chose a spot near the airport from where they could shoot the Stinger surface-to-air missile.⁵¹⁵ On May 6, the four men met the informant at a warehouse in Connecticut to pick up the inoperable missile system and three improvised explosive devices each composed of 30 pounds of inert C-4.⁵¹⁶ They brought the devices to storage lockers in New Windsor, New York provided by the informant. Having procured the weapons for their plot, the men hugged each other and shouted in Arabic, "Allahu Akbar!" - "God is great!" On May 13, they conducted another round of surveillance focused on the Riverdale Jewish Center and a last round of surveillance at the airport.⁵¹⁷

On May 20, the four perpetrators drove with the informant to the storage lockers to retrieve the three inert explosive devices. They drove to Riverdale and placed one device in the trunk of a Pontiac that had been positioned in front of the Riverdale Temple by the FBI. They placed the other two devices in the back seat of a Mazda similarly placed by the FBI in front of the Riverdale Jewish Center. They planned to drive away, pick up the surface-to-air missile system, drive to the airport, and shoot down one or more planes while simultaneously detonating the bombs in front of the synagogues. They were

⁵⁰⁶ "Suspects in terror attack: Drug arrests and prison conversions," New York Times, May 21, 2009, <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/22/nyregion/22suspects.html>

⁵⁰⁷ "Suspects in terror attack: Drug arrests and prison conversions," New York Times, May 21, 2009, <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/22/nyregion/22suspects.html>

⁵⁰⁸ United States v Cromitie, Onta Williams, David Williams, Laguerre Payen, US Court of Appeals, August 22, 2013, Second Circuit, Docket Nos. 11-2763(L), 11-2884(con), 11-2900(con), 11-3785(con), <http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-2nd-circuit/1642475.html>

⁵⁰⁹ United States v James Cromitie, David Williams, Onta Williams, and Laguerre Payen, Southern District of New York, Complaint, May 9 2009, p. 6, <http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20090520-bomb-plot-arrests/complaint.pdf>

⁵¹⁰ "Four arrested for plot to bomb synagogue and Jewish community center and to shoot military planes with missiles," US Attorney Southern District of New York, May 20, 2009, <http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20090520-bomb-plot-arrests/press-release.pdf>

⁵¹¹ United States v James Cromitie, David Williams, Onta Williams, and Laguerre Payen, Southern District of New York, Complaint, May 9 2009, p. 6, <http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20090520-bomb-plot-arrests/complaint.pdf>

⁵¹² United States v Cromitie, Onta Williams, David Williams, Laguerre Payen, US Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, August 22, 2013, Docket Nos. 11-2763(L), 11-2884(con), 11-2900(con), 11-3785(con), <http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-2nd-circuit/1642475.html>

⁵¹³ United States v James Cromitie, David Williams, Onta Williams, and Laguerre Payen, Southern District of New York, Complaint, May 9 2009, p. 2, <http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20090520-bomb-plot-arrests/complaint.pdf>

⁵¹⁴ United States v James Cromitie, David Williams, Onta Williams, and Laguerre Payen, Southern District of New York, Complaint, May 9 2009, p. 11.

⁵¹⁵ United States v James Cromitie, David Williams, Onta Williams, and Laguerre Payen, Southern District of New York, Complaint, May 9 2009, p. 3, <http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20090520-bomb-plot-arrests/complaint.pdf>

⁵¹⁶ United States v James Cromitie, David Williams, Onta Williams, and Laguerre Payen, Southern District of New York, Complaint, May 9 2009, p. 12.

⁵¹⁷ United States v Cromitie, Onta Williams, David Williams, Laguerre Payen, US Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, August 22, 2013, Docket Nos. 11-2763(L), 11-2884(con), 11-2900(con), 11-3785(con), <http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-2nd-circuit/1642475.html>

all arrested as they began to drive away from the synagogues.⁵¹⁸

James Cromitie, Onta Williams, David Williams, and Laguerre Payen were convicted of plotting to bomb the two synagogues and of plotting to shoot down military planes in October 2010.⁵¹⁹ Cromitie, Onta Williams, and David Williams were each sentenced to 25 years in prison in June 2011.⁵²⁰ In September 2011, Laguerre Payen was also sentenced to 25 years in prison.⁵²¹

May 30 - June 1, 2009

AK: Little Rock, and TN: Nashville

Shooting at the home of Rabbi Eugene Levy of Little Rock and an attempted arson at the former home of Rabbi Saul Strosberg in Nashville by Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad (a.k.a. Carlos Bledsoe), a self-described follower of AQAP.

Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad, a convert to extremist Islam and a self-declared follower of Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), embarked on a series of attacks. Over a two-day period, he initiated two attacks on the homes of two rabbis. His third attack resulted in the murder of two servicemen at the Arkansas military recruitment center.

May 30, 2009 - At an unknown hour, Muhammad fired 10 .22 caliber rounds at the home of Rabbi Eugene Levy in Little Rock. There were no injuries. Muhammad confessed to the attack after his arrest.

June 1, 2009 - Additionally, Muhammad confessed to carrying out a firebomb attack. At 2 a.m., Muhammad threw a firebomb at the Nashville home where he believed Rabbi Saul Strosberg of the Sherith Israel synagogue lived.⁵²² The attack failed.⁵²³

Later that morning, at 10:19 a.m., Muhammad carried out a shooting attack at the Little Rock, Arkansas military recruitment center, killing Private William Long and wounding Private Quinton Ezeagwula. He admitted to the shooting to the arresting police officers and told them that that he intended to "kill as many people in the Army as he could."⁵²⁴

Muhammad wrote a letter to the judge in his case and declared himself an affiliate of AQAP and a member of "Abu Bashir's

army." He went on to call the recruitment center shooting a "jihadi attack."⁵²⁵

Muhammad confessed to law enforcement officials that he originally planned a much larger scenario of plots that included a broader targeting of Jews. The first stage consisted of assassinating "three Zionist rabbis in Memphis, Little Rock, and Nashville." Then he planned to follow up with attacks on military recruitment centers "from the South to the nation's capital." And he would conclude with targeting what he termed, "other Zionist organizations in the Northeast."⁵²⁶ The Jewish sites he researched for targeting were located in Memphis, Philadelphia, Louisville, Atlanta, and New York.⁵²⁷ Muhammad pleaded guilty and received a life sentence without parole.⁵²⁸

June 10, 2009

Washington DC

Shooting and murder of a security officer at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum by white supremacist James Wenneker von Brunn.

At the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, James Wenneker von Brunn, an 88-year-old white supremacist, parked his car near the entrance at 12:44 p.m. and carried a .22 caliber rifle with him to the door. Stephen Tyrone Johns, a security officer at the museum, opened the door for him. Von Brunn aimed his rifle at Johns and fatally shot him. Two other security officers fired back at von Brunn. Von Brunn was shot in the face and fell backwards, outside the door.⁵²⁹

Police discovered a notebook in his car with a signed manifesto from von Brunn setting out his anti-Semitic justifications for the attack. It declared, "The Holocaust is a lie. Obama was created by Jews. Obama does what his Jew owners tell him to do. Jews captured America's money. Jews control the mass media." And, lastly, "Jews – Bolsheviks – Zionist [sic] are America's enemies."⁵³⁰

Von Brunn was indicted and charged with first-degree murder, killing in a federal building, and a bias crime on June 11, 2009. He died in prison from chronic medical issues as he awaited trial on January 6, 2010.⁵³¹

⁵¹⁸ Ibid.

⁵¹⁹ "Four men found guilty of plotting to bomb New York synagogue and Jewish Community Center and to shoot military planes with Stinger missiles, FBI New York Field Office, October 18, 2010, <https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/newyork/press-releases/2010/nyfo101810.htm>

⁵²⁰ "Three men convicted in Riverdale synagogues plot learn their fates," CBSNewYork, June 29, 2011, <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/06/29/sentencing-awaits-men-convicted-in-nyc-temple-plot/>

⁵²¹ "Laguerre Payen sentenced in Manhattan Federal Court to 25 years in prison for plotting to bomb Bronx synagogues and shoot down U.S. military planes, FBI New York Field Office, September 7, 2011, <https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/newyork/press-releases/2011/laguerre-payen-sentenced-in-manhattan-federal-court-to-25-years-in-prison-for-plotting-to-bomb-bronx-synagogues-and-shoot-down-u.s.-military-planes>

⁵²² "Terrorism suspect may face death penalty," UPI, July 29, 2010, http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2010/07/29/Terrorism-suspect-may-face-death-penalty/55061280431782/

⁵²³ "Muhammad letter: Also shot at rabbi's home," Arkansas Online, July 29, 2011, <http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2011/jul/29/muhammad-letter-also-shot-rabbis-home/?print>

⁵²⁴ Detective Tommy Hudson, "Officer's Report - Arrest of Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad," June 21, 2009, <http://web.archive.org/web/20101071093639/http://services.trb.com/wreg/abdulSWREG09060316200.pdf>

⁵²⁵ Letter of Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad to Judge Herbert T. Wright, Sixth Judicial Court, Fourth Division, Pulaski County, AK, January 24, 2010, <http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/us/20100210-convert-letter.pdf>

⁵²⁶ "Muslim who shot soldier in Arkansas says he wanted to cause more death," Knoxville News-Sentinel, November 13, 2010, <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/state/muslim-who-shot-soldier-in-arkansas-says-he-wanted-to-cause-more-death-ep-407169853-358338211.html>

⁵²⁷ "Arkansas shooter researched Jewish sites," JTA, June 4, 2009, <http://www.jta.org/2009/06/04/news-opinion/united-states/arkansas-shooter-researched-jewish-sites>

⁵²⁸ "Man pleads guilty to recruiting center shooting, gets life" CNN, July 29, 2011, <http://www.cnn.com/2011/CRIME/07/25/arkansas.recruiter.shooting/>

⁵²⁹ "US v James Wenneker Von Brunn," US District Court for the District of Columbia, June 11, 2009, p. 1-2, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/metro/pdf/vonbrunncomplaint.pdf>

⁵³⁰ Ibid., p. 3.

⁵³¹ "Accused Holocaust museum shooter dies," Los Angeles Times, January 6, 2010, <http://www.latimes.com/world/la-na-holocaust-shooter7-2010jan07-story.html>

October 29, 2010*IL: Chicago*

AQAP Cargo Bomb Plot: Foiled attempt by Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) to ship two bombs constructed from computer printer cartridges from Yemen to two synagogues in Chicago.

Two Yemeni women shipped one cargo package each on different days in late October 2010 from San'a, Yemen to Chicago.⁵³² Each package contained a Hewlett Packard computer printer with its ink cartridge altered to contain a powerful bomb. Neither device was detected using x-ray screening.⁵³³ The bombs were constructed using the explosive PETN (pentaerythritol trinitrate), and were shipped separately, using U.S. shipping companies UPS and FedEx.⁵³⁴ The intended delivery date of both packages was November 1.⁵³⁵

Following an alert on October 28 from Saudi intelligence to Western intelligence agencies and Qatar, one of the bombs had already passed through Cologne-Bonn airport and was on its way to the U.K. It was intercepted at East Midlands Airport in the U.K. on October 29.⁵³⁶ The device first traveled on a passenger plane and then arrived on a UPS cargo flight. The second bomb traveled via two passenger flights on Qatar Airways, and was then intercepted in Dubai at a FedEx facility.⁵³⁷

German federal police officials from the BKA described the printer cartridge bomb found on the UPS cargo flight in the U.K. as being filled with 400 grams (15.11 ounces) of PETN. The UPS shipped device was attached to a timing device that was composed of the card and battery of a cell phone, which were attached to a light emitting diode (LED). The LED was inserted inside a syringe containing lead azide, a material used for detonation, and the syringe was placed partially inside the PETN powder within the toner cartridge. The device was intended to detonate at a pre-set time using the cell phone card.⁵³⁸

They described the FedEx shipped device intercepted in Dubai as being slightly smaller, with 300 grams (10.58 ounces) of PETN.⁵³⁹ That device included a detonator constructed out of a cell phone SIM card and an electrical circuit.⁵⁴⁰ Both devices were described as having a potentially "lethal impact" if they had exploded either in a plane or on the ground.⁵⁴¹

British investigators were reported to believe that the bombs were timed and intended to detonate somewhere over the U.S. But other counterterrorism specialists disagreed and pointed to the fact that the perpetrators would not have known what time the bombs were traveling over the U.S. because they were sent on cargo flights. Had the package passing through the U.K. traveled unimpeded through East Midlands Airport, U.K. investigators estimated that it could have detonated over the eastern seaboard of the U.S.⁵⁴²

U.S. and U.K. officials believed the radical Islamist cleric and AQAP ideologue Anwar Al-Awlaki was involved in sending the two devices.⁵⁴³ The bombs were believed to be constructed by a skilled AQAP bomb maker named Ibrahim Hassan Tali'a Al-Asiri. In an earlier AQAP attempted attack on the U.S., Al-Asiri reportedly used his capabilities to construct the 80 gram (2.82 ounces) PETN bomb hidden by Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab in his underwear. In the 2009 foiled Christmas Day plane bombing, Abdulmutallab sought to bring down the plane in which he was traveling over Detroit by unsuccessfully attempting to detonate that device. In an earlier attempted AQAP attack against Saudi Arabia, Ibrahim Al-Asiri constructed a similar device that was also concealed in the bomber's underwear.⁵⁴⁴ It was used by another AQAP operative, Al-Asiri's younger brother, Abdallah Hassan Tali'a Al-Asiri. During Ramadan in August 2009, Abdallah Al-Asiri evaded Saudi security measures and carried out a suicide bombing in an attempt to assassinate the Saudi intelligence minister, Prince Muhammad Bin Nayef. Bin Nayef received relatively minor injuries in the attack.⁵⁴⁵

AQAP previously performed three "dry runs" of the bomb plot in mid-September 2010.⁵⁴⁶ In one example, an individual with

⁵³² "Package bombs linked to Al-Qaida," Washington Post, October 31, 2010, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/29/AR2010102906990.html>

⁵³³ "Unraveling a terror plot: Terror investigators hunt for Yemen bomb makers," Spiegel (Germany), November 1, 2010, <http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/unraveling-a-terror-plot-terror-investigators-hunt-for-yemen-bomb-makers-a-726551-druck.html>

⁵³⁴ "Q and A: Air freight bomb plot," BBC (UK), November 2, 2010, <http://www.bbc.com/news/11658452>

⁵³⁵ "Foiled parcel plot: World scrambles to tighten air cargo security," Spiegel (Germany), November 2, 2010, <http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/foiled-parcel-plot-world-scrambles-to-tighten-air-cargo-security-a-726746-druck.html>

⁵³⁶ "Cargo plane bombs more lethal than Christmas Day attempt; Yemen charges Aulaqi in absentia," Washington Post, November 2, 2010, http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/01/AR2010110106272_pf.html

⁵³⁷ "Cargo bomb plot: Al-Qaida terrorists 'threatened another Lockerbie,'" Telegraph (UK), October 31, 2010, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/8100970/Cargo-plane-bomb-plot-al-Qaeda-terrorists-threatened-another-Lockerbie.html>

⁵³⁸ "The terror threat in Europe: Germany considers blacklist for airports with lax cargo security," Spiegel (Germany), November 8, 2010, <http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/the-terror-threat-in-europe-germany-considers-blacklist-for-airports-with-lax-cargo-security-a-727814-druck.html>

⁵³⁹ "Earlier flight may have been dry run for plotters," New York Times, November 1, 2010, <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/02/world/02terror.html>

⁵⁴⁰ "Q and A: Air freight bomb plot," BBC (UK), November 2, 2010, <http://www.bbc.com/news/11658452>

⁵⁴¹ "Foiled parcel plot: World scrambles to tighten air cargo security," Spiegel (Germany), November 2, 2010, <http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/foiled-parcel-plot-world-scrambles-to-tighten-air-cargo-security-a-726746-druck.html>

⁵⁴² "Cargo plane bomb found in Britain was primed to blow up over US," Guardian (UK), November 10, 2010, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/nov/10/cargo-plane-bomb-us-alqaida>

⁵⁴³ "Yemen cargo bomb plot may have been targeted at Britain," Telegraph (UK), October 30, 2010, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/8099345/Yemen-cargo-bomb-plot-may-have-been-targeted-at-Britain.html>

⁵⁴⁴ "Saudi investigation: Would be assassin hid bomb in underwear," CNN, September 30, 2009, <http://edition.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/meast/09/30/saudi.arabia.attack/>

⁵⁴⁵ "Assassination attempt targets Saudi prince," Wall Street Journal, August 29, 2009, <http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB125144774691366169>

⁵⁴⁶ "Cargo plane bombs more lethal than Christmas Day attempt; Yemen charges Aulaqi in absentia," Washington Post, November 2, 2010, http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/01/AR2010110106272_pf.html

AQAP ties⁵⁴⁷ dispatched a package from Yemen containing a computer drive, religious literature, and books to an address in Chicago. The package was tracked and intercepted by U.S. intelligence agencies, searched for explosives, and then re-sealed and permitted to continue on its way to Chicago. It was believed that AQAP was monitoring the shipping company's tracking system to determine a time to set a bomb's timing device in order to have the most deadly effect.⁵⁴⁸

In a symbolic action for AQAP, the final destinations of both bombs were Jewish targets. The addresses were of two synagogues in Chicago. One was to be sent to the previous address of Congregation Or Chadash, an LGBT synagogue.⁵⁴⁹ The other was intended to be sent to the last address of B'nai Zion, a synagogue that was defunct. Both, however, were still listed at those addresses in online directories. The choice of addresses to which the bombs were directed nevertheless demonstrated AQAP's intent. Although AQAP was unaware they did not have the current addresses, the AQAP operatives themselves believed they had the current locations and used them. Additionally, the scheduled day for the packages' delivery to the synagogues was November 1, a Sabbath.

In consonance with Al-Qaida's long declared focus targeting "Crusaders" and Jews, AQAP's English language magazine characterized U.S. actions against Al-Qaida as a "new Crusade against Islam."⁵⁵⁰ AQAP therefore did not use the names of the synagogues on the packages but instead chose historically symbolic names for the intended recipients to whom the packages were to be delivered. For one of the addressees they chose Diego Deza, who served as the second Inquisitor General of the Spanish Inquisition, from 1499-1506.⁵⁵¹ Deza, the successor of Torquemada, was known for his persecution of Muslims.

For the second addressee, they chose Reynald Krak, also known as Renaud de Chatillon, a prominent military leader of the Crusades. In the Galilee at the Battle of Hattin in 1187, Salah Al-Din Al-Ayyubi (Saladin)⁵⁵² and his Muslim forces defeated the Crusader Christian armies. Renaud was taken prisoner by the Muslim forces and beheaded by Salah Al-Din.⁵⁵³

In a November 2, 2010 statement, AQAP claimed responsibility for the foiled attacks. They boasted that their bomb design provided them with the option of detonating the devices either aboard a plane or at the packages' destination.

In a vitriolic denunciation of the Saudis' intelligence alert as "treason" and "collaboration with the Zionists," AQAP further declared, "The packages were being sent to Jewish synagogues and yet you [Saudis] interfered to defend them. May Allah's curse be upon the transgressors."⁵⁵⁴

Several weeks after the incident, AQAP disseminated the third issue of its English language propaganda magazine Inspire. It featured a cover photo of a UPS plane with the sum "\$4,200" as its headline, indicating AQAP's comparatively small claimed expenditure on the plot. In an article about the plot, AQAP further explained its motivations to focus on the synagogues, explaining, "Today we are facing a coalition of Crusaders and Zionists and we in Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula will never forget Palestine. How can we forget when our motto is 'Here we start and in Al-Aqsa [Jerusalem] we shall meet'?" The article went on to explain the choice of the two synagogues, and the choice of their location in Chicago, because "both synagogues are in Chicago, Obama's city."⁵⁵⁵

May 12, 2011

NY: New York

As they were purchasing weapons and ammunition to carry out an attack on a Manhattan synagogue, Ahmed Ferhani and Mohamed Mamdouh were arrested in an undercover operation by the New York Police Department.

Following a seven-month investigation, Ahmed Ferhani was arrested after purchasing an inert hand grenade, weapons, and ammunition from a New York Police Department (NYPD) undercover detective. Ferhani and his accomplice, Mohamed Mamdouh, planned to attack a prominent synagogue in Manhattan and the Empire State Building. Mamdouh was arrested as he waited for Ferhani to complete his purchase of the weapons.

Ahmed Ferhani met an NYPD undercover officer in October 2010, and later introduced his friend, Mohamed Mamdouh, to him. Ferhani began to express his support for what he referred to as "Gaza." He also spoke of the possibility of traveling to Gaza, the territory controlled by the Hamas terrorist organization, to support his "Muslim brothers and sisters to fight against Israel and to kill Israeli soldiers" there. Ferhani also asserted that if he were killed engaging in that endeavor, he would become a "martyr." Similarly, Ferhani declared his intent to participate in "jihad."⁵⁵⁶

⁵⁴⁷ "Cargo plane bombs more lethal than Christmas Day attempt; Yemen charges Aulaqi in absentia," Washington Post, November 2, 2010, http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/01/AR2010110106272_pf.html

⁵⁴⁸ "US feared parcel bomb plot was coming; saw September 'dry run,'" ABCNews.com, November 1, 2010, <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/us-feared-mail-bomb-plot-coming-september-dry/story?id=12025563>

⁵⁴⁹ "Chicago synagogue cites web visits from Egypt," Wall Street Journal, October 30, 2010, <http://www.wsj.com/news/articles/SB1000142405274870341450457584681982002308>

⁵⁵⁰ "The objectives of Operation Hemorrhage," Inspire, Al-Malahem Media, November 2010 / 1431.

⁵⁵¹ "Diego de Deza," Jewish Encyclopedia, New York: Funk and Wagnalls, 1906, vol. 4, <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/5158-deza-diego-de>

⁵⁵² Salah Al-Din Al-Ayyubi is considered a great hero in Muslim history for his victory over the Crusaders.

⁵⁵³ "Reginald of Chatillon, Prince of Antioch," Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica Online. Encyclopædia Britannica Inc., 2016.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Reginald-of-Chatillon>

⁵⁵⁴ "Subject: Operation Hemorrhage," Qa'idah Al-Jihad in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), Statement no. 26, November 2, 2010 / Dhul Qa'dah 25 1431.

⁵⁵⁵ "The objectives of Operation Hemorrhage," Inspire, Al-Malahem Media, November 2010 / 1431.

⁵⁵⁶ People of the State of New York v Ahmed Ferhani and Mohamed Mamdouh, Complaint, Criminal Court of the City of New York, County of New York, May 12, 2011, p. 3, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/1591.pdf

On April 12, Ferhani, Mamdouh, and the undercover detective met at Ferhani's apartment and had a discussion about how they were going to blow up a synagogue and avoid being detected. Ferhani asked the undercover detective if he would contact someone about how to build a bomb. Mamdouh instructed the undercover detective to only speak of their plans in person and not over the phone. Ferhani suggested that in order to carry out the attack, the three of them should dress as Jews and go into a synagogue, attend a service, and leave a bag with a bomb there before they left. Mamdouh stated that he had no problem killing Jews.⁵⁵⁷ During their conversation Mamdouh responded to the notion of blowing up a synagogue by declaring, "Hell yeah, I would love to blow that [expletive] up."⁵⁵⁸

Six days later, the three met again at Ferhani's apartment and watched a documentary on Zionists together.⁵⁵⁹ Ferhani asserted he wanted to carry out a variation of the plan: he wanted to dress as a Jewish congregant, attend services at a synagogue, and leave a bomb inside the building after the worshippers left.⁵⁶⁰ Ferhani asserted that they would never be caught due to his plan of being dressed as a Jew for the attack. How would anyone "know that I'm not a Jew, coming in there, dressed like that? Shalom, Shalom."⁵⁶¹ Further in their conversation, as they discussed the subject of Zionists, Mamdouh declared that Zionists "look like little [expletive] rats." To this Ferhani replied, "Shoot that nigga."⁵⁶²

Later in their conversation, Ferhani came up with an alternative plan: they would bring guns into the synagogue so that if their initial plan did not succeed, they would be able to shoot at people within the synagogue building.⁵⁶³

On April 20, Ferhani and the undercover detective again met at Ferhani's apartment. Ferhani told the detective he wanted to blow up the largest synagogue in Manhattan, and that he was selling drugs to finance the explosives and weapons they would use for their planned attack. The drugs he sold included crack cocaine, marijuana, and Percocet pills.⁵⁶⁴

In another conversation with the undercover detective on May 3, Ferhani suggested they could throw grenades, two at the same time, into the synagogue. Ferhani also told him that he wanted to use the grenades to blow up churches.⁵⁶⁵

Ferhani told the undercover detective continually that he wanted to acquire guns in order begin to train for the attack,

and specified he wanted "clean" guns – new guns that were not used in a previous crime and therefore could not be traced. The undercover detective offered to introduce Ferhani to a weapons dealer who could provide clean guns and Ferhani expressed interest in meeting him. The undercover officer also indicated that the dealer would be able to acquire grenades, and Ferhani also expressed interest in purchasing them and discussed how he would pull the pins on the grenades and throw them into synagogues.⁵⁶⁶

On May 5, Ferhani and the undercover detective went to Manhattan to meet the weapons dealer, who was a second undercover detective. As they sat together in a car, Ferhani told the weapons dealer he wanted to purchase grenades and would pay \$600 to acquire two guns.⁵⁶⁷

Ferhani emphasized he needed the weapons for "the cause," and told the weapons dealer, "that the Jews take care of their own kind, which is why they will never starve, but Muslims don't work together, which is a shame." Ferhani asserted, "We gonna be victorious. y'all can do whatever, we gonna win at the end."⁵⁶⁸

Four days after their meeting with the weapons dealer, Ferhani declared he wanted to blow up a synagogue. He intended it to be a warning to the Jewish people. He asserted further that he wanted to blow up ten synagogues at once.⁵⁶⁹

Ferhani, Mamdouh, and the undercover detective drove to Manhattan on May 11 to again meet with the weapons dealer. They planned to purchase a grenade, and three pistols - two Brownings, and a Smith and Wesson. Ferhani instructed Mamdouh that following their acquisition of the weapons, he was to take the grenade and the Smith and Wesson and transport them to Brooklyn. Mamdouh agreed and he was dropped off first to wait in a location close to the place where Ferhani and the undercover detective were to meet the weapons dealer.

Ferhani and the undercover detective continued to 58th Street and 12th Avenue where they met the weapons dealer in a car.⁵⁷⁰ They were planning to buy a grenade, three guns, and ammunition. During the meeting, Ferhani told the weapons dealer he had \$100 on him, but would bring the rest of the money that evening or the following day. The weapons dealer told Ferhani that he would do business with him because

⁵⁵⁷ People of the State of New York v Ahmed Ferhani and Mohamed Mamdouh, Indictment, Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, p. 3, http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/1592.pdf

⁵⁵⁸ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Complaint, p. 3.

⁵⁵⁹ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Indictment, p. 3-4.

⁵⁶⁰ Ibid., p. 3-4.

⁵⁶¹ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Complaint, p. 3.

⁵⁶² Ibid., p. 3.

⁵⁶³ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Indictment, p. 4.

⁵⁶⁴ Ibid., p. 4-5.

⁵⁶⁵ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Indictment, p. 5.

⁵⁶⁶ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Complaint, p. 4.

⁵⁶⁷ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Indictment, p. 5-6.

⁵⁶⁸ Ibid., p. 4.

⁵⁶⁹ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Indictment, p. 6.

⁵⁷⁰ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Indictment, p. 6.

Ferhani was “a brother” and because Ferhani told him that he was purchasing weapons “for the cause.”⁵⁷¹

Ferhani confirmed the weapons purchase was for that purpose, and responded to the weapons dealer, “that’s all that it is for.” Ferhani went on to state that he and the undercover detective “have some [expletive] plans” and that he had “one target in [his] eye.” Ferhani declared he would “never quit until he reached that [expletive].” He explained his motivation for carrying out the plans he had been discussing as due to “Muslims is [sic] getting abused all over the world.” He declared, “I ain’t gonna accept it.”⁵⁷²

Believing he established a rapport with the weapons dealer, Ferhani asked him the cost of a box of grenades. He also asked if the dealer could get a bulletproof vest and a police radio for him. The weapons dealer agreed to provide weapons to Ferhani in advance of payment. He gave Ferhani a bag whose contents included: two functional Browning .380 caliber semi-automatic pistols, one operational Smith and Wesson .9 mm semi-automatic pistol, three boxes of ammunition (one for each firearm) containing 50 rounds each, and one inert grenade. Ferhani took the grenade, weapons, and ammunition, and placed them in a bag he brought for that purpose. As he was placing the bag in the trunk of his car, he was arrested.⁵⁷³ Mamdouh was arrested shortly thereafter.⁵⁷⁴

In December 2012, Ferhani pleaded guilty to weapons charges as a crime of terrorism, and conspiracy as a hate crime. He was sentenced in March 2013 to 10 years in prison with five years of supervision after release.⁵⁷⁵

In April 2013, Mamdouh pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years in prison with three years of supervision after release.⁵⁷⁶

In April 2016, Ferhani attempted to commit suicide in prison. He was reported to have been placed in a medically induced coma.⁵⁷⁷

September 29, 2011

Washington D.C.

Foiled plot of Manssor Arbabsiar, an Iranian-American directed by Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps’ Al-Quds Force, to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to the U.S.,⁵⁷⁸ and subsequent plan to attack the Israeli Embassy in Washington.

On September 29, Manssor Arbabsiar was arrested at JFK Airport in New York after he attempted to set in motion a plot he initiated in the spring of 2011 to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to the U.S. and a subsequent plan to attack the Israeli Embassy.⁵⁷⁹ Arbabsiar admitted his involvement in the plot to investigators.⁵⁸⁰

Following a failed series of business ventures, Arbabsiar, a naturalized citizen of the U.S. and a resident of Corpus Christi, Texas, had increasingly started to spend periods of time in Iran two years before his arrest. He told friends in the U.S. he was visiting Iran and was “making good money.”⁵⁸¹

A year prior to his arrest, Arbabsiar moved to Iran.⁵⁸² During that time, he made contact with his cousin, Abdul Reza Shahlai, a general⁵⁸³ and the deputy commander of the Al-Quds Force External Special Operations Unit.⁵⁸⁴ Al-Quds Force (Al-Quds is Farsi for “Jerusalem”) is the elite foreign operations unit of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. Shahlai became infamous to U.S. forces serving in Iraq in 2007 for combining his efforts with a senior Hizballah operative, Ali Musa Daqduq. They trained members of Moqtada Al-Sadr’s Iran-backed militia to carry out brazen attacks targeting U.S. servicemen in Iraq.⁵⁸⁵

In the spring of 2011, Shahlai approached Arbabsiar and asked Arbabsiar to work together with him to carry out the assassination of Adel Al-Jubeir, the Saudi ambassador to the U.S.⁵⁸⁶ Arbabsiar told Shahlai he had contacts from his used car business in the U.S. and Mexico who could help

⁵⁷¹ People of New York v Ferhani and Mamdouh, Complaint, p. 5.

⁵⁷² Ibid.

⁵⁷³ Ibid.

⁵⁷⁴ “Prosecutors to take more time to prepare alleged case in synagogue plot,” CBS New York, May 17, 2011, <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/05/17/terror-suspects-ahmed-ferhani-and-mohamed-mamdouh-due-in-court/>

⁵⁷⁵ “First terrorist convicted on state terror charges sentenced to decade in prison for 2011 plot to attack Manhattan synagogues,” New York Police Department press release, March 25, 2013, http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/pr/pr_2013_03_15_terrorist_convicted_on_state_terror_charges.shtml

⁵⁷⁶ “Mohamed Mamdouh gets 5 years for plotting to blow up synagogues,” New York Daily News, April 26, 2013, <http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/mohamed-mamdouh-5-years-plotting-blow-synagogues-article-1.1328598>

⁵⁷⁷ “Lawyers: Inmate in terror case in coma after suicide attempt,” Associated Press, April 15, 2016, <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/94f3ab10ae0e43189539f6ab32b10b11/lawyers-inmate-terror-case-coma-after-suicide-attempt>

⁵⁷⁸ “Two Men Charged in Alleged Plot to Assassinate Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States,” Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, October 11, 2011, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/two-men-charged-alleged-plot-assassinate-saudi-arabian-ambassador-united-states>

⁵⁷⁹ “Ambassador: Iran planned to blow up Israeli Embassy,” WTOP.com, August 14, 2012, <http://wtop.com/j-j-green-national/2012/08/ambassador-iran-planned-to-blow-up-israeli-embassy/>

⁵⁸⁰ United States v Manssor Arbabsiar and Gholam Shakuri, US District Court, Southern District of New York, Amended Complaint, October 11, 2011, p. 8, <https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/opa/legacy/2011/10/11/us-v-arbabsiar-shakuri-complaint.pdf>

⁵⁸¹ “Unlikely turn for a suspect in a terror plot,” New York Times, October 12, 2011, http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/13/us/odd-turn-for-mansour-arbabsiar-suspect-in-iranian-plot.html?_r=1&hp

⁵⁸² “Officials concede gaps in US knowledge of Iran plot,” Reuters, October 12, 2011, <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-iran-plot-idUSTRE79B7VO20111012>

⁵⁸³ “How a plot to kill Saudi ambassador went from fiction to fact,” Houston Chronicle, January 6, 2015, <http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/How-a-plot-to-kill-Saudi-ambassador-goes-from-5997273.php>

⁵⁸⁴ “Iran’s Global Force Projection Network: IRGC Quds Force and Lebanese Hizballah,” hearing on “Hizballah’s Strategic Shift: A Global Terrorist Threat,”

Statement before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade, Will Fulton, American Enterprise Institute, March 20, 2013, <http://docs.house.gov/meetings/FA/FA18/20130320/100534/HHRG-113-FA18-Wstate-FultonW-20130320.pdf>

⁵⁸⁵ “Notorious Iranian militant has a connection to alleged assassination plot against Saudi envoy,” Washington Post, October 14, 2011, https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/notorious-iranian-militant-has-a-connection-to-alleged-assassination-plot-against-saudi-envoy/2011/10/14/gIQAJ3E6kL_story.html

⁵⁸⁶ United States v Manssor Arbabsiar and Gholam Shakuri, Southern District of New York, Amended Complaint, October 11, 2011, p. 9,

find narcotics traffickers. Shahlai told Arbabsiar narcotics traffickers were preferable because they would be willing to carry out criminal activity for payment.⁵⁸⁷ Shahlai provided him with funds for expenses, and also had his deputy, a colonel, Ali Gholam Shakuri, provide additional expense money for carrying out the plot.⁵⁸⁸

Arbabsiar came back to the U.S. and made contact with a man who he thought was a member of the Los Zetas Mexican drug cartel. The man was actually a U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency informant. Arbabsiar met the informant in a car in the town of Reynosa, Mexico, located close to the U.S. border. Arbabsiar explained he wanted to hire him and a team from the cartel to kill the Saudi ambassador. Subsequently, Arbabsiar told the informant they would follow up with an attack on the Israeli Embassy in Washington, and two additional attacks targeting the Saudi and Israeli embassies in Argentina.⁵⁸⁹

Arbabsiar told the informant that he would be paid \$1.5 million⁵⁹⁰ for each attack that was to take place on U.S. territory.⁵⁹¹

In a follow up meeting with the informant in July 2011 to discuss the progress of the first plot, Arbabsiar told him his Iranian handlers were only concerned about killing the Saudi ambassador. They did not particularly care how the Saudi ambassador would be killed or how many civilians would be killed along with him: "They want that guy [the ambassador] done [killed], if the hundred go with him, [expletive] 'em,"⁵⁹² Arbabsiar said. They agreed to the use of a bomb placed in a restaurant frequented by the ambassador.⁵⁹³

The informant gave Arbabsiar routing information to transfer \$100,000 as a down payment to an undercover bank account for the attack. Arbabsiar told the informant he would be traveling to Iran later that month to see Shahlai, and left Mexico for Iran on July 20. When Arbabsiar returned to Iran and described the details of the plan to Shakuri, including the likelihood that many people would be killed in addition to the ambassador, it was approved.⁵⁹⁴ The advance payment of \$100,000 was also approved.⁵⁹⁵ Shakuri informed Arbabsiar that the head of the Al-Quds Force, i.e., Major General Qassem Suleimani, was aware of what he, Arbabsiar, was

doing. Shakuri further told Arbabsiar he would be able to meet Suleimani at a future time.⁵⁹⁶ While he was still in Iran, on August 1, Arbabsiar arranged for \$49,960 to be sent to the undercover bank account, and on August 9, the balance, another \$49,960, was wired to the account.⁵⁹⁷

In late September, the informant told Arbabsiar he needed one more indication of Arbabsiar and his Iranian handlers' good faith: they should pay half of the cost of the assassination in advance or send Arbabsiar to Mexico to serve as human collateral. Arbabsiar's handler in Iran, Shakuri, refused to send any further funding and warned Arbabsiar against going to Mexico. He told Arbabsiar that if he chose to go to Mexico, he would be on his own. At the same time, Shakuri told Arbabsiar to call him from Mexico to confirm that he (Arbabsiar) was all right.⁵⁹⁸ Arbabsiar attempted to fly to Mexico and was refused entry. He flew to JFK Airport and was arrested as he exited the plane.⁵⁹⁹ Arbabsiar pleaded guilty to three charges in October 2012⁶⁰⁰ and was sentenced to 25 years in prison on May 30, 2013.⁶⁰¹

October 5, 2011

WA: Seattle, OR: Portland, and CA: Sacramento

Foiled attempt by two white supremacists, David Pedersen and Holly Grigsby, to murder Jewish leaders and prominent members of Jewish communities in three communities. Pedersen and Grigsby murdered Pedersen's father and stepmother to fund their activities, and then carried out the murder of a man who they assumed to be Jewish and an African-American man. They were arrested in California with a list of names and locations of Jewish leaders and prominent members of Jewish organizations in Washington, Oregon, and California.

David "Joey" Pedersen and Holly Ann Grigsby, both white supremacists, were arrested by the California Highway Patrol in Yuba City⁶⁰² after they carried out a series of four murders. The two traveled to Everett, Washington, where they murdered Pedersen's father and stepmother, David Jones "Red" Pedersen and Leslie "Dee Dee" Pedersen. David Pedersen shot his father in the back of the head as he was driving him and Grigsby to the bus station, leaving his body in the car. Grigsby took control of the steering wheel and they returned with the

⁵⁸⁷ US v Arbabsiar and Shakuri, SDNY, October 11, 2011, Amended Complaint, p. 16.

⁵⁸⁸ Ibid., p. 11.

⁵⁸⁹ "How a plot to kill Saudi ambassador went from fiction to fact," Houston Chronicle, January 6, 2015, <http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/How-a-plot-to-kill-Saudi-ambassador-goes-from-5997273.php>

⁵⁹⁰ US v Arbabsiar and Shakuri, SDNY, October 11, 2011, Amended Complaint, p. 8.

⁵⁹¹ "How a plot to kill Saudi ambassador went from fiction to fact," Houston Chronicle, January 6, 2015, <http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/How-a-plot-to-kill-Saudi-ambassador-goes-from-5997273.php>

⁵⁹² US v Arbabsiar and Shakuri, Southern District of New York, Amended Complaint, October 11, 2011, p. 11.

⁵⁹³ US v Arbabsiar and Shakuri, SDNY, October 11, 2011, Amended Complaint, p. 15-16.

⁵⁹⁴ Ibid., p. 17.

⁵⁹⁵ Ibid., p. 17-18.

⁵⁹⁶ Ibid., p. 18.

⁵⁹⁷ Ibid., p. 12-13.

⁵⁹⁸ Ibid., p. 18.

⁵⁹⁹ Ibid., p. 15.

⁶⁰⁰ "Man pleads guilty in New York to conspiring with Iranian military officials to assassinate Saudi Arabian ambassador in the United States," Office of Public Affairs, Federal Bureau of Investigation, October 27, 2012, <https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/newyork/press-releases/2012/man-pleads-guilty-in-new-york-to-conspiring-with-iranian-military-officials-to-assassinate-saudi-arabian-ambassador-to-the-united-states>

⁶⁰¹ "Manssor Arbabsiar sentenced in New York City Federal Court for 25 years for conspiring with Iranian military officials to assassinate the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States," US Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, May 30, 2013, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/manssor-arbabsiar-sentenced-new-york-city-federal-court-25-years-prison-conspiring-iranian>

⁶⁰² "Chilling new details emerge in deadly crime spree case," Associated Press, October 11, 2011, http://www.nbcnews.com/id/44863895/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/t/chilling-new-details-surface-deadly-crime-spre-case/#.V5Ukt1cazBk

car to Pedersen's parents' home to murder his stepmother. Grigsby bound Leslie Pedersen with duct tape and slashed her throat with two knives, in conformance with Grigsby's white supremacist belief that a man should not kill a woman.⁶⁰³ They took both of the Pedersens' credit and debit cards in order to fund the continuation of their murderous activities.⁶⁰⁴

Pedersen and Grigsby next drove to Oregon where they disposed of the car with the body of "Red" Pedersen inside of it in a remote area. They found Cody Faye Myers and asked him for a ride. Myers was on his way back from the Newport Jazz Festival. They assumed Myers was Jewish because of his name, and shot and killed him and stole his car. They disposed of his body in a wooded area.⁶⁰⁵ Before their arrest, Pedersen and Grigsby shot and killed a fourth victim, Reginald Alan Clark, in Eureka, California and stole his pickup truck. Grigsby considered Clark, an African-American man, to be "degenerate."

At the time of their arrest, Pedersen and Grigsby were on their way to Sacramento, California, where they were planning to "kill more Jews."⁶⁰⁶ They were carrying a kill list of names and locations of Jewish leaders and members of prominent Jewish organizations. Pedersen conducted research on the names and addresses of Jewish organizations in three communities: Seattle, Washington; Portland, Oregon; and Sacramento, California. He already decided on their first target and procured a weapon to be used in the planned attack.⁶⁰⁷

Additionally, Pedersen was carrying a draft press release to explain the purpose of the planned murders of Jews to the media. The statement announced, "May this act serve notice, to all Zionist agents, here in America and abroad . . . that there exists yet a stout hearted resistance to those forces seeking to destroy our race."⁶⁰⁸ Pedersen and Grigsby also intended to target Jews in a continuation of a larger plan in the hope that their actions would ignite a white supremacist war against non-whites to "preserve" the white race.

Pedersen previously spent nearly 17 years in prison where he adopted white supremacist ideology after he was arrested for armed robbery. While there he joined an extremely violent prison gang called the Aryan Soldiers.⁶⁰⁹ During his time in

prison, he had the initials "SWP" for "Supreme White Power" tattooed on his neck, a Nazi swastika above his heart, and a picture of Adolf Hitler on his abdomen. After Pedersen sent a death threat to the Idaho judge who presided over the trial of Randy Weaver, a follower of Christian Identity ideology and a hero of white supremacists, he was punished with time at the Supermax prison in Florence, Colorado.⁶¹⁰

In a Seattle court in March 2012, Pedersen entered a plea agreement admitting guilt for the aggravated murder of his father and stepmother and avoided the death penalty.⁶¹¹ He also admitted he was traveling to Sacramento to murder an unnamed Jewish leader. Pedersen declared, "I've given up my freedom and potentially my life" to protect "white European culture." He further asserted, "I have no remorse for anything."⁶¹²

At Pedersen's sentencing hearing for carrying out the carjacking and murders of Cody Faye Myers and Reginald Alan Clark, he expressed pride in what he did. He ranted that he could not sit idly by while "Western identity is being destroyed by other cultures," and only expressed regret that he was arrested before he could do more. "I offer no excuses because none are needed," he declared.⁶¹³ In August 2014, Pedersen was sentenced to two life terms for their murders.⁶¹⁴

In an interview from jail following their arrests, Grigsby explained she was attracted to white supremacy from the age of 13 when she first met white supremacist skinheads.⁶¹⁵ She later served time in jail and gave birth to a boy during her incarceration. After her release from prison, Grigsby was trying to meet requirements placed upon her by the Oregon Department of Human Services to keep her son. At the same time, on her Facebook page, she was still clearly an adherent of white supremacy, and wrote in those terms of her devotion to her family: "My son Danny, he's my little aryan [sic] warrior, and my husband and my best friend Dan." She continued, "I plan to spend the rest of my life living out the 14 words and following the path of the Gods [sic] to the best of my ability."⁶¹⁶

The "14 words" refers to the most popular slogan among white supremacist groups: "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children." The late David Lane,

⁶⁰³ United States v David Joseph Pedersen and Holly Ann Grigsby, US District Court, District of Oregon, Portland Division, Indictment, 3:12 CR-00431-HA, August 16, 2012, p. 3, https://www.justice.gov/archive/usao/or/Indictments/20120817_pedersen_indictment_redacted.pdf

⁶⁰⁴ State of Washington v Holly Ann Grigsby and David Joseph Pedersen, Superior Court of Washington for Snohomish County, Affidavit of Probable Cause, No. 11-1-02283-2, October 10, 2011, p. 2, <http://www.kptv.com/link/517272/court-documents>

⁶⁰⁵ State of Washington v Grigsby and Pedersen, Affidavit of Probable Cause, October 10, 2011, p. 3.

⁶⁰⁶ State of Washington v Holly Ann Grigsby and David Joseph Pedersen, Superior Court of Washington for Snohomish County, Affidavit of Probable Cause, No. 11-1-02283-2, October 10, 2011, p. 3, <http://www.kptv.com/link/517272/court-documents>

⁶⁰⁷ US v Pedersen and Grigsby, August 16, 2012, p. 3, https://www.justice.gov/archive/usao/or/Indictments/20120817_pedersen_indictment_redacted.pdf

⁶⁰⁸ "Dark Journey," Portland Monthly, May 24, 2012, <http://www.pdxmonthly.com/articles/2012/5/24/pedersen-dark-journey-june-2012>

⁶⁰⁹ Ibid.

⁶¹⁰ "Raised in chaos, David 'Joey' Pedersen turned to white supremacy, and is now accused of killings," The Oregonian, October 22, 2011, http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2011/10/raised_in_chaos_david_joey_ped.html

⁶¹¹ "David Joseph Pedersen, Northwest white supremacist, pleads guilty to slayings," Reuters, March 13, 2012, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/david-pedersen-pleads-guilty_n_1340772

⁶¹² "Pedersen acknowledges killings, denies conspiracy," Associated Press, October 16, 2012, http://www.appeal-democrat.com/pedersen-acknowledges-killings-denies-conspiracy/article_c855c319-4c59-5a98-9a9c-b03858b73240.html

⁶¹³ "White supremacist sentenced for car hijacking deaths," Associated Press, August 4, 2014, <https://www.yahoo.com/news/white-supremacist-sentenced-carjacking-deaths-183736605.html?ref=gs>

⁶¹⁴ "White supremacist David Pedersen gets 2 additional life sentences," Associated Press, August 4, 2014, <http://www.kptv.com/story/26196091/white-supremacist-joe-pedersen-gets-2-additional-life-sentences>

⁶¹⁵ "Supremacist defends couple's slayings," Appeal-Democrat, October 14, 2011, http://www.appeal-democrat.com/supremacist-defends-couple-s-slayings/article_990c6c22-86b3-59ee-96b2-27ee26db3566.html

⁶¹⁶ "Accused killers Holly Grigsby and David Pedersen share white supremacist philosophy," The Oregonian, October 11, 2011, http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2011/10/post_47.html

a member of the neo-Nazi terrorist group The Order, was the originator of the slogan.⁶¹⁷ Despite these expressions of white supremacist devotion, Grigsby left her husband and son to join with Pedersen on their murderous rampage through three states.

Following her arrest, Grigsby explained how she came to the conclusion Jews should be targeted. Referring to Jews as "Zionists," she asserted, "I started seeing everything for what it is outside the propaganda. I see our race being wiped out and that we need to take direct action or we will be dead . . . The Zionists are taking over and brainwashing without anybody knowing it."⁶¹⁸

In the same interview, Grigsby reportedly told police she and Pedersen killed Myers because his last name sounded Jewish. She later claimed in an interview given to the media that their murder of Myers was "collateral damage" in their white supremacist war. "It's unfortunate that he was a white man, but [the murder] was to facilitate further action. In every war, there are going to be civilian casualties, and he was one of them."⁶¹⁹

In March 2014, Grigsby pleaded guilty to one count of racketeering.⁶²⁰ In July 2014, she was sentenced to life in prison without parole.⁶²¹

January 3 and 11, 2012

NJ: Paramus and Rutherford

Anthony Graziano and Aakash Dalal, two young men who grew up together in Lodi, were arrested for carrying out a series of synagogue arsons in Bergen County, New Jersey.

In March 2012, Aakash Dalal, then 19, was arrested for his involvement in tutoring and goading Anthony Graziano, his childhood friend, into constructing firebombs and committing a series of arson attacks against synagogues.⁶²² Both defaced two synagogues in December 2011⁶²³ prior to escalating their violence to arson. Dalal was charged with 30 counts, including aggravated arson, conspiracy to commit aggravated arson, bias intimidation and two counts of criminal mischief. In June 2012 he was also charged with conspiracy to commit murder after he was discovered to be allegedly plotting to kill the Bergen County assistant prosecutor assigned to his case.⁶²⁴

Graziano, then also 19, was arrested in January 2012. Graziano was described by prosecutors as a "virulent anti-Semite."⁶²⁵ At the encouragement of Dalal, he searched for wooden synagogues on the Internet close to their hometown of Lodi. Dalal reportedly told Graziano, "I don't trust you until you kill a Jew."⁶²⁶ Their first arson attempt was in Paramus.

January 3, 2012 - Shortly before 8 a.m. at K'hal Adath Jeshurun in Paramus, members of the synagogue smelled gas.⁶²⁷ They discovered charring on the back of the synagogue building. An accelerant was determined to be used to start the fire, but it quickly burned out. There were no injuries.⁶²⁸

In a text message exchange following the attempt, Graziano told Dalal, "The fire burned but I'm guessing the cold weather took it out." Dalal responded, "Basically no damage. It did nothing. You haven't proven yourself." Graziano asked him, "So how much damage would be acceptable?"

Dalal asserted, "Serious damage. Or total burnage [sic]."⁶²⁹

Graziano was reportedly enraged that the attack failed, and told Dalal he was going to carry out a second attack to "raise some eyebrows."⁶³⁰

Prior to the second attack, Graziano allegedly texted to Dalal, "I finally found an all-wood synagogue. Congregation Beth-El in Rutherford."⁶³¹

January 11, 2012 - In the early morning hours, Graziano rode his bicycle to Congregation Beth El in Rutherford. At 4:30 a.m., he threw five firebombs⁶³² at the bedroom on the second story area of the rabbi's residence, smashing a window and starting a fire inside. Rabbi Nosson Schuman, his wife, their five children, and his parents were sleeping there at the time. The rabbi received minor burns but was able to extinguish the fire.⁶³³ Following the attack, Graziano reportedly sent Dalal the text message, "I wish I could've killed him."⁶³⁴

Graziano was charged with 30 counts, including terrorism and nine counts of attempted murder, bias intimidation, arson, and

⁶¹⁷ "David Lane," Southern Poverty Law Center website, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/david-lane>

⁶¹⁸ "Supremacist defends couple's slayings," Appeal-Democrat, October 14, 2011, http://www.appeal-democrat.com/supremacist-defends-couple-s-slayings/article_990c6c22-86b3-59ee-96b2-27ee26db3566.html

⁶¹⁹ "Suspect in Cody Myers' death says Oregon youth was collateral damage in war for white supremacy," The Oregonian, October 22, 2011, http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2011/10/suspect_in_cody_myers_death_sa.html

⁶²⁰ "Holly Ann Grigsby pleads guilty in killing spree conspiracy," The Oregonian, March 11, 2014, http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2014/03/holly_ann_grigsby_pleads_guilt.html

⁶²¹ "Holly Grigsby apologizes to victims' families, white supremacist movement, gets life sentence," The Oregonian, July 15, 2014, http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2014/07/holly_grigsby_apologizes_to_vi.html

⁶²² "Former Lodi man arrested in synagogue bombing case," The Record, March 3c, 2012, <http://www.northjersey.com/story-archives/former-lodi-man-arrested-in-synagogue-firebombing-case-1.1213149>

⁶²³ "Testimony begins in trial of Lodi man accused of defiling, bombing Jewish facilities," The Record, May 10, 2016,

⁶²⁴ "Synagogue arson suspect now accused of plot to kill prosecutor," NJ.com, June 28, 2012, <http://www.northjersey.com/news/testimony-begins-in-trial-of-lodi-man-accused-of-defiling-firebombing-jewish-facilities-1.1570140> http://www.nj.com/bergen/index.ssf/2012/06/synagogue_arson_suspect_now_accused_of_plot_to_kill_prosecutor.html

⁶²⁵ "Teenager charged with firebombing 2 NJ synagogues," Associated Press, January 24, 2012, <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/01/24/man-arrested-in-firebombings-2-nj-synagogues.html>

⁶²⁶ "Anthony Graziano convicted of terrorism," New Jersey Jewish Standard, June 2, 2016, <http://jewishstandard.timesofisrael.com/anthony-graziano-convicted-of-terrorism/>

⁶²⁷ "Police investigating arson fire at Paramus synagogue," NJ.com, January 3, 2012, http://www.nj.com/bergen/index.ssf/2012/01/police_investigating_arson_fire_at_paramus_synagogue.html

⁶²⁸ "Bergen County officials condemn Paramus synagogue arson," NJ.com, January 5, 2012, http://www.nj.com/bergen/index.ssf/2012/01/bergen_officials_condemn_paramus_synagogue_arson.html

⁶²⁹ "Rutgers student charged with aiding anti-semitic firebombings in Bergen County," New Brunswick Today, March 6, 2012, <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/rutgers-student-charged-aiding-anti-semitic-firebombings-bergen-county>

⁶³⁰ "Details of case against synagogue firebombing suspect aired at bail hearing," Associated Press, February 1, 2012, <http://www.registercitizen.com/article/RC/20120201/NEWS/302019967>

⁶³¹ "Prosecutor: Second suspect arrested in connection with NJ synagogue attacks," CBS New York, March 2, 2012, <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2012/03/02/prosecutors-second-suspect-arrested-in-connection-with-nj-synagogue-attacks/>

⁶³² "After attacks on Jews in New Jersey, heightened security - and anxiety," JTA, January 17, 2012, <http://www.jta.org/2012/01/17/news-opinion/united-states/after-attacks-on-jews-in-new-jersey-heightened-security-and-anxiety>

⁶³³ "Molotov cocktail thrown into the home of a rabbi," New York Times, January 11, 2012, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/12/nyregion/molotov-cocktail-thrown-into-the-home-of-a-rabbi.html>

⁶³⁴ "Trial begins for Lodi man charged with firebombing Jewish facilities," The Record, May 5, 2016, <http://www.northjersey.com/news/trial-begins-for-lodi-man-charged-with-firebombing-jewish-facilities-1.1567311>

aggravated arson.⁶³⁵ He was arrested before he was able to complete the process of purchasing a gun.⁶³⁶

Graziano was convicted of terrorism and 19 other counts in May 2016.⁶³⁷ Dalal is still awaiting trial.

December 21, 2012

MI: Detroit

White supremacist Richard Schmidt amassed an arsenal of weapons and compiled a list of information on Detroit Jewish leaders. A copyright fraud investigation of Schmidt's sporting goods business led police to discover his extensive weapons arsenal and prevented an attack.

After an investigation of counterfeit merchandise being sold at his sporting goods store in Toledo, Ohio revealed an arsenal of weapons, Richard Schmidt was arrested on December 21.⁶³⁸ Police also discovered a notebook Schmidt kept with a "Jewish 500" business list,⁶³⁹ and a potential hit list of names and addresses of prominent Detroit Jewish leaders and African-American leaders of the Detroit NAACP.

Schmidt, a follower of the neo-Nazi National Alliance, was a convicted felon. He previously served 13 years in prison for killing a Latino man and wounding two others in 1989 after he got into an argument with them at a bar.⁶⁴⁰

Following his release from prison in 2003, Schmidt returned to Toledo and established a non-profit organization, the Vinland Preservation League. He also created an internet identity for himself known as "Vinlander101."⁶⁴¹ The Vinlanders are a white supremacist skinhead gang located in the Midwest⁶⁴² whose adherents believe in a neo-pagan racist form of Odinism.⁶⁴³

Schmidt also occasionally attended neo-Nazi National Socialist Movement meetings,⁶⁴⁴ and a video of an NSM national convention was found in his home. As an additional indication of his admiration for Nazism, Schmidt amassed a collection of Nazi Waffen SS paraphernalia⁶⁴⁵ from the armed wing of the World War II era Nazi party.

Schmidt's conviction made it illegal for him to purchase weapons or body armor, but he purchased both privately, circumventing the law.⁶⁴⁶

Included in his extensive weapons arsenal were: 40,188 rounds of ammunition, a Stag Arms AR-15 rifle, an Armalite AR-10 rifle, a Mossberg 500 12-gauge shotgun, a Remington 870 Express 12-gauge shotgun, a Winchester M94 30/30 rifle, a Winchester M190 .22-caliber rifle, a Remington M700 rifle, a Mossberg M535 12-gauge shotgun, a Russian American Armory SAIGA 12-gauge shotgun, a Federal Arms Corporation FA 91 .308-caliber rifle, an Eagle Arms 5.56-caliber rifle, a Rock River Arms AR-15 rifle, a Ruger Mark II pistol, a Sturm-Ruger .375 magnum pistol, two Ruger P95 9mm pistols, a SIG Sauer P250 9mm pistol, and a Taurus PT145 pistol and 300 rounds of ammunition.⁶⁴⁷

Schmidt pleaded guilty in July 2013. At his trial he claimed he was preparing for a doomsday scenario and that he should never have written a list of names and addresses of Jewish and African-American leaders.⁶⁴⁸ He was found guilty of possession of weapons and body armor. Schmidt was sentenced to six years in prison.⁶⁴⁹

April 13, 2014

KS: Overland Park

Neo-Nazi Frazier Glenn Miller drove to the parking lots of a JCC and Jewish retirement facility and opened fire, killing three people.

On the day before Passover, Frazier Glenn Miller (also known as Frazier Glenn Cross), carried out a series of shooting attacks outside of two Jewish facilities. Believing his victims to be Jewish, Miller, a 73-year-old neo-Nazi, first opened fire in the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City parking lot, killing 69-year-old Dr. William Lewis Corporon and his grandson, 12-year-old Reat Griffin Underwood. Corporon and Underwood were at the JCC for a singing competition.

Miller then fired into the JCC doors until he ran out of ammunition. He picked up his rifle to continue to shoot at the

⁶³⁵ "Teenager charged with firebombing 2 NJ synagogues," Associated Press, January 24, 2012, <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/01/24/man-arrested-in-firebombings-2-nj-synagogues.html>

⁶³⁶ "Bergen County temple bombing suspect Aakash Dalal accused of plotting, encouraging, friend's attacks," NJ.com, March 2, 2012, http://www.nj.com/bergen/index.ssf/2012/03/bergen_county_temple_bombing_suspect_aakash_dalal_accused_of_plotting_encouraging_friends_attacks.html

⁶³⁷ "Anthony Graziano convicted of terrorism," New Jersey Jewish Standard, June 2, 2016, <http://jewishstandard.timesofisrael.com/anthony-graziano-convicted-of-terrorism/>

⁶³⁸ "Conviction of Toledo man for stockpiling weapons began with the tracking of camisoles," Plain Dealer, September 1, 2013, http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2013/09/from_camisoles_to_ammunition_a.html

⁶³⁹ "Feds investigate how suspected white supremacist - a felon - obtained an arsenal," NBCNews.com, January 17, 2013, http://investigations.nbcnews.com/_news/2013/01/17/16572611-feds-investigate-how-suspected-white-supremacist-a-felon-obtained-arsenal

⁶⁴⁰ "Conviction of Toledo man for stockpiling weapons began with the tracking of camisoles," Plain Dealer, September 1, 2013, http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2013/09/from_camisoles_to_ammunition_a.html

⁶⁴¹ Ibid.

⁶⁴² "Skinhead truce holds," Southern Poverty Law Center Intelligence Report, November 15, 2011, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/intelligence-report/2011/skinhead-truce-holds>

⁶⁴³ "New brand of racist Odinist religion on the march," Southern Poverty Law Center Intelligence Report, March 15, 1998, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/intelligence-report/1998/new-brand-racist-odinist-religion-march>

⁶⁴⁴ "White supremacists begin New Year with plot, murder," Access ADL, January 23, 2013, <http://blog.adl.org/extremism/white-supremacists-murder>

⁶⁴⁵ "Feds investigate how suspected white supremacist - a felon - obtained an arsenal," NBC News, January 17, 2013, http://investigations.nbcnews.com/_news/2013/01/17/16572611-feds-investigate-how-suspected-white-supremacist-a-felon-obtained-arsenal

⁶⁴⁶ "Feds investigate how suspected white supremacist - a felon - obtained an arsenal," NBC News, January 17, 2013, http://investigations.nbcnews.com/_news/2013/01/17/16572611-feds-investigate-how-suspected-white-supremacist-a-felon-obtained-arsenal

⁶⁴⁷ "Criminal charges filed against Toledo man found with 18 firearms, body armor, more than 40,000 rounds of ammunition," US Department of Justice, Northern District of Ohio, January 16, 2013, <https://web.archive.org/web/20130219235943/http://www.atf.gov/press/releases/2013/01/011613-col-criminal-charges-filed-against-toledo-man-found-with-18-firearms-body-armor-more-than-40000-rounds-of-ammunition.html>

⁶⁴⁸ "Toledo man who amassed guns at mall sentenced," Columbus Dispatch, December 19, 2013, <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/12/19/1219-Alleged-neo-Nazi-sympathizer-sentenced-in-Toledo-gun-case.html>

⁶⁴⁹ "Toledo man sentenced to nearly six years in prison for possession of firearms, ammunition and body armor," US Department of Justice, Cleveland Division, December 19, 2013, <https://www.fbi.gov/cleveland/press-releases/2013/toledo-man-sentenced-to-nearly-six-years-in-prison-for-possession-of-firearms-ammunition-and-body-armor>

doors until it jammed. Miller also aimed fire at three other people but missed them. He subsequently drove to the second facility, the Village Shalom Retirement Community, where he attempted to shoot 53-year-old Terri LaManno. His gun failed, so he pulled out a third gun and killed her.⁶⁵⁰ None of the three victims were Jewish. After he surrendered to police, Miller shouted, "Heil Hitler!"⁶⁵¹

Prior to the attack, Miller surveilled the two locations, and armed himself with four guns and a significant amount of ammunition. He testified that he chose April 13 for the attack on the JCC because a singing competition was scheduled. He believed he would be able to target many "young Jews" and their families there.⁶⁵²

During the 1980s, Miller was a founder of, and the "grand dragon" of the Carolina White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. He also founded another KKK related group, the White Patriot Party. Miller was also a member of the neo-Nazi terrorist group, The Order.⁶⁵³ Throughout his life he expressed vitriolic anti-Semitic views.

During his trial, he pleaded not guilty to the murders, but admitted responsibility for them. Describing his responsibility for the shootings he declared, "It's premeditated. No doubt about it. I'm proud of myself. I feel good about it," he said.⁶⁵⁴ Then Miller asserted, "I wanted to kill Jews, not people."⁶⁵⁵

Miller was convicted of capital murder on August 31, 2015. During the reading of the verdict, Miller responded by standing and performing the Nazi salute and pronouncing, "Sieg heil!" (German for "Hail victory!").⁶⁵⁶ Miller was sentenced to death on November 10, 2015.⁶⁵⁷

September 25, 2014

MD: Baltimore

Drive-by shooting at Beis HaMedrash and Mesivta of Baltimore on Rosh Hashanah.

As three men passed Beis HaMedrash and Mesivta on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, a man in a car shot at them with a BB or air gun. He screamed at them, "Jews, Jews, Jews!"⁶⁵⁸ The shooter was described as possibly being of "Middle Eastern

descent."⁶⁵⁹ A synagogue window was damaged, but there were no injuries. The Baltimore police were investigating the incident as a bias crime.⁶⁶⁰

April 29, 2016

FL: Aventura

Foiled attempt to bomb the Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center during services on the seventh day of Passover.

On the eve of the last days of Passover, James Gonzalo Medina was arrested by the FBI on the charge of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction against worshippers at the Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center. An undercover government informant foiled Medina's bombing attempt before he was able to carry out the attack. He planned for the attack to take place during Passover services.⁶⁶¹

Medina appears to be an extremist convert to Islam, and referred to himself during court proceedings as "James Mohammed."⁶⁶² Anti-Semitism reportedly fueled his motivation for the attack.⁶⁶³

Initially Medina wanted to carry out a shooting attack at the synagogue, telling the informant he wanted to "strike back to the Jews [sic], by going to a synagogue and just spraying everybody . . . 'cause we're Muslims, you know what I mean? It's a war, man, and it's like it's time to strike back here in America."⁶⁶⁴

Ultimately, Medina settled on the idea of placing an explosive device under a car at the synagogue, or throwing the device over the wall into the synagogue courtyard⁶⁶⁵ and claiming responsibility in the name of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham, known as ISIS. Prior to embarking on the attack, he prepared three videos of himself, one of which was his justification for his actions: "I am a Muslim and I don't like what is going on in this world. I'm going to handle business here in America. Aventura, watch your back. ISIS is in the house," he declared.⁶⁶⁶

⁶⁵⁰ "F. Glenn Miller Jr. tells jurors he regrets not killing more people," Kansas City Star, August 28, 2015, <http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/crime/article32624178.html>

⁶⁵¹ "Hate - and Hitler - in the Heartland: The Arrest of Frazier Glenn Miller," The Daily Beast, April 14, 2014, <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/04/14/hate-and-hitler-in-the-heartland-the-arrest-of-frazier-glenn-miller.html>

⁶⁵² "Death sentence imposed on F. Glenn Miller Jr. in hate crime killings," Kansas City Star, November 10, 2015, <http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/crime/article44100303.html>

⁶⁵³ "Who is Frazier Glenn Miller?," Southern Poverty Law Center, April 13, 2014, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/frazier-glenn-miller>

⁶⁵⁴ "F. Glenn Miller Jr. tells jurors he regrets not killing more people," Kansas City Star, August 28, 2015, <http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/crime/article32624178.html>

⁶⁵⁵ "Jury finds Frazier Glenn Cross guilty of capital murder," KCTV5.com News, August 31, 2015, <http://www.kctv5.com/story/29920950/jury-finds-frazier-glenn-cross-guilty-of-capital-murder#ixzz3kQpxDpki>

⁶⁵⁶ "Frazier Glenn Cross found guilty of murder in Jewish center shootings," CNN.com, August 31, 2015, <http://www.cnn.com/2015/08/31/us/kansas-jewish-center-gunman-guilty/>

⁶⁵⁷ "Judge sentences Frazier Glenn Cross to death," KMBC.com, November 10, 2015, <http://www.kmbc.com/news/victims-relatives-speak-out-at-frazier-glenn-cross-sentencing/36370728>

⁶⁵⁸ "Man shouts 'Jews, Jews, Jews,' fires on group walking near private school," ABC2News WMAR Baltimore, September 25, 2014, <http://www.abc2news.com/news/crime-checker/baltimore-county-crime/man-shouts-jews-jews-jews-fires-on-group-walking-near-private-school>

⁶⁵⁹ "Baltimoreans targeted in possible anti-semitic attack," Times of Israel, September 28, 2014, <http://www.timesofisrael.com/baltimoreans-targeted-in-possible-anti-semitic-attack/>

⁶⁶⁰ "Baltimore police look into alleged anti-semitic incident," CBS Baltimore, September 26, 2014, <http://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2014/09/26/baltimore-police-look-into-alleged-anti-semitic-incident/>

⁶⁶¹ "US v. James Gonzalo Medina, US District Court for the Southern District of Florida, Criminal Complaint, April 29, 2016, p. 4, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/file/847996/download>

⁶⁶² "Man accused of plot to blow up synagogue," South Florida Sun-Sentinel, May 2, 2016, <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/crime/fl-aventura-synagogue-attack-medina-20160502-story.html>

⁶⁶³ "Plot to blow up Aventura synagogue ends with man's arrest," Miami Herald, May 2, 2016, <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/aventura/article75089722.html>

⁶⁶⁴ US v. Medina, p. 5.

⁶⁶⁵ "Plot to blow up Aventura synagogue ends with man's arrest," Miami Herald, May 2, 2016, <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/aventura/article75089722.html>

⁶⁶⁶ US v. Medina, p. 14.

May 8, 2016*NY: Brooklyn*

Arson of a school bus at the Beth Rivkah School for Girls in Crown Heights.

At 6 p.m. in front of the Lubavitch Beth Rivkah School for Girls, five boys ranging in age from 10-15-years-old entered an unlocked parked school bus. The bus was parked for an hour in front of the school. Some of the boys carried empty cardboard boxes onto the bus, which were used to start fires.⁶⁶⁷

The four boys watched as the bus became engulfed in flames, and captured the event on their cell phones.⁶⁶⁸ A 10-year-old Beth Rivkah student saw the fire and called her father, who called emergency services. There were no injuries.⁶⁶⁹

The arson of the bus was captured on security camera footage, leading to the arrest of one of the boys, an 11-year-old. He was charged with arson as a hate crime and criminal mischief as a hate crime. The New York Police Department is still seeking the other four boys.⁶⁷⁰

July 1, 2016*AZ: Tucson*

Foiled plot of Mahin Khan, a self-described "American jihadist," who was arrested before he could carry out an attack on a motor vehicles office. He also discussed targeting the Tucson JCC.

Following a report of his being involved in alleged suspicious activity, Mahin Khan, an 18-year-old, was reported to law enforcement in 2015.⁶⁷¹ An investigation was initiated in April 2015⁶⁷² that included the use of an FBI undercover employee. Khan was arrested in July 2016 after he contacted an individual he believed to be an ISIS fighter. Khan was allegedly seeking to build pipe bombs and pressure cooker bombs to attack a motor vehicles office.⁶⁷³

Khan explored a number of possible venues for a terrorist attack, including the JCC of Tucson. In an October 2015 discussion with the FBI undercover employee, Khan reportedly spoke of his wish to carry out an attack on the Tucson JCC. He also discussed the 2015 shooting at the military recruitment center in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Khan reportedly wanted

to make pressure cooker bombs similar to those used in the Boston Marathon bombings for use in an attack.⁶⁷⁴ Earlier in 2016, he reportedly described himself as an "American jihadist," and that he needed the weapons to "take out marines and jews [sic]."⁶⁷⁵

In preparation for the attack, Khan, identifying himself as an ISIS supporter, contacted an alleged member of the TTP, Tehreek-e Taliban Pakistan, or the Pakistani Taliban, seeking information on how to acquire assault rifles and bomb making information. Khan ultimately settled on carrying out an attack on a motor vehicles office in Mesa, Arizona, a location he considered to be a "soft target" with a larger amount of people and relatively low security.⁶⁷⁶

Khan was arrested on July 1, 2016 and charged with terrorism and conspiracy to commit terrorism.⁶⁷⁷

July 15, 2016*CT: Stamford*

Kendall Sullivan was arrested and charged after he posted violent threats against Jews on an internet forum for heavy metal music. Police discovered a cache of weapons and ammunition at his home.

After he posted three violent threats against Jews and synagogues on a heavy metal internet music forum, Kendall Sullivan was arrested. On May 29, 2016, Sullivan declared, "Israel, God and Synagogues. [sic] I will kill them. I have a few 'Houses of Satan' in my Town [sic] . . . If these Jews truly believe in their god Satan [sic], I will upset their world. I will slaughter them and burn their Synagogue to the ground . . . kids, goldfish, old folks . . . Shove money down their throats. These Jews of 2016. They think they are safe."⁶⁷⁸

Several weeks later, on June 10, Sullivan reportedly threatened another user of the forum. He asserted, "I am going after YOU. Your Family, Wife, kids, [sic] Grandkids, Gold Fish [sic] . . . I am warning YOU, I will go after YOU. As I get older, I just don't give damn . . . I will meet you at Westport at the Carvel! And then I will shoot or run over you . . . it is not just you but your fellow Satanists I want to track down and kill . . . I will use YOU to find others . . . And Kill them . . . You are a [expletive] JEW! . . . I want to kill you . . . If only that . . . Name a place . . . You are

⁶⁶⁷ "Brooklyn yeshiva bus accomplices sought by NYPD," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, May 10, 2016, <http://www.jta.org/2016/05/10/news-opinion/united-states/brooklyn-yeshiva-bus-arson-accomplices-sought-by-nypd>

⁶⁶⁸ "Police arrest 11-year-old in connection with school bus arson," WPIX, May 10, 2016, <http://www.aol.com/article/2016/05/10/police-arrest-11-year-old-in-connection-with-school-bus-arson/21374413/>

⁶⁶⁹ "Police arrest 11-year-old in connection with school bus arson," WPIX, May 10, 2016, <http://www.aol.com/article/2016/05/10/police-arrest-11-year-old-in-connection-with-school-bus-arson/21374413/>

⁶⁷⁰ "Photos emerge of five children wanted in hate crime Jewish bus school blaze," New York Daily News, May 10, 2016, <http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/nyc-crime/photos-emerge-5-children-wanted-hate-crime-jewish-bus-fire-article-1.2631800>

⁶⁷¹ "State Grand Jury Indicts Mahin Khan," Arizona Attorney General, July 7, 2016, <https://www.azag.gov/press-release/state-grand-jury-indicts-mahin-khan>

⁶⁷² State of Arizona v Mahin Khan, Superior Court of the State of Arizona, County of Maricopa, July 1, 2016, CR2016-005270-001, https://www.azag.gov/sites/default/files/sites/all/docs/press-release/press-release-files/Khan_Indictment.pdf

⁶⁷³ "State Grand Jury Indicts Mahin Khan," Arizona Attorney General, July 7, 2016, <https://www.azag.gov/press-release/state-grand-jury-indicts-mahin-khan>

⁶⁷⁴ "FBI: Man charged with plotting attack eyed Jewish target," Associated Press, July 20, 2016, <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/florida-jewish-journal/jj-fbi-man-charged-with-plotting-attack-eyed-jewish-target-20160720-story.html>

⁶⁷⁵ "Mahin Khan update: Grand jury indicts Arizona terrorist suspect," ABC15.com, July 7, 2016, <http://www.abc15.com/news/state/mahin-khan-update-grand-jury-indicts-arizona-terrorism-suspect>

⁶⁷⁶ "FBI: Man charged with plotting attack eyed Jewish target," Associated Press, July 20, 2016, <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/florida-jewish-journal/jj-fbi-man-charged-with-plotting-attack-eyed-jewish-target-20160720-story.html>

⁶⁷⁷ "Tucson terrorism suspect Mahin Khan pleads not guilty," Fox10TV.com, July 12, 2016, <http://www.fox10tv.com/story/32429517/tucson-terrorism-suspect-mahin-khan-pleads-not-guilty>

⁶⁷⁸ "Stamford man charged for making online threats," Department of Justice, US Attorney's Office, District of Connecticut, July 28, 2016, <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ct/pr/stamford-man-charged-making-online-threats>

Satanic and must be destroyed. Wifes [sic] kids, Dogs, Cats, Goldfish . . . All destroyed."⁶⁷⁹

Almost a month later, on July 5, Sullivan reportedly escalated his threats further, declaring, "[I] am prepared to shoot YOU on sight! And shove Money down your dead [expletives] . . . Hole. Humans who define their entire existence thru that price tag – they are not human beings but Demons and must be destroyed . . . I am looking forward to my death thru Jesus Christ. I will be Free. I will be understood. Afterall [sic], I am a Warrior of Jesus Christ and want to be his Soldier."⁶⁸⁰

Ten days later, the FBI and Stamford Police Department searched Sullivan's residence and discovered over two dozen firearms, hundreds of rounds of ammunition, and components for firearms. Sullivan was arrested and charged on July 15 for illegally possessing high capacity magazines that were unregistered. On July 27, he was indicted for making three online threatening communications.⁶⁸¹

August 9, 2016

NY: New City

Fireworks attack at the homes of two Chabad rabbis in New City.

At 10:15 p.m. fireworks were thrown in between three cars⁶⁸² by unknown assailants outside the house of Rabbi Simcha Morgenstern, the outreach director of the synagogue Chabad Lubavitch of Rockland. A group of 15 adults and children from the synagogue were assembled at the rabbi's home for a traditional Chasidic birthday celebration.⁶⁸³

At 10:45 p.m., a block away from the first incident, fireworks were thrown outside of the home of Rabbi Avremel Kotlarsky, the co-director of the synagogue. His wife and the synagogue's co-director, Chani Kotlarsky, heard a loud boom and went to the window to see what was transpiring. She observed four white males, one wearing a pink shirt, running west outside of her house. One of them threw a firework against the side of her home. The explosion of the fireworks set a bush near the house on fire. The assailants fled, and the New City Fire Department extinguished the fire.⁶⁸⁴ The incident is still under investigation.

⁶⁷⁹ "Stamford man charged for making online threats," Department of Justice, US Attorney's Office, District of Connecticut, July 28, 2016, <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ct/pr/stamford-man-charged-making-online-threats>

⁶⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁶⁸¹ Ibid.

⁶⁸² Press Release, Office of Public Information, Clarkstown Police Department Facebook page, August 11, 2016, <https://www.facebook.com/clarkstownpd/posts/106788986620358>

⁶⁸³ "ADL condemns firebomb attacks near homes of 2 Rockland rabbis," HaModia, August 10, 2016, <http://hamodia.com/2016/08/10/incendiary-devices-explode-near-homes-2-rockland-rabbis/>

⁶⁸⁴ Press Release, Office of Public Information, Clarkstown Police Department Facebook page, August 11, 2016, <https://www.facebook.com/clarkstownpd/posts/106788986620358>





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