

# IED ATTACK EVENTS

## Scenario Document in support of the DARPA KAIROS Program

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# Change Log

V1.0, September 9, 2019. First release.

V2.0, June 22, 2020. Changes:

1. The scenario document was expanded to support Phase 1 of the KAIROS program, to include end-of-phase evaluations. In particular:
  - A section on vehicle-borne IED events was added: “VBIED/SVBIED Events”, page 41.
  - Sections and sub-sections from V1 of the document were re-named and reorganized to accommodate the new material.
  - Material in the introductory sections (“Purpose of this Document” and “Organization of this Document”) was re-written to reflect the changes in the rest of the document.
  - The statement in “Core Stages of an IED Attack” section, pertaining to the scope of the scenario, was modified to: “Post-attack events, including manhunts, investigations, and prosecutions, are not covered in this scenario document, though DARPA may decide such events are relevant for evaluations as the program evolves.” Such right-of-boom events were considered out of scope for the initial development scenario.
2. Other updates and additions:
  - A disclaimer was added to “Organization of this Document” section about the data links containing possible fringe theories.
  - English-Language and Spanish-Language sources: Dates were added to each link and they were ordered chronologically.
  - New links were added to the 2011 Fort Hood, Texas bombing attempt (page 11) and the 2001 shoe bombing attempt (page 38).
  - The section “Bagratashen Bombing, Armenia, September 1994” was moved from the “Events in Asia” section to the “Events in Canada and Europe” section because according to the CIA World Factbook, Armenia considers itself to be part of Europe.
  - The section on the Paris Stadium bombings was removed because the event is not a good fit for the scenario.
3. Minor changes: Wordsmithing, typos, and formatting consistency corrections.

## About this Document

### Purpose of this Document

The purpose of this document is to describe a subject domain that will be used to support the research and development goals of the DARPA Knowledge-directed Artificial Intelligence Reasoning Over Schemas (KAIROS) program. In the context of this document, a *scenario* consists of an over-arching type of event, plus real-world incidents that exemplify that event type. To meet the needs of the KAIROS program, the scenario event type must be of significant complexity – encompassing multiple sub-events that can occur sequentially, simultaneously, or unordered, and involving multiple participants. In addition, to support the program’s research and development, there must be sufficient open source data in both English and one other language about the event type and its exemplars, to include text, audio, images, and video data.

The chosen subject domain for the initial development scenario of the program was Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attacks, with an emphasis in the scenario document on “backpack IEDs,” exemplified by events such as the 2013 Boston Marathon Bombing. Version 1 of this document was released in November 2019 in support of that initial development scenario. The next phase of the program, Phase 1 – including the end-of-phase evaluations, will also use IED attacks as the subject domain. This scenario document released in support of Phase 1 has been expanded to include other types of IED attacks, with a focus on vehicle-borne IEDs (VBIEDs).

## Organization of this Document

This document is organized as follows:

- The initial section provides an introduction to IED attacks in general and what types of bombings are within the scope of this scenario.
- The next section contains pointers to open source data about IEDs, including bomb construction and IED-related lexicons.
- The next section is about backpack-type IED events. The attacks are organized by geographical location, and within that, chronologically from oldest to most recent. For each incident, a descriptive overview is provided and links to articles and other data sources about them are listed for both English and Spanish.
  - One incident, the Boston Marathon bombing, also contains a detailed timeline of the events leading up to the attack.
- The next brief section contains a few examples of IEDs that were concealed in other types of everyday objects – similar to backpack-type bombs.
- The final section is about vehicle-borne IED events. It presents three example incidents. Each contains a detailed timeline of the events leading up to the attack as well as links to English and Spanish multimedia sources.

Disclaimer: Readers should be aware that some of the events covered in this scenario have given rise to what some might consider fringe theories or “conspiracy theories” about the attacks. The authors of this document make no claims about the veracity or trustworthiness of the sources contained herein. If a resource provides canonical “left-of-boom” details about a bombing, it is considered usable for the purposes of KAIROS and is included in the list of resources. For the timelines, however, only those steps that could be corroborated by two or more sources were included.

## Overview of IED Attacks

This section describes the IED attack scenario.

### Types of IED Attacks

The scope of this scenario includes the types of IED attacks in Table 1. These events all share the following characteristics:

- An improvised explosive device is one of the weapons involved.

- The entity who planned and/or carried out the attack is a non-state actor, such as a terrorist group, a revolutionary group, or a “lone wolf” terrorist.

**Table 1. Types of IED Attacks Relevant to this Scenario**

| <b>IED Type</b>  | <b>Example Events</b>  |
|--|--|
| VBIED (non-suicide)  | 1993 World Trade Center bombing<br>1995 Oklahoma City bombing  |
| Suicide Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device (SVBIED) | 1983 Beirut barracks bombings<br>1998 U.S. Embassy bombings in East Africa<br>2019 Bogota Police Academy |
| Drone IED  | 2018 Caracas, Venezuela  |
| Roadside IED   | 2003-present Iraq<br>2001-present Afghanistan  |
| Backpack IED   | 2013 Boston Marathon bombing<br>2016 New York and New Jersey bombings                                    |

There are ways these subtypes differ as well, just as each specific event within each subtype will differ from another bombing. For example, during the attack phase of these events, whether or not a suicide bomber is involved will determine how the event unfolds, in particular, whether the bomber stays with the explosive or leaves the target area.

Nevertheless, it is expected that there will be ample overlap between these subtypes in terms of how the events will unfold. Where they differ, the differences should be largely explainable and predictable given other observable characteristics. This set of event types should allow for the identification of schemas describing both primitive and complex events which can then be generalized to produce generic schemas.

In contrast, the types of bombings in Table 2 differ to a greater degree from those in Table 1 in terms of actor and methodology, making it increasingly difficult to discover generalizations and characterize predictable differences in how they unfold. Therefore, the event types in Table 2 are not within scope of this scenario.

**Table 2. Types of Bombings Not Within Scope of this Scenario**

| <b>IED Type</b>  | <b>Example Events</b>   |
|--|---|
| Booby-traps  | Booby-trapped vehicles for assassination and murders of individuals                     |
| Bombings and explosive attacks carried out by government military aircraft | Bombings carried out by U.S. B-17 aircraft, or by fighter aircraft with guided missiles |
| Explosive attacks carried out by government military ground forces         | U.S. military operations  |



## Core Stages of an IED Attack

IED attacks of the types in Table 1 typically unfold in three stages: Radicalization, Planning and Preparation, and Execution. The scenario is intended to capture detailed steps from the earliest known evidence of radicalization through the attack preparation stage and the attacks themselves. Post-attack events, including manhunts, investigations, and prosecutions, are not covered in this scenario document, though DARPA may decide such events are relevant for evaluations as the program evolves.

### Radicalization

Radicalization means a change in beliefs<sup>1</sup> and as with any mental state it can be challenging to detect with accuracy. Tangible observables in the radicalization phase include publicly expressed sentiment (e.g., see Borum, 2003<sup>2</sup>), affiliation with known radicals (individuals or organizations), accessing extremist social network sites, accessing extremist online content such as terrorist videos and lectures by extremists, and an increase in travel, particularly to conflict zones and areas known for terrorist training. Evidence of foreign travel in the form of passport and visa applications is relevant. It must be noted that all such observables are strictly circumstantial and could be due to factors other than radicalization. Sentiments are often expressed via social media and sentiments can be expressed vocally in an observable public setting. Such was the case of one of the Boston bombing perpetrators who shouted inflammatory remarks out loud in a mosque.

### Planning and Preparation

Planning and Preparation include tangible and observable actions that precede the actual attack:

- Target selection: Relevant observable activities include researching targets and downloading information, discussing candidate targets via electronic communications and social media posts, and scouting/surveilling target locations.
- Training: Training encompasses a variety of activities, including weapons training – such as visiting a shooting range – dry runs of the planned attack, and combat practice. Also included are activities such as downloading training materials, e.g., written instructions and how-to videos.
- Communications - Planning: Communications among co-conspirators include cell phone calls and electronic communications during the planning stages.
- Acquisition: Steps include online and in-store purchase of supplies and weapons, as well as any observables of theft or borrowing of the supplies/weapons. Improvised explosive device supplies include an array of items besides the explosive material itself, many of which are individually benign (e.g., batteries, cell phones, wires, tape, backpack).
- Assembly: Bomb preparation entails detailed assembly of the explosive, trigger mechanism, packaging and concealment (e.g., placing in a backpack).

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<sup>1</sup> McCauley, Clark and Moskalenko, Sophia (2008). 'Mechanisms of Political Radicalization: Pathways Toward Terrorism', *Terrorism and Political Violence*, 20:3, 415-433. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09546550802073367>

<sup>2</sup> Borum, R. (2003). Understanding the terrorist mind-set. *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 72(7), 7. <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/201462.pdf>

- Other: Wiring money (such as one of the Boston perpetrators wiring money to his mother two days before the attack) is also a relevant activity as it indicates an individual is getting his/her final affairs in order. For the same reason, posted sentiments in the weeks leading up to an attack, such as the Boston perpetrator who tweeted ominous statements just a month prior, would be relevant as well and belong in the Planning and Preparation stage (vs. Radicalization) provided other tangible activities have already occurred, such as purchase of supplies and weapons.

## Execution

- Transport/Emplacement: Relevant activities include delivering the bomb to the target site (as a pedestrian, driver, or passenger) and positioning the bomb just prior to detonation.
- Communications - Coordination: This includes cell phone calls and electronic communications among perpetrators just prior to detonation.
- Detonation: This may involve multiple detonations, as was the case in the Boston Marathon bombing when two bombs exploded seconds apart at different locations near the finish line.

## Additional IED Attack Steps Observed in Larger Terrorist Groups

The stages and sub-events of an IED attack described in the previous section are typical of almost all IED attacks. Additional steps can come into play, particularly when the attack is being planned and carried out by more sophisticated, experienced, and/or well-financed groups, such as ISIS, Al-Qaeda, and the Taliban. The following is an expanded overview of the tasks carried out by such groups when carrying out an IED attack. Steps listed above are duplicated here, to provide the relative sequence of events. Although the steps frequently occur in the order shown, variation in sequence can also occur, and some steps are more likely to be optional for some groups.

## Planning and Preparation

- **Determine Intent of Attack.** The intent is heavily influenced by the political and ideological attitudes of those who are carrying out the attack. Intent will influence a developing plot, from target selection to device construction. The major objectives of an IED attack fall within the following broad categories:
  - Maximize body count
  - Psychological impact
  - Economic consequences
  - Demonstrate capability
  - Devastate monuments
  - Target assassination
  - Political statement
- **Identify Target.** Terrorists will identify targets based on their ideological formation and intent of the attack. Targets can include the following:
  - Target of opportunity (accessible and vulnerable)
  - Food and agriculture
  - Health care facilities
  - Nuclear reactors, materials, and waste

- Drinking water and wastewater
- Energy (attack on electric grid)
- Banking and finance
- National monuments
- Defense industrial base
- Information technology (information infrastructure, telecoms networks)
- Chemical sector
- Postal and shipping
- Dams
- Government facilities
- Commercial facilities (shopping centers, sports arenas, hotels, amusement parks, etc.)
- Heavy machinery
- Community (e.g., places of worship, bars, nightclubs)
- Transportation systems
- **Ensure Operational Security.**
  - Implement physical security measures
  - Implement information security measures
  - Engage in countersurveillance
  - Vet personnel
  - Live the cover
- **Conduct Reconnaissance.** Reconnaissance against potential targets may be conducted at any time during the resource acquisition and planning stages of an IED attack. The sophistication of the attackers and the level of security will determine the frequency and thoroughness of the reconnaissance.
- **Recruit Sympathizers, Criminals, and Insiders (optional).** E.g., militia groups, religious groups, radical movements, criminal rings.
- **Exploit Unwitting Supporter (optional).**
- **Conduct Remote Research.** Remote search provides an attractive alternative or supplement to traditional reconnaissance, allowing terrorists to tap into a wealth of open source information.
- **Research on Internet.** World mapping software such as Google Earth, NASA World Wind, and Microsoft Virtual Earth are commonly used by terrorists to access photographic maps of locations throughout the world. Radical jihadists congregate in underground online communities where they can exchange specific information on tactics and techniques. IED-related topics frequently discussed on these message boards include explosive recipes, acquisition of precursor materials, and tactical advice on weapons deployment.
- **Engage in intelligence gathering.**
  - Take photographs
  - Record video
  - Take notes
  - Initiate false alarm
  - Steal information
- **Obtain Weapons Knowledge.** This can be self-taught or obtained from legitimate or illegitimate sources (e.g., another terrorist, criminal, or bombmaking mastermind).

- **Obtain Operational Skills.** Terrorists might enroll in schools or classes for acquiring skills in the following areas:
  - Denial and deception
  - Vehicle operation
  - Small arms
  - Language skills
  - Cultural familiarity
  - Computers
  - Chemistry
  - Counter-surveillance methods
- **Obtain Funding.** Funding from a state, charity, employment, criminal enterprise, transfer and conceal funds, Hawala and Alternative Remittance System, wire, money laundering, credit and debit cards, online banking, smuggling cash.
- **Obtain Transportation.** Perpetrators may wish to obtain transportation purely for logistical purposes (find facilities, secure and transport weapons components, or enable attainment of operational skills). It may be a private transaction between two individuals rather than between a business and an individual, or it can be a theft. Private transportation is another option, be it a car, motorcycle, truck, van, boat, or airplane.
- **Acquire Facility.** Individuals seeking to conduct an IED attack will likely obtain one or more physical facilities to plan, coordinate, gain knowledge, and possibly construct the device. They can construct, rent, borrow, buy, or steal a facility.
- **Obtain post office box (optional).** Terrorists may obtain PO boxes to assist with communications, funding, and supplies. The box provides a more secure method of receiving mail since it will be stored in a locked postal facility. It also provides the perpetrator with a permanent address if they are unable to remain at one residence.
- **Transfer funds (optional).**
- **Obtain Weapons Components.** There are five components of an IED: Initiator, Switch, Power Source, Main Charge, Container. Methods of obtaining the components include the following:
  - Theft
  - Legal purchase
  - Illegal purchase
  - Homemade
- **Incorporate Enhancements to IED (optional).** Chemical, radiological, biological and nuclear (CRBN) agents, fragmentation, fuel, protective equipment.
- **Steal identification or uniforms (optional).** Perpetrators may obtain foreign or domestic IDs and may seek to obtain legitimate IDs. Or they may attempt to make their own fraudulent paperwork or choose an outside source to do so.
- **Get special vehicle licenses (optional).** Terrorists may choose to obtain a specialized license to operate unique machinery or vehicles for their IED attack (motorcycles, buses, boats or commercial planes).
- **Test components.**
- **Final bomb preparation.**
- **Don disguise (optional).**
- **Choose deliverer.** This can be an unwitting participant, a hostage, or a suicide bomber.

- **Conduct final reconnaissance.**

### Execution

- **Place cameraman in position (optional).**
- **Transport/emplace weapon.**
- **Await signal.** In some cases, especially when an attack must be timed precisely, the terrorists will get in position and then wait for a particular signal, which will prompt them to detonate a command device, activate a booby trap, or start a countdown timer.
- **Publish attack video (optional).**

## Data Sources Related to IEDs

Participants should note that these data sources are being identified in this scenario document in order to enrich the reader's understanding of the scenario. These articles, videos, and images may or may not be present in the data distributed to program performers.

### IEDs and Pressure Cooker Bombs

IED Attack Fact Sheet: Improvised Explosive Devices, DHS, 2019.

[https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/prep\\_ied\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/prep_ied_fact_sheet.pdf)

Security and Resiliency Guide: Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) Concepts, Common Goals, and Available Assistance, DHS, 2019.

<https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Security-and-Resiliency-Guide-Counter-IED.pdf>

General Features and Types of IEDs.

[https://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/6F0C0D9B3C7F45EDC12582B7003771BB/\\$file/2018\\_APII\\_General+Features+and+Type+of+IED\\_India.pdf](https://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/6F0C0D9B3C7F45EDC12582B7003771BB/$file/2018_APII_General+Features+and+Type+of+IED_India.pdf)

Pressure cooker bomb, Wikipedia. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pressure\\_cooker\\_bomb](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pressure_cooker_bomb)

Pressure-cooker bomb used in Chelsea seen in other US attacks, September 19, 2016.

Seth <https://nypost.com/2016/09/19/terrorists-still-favor-pressure-cooker-used-in-chelsea-bombing/>

### Lexicons and Glossaries

Improvised Explosive Device Lexicon.

[https://unmas.org/sites/default/files/unmas\\_ied\\_lexicon\\_0.pdf](https://unmas.org/sites/default/files/unmas_ied_lexicon_0.pdf)

1C-IED COE Glossary, NATO / OTAN, May 3, 2018. <https://ciedcoe.org/index.php/docman/cied-coe-glossary/369-c-ied-coe-glossary-internet-may-2018/file>

Improvised Explosive Device LEXICON, UNMAS.

[https://unmas.org/sites/default/files/unmas\\_ied\\_lexicon\\_0.pdf](https://unmas.org/sites/default/files/unmas_ied_lexicon_0.pdf)

## How-to Sources

### English-Language Sources

Make a Bomb in the Kitchen of your Mom (pg.18) (English, Spanish, Arabic).

<https://archive.org/details/Fabrica.2013>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Fabrica una bomba en la cocina de tu madre [Make a Bomb in the Kitchen of your Mom].

<https://archive.org/details/Fabrica.2013>

Expectativas Completas. [Full Expectations].

[https://archive.org/stream/ExpectativasCompletas/Expectativas\\_Completas#page/n1/mode/2up](https://archive.org/stream/ExpectativasCompletas/Expectativas_Completas#page/n1/mode/2up)

Los Muyahidines en las ciudades [Mujahdeen in the Cities].

[https://archive.org/details/Muyahidines\\_Ciudades?q=%22Los+Muyahidines+en+las+ciudades%22](https://archive.org/details/Muyahidines_Ciudades?q=%22Los+Muyahidines+en+las+ciudades%22)

## Backpack IED Events

Table 1, above, lists types of IEDs of interest to this scenario. One subtype of IED of interest for the scenario is the “backpack IED” or “rucksack IED” attack. Such attacks frequently share the following characteristics:

- Carried out by a lone-wolf actor or a small and fairly independent terrorist cell.
- The IED is contained in some kind of easily portable device that one would expect to see in public places, such as a backpack, a suitcase, a bucket, or even a car.
- The target of the attack is a public gathering place or event, such as a shopping area or sporting event.

The type of perpetrator of the attack, the positioning and emplacement of the IED, and the target location affect how the event will unfold. Of the event types in Table 1, the drone-borne IED is perhaps the most different from the others, at least as it played out in the 2018 incident in Caracas, Venezuela.<sup>3</sup> A common characterization of that event is that it was an attempt to assassinate President Nicolás Maduro and not a terrorist attack against the public. Nevertheless, there are enough areas of overlap between a drone-borne IED and other types of IEDs to make it viable for inclusion.

As a source of data, the backpack IED has a number of advantages:

- There have, unfortunately, been many such events of this type.
- These events have occurred worldwide, resulting in data in many languages.
- These events have typically been covered in great detail, resulting in publicly available data from news, social media, court documents such as detailed indictments and witness testimony, videos and images such as security camera footage, and the original text and videos used by the perpetrators for inspiration and guidance in building the weapons and carrying out the attack.

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<sup>3</sup> Caracas Drone Attack, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caracas\\_drone\\_attack](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caracas_drone_attack).

## U.S. Events

### Centennial Olympic Park Bombing, 1996

In the midst of the 1996 Olympics, an IED composed of pipe bombs concealed in a backpack exploded in the Centennial Olympic Park in Atlanta, Georgia. The bomb contained nails to increase its lethality. Two people died and many were injured.

Source: [https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/prep\\_ied\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/prep_ied_fact_sheet.pdf)

#### English Language Sources

Centennial Olympic Park Bombing, Wikipedia

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centennial\\_Olympic\\_Park\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centennial_Olympic_Park_bombing)

The Atlanta Olympic Park bombing, 20 years on: have we learned the lessons? July 27, 2016.

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2016/jul/27/olympic-park-bombings-atlanta-1996-richard-jewell>

7/27/96: Olympic Park Bombing. [VIDEO]

<https://abcnews.go.com/Archives/video/july-27-1996-olympic-park-bombing-10354673>

#### Spanish-Language Sources

Atentado terrorista en Atlanta [Terrorist attack in Atlanta], Wikipedia

[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado\\_terrorista\\_en\\_Atlanta\\_1996](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado_terrorista_en_Atlanta_1996)

### Columbine High School massacre, April 1999 (included a failed IED detonation)

The Columbine High School massacre was a school shooting and attempted bombing that occurred on April 20, 1999, at Columbine High School in Columbine, Colorado, United States. The perpetrators murdered 12 students and one teacher. Ten students were killed in the school library, where the pair of perpetrators subsequently committed suicide. In addition to the shootings, the pair has also planned to use improvised explosive devices. Using instructions obtained via the Internet and the Anarchist Cookbook, they constructed a total of 99 bombs.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Columbine\\_High\\_School\\_massacre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Columbine_High_School_massacre)

*Of relevance to this topic is that the perpetrators had planted explosive devices in different areas of the school, set to detonate prior to their shooting spree, including two duffle bags in the cafeteria containing propane bombs which ultimately failed to detonate.*

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### **Spokane Bombing Attempt, MLK Day, January 2011**

A radio-controlled-shaped pipe bomb was found and defused in Spokane, Washington along the route of that year's Martin Luther King Jr. memorial march. The bomb was found in backpack.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spokane\\_bombing\\_attempt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spokane_bombing_attempt)

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MLK bomb maker gets 32 years in prison, December 20, 2011.

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Parade change averted blast, November 23, 2011.

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2011/nov/23/parade-change-averted-blast/>

MLK Parade Bomber, January 13, 2012. <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/mlk-parade-bomber>

Clarkston bomb-maker linked to jihad training website, September 25, 2012.

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2012/sep/25/local-man-guilty-national-security-case/>

Clark: Boston-style bombing could have happened in Spokane, April 21, 2013.

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Investigation of Kevin Harpham's 2011 planned MLK March bombing in Spokane turned terrorism into an FBI case study, January 15, 2017. <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2017/jan/15/five-years-after-conviction-harpham-bomb-investiga/>

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<http://www.larazanw.com/noticias/atentado-de-bomba-en-spokane/>

### **Fort Hood, TX, July 2011 (planned)**

In July 2011, Naser Jason Abdo, a U.S. Army private at Fort Hood, Texas, who took pressure cooker bomb-making tips from the Al-Qaeda magazine article, was arrested for planning to blow up a restaurant frequented by U.S. soldiers. Two pressure cookers and bomb-making materials were found in his hotel room.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naser\\_Jason\\_Abdo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naser_Jason_Abdo)

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Fort Hood Suspect Yells Nidal Hasan's Name in Court, July 29, 2011.

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<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-19212962>

UNITED STATES v. ABDO. UNITED STATES of America, Plaintiff–Appellee v. Naser Jason Jamal ABDO, also known as Naser Jason Abdo, Defendant–Appellant. United States Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit. No. 12–50836. Decided: August 19, 2013. <https://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-5th-circuit/1642377.html>

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### Boston Marathon Bombing, April 2013

During the annual Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013, two homemade pressure cooker bombs detonated 12 seconds and 210 yards (190 m) apart at 2:49 p.m., near the finish line of the race, killing three people and injuring several hundred others, including 16 who lost limbs. One of the perpetrators, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, was killed afterwards. His brother Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was captured and convicted.<sup>4</sup>

#### *Timeline of Events Leading Up to the Boston Marathon Bombing*

The following is a chronological timeline of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing, from the earliest evidence of radicalization through the attack. In most cases, the month of the activity is known and for most of the activities in the weeks prior, the day is known as well. A handful of activities have timestamps from surveillance footage.

#### Radicalization

##### March 2011

According to post-event news reports, Russian intelligence (FSB) warns the FBI and CIA via cable that Tamerlan Tsarnaev, described as a religious radical who had “changed drastically since 2010,” is preparing to travel to Russia’s turbulent Caucasus to connect with underground militant groups and that he has been known to associate with violent radical Islamists, including a Canadian man named William Plotnikov, who had joined the Islamic insurgency in the region.<sup>5,6,7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Boston Marathon Bombing. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boston\\_Marathon\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boston_Marathon_bombing)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/26/us/russia-told-us-bomb-suspect-was-radical-islamist.html>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-20593383>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/boston-bombing-anniversary/russia-warned-u-s-about-tsarnaev-spelling-issue-let-him-n60836>

#### June 2011

News reports indicate that the FBI investigates Tsarnaev following warnings from Russia, but finds no evidence linking him to terrorism and so closed its investigation.<sup>8</sup>

#### September 2011

Russian intelligence (FSB) sends another cable to the FBI reiterating the warnings of their earlier cable.<sup>9</sup>

#### October 2011

Tamerlan Tsarnaev and his mother Zubeidat are added to U.S. federal terrorism database following the information from the Russians.<sup>10</sup>

#### January 2012

Tamerlan Tsarnaev arrives in Russia, stays in the turbulent provinces of Dagestan and Chechnya, which are associated with armed resistance, Islamic fundamentalism and organized crime.<sup>11</sup>

#### July 2012

Under Russian surveillance, Tamerlan Tsarnaev applies for new passport in Dagestan but never picks it up; Russian officials lose track of him following the death of associate Plotnikov, who died while fighting for the mujahideen in Dagestan.<sup>12</sup>

#### July 17, 2012

Tamerlan Tsarnaev returns to U.S. from Russia.<sup>13</sup>

#### August 2012

Tamerlan Tsarnaev opens a YouTube channel after returning from Russia, bookmarking terrorism videos.<sup>14</sup>

#### November 2012

Attendees at service at the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center say Tamerlan Tsarnaev loudly interrupts to protest a sermon in which a speaker says it is acceptable for Muslims to celebrate American holidays.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/26/us/russia-told-us-bomb-suspect-was-radical-islamist.html>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.concordmonitor.com/Key-moments-in-the-2013-Boston-Marathon-bombing-16901674>

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2013/04/19/youtube-account-that-belongs-to-a-person-named-tamerlan-tsarnaev-had-bookmarked-videos-on-terrorism/?utm\\_term=.fc3db56d79e7](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2013/04/19/youtube-account-that-belongs-to-a-person-named-tamerlan-tsarnaev-had-bookmarked-videos-on-terrorism/?utm_term=.fc3db56d79e7)

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.concordmonitor.com/Key-moments-in-the-2013-Boston-Marathon-bombing-16901674>

January 18, 2013

Attendees at service at the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center say Tamerlan Tsarnaev loudly interrupts a sermon praising MLK Jr.<sup>16</sup>

#### Planning and Preparation

January 30, 2013

Tamerlan Tsarnaev purchases two pressure cookers at Macy's at Square One Mall in Saugus, MA.<sup>17</sup>

February 8, 2013

Tamerlan Tsarnaev makes an online credit card purchase of a remote-controlled car set, batteries, and a transmitter and receiver from NitroRCX.com.<sup>18</sup>

February 2013

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev borrows a gun from close friend Stephen Silva. The Ruger P95 9MM semi-automatic handgun is later used to murder MIT police officer Sean Collins.<sup>19,20</sup>

March 2013

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev creates a Twitter account, @Al-FirdausiA, under the username is Ghuraba.<sup>21</sup>

March 11, 2013

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev posts the first of six ominous tweets in three days: "I want the highest levels of Jannah, I want to be able to see Allah every single day for that is the best of pleasures."<sup>22,23</sup>

March 2013 (day unknown)

Tamerlan Tsarnaev purchases BBs from a Walmart in New Hampshire.<sup>24</sup>

March 20, 2013 (12:40 PM – 2:03 PM)

Tsarnaev brothers visit the Manchester Firing Line, New Hampshire, and are captured on security video entering and exiting the building, and inside shop area.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.wbur.org/news/2013/04/22/boston-marathon-islamic>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/04/07/critical-pieces-evidence-marathon-bombing-trial/nwAc6xKBG3gKckuVFOT3IN/story.html>

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/tsarnaev-charging-documents-press-releases>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/04/07/critical-pieces-evidence-marathon-bombing-trial/nwAc6xKBG3gKckuVFOT3IN/story.html>

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/11/23/dzhokhar-tsarnaev-friend-offered-testify-tsarnaev-knew-his-brother-was-involved-waltham-triple-slaying/J6hWHOW2LCHvr5huICy9eM/story.html>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/04/07/critical-pieces-evidence-marathon-bombing-trial/nwAc6xKBG3gKckuVFOT3IN/story.html>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVOCWPlmBL4>



**Figure 1. Security Camera Footage Showing the Tsarnaev brothers at a Gun Range<sup>26</sup>**

March 30, 2013

Tamerlan Tsarnaev purchases tools including a screwdriver and soldering gun from the Home Depot in Somerville, MA.<sup>27</sup>

April 8, 2013

Tamerlan Tsarnaev purchases supplies for bomb detonation: remote-controlled cars from RC Cars in in Malden, MA.<sup>28</sup>

April 13, 2013

Tamerlan Tsarnaev purchases ammunition from a store in NH.<sup>29</sup>

April 13, 2013

Tamerlan Tsarnaev sends \$900 cash to his mother via MoneyGram from a location in Somerville, MA.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Image source: Newly released video shows Tsarnaev brothers at new Hampshire gun range,

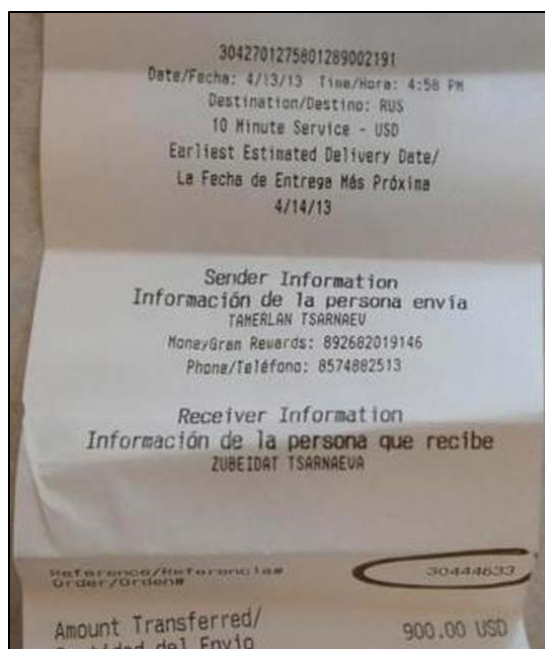
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVOCWPlmBL4>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/04/07/critical-pieces-evidence-marathon-bombing-trial/nwAc6xKBG3gKckuVFOT3IN/story.html>

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 2. MoneyGram receipt**

April 14, 2013

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev opens a prepaid cellphone account under the name Jahar Tsarni. This is the same cell phone used the following day at the marathon.<sup>31</sup>

April 14, 2013 (4:07 PM)

Tamerlan Tsarnaev purchases backpacks in Watertown, MA. Date and timestamped surveillance footage capture him exiting a Target.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

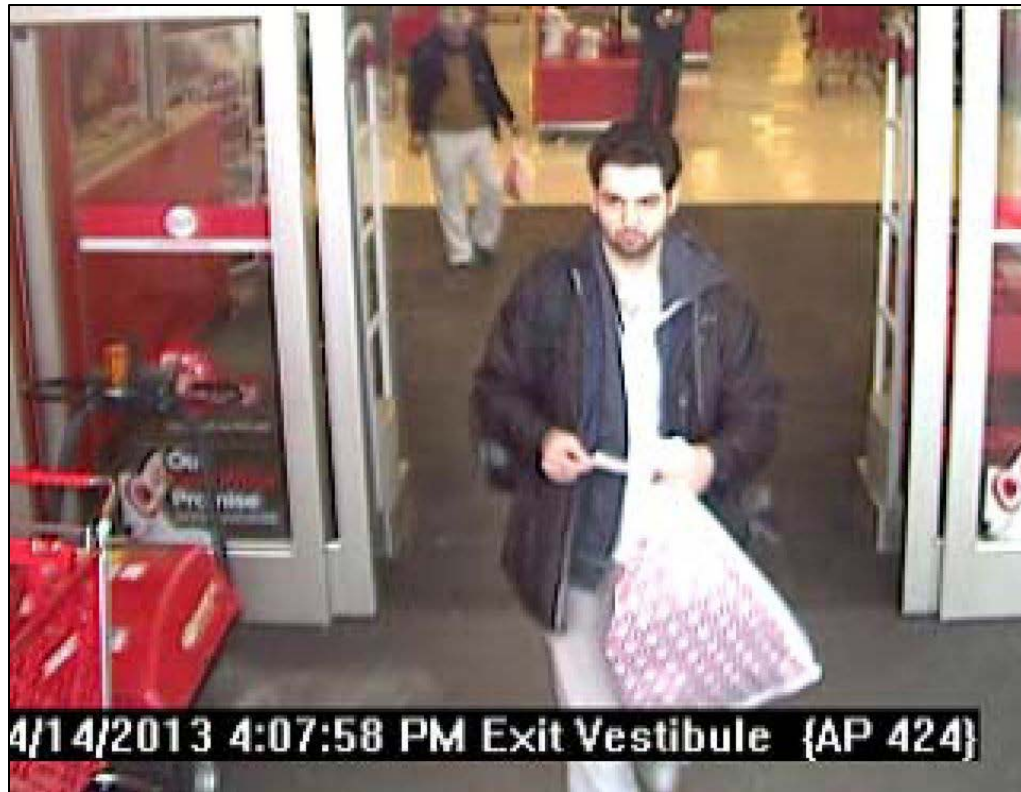


Figure 3. Tamerlan Tsarnaev exiting Target after purchasing backpacks

Sometime between February 7, 2013 and April 15, 2013

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev downloads Volume 1 of Al-Qaeda's *Inspire* Magazine which includes bomb-making instructions.<sup>33</sup>



Figure 4. Images from Al-Qaeda Article on IED Construction<sup>34</sup>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/tsarnaev-charging-documents-press-releases>

<sup>34</sup> Image source: Make a Bomb in the Kitchen of your Mom, <https://archive.org/details/Fabrica.2013>

## Execution

April 15, 2013

Forum Restaurant surveillance video shows Dzhokhar Tsarnaev on the sidewalk amidst a crowd in front of the restaurant, which was near the finish line of the marathon.<sup>35</sup>



**Figure 5. Store Surveillance Video of Tsarnaev brothers on Boylston Street<sup>36</sup>**

April 15, 2013 (2:40 PM)

Tamerlan Tsarnaev places a backpack containing a bomb on the sidewalk in front of Marathon Sports, a retail establishment near the marathon finishing line.<sup>37</sup>

April 15, 2013 (2:40 PM)

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev places a backpack containing a bomb in front of the Forum Restaurant (13 sec after Tamerlan Tsarnaev emplaces a bomb in front of Marathon Sports).<sup>38</sup>

April 15, 2013 (2:48 PM)

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev calls Tamerlan Tsarnaev using prepaid cell.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqaGJ50Cz7o>

<sup>36</sup> Image source: Video Of Tsarnaev Brothers Around Boylston Street On Day Of Boston Marathon Bombing, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqaGJ50Cz7o>

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/tsarnaev-charging-documents-press-releases>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqaGJ50Cz7o>

<sup>39</sup> Ibid.





**Figure 6. Store Surveillance Video of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev placing last phone call to brother before bombs are detonated**

April 15, 2013 (2:49 PM)

The first bomb, a homemade pressure-cooker bomb, is remotely detonated by Tamerlan Tsarnaev near the finish line.<sup>40</sup> One person, Krystle Campbell, is killed and numerous people are injured as result.<sup>41</sup>

April 15, 2013 (2:49 PM)

The second bomb, also a homemade pressure-cooker bomb, is remotely detonated by Dzhokhar Tsarnaev near the finish line.<sup>42</sup> Two people, Martin Richard and Lingzi Lu, are killed and numerous people are injured as result.<sup>43</sup>

#### Other

An earlier event of unknown or indirect relationship to the Boston Marathon bombing was the September 12, 2011 murder of Brendan Mess, Erik Weissman, and Raphael Teken, three young men who had been friends of Tamerlan Tsarnaev. Forensic evidence connected the Tsarnaev brothers to the murder scene and cell records put them in the area at the time of the murders.<sup>44, 45</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/tsarnaev-charging-documents-press-releases>

<sup>42</sup> Ibid.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid.

<sup>44</sup> <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2018/11/23/dzhokhar-tsarnaev-friend-offered-testify-tsarnaev-knew-his-brother-was-involved-waltham-triple-slaying/J6hWHOW2LCHvr5huICY9eM/story.html>

<sup>45</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011\\_Waltham\\_triple\\_murder](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_Waltham_triple_murder)



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- <https://jimmysllama.com/2015/06/20/boston-bombing-trial-transcripts/>
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[https://www.masslive.com/news/boston/2013/04/boston\\_marathon\\_bombings\\_10\\_eyewitness\\_accounts\\_of\\_bost.html](https://www.masslive.com/news/boston/2013/04/boston_marathon_bombings_10_eyewitness_accounts_of_bost.html)

Specialized Battery From Fremont Firm Used In Boston Marathon Bombing, April 17, 2013.

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<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2315718/Boston-Bomber-Twitter-Dzhokhar-Tsarnaevs-chilling-tweet-sent-just-hours-deadly-attack.html>

Read Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's full statement, June 24, 2015.

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/06/24/read-dzhokhar-tsarnaev-full-statement/2FeEwmOS1M8Sae4AJFxqgK/story.html>

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Surgen nuevas imágenes de la huida de los hermanos Tsarnaev [New images emerge of Tsarnaev brothers' escape], March 13, 2015. [VIDEO] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tmNdP5mMSoY/>

### **New York and New Jersey Bombings, September 2016**

In 2016, from September 17<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>, three bombs exploded, and several unexploded ones were found in the New York Metropolitan Area. The bombings left 31 people wounded, but no fatalities or life-threatening injuries were reported. On the morning of September 17, a pipe bomb exploded in Seaside Park, New Jersey. Later that day, a homemade pressure cooker bomb went off in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan, New York City. A second pressure cooker bomb was discovered four blocks away. Late on September 18, multiple bombs were discovered at the train station in Elizabeth, New Jersey. One of these bombs was detonated early the next day. Overall, a pressure cooker bomb in a toolbox, a pressure cooker bomb in plastic bag, and pipe bombs in backpacks were found.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016\\_New\\_York\\_and\\_New\\_Jersey\\_bombings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_New_York_and_New_Jersey_bombings)



**Figure 7. Unexploded pressure-cooker bomb found on West 27th Street in New York City**

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Pipe Bomb Explodes Along 5K Seaside Park Racecourse on Jersey Shore, September 17, 2016.

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Powerful Blast Injures at Least 29 in Manhattan; Second Device Found, September 18, 2016.

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Authorities probe ties between Chelsea bombing and NJ blast, September 18, 2016.

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<https://nypost.com/2016/09/19/terrorists-still-favor-pressure-cooker-used-in-chelsea-bombing/>

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Hallan bombas en Nueva Jersey tras serie de ataques en Estados Unidos [Bombs found in New Jersey after series of attacks in the United States], September 19, 2016.

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La explosión de una bomba en Nueva York causa una treintena de heridos [The explosion of a bomb in New York injures about thirty], September 19, 2016.

[https://elpais.com/internacional/2016/09/18/actualidad/1474164461\\_581001.html](https://elpais.com/internacional/2016/09/18/actualidad/1474164461_581001.html)

### **Houston Confederate Statute Bombing, August 2017 (attempted and failed)**

An assailant was arrested while attempting to plant an explosive device at the Dick Dowling Confederate monument in Houston, Texas, United States. There were no reported casualties. Source:

<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=201708190026>  
and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dick\\_Dowling\\_\(sculpture\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dick_Dowling_(sculpture))

### **English-Language Sources**

Texas man charged with trying to bomb a Confederate statue in Houston, August 21, 2017.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2017/08/21/texas-man-charged-with-trying-to-bomb-a-confederate-statue-in-houston/>

Houston Man Charged with Attempting to Damage Hermann Park Statue, August 21, 2017.

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/houston-man-charged-attempting-damage-hermann-park-statue>

United States v. Schneck (4:17-cr-00558), September 13, 2017.

<https://www.courtlistener.com/docket/6342742/united-states-v-schneck/>

Houston Man Ordered to Prison for Attempting to Damage Hermann Park Statue, August 17, 2018.

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/houston-man-ordered-prison-attempting-damage-hermann-park-statue>

*No Spanish-language information found for this event.*

### **Backpack Bomb in Utah School, March 2018 (attempted and failed)**

*Very little information about this event. Teen's name not released. No information found in Spanish.*

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ISIS-inspired teen tried to set off backpack bomb in school: cops, March 7, 2018.

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<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/utah/articles/2019-04-25/utah-teen-in-failed-backpack-bomb-attack-given-probation>

## Events in Canada and Europe

### Alonsotegi Bombing, Spain, January 1980

The Grupos Armados Españoles (GAE) [Spanish Armed Groups], operating in the Basque Country in the early years of the Spanish democracy, planted a bomb in a local bar which exploded that evening killing four civilians and wounding ten. The bar was targeted as it was thought to be a meeting point for Basque moderate nationalists in the area. The bomb was inside a cardboard box placed at the left side of the entrance, next to the main door, and it contained a device with 6 kg of Goma-2 and electric ammunition which was triggered after being lifted or moved, killing four civilians and wounding ten. The bomb was placed inside a cardboard box to the left side of the bar's entrance.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alonsotegi\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alonsotegi_bombing)

## English-Language Sources

<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=198001290003>

## Spanish-Language Sources

Atentado de Alonsotegi [Alonsotegi bombing], Wikipedia.

[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado\\_de\\_Alons%C3%B3tegui](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado_de_Alons%C3%B3tegui)

### Bologna Massacre, Italy, August 1980

A time bomb hidden in an unattended suitcase detonated in an air-conditioned waiting room at the of the Bologna Centrale railway station in Bologna, Italy, on the morning of August 2, 1980. The explosion collapsed the roof of the waiting room, destroyed most of the main building, and hit the Ancona-Chiasso train which was waiting at the first platform. Eighty-five people were killed and over 200 wounded.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bologna\\_massacre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bologna_massacre)

## English-Language Sources

1980: Bologna blast leaves dozens dead, August 2.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/august/2/newsid\\_4532000/4532091.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/august/2/newsid_4532000/4532091.stm)

Italy: Terror on the Right, January 22, 1981.

<https://www.nybooks.com/articles/1981/01/22/italy-terror-on-the-right/>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Matanza de Bolonia [Bologna Massacre], Wikipedia.  
[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matanza\\_de\\_Bolonia](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matanza_de_Bolonia)

76 personas encontraron la muerte en la estación de Bolonia [76 people found death at Bologna station], August 2, 1980.  
[https://elpais.com/diario/1980/08/03/internacional/334101601\\_850215.html](https://elpais.com/diario/1980/08/03/internacional/334101601_850215.html)

### Oktoberfest Bombing, Germany, September 1980

On September 26, 1980, an IED that had been planted in a trash can exploded at the main entrance of the Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany. Thirteen people died and 211 were injured.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oktoberfest\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oktoberfest_bombing)

### English-Language Sources

Crowds Return to Munich Oktoberfest After Bomb Killed 12, September 28, 1980.  
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1980/09/28/crowds-return-to-munich-oktoberfest-after-bomb-killed-12/964f2320-0a3a-4b91-b5b4-4c75700ef3ac/>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Oktoberfest bombardeo [Oktoberfest bombing].  
[https://es.qwerty.wiki/wiki/Oktoberfest\\_bombing](https://es.qwerty.wiki/wiki/Oktoberfest_bombing)

### Paris Synagogue Bombing, France, October 1980

On October 3, 1980, an explosion occurred at the rue Copernic synagogue in Paris. The bomb consisted of 10 kilograms of explosives that had been packed in saddlebags and left on a motorcycle parked in front of the synagogue. The attack killed four and wounded 46 people.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1980\\_Paris\\_synagogue\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1980_Paris_synagogue_bombing)

### English-Language Sources

Lebanese-Canadian charged over 1980 Paris synagogue bombing, November 15, 2014.  
<https://www.timesofisrael.com/lebanese-canadian-accused-of-1980-paris-synagogue-bombing-extradited-to-france/>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Atentado de la calle Copernic [Attack on Copernic Street], Wikipedia.  
[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado\\_de\\_la\\_calle\\_Copernic](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado_de_la_calle_Copernic)

Libanés acusado de atacar una sinagoga en París es entregado por Canadá [Lebanese accused of attacking a synagogue in Paris is turned in by Canada], November 14, 2014.  
<https://mvsnoticias.com/noticias/internacionales/libanes-acusado-de-atacar-una-sinagoga-en-paris-es-entregado-por-canada-602/>

### **Bagratashen Bombing, Armenia, September 1994**

A bombing occurred in Bagratashen village market in northern Armenia on September 4, 1994, in which 14 people were killed (including the two perpetrators) and 46 were injured. According to the local officials, the “explosive device had been planted in a briefcase.”

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1994\\_Bagratashen\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1994_Bagratashen_bombing)

#### **English-Language Sources**

Bomb in Armenia Kills 14, Hurts 46, September 6, 1994.

<https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1994-09-06-mn-35313-story.html>

*No Spanish-language information found for this event.*

### **London Nail Bombings, England, April 1999**

The 1999 London nail bombings were a series of bomb explosions in London, England. Over three successive weekends between April 17 and 30, 1999, homemade nail bombs were detonated respectively in Brixton, south London; Brick Lane in Spitalfields in the East End; and in The Admiral Duncan pub in Soho in the West End. Each bomb contained up to 1,500 four-inch nails, in sports bags that were left in public spaces. The bombs killed three people, including a pregnant woman, and injured 140 people, four of whom lost limbs.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1999\\_London\\_nail\\_bombings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1999_London_nail_bombings)

#### **English-Language Sources**

Nail bomb injures 48 in Brixton blast, April 17, 1999.

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/1999/apr/18/markhonigsbaum.tonythompson>

Car bomb explodes in London’s Brick Lane, April 24, 1999.

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/1999/apr/24/1?INTCMP=SRCH>

#### **Spanish-Language Sources**

Admiral Duncan, Wikipedia. [https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Admiral\\_Duncan](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Admiral_Duncan)

Las cámaras de videovigilancia, decisivas para capturar al presunto autor de los atentados de Londres [Video surveillance cameras, decisive to capture the alleged author of the London attacks], May 3, 1999. <https://www.elmundo.es/elmundo/1999/mayo/03/sociedad/atentados.html>

### **Madrid Train Bombings, Spain, March 2004**

The 2004 Madrid train bombings (also known in Spain as 11-M) were nearly simultaneous, coordinated bombings against the Cercanías commuter train system of Madrid, Spain, on the morning of March 11, 2004. The bombs were hidden in backpacks and other small bags.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2004\\_Madrid\\_train\\_bombings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2004_Madrid_train_bombings)

#### **English-Language Sources**

Madrid train bombings of 2004. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Madrid-train-bombings-of-2004>

Madrid Train Attacks. [Collection of articles]

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in\\_depth/europe/2004/madrid\\_train\\_attacks/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_depth/europe/2004/madrid_train_attacks/default.stm)

BOMBINGS IN MADRID: THE ATTACK; 10 Bombs Shatter Trains in Madrid, Killing 192, March 12, 2004. <https://www.nytimes.com/2004/03/12/world/bombings-in-madrid-the-attack-10-bombs-shatter-trains-in-madrid-killing-192.html>

Bombs were Spanish-made explosives, March 13, 2004.  
<http://www.cnn.com/2004/WORLD/europe/03/12/spain.blasts/>

2004: Madrid train attacks, September 7, 2011. [VIDEO]  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-europe-14666717/2004-madrid-train-attacks>

Madrid Train Bombings - 2004 | Today In History | 11 Mar 17, AP Archive, March 10, 2017. [VIDEO]  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttkqeVBJAaA>

IntelBrief: 15 Years After Madrid Train Bombings, What Have We Learned, March 11, 2019.  
<https://thesoufancenter.org/intelbrief-the-15th-anniversary-of-the-madrid-train-bombings/>

Spain Reopens Investigation of 2004 Train Bombings, March 18, 2019.  
<https://www.voanews.com/europe/spain-reopens-investigation-2004-train-bombings>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Atentados de 11 de marzo de 2004 [March 11, 2004 Attacks], Wikipedia.  
[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentados\\_del\\_11\\_de\\_marzo\\_de\\_2004](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentados_del_11_de_marzo_de_2004)

Las primeras 24 horas, minuto a minuto [The first 24 hours, minute by minute], March 13, 2004.  
<https://www.elmundo.es/elmundo/2004/03/11/espana/1079010638.html>

Los terroristas colocaron las bombas en Alcalá de Henares en cuatro trenes consecutivos [The terrorists placed the bombs in Alcalá de Henares on four consecutive trains], November 3, 2004.  
[https://cadenaser.com/ser/2004/03/11/espana/1078966239\\_850215.html](https://cadenaser.com/ser/2004/03/11/espana/1078966239_850215.html)

### London Underground Bombings, England, July 2005

The July 7, 2005 London bombings, often referred to as 7/7, were a series of coordinated terrorist suicide attacks in London, England, which targeted commuters travelling on the city's public transport system during the morning rush hour. The explosions were caused by triacetone triperoxide (TATP) IEDs packed into backpacks. The bombings were followed two weeks later by a series of attempted attacks that failed to cause injury or damage.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/7\\_July\\_2005\\_London\\_bombings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/7_July_2005_London_bombings)

### English-Language Sources

Four suicide bombers struck in central London on Thursday 7 July, killing 52 people and injuring more than 770. [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/uk/05/london\\_blasts/what\\_happened/html/](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/uk/05/london_blasts/what_happened/html/)

In Depth: 7 July Bombings.  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/uk/05/london\\_blasts/what\\_happened/html/russell\\_sq.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/uk/05/london_blasts/what_happened/html/russell_sq.stm)

Four bombs in 50 minutes - Britain suffers its worst-ever terror attack, July 8, 2005.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2005/jul/08/terrorism.july74>



Image of bombers' deadly journey: Police have released a CCTV image of the four London bombers as they set out from Luton on their bombing mission, July 17, 2005.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/politics/4689739.stm#](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/politics/4689739.stm#)

London bomber: Text in full: The full text of the videotape of Mohammad Sidique Khan, one of the four 7 July bombers, which was aired on Arabic television channel al-Jazeera and in which he explains his motives, September 1, 2005. [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/4206800.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/4206800.stm)

Footage of London bombings released, October 13, 2010. [VIDEO]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwD-wn7BjnM>

Surveillance footage taken from London's underground train system shows alleged bomber Ramzi Mohammed, July 21, 2015. [VIDEO] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjaTCrcY5pc>

CCTV footage of the explosion on the tube in Parsons Green, March 8, 2018. [VIDEO]

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V\\_xNlqgmng](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V_xNlqgmng)

### Spanish-Language Sources

Atentados del 7 de julio de 2005 en Londres [July 7, 2005 attacks in London], Wikipedia.

[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentados\\_del\\_7\\_de\\_julio\\_de\\_2005\\_en\\_Londres](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentados_del_7_de_julio_de_2005_en_Londres)

Londres vivió sus peores atentados el 7 de julio de 2005 [London experienced its worst attacks on July 7, 2005], March 22, 2017. <http://www.rtve.es/alacarta/videos/telediario/td2-atentados-londres/3953840/>

### Cologne Trains Bombing Attempt, Germany, July 2006

On July 31, 2006, two men placed two suitcases filled with bombs on regional commuter trains in Germany. Departing from the central station in Cologne, the bombs were timed to go off near Hamm or Dortmund and near Koblenz, and according to German investigators "would have resulted in the deaths of hundreds of people... on a much larger scale than the terrorist attacks on London subways and buses in July 2005".

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2006\\_German\\_train\\_bombing\\_attempts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2006_German_train_bombing_attempts)

### English-Language Sources

Suspects sought in failed bomb plot / Bags with explosives were loaded onto 2 trains in Germany, August 19, 2006. <https://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Suspects-sought-in-failed-bomb-plot-Bags-with-2513748.php>

Suspects in Attempted Bombings Face Prison for Life, October 22, 2006.

<https://www.dw.com/en/suspects-in-attempted-bombings-face-prison-for-life/a-2206487>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Las bombas de Colonia [The bombs of Cologne], July 31, 2007.

<https://www.dw.com/es/las-bombas-de-colonia/a-2716090>



Cronología: ataques terroristas frustrados en Alemania [Chronology: failed terrorist attacks in Germany], June 6, 2016. <https://www.t13.cl/noticia/mundo/cronologia-ataques-terroristas-frustrados-alemania>

### **Failed Bonn Bomb Attack, Germany, December 2012 (attempted & failed)**

On December 10, 2012, assailants planted an explosive device at the main railway station in Bonn city, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. The device ignited but failed to detonate; it was later defused by experts. Used in the attack was an explosive device concealed inside a travel bag consisting of butane gas, ammonium nitrate, metal pipes, a battery, and a light bulb intended to trigger the device.

Source: <https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=201212100015>

### **English-Language Sources**

Islamist extremist suspected after bomb found at Bonn rail station, December 11, 2012.

<http://security.blogs.cnn.com/2012/12/11/islamist-extremist-suspected-after-bomb-found-at-bonn-rail-station/>

German police investigate suspected pipe bomb at Bonn train station, December 12, 2012.

<https://www.stripes.com/news/europe/germany/german-police-investigate-suspected-pipe-bomb-at-bonn-train-station-1.200409>

German Police Still Searching for Bomb Suspects, December 13, 2012.

<https://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/german-police-search-for-two-men-in-attempted-attack-on-bonn-station-a-872687.html>

'Islamists' behind botched Bonn bombing, December 15, 2012.

<https://www.thelocal.de/20121215/46783>

Germans Consider Brit-Style CCTV after Foiled Bombing—surveillance images, December 17, 2012.

<https://www.spiegel.de/international/zeitgeist/bonn-bomb-triggers-calls-for-greater-use-of-cctv-surveillance-in-germany-a-873185.html>

German man given life sentence over failed Bonn bomb attack, April 3, 2017.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-security-trial/german-man-given-life-sentence-over-failed-bonn-bomb-attack-idUSKBN175200?il=0>

### **Spanish-Language Sources**

La policía alemana detiene a un presunto islamista tras una amenaza de bomba [German police detain an alleged Islamist after a bomb threat]

[https://elpais.com/internacional/2012/12/11/actualidad/1355249131\\_833123.html](https://elpais.com/internacional/2012/12/11/actualidad/1355249131_833123.html)

### **Canada Day, January 2013 (attempted & failed)**

On Canada Day 2013, three pressure cooker bombs failed to explode at the Parliament Building in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. The devices were targeting the crowds gathered there for Canada Day celebrations.

Source: <https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=201307010016>

### English-Language Sources

Canadian authorities thwart pressure-cooker bomb plot, July 3, 2013.

<https://www.bostonherald.com/2013/07/03/canadian-authorities-thwart-pressure-cooker-bomb-plot/>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Canadá: Dos sujetos planeaban atentado terrorista contra Parlamento [Canada: Two subjects planned terrorist attack against Parliament], July 2, 2013.

<https://peru21.pe/mundo/canada-dos-sujetos-planeaban-atentado-terrorista-parlamento-113739>

### Sweden Terrorism Plot, February 2016 (planned)

In June 2016, a 20-year old man was convicted for plotting to carry out a bombing attack using a homemade pressure cooker bomb containing shrapnel. Surveillance footage from IKEA showed him purchasing a pressure cooker. “Six bottles of acetone, a mobile phone, duct tape and bullets” were discovered in a police raid on his property. The man traveled to Turkey twice and both times he was deported by Turkish authorities on suspicion of intending to join ISIS in Syria. He is known to have downloaded ISIS propaganda and bomb-making instructions.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016\\_Sweden\\_terrorism\\_plot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Sweden_terrorism_plot)

### English-Language Sources

Teaching student jailed over Sweden terror plot, June 2, 2016.

<https://www.thelocal.se/20160602/ex-teaching-student-found-guilty-of-sweden-terror-plot>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Condenado a 5 años de cárcel un joven en Suecia por preparar un atentado suicida [A young man in Sweden is sentenced to 5 years in prison for preparing a suicied attack], June 2, 2016.

<https://www.europapress.es/internacional/noticia-condenado-anos-carcel-joven-suecia-preparar-atentado-suicida-20160602114450.html>

### Ansbach Bombing, Germany, July 2016

On July 24, 2016, fifteen people were injured, four seriously, in a suicide bombing outside a wine bar in Ansbach, Germany. The bomber was the only fatality in the incident.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016\\_Ansbach\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Ansbach_bombing)

### English-Language Sources

Germany: Twelve wounded in Ansbach bombing, July 25, 2016.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/germany-syrian-asylum-seeker-ansbach-explosion-160725031650522.html>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Atentado de Ansbach [Ansbach attack], Wikipedia.

[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado\\_de\\_Ansbach](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado_de_Ansbach)

“Ataque deliberado”: un muerto y 12 heridos en una explosión en un restaurante en Alemania  
[“Deliberate attack”: one dead and 12 injured in an explosion at a restaurant in Germany], July 24, 2016. [https://actualidad.rt.com/ultima\\_hora/214127-explosion-restaurante-alemania](https://actualidad.rt.com/ultima_hora/214127-explosion-restaurante-alemania)

### **Canada Taxi Detonation, August 2016 (planned backpack IED)**

On August 8, 2016, an assailant detonated an explosive device in a taxi in Strathroy, Ontario, Canada. The taxi driver was injured in the blast and the assailant was killed in an ensuing clash with police.

Source: <https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=201608100055>

*This appears to be a planned backpack-IED attack; one of the explosive devices detonated before he got to his target.*

### **English-Language Sources**

Lone suspect dead after anti-terror operation in Ontario town, August 11, 2016.

<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/rcmp-says-it-received-credible-information-on-potential-terrorist-threat-public-not-in-danger>

Aaron Driver ‘Detonated Bomb In Taxi’ As Canada Cops Swooped, August 12, 2016.

<https://news.sky.com/story/aaron-driver-detonated-bomb-in-taxi-as-canada-cops-swooped-10532301>

Aaron Driver’s ‘more powerful’ bomb never exploded, RCMP says, revealing new details of tense confrontation, August 20, 2016.

<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/aaron-drivers-more-powerful-bombs-never-detonated-rcmp-says-revealing-new-details-of-tense-confrontation>

Canadian man’s bomb did not fully detonate before police shot him: report, August 20, 2016.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-canada-security/canadian-mans-bomb-did-not-fully-detonate-before-police-shot-him-report-idUSKCN10V0W1>

Canadian man’s bomb did not fully detonate before police shot him, August 21, 2016. [VIDEO]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TB-A4BLUXug>

Taxi driver injured after ISIS supporter Aaron Driver detonated bomb files \$1M lawsuit, March 23, 2018. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4101670/aaron-driver-lawsuit-terry-duffield-injured/>

Settlement reached in \$1M lawsuit filed by taxi driver injured after ISIS supporter Aaron Driver detonated bomb, November 20, 2018.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/4681930/settlement-1m-lawsuit-taxi-driver-isis-supporter-aaron-driver-bomb/>

### **Spanish-Language Sources**

Policía de Canadá abatió al simpatizante de EI cuando iba a cometer un ataque [Canadian police killed IE supporter when he was going to commit an attack], August 11, 2016.

<https://www.elpais.cr/2016/08/11/policia-de-canada-abatio-al-simpatizante-de-ei-cuando-iba-a-cometer-un-ataque/>

EL SIMPATIZANTE DE EI MURIÓ POR UN DISPARO DE LA POLICÍA DE CANADÁ, SEGÚN SU PADRE [The sympathizer with the IE died by a shot by Canada's police], August 16, 2016.

[http://www.laconexionusa.com/noticias/20160816856324\\_lc85632416.asp](http://www.laconexionusa.com/noticias/20160816856324_lc85632416.asp)

### **German Christmas Market/Ludwigshafen Bombing, Germany, December 2016 (planned)**

On December 16, 2016, a bombing plot was uncovered in Ludwigshafen, Germany. The 12-year-old German-Iraqi boy, who was reported to be the perpetrator, was directed by an ISIL supporter to build two nail bombs and plant them at the local Christmas market and near a shopping center. After a first attempt failed at the Christmas market on November 26 when the bomb did not explode, the boy tried a second time on December 5 near the mall and the town hall of Ludwigshafen. The device contained "pyrotechnic material" believed to have been extracted from fireworks and sparklers, and tests revealed that the mix was combustible, but not explosive.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016\\_Ludwigshafen\\_bombing\\_plot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Ludwigshafen_bombing_plot)

#### **English-Language Sources**

Boy, 12, 'attempted to blow up nail bomb at German Christmas market', December 16, 2016.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/12/16/boy-12-attempted-blow-nail-bomb-german-christmas-market/>

12-year-old tried to blow up German Christmas market, December 16, 2016.

<https://nypost.com/2016/12/16/12-year-old-tried-to-blow-up-german-christmas-market/>

#### **Spanish-Language Sources**

Medios: Niño de 12 años planeó ataque en mercado navideño [Media: 12-year-old boy planned Christmas market attack], December 16, 2016.

<https://www.dw.com/es/medios-ni%C3%B1o-de-12-a%C3%B1os-plane%C3%B3-ataque-en-mercado-navide%C3%B1o/a-36793310>

### **Stockholm Truck Attack, Sweden, April 2017 (included a planned IED Attack)**

On April 7, 2017, an assailant hijacked a vehicle and drove it into a department store in Stockholm, Sweden. At least five people were killed and 14 other people were injured in the attack. In addition, an explosive device was also discovered in the cab of the vehicle following the assault.

Source: <https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=201704070038>

A homemade bomb was reportedly found in the truck after it was abandoned by the hijacker. Police sources said the device was found in a bag and had not been detonated.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017\\_Stockholm\\_truck\\_attack](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_Stockholm_truck_attack)

#### **English-Language Sources**

Stockholm attack: 'Homemade bomb' found in lorry used to kill at least four people in Sweden, April 8, 2017. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/stockholm-attack-sweden-lorry-truck-crash-terror-isis-islamic-state-manhunt-latest-suspect-police-a7673527.html>

## Spanish-Language Sources

Atentado de Estocolmo de 2017 [Stockholm attack of 2017], Wikipedia.

[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado\\_de\\_Estocolmo\\_de\\_2017](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado_de_Estocolmo_de_2017)

La Policía detiene al autor del ataque en Estocolmo y halla explosivos en el interior del camión [Police detain the perpetrator of the attack in Stockholm and find explosives inside the truck], April 8, 2017. <https://www.elmundo.es/internacional/2017/04/08/58e7e14d46163fac0d8b45a4.html>

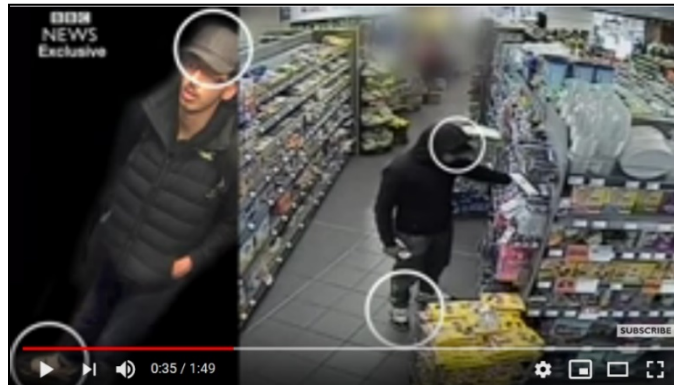
Un atentado con un camión en Estocolmo causa varios muertos y 15 heridos [An attack with a truck in Stockholm causes several deaths and 15 injuries], April 8, 2017.

[https://elpais.com/internacional/2017/04/07/actualidad/1491572357\\_425004.html](https://elpais.com/internacional/2017/04/07/actualidad/1491572357_425004.html)

## Manchester Arena Bombing, England, May 2017

The Manchester Arena bombing was a suicide bombing attack in Manchester, United Kingdom on May 22, 2017. A radical Islamist detonated a shrapnel-laden homemade bomb as people were leaving the Manchester Arena following a concert by the American singer Ariana Grande. Photographs of the remains of the IED published by *The New York Times* indicated that it was comprised of an explosive charge inside a lightweight metal container which was carried within a black vest or a blue Karrimor backpack.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manchester\\_Arena\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manchester_Arena_bombing)



**Figure 8. Surveillance Footage Possibly Showing Manchester Bomber Shopping Hours Before Attack<sup>46</sup>**

## English-Language Sources

Manchester Arena blast: 19 dead and more than 50 hurt, May 23, 2017.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-manchester-40007886>

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<sup>46</sup> Image source: Manchester attack: CCTV appears to show bomber shopping in hours before explosion - BBC News, May 29, 2017. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZXFmHzYyHI>

Found at the Scene in Manchester: Shrapnel, a Backpack and a Battery May 24, 2017.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/05/24/world/europe/manchester-arena-bomb-materials-photos.html>

How Manchester bomber Salman Abedi was radicalised by his links to Libya, May 28, 2017.

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/may/28/salman-abedi-manchester-arena-bomber-radicalisation>

Manchester attack: CCTV appears to show bomber shopping in hours before explosion - BBC News, May 29, 2017. [VIDEO] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZXFmHzYyHI>

Manchester imam praised 'jihad' at mosque where arena bomber Salman Abedi prayed, recording reveals, August 17, 2018. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/manchester-attack-bombing-salman-abedi-didsbury-mosque-sermon-jihad-syria-prayers-a8495696.html>

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Atentado en Manchester: así era la bomba que usó el terrorista [Manchester attack: this was the bomb the terrorist used], May 25, 2017.

[https://www.clarin.com/mundo/atentado-manchester-bomba-uso-terrorista\\_0\\_H1kuFHEW-.html](https://www.clarin.com/mundo/atentado-manchester-bomba-uso-terrorista_0_H1kuFHEW-.html)

Atentado durante concierto en Manchester (G.B.), deja 22 muertos, incluidos niños y adolescentes [Attack during concert in Manchester (G.B.) leaves 22 dead, including children and adolescents],

May 25, 2017. <https://www.radiotelevisionmarti.com/a/atentado-suicida-durante-concierto-en-manchester--gb-deja-22-muertos-incluidos-nios-y-adolescentes/145477.html>

### Parsons Green Train Bombing, England, September 2017

On September 15, 2017, an explosive device detonated on a London Underground train at the Parsons Green station in London, United Kingdom. At least 29 people were injured in the blast. Used in the attack was a homemade explosive device containing triacetone triperoxide (TATP) and 2.2 kilograms of sockets, screws, bolts, nails, knives, and screwdrivers as shrapnel, hidden inside a plastic bucket inside a shopping bag.

Sources: <https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=201709150004> and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parsons\\_Green\\_train\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parsons_Green_train_bombing)

### English-Language Sources

Parsons Green attack: Timeline of events surrounding tube bombing.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/parsons-green-attack-timeline-ahmed-hassan-tube-bomb-isis-terrorism-asylum-seeker-a8259581.html>

Parsons Green: Underground blast a terror incident, say police, September 15, 2017.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-41278545>

London tube bombing: PM says terror threat level raised to critical, September 16, 2017.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/sep/15/parsons-green-district-line-suspended-in-west-london-over-incident>

Parsons Green bomb trial: teenager 'trained to kill by Isis', March 7, 2018.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/mar/07/parsons-green-tube-bombing-ahmed-hassan-on-trial>

Parsons Green attack: Teenage asylum seeker 'admitted bombing' after being caught by police in Dover, March 9, 2018. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/parsons-green-attack-bombing-isis-tube-district-line-ahmed-hassan-admitted-court-trial-latest-a8248636.html>

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Explosión en el metro de Londres: este es el artefacto que se prendió fuego [London underground explosion: this is the device that caught fire], September 15, 2017.  
<https://www.lanacion.com.ar/el-mundo/explosion-en-el-metro-de-londres-este-es-el-artefacto-que-se-prendio-fuego-nid2063227>

Atentado en Londres: expertos creen que la bomba casera podría haber causado un daño mayor [Attack in London: experts believe the homemade bomb could have caused more damage], September 15, 2017. <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/el-mundo/se-especula-que-la-bomba-casera-que-exploto-en-londres-podria-haber-causado-un-dano-mayor-nid2063333>

### **Canada Restaurant Bomb Explosion, May 2018**

On May 24, 2018, a homemade bomb was detonated in an Indian restaurant in Mississauga, Canada, leaving 15 people wounded. Two male suspects were caught by surveillance camera entering the restaurant shortly before the explosion. They fled the scene immediately after the explosion.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mississauga\\_restaurant\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mississauga_restaurant_bombing)

### **English-Language Sources**

Mississauga explosion: Suspects 'detonate bomb' in restaurant, May 25, 2018.  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-44248453>

Two Sought in Bombing at Indian Restaurant in Ontario, May 25, 2018.  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/25/world/americas/explosion-mississauga-ontario-canada.html>

Mississauga explosion: more than a dozen injured in Canada restaurant blast, May 25, 2018.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/may/25/explosion-hits-restaurant-in-toronto-injured-mississauga-canada>

### **Spanish-Language Sources**

La explosión de una bomba en un restaurante en Mississauga, Canadá, deja al menos 15 heridos [The explosion of a bomb in a restaurant in Mississauga, Canada, leaves at least 15 wounded], May 25, 2018. [https://elpais.com/internacional/2018/05/25/actualidad/1527225615\\_879627.html](https://elpais.com/internacional/2018/05/25/actualidad/1527225615_879627.html)



Una detonación de bomba en Toronto deja 15 personas heridas [Bomb detonation in Toronto leaves 15 people wounded], May 25, 2018. <https://expansion.mx/mundo/2018/05/25/una-detonacion-de-bomba-en-toronto-deja-15-personas-heridas>

### **Lyon Bombing, France, May 2019**

On May 24, 2019, a bomb that had been placed in a package (or possibly a paper bag) exploded near a bakery on a pedestrian-only street in Lyon, France. Video surveillance showed the bomber arriving on foot and pushing a bike along the street, then leaving a paper bag on a concrete block in the middle of the street. He then left the area. Investigators found screws, ball bearings, batteries, and a remote triggering device.



**Figure 9. Surveillance Footage of Bomber in Lyon Attack<sup>47</sup>**

### **English-Language Sources**

2019 Lyon bombing, Wikipedia.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019\\_Lyon\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019_Lyon_bombing)

France: Package bomb explodes in Lyon ‘attack’, May 24, 2019.

<https://www.dw.com/en/france-package-bomb-explodes-in-lyon-attack/a-48868871>

French police hunt bomber who planted device in Lyon, May 25, 2019.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/may/25/french-police-hunt-bomber-lyon-who-planted-device-paper-bag>

France Lyon: Police arrest suspects in parcel bomb attack, May 27, 2019.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-48420490>

Terror suspects arrested over Lyon ‘suitcase explosion’, May 27, 2019.

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<sup>47</sup> Image source: French police hunt bomber who planted device in Lyon.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/may/25/french-police-hunt-bomber-lyon-who-planted-device-paper-bag#img-2>



<https://www.dw.com/en/terror-suspects-arrested-over-lyon-suitcase-explosion/a-48896848>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Una explosión en una calle peatonal de Lyon causa al menos 13 heridos leves [An explosion on a pedestrian street in Lyon causes at least 13 minor injuries], May 25, 2019.

[https://elpais.com/internacional/2019/05/24/actualidad/1558715329\\_116297.html](https://elpais.com/internacional/2019/05/24/actualidad/1558715329_116297.html)

Se busca al sospechoso del atentado en Lyon [Hunt for the suspect in Lyon's attack], May 25, 2019.

<https://es.euronews.com/2019/05/25/se-busca-al-sospechoso-del-atentado-en-lyon>

## Events in Asia

### Mumbai Train Bombings, India, July 2006

The July 11, 2006 Mumbai train bombings were a series of seven bomb blasts that took place over a period of 11 minutes on the Suburban Railway in Mumbai, the capital of the Indian state of Maharashtra. The pressure cooker bombs killed 209 people and injured over 700 more.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2006\\_Mumbai\\_train\\_bombings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2006_Mumbai_train_bombings)

### English-Language Sources

Tuesday terror: Six blasts rock Mumbai railway stations, July 11, 2006.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20070125055537/http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1731631.cms>

At least 174 killed in Indian train blasts, July 11, 2006.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20060711235332/http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/asiapcf/07/11/mumbai.blasts/index.html>

Timeline of Attacks in India, July 13, 2011. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB122772515602360289>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Atentados del 11 de julio de 2006 [July 11 2006 Bombay attack], Wikipedia.

[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentados\\_del\\_11\\_de\\_julio\\_de\\_2006\\_en\\_Bombay](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentados_del_11_de_julio_de_2006_en_Bombay)

Matanza terrorista en India [Terrorist slaughter in India], July 11, 2006.

[https://elpais.com/diario/2006/07/12/internacional/1152655202\\_850215.html](https://elpais.com/diario/2006/07/12/internacional/1152655202_850215.html)

Bombas explotan en cadena en trenes de la India [Bombs explode in chain on Indian trains], July 12, 2006.

<https://www.eluniverso.com/2006/07/12/0001/14/F48EE0E4528F4185BF9BB574E5B0388C.html>

### Bangkok Bombing, Thailand, August 2015

On August 17, 2015, a bombing took place inside the Erawan Shrine at the Ratchaprasong intersection in Pathum Wan District, Bangkok, Thailand, killing 20 people and injuring 125. The Royal Thai Police said that 3 kilograms (6.6 lb) of TNT had been stuffed in a pipe and left under a bench near the outer rim of the grounds surrounding the shrine, and that an electronic circuit suspected to have been used in the

attack was found 30 metres (98 ft) from the scene. Surveillance footage showed a suspect leaving a backpack at the scene shortly before the explosion.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2015\\_Bangkok\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2015_Bangkok_bombing)

### English-Language Sources

Bangkok Bomb Attack at Popular Shrine Kills at Least 20, August 17, 2015.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/18/world/asia/bangkok-explosion.html>

Bangkok bomber is man seen dropping backpack, Thai police say, August 18, 2015.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/aug/18/bangkok-bomber-is-man-seen-dropping-backpack-say-thai-police>

Bangkok bomb: CCTV video shows man leave backpack, August 19, 2015.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-33969621>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Atentado de Bangkok de 2015 [Bangkok Attack of 2015], Wikipedia.

[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado\\_de\\_Bangkok\\_de\\_2015](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentado_de_Bangkok_de_2015)

Sospechosos de atentado en Bangkok deciden entregarse [Bangkok bomb suspects decide to turn themselves in ], August 20, 2015. <https://www.informador.mx/Internacional/Sospechosos-de-atentado-en-Bangkok-deciden-entregarse-20150820-0137.html>

## Sri Lanka Suicide Bombings, April 2019

On April 21, 2019, Easter Sunday, three churches in Sri Lanka and three luxury hotels in the commercial capital Colombo were targeted in a series of coordinated terrorist suicide bombings. Later that day, there were smaller explosions at a housing complex in Dematagoda and a guest house in Dehiwala. A total of 258 people were killed, including at least 45 foreign nationals and three police officers, and at least 500 were injured.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019\\_Sri\\_Lanka\\_Easter\\_bombings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019_Sri_Lanka_Easter_bombings)

### English-Language Sources

Timeline: Sri Lankan bomb attacks on hotels, churches - 20 minutes of carnage, April 21, 2019.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-sri-lanka-blasts-timeline/timeline-sri-lankan-bomb-attacks-on-hotels-churches-20-minutes-of-carnage-idUSKCN1RX0NS>

Sri Lanka bombings – a timeline and visual guide, April 22, 2019.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/apr/22/sri-lanka-bombings-a-timeline-and-visual-guide>

CCTV footage shows suspected Sri Lanka suicide bomber entering church, April 23, 2019. [VIDEO]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ED6-OPENVGg>

Moment of explosion at Sri Lanka's Kingsbury Hotel caught on CCTV, April 27, 2019. [VIDEO]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUDPB-rCJhM>

Exclusive: What made this bomber attack Sri Lanka?, April 29, 2019. [VIDEO]

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0fha\\_ty7to](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0fha_ty7to)

Sri Lanka Identifies 9 Easter Sunday Suicide Bombers, May 1, 2019.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/>

### Spanish-Language Sources

Atentados de Sri Lanka de 2019 [Sri Lanka attacks of 2019], Wikipedia.

[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentados\\_de\\_Sri\\_Lanka\\_de\\_2019](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atentados_de_Sri_Lanka_de_2019)

Atentados en Sri Lanka: ataques a iglesias y hoteles de lujo dejan cientos de personas muertas [Attacks in Sri Lanka: attacks on churches and luxury hotels leave hundreds of people dead], April 21, 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/es/2019/04/21/sri-lanka-bombas-iglesias/>

Sri Lanka: el momento en que terrorista suicida llega a iglesia antes de atentado [Sri Lanka: the moment when suicide bomber arrives at church before attack], April 23, 2019.

<https://www.america.com.pe/noticias/internacionales/sri-lanka-momento-que-terrorista-suicida-llega-iglesia-antes-atentado-n368394>

Imágenes de los atentados en Sri Lanka [Images of the Sri Lanka attacks], April 27, 2019. [VIDEO]

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Blpp\\_Y4hin0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Blpp_Y4hin0)

## Other IEDs Concealed in Everyday Objects

Like backpacks and briefcases, shipped packages and even shoes are everyday objects that can conceal an IED. These are just a few examples of many.

### U.S. Events

#### Shoe bombing attempt, December 2001 (attempted and failed)

The 2001 shoe bomb attempt was a failed bombing that occurred on December 22, 2001, on American Airlines Flight 63. The aircraft, a Boeing 767-300 with 197 passengers and crew aboard, was flying from Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, France, to Miami International Airport in Miami, Florida, United States. The perpetrator was subdued by passengers after unsuccessfully attempting to detonate plastic explosives concealed within his shoes. The flight was diverted to Logan International Airport in Boston, under escort by U.S. military jet fighters, and safely landed without further incident.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2001\\_shoe\\_bomb\\_attempt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2001_shoe_bomb_attempt)

### English-Language Sources

Shoe bomb suspect to remain in custody, December 25, 2001.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2001/US/12/24/investigation.plane/>

Shoe bomb suspect attended British mosque, December 26, 2001.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/world/newsid\\_1729000/1729215.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/world/newsid_1729000/1729215.stm)

Al-Qa'eda men 'know' bomb suspect, December 27, 2001.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/1366424/Al-Qaeda-men-know-bomb-suspect.html>

Shoe-bomb suspect a 'tester': mosque leader, December 27, 2001.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/shoe-bomb-suspect-a-tester-mosque-leader-1.283546>

Shoe bomb suspect took 'dummy run' flight to Israel, December 28, 2001.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/1366537/Shoe-bomb-suspect-took-dummy-run-flight-to-Israel.html>

United States of America v. Richard Colvin Reid, January 16, 2002. [INDICTMENT]

<https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ag/legacy/2002/01/16/reidindictment.pdf>

Attorney General Transcript, News Conference Regarding Richard Reid, January 16, 2002.

<https://www.justice.gov/archive/ag/speeches/2002/011602transcriptreid.htm>

The Shoe Bomber's World, February 16, 2002.

<http://content.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,203478,00.html>

BRITISH NATIONAL INDICTED FOR CONSPIRING WITH 'SHOE BOMBER' RICHARD REID, October 4, 2004. [https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2004/October/04\\_crm\\_673.htm](https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2004/October/04_crm_673.htm)

Shoe Bomb Suspect Had Enough Explosives to Bring Down Plane, January 7, 2006.

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=92054&page=1>

### Spanish-Language Sources

El FBI confirma un fallido atentado suicida con un «zapato-bomba» [The FBI confirms a failed suicide attack with a «shoe-bomb»], December 24, 2001. [https://www.abc.es/espana/abci-confirma-fallido-atentado-suicida-zapato-bomba-200112240300-68173\\_noticia.html](https://www.abc.es/espana/abci-confirma-fallido-atentado-suicida-zapato-bomba-200112240300-68173_noticia.html)

El hombre del «zapato bomba» estuvo en los campos de entrenamiento de Al Qaida [The "shoe bomb" man was in al-Qaida training camps], December 27, 2001.

[https://www.abc.es/internacional/abci-hombre-zapato-bomba-estuvo-campos-entrenamiento-qaida-200112270300-68474\\_noticia.html](https://www.abc.es/internacional/abci-hombre-zapato-bomba-estuvo-campos-entrenamiento-qaida-200112270300-68474_noticia.html)

La bomba en el zapato de un pasajero tenía potencia para destrozar el vuelo París-Miami [The bomb in a passenger's shoe had power to destroy the Paris-Miami flight], December 29, 2001.

[https://elpais.com/diario/2001/12/30/internacional/1009666805\\_850215.html](https://elpais.com/diario/2001/12/30/internacional/1009666805_850215.html)

El 'terrorista del zapato' compró los explosivos gracias a Internet [The 'shoe terrorist' bought the explosives thanks to the Internet], December 30, 2001.

<https://www.elmundo.es/elmundo/2001/12/28/enespecial/1009550112.html>

### New York Port Authority Bombing, December 2017

On December 11, 2017, a would-be suicide bomber detonated a pipe bomb that was attached to his body, consisting of screws, Christmas tree lights, and a nine-volt battery, at Port Authority Bus Terminal between Seventh and Eighth Avenue in Manhattan, New York City, New York, United States.

Sources: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017\\_New\\_York\\_City\\_attempted\\_bombing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_New_York_City_attempted_bombing) and

<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=201712110001>

*Although the IED was not in a container, it matches the description of the bomb described in the Al-Qaeda article, “Make a Bomb in the Kitchen of your Mom” (see the section, “How-to Sources,” above).*

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Manhattan subway explosion ‘was attempted terrorist attack’, says mayor. December 11, 2017.

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Suspect in attempted ‘terrorist attack’ pledged allegiance to ISIS, officials say, December 12, 2017.

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Akayed Ullah Indicted on Terrorism and Explosives Charges in Connection With the Detonation of a Bomb in New York City, January 10, 2018. [INDICTMENT].

- <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/akayed-ullah-indicted-terrorism-and-explosives-charges-connection-detonation-bomb-new-york>
- <https://www.justice.gov/opa/press-release/file/1024706/download>

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[https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incidente\\_terrorista\\_de\\_la\\_terminal\\_Port\\_Authority\\_de\\_2017](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incidente_terrorista_de_la_terminal_Port_Authority_de_2017)

Así fue el momento de la explosión en Nueva York [This was the moment of the explosion in New York], December 11, 2017. <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/el-mundo/explosion-nueva-york-video-nid2090329>

Así era la bomba que usó el presunto autor del ataque fallido en Nueva York [This was the bomb used by the alleged author of the failed attack in New York], December 11, 2017. [VIDEO]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDddFuFA3LM>

### Austin Serial Package Bombings, March 2018

The Austin serial bombings occurred between March 2 and 22, 2018, mostly in Austin, Texas. In total, five package bombs exploded, killing two people and injuring another five. The suspect blew himself up inside his vehicle after he was pulled over by police on March 21, also injuring a police officer.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austin\\_serial\\_bombings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austin_serial_bombings)

## English-Language Sources

Timeline of the deadly bombings in Texas. <https://abcnews.go.com/US/video/timeline-deadly-bombings-texas-53903574>

Austin bomber had enough materials 'to blow up the entire block': Police, March 12, 2018. <https://abcnews.go.com/Nightline/video/austin-bomber-materials-blow-entire-block-police-61669022>

A look back at the Austin, Texas, bombings, March 2018. <https://abcnews.go.com/WNN/video/back-austin-texas-bombings-61623354>

## Spanish-Language Sources

Los tres ataques con paquetes bomba en Texas pueden ser crímenes racistas: policía [The three bomb attacks in Texas can be racist crimes: police], March 12, 2018. <https://www.elsoldemexico.com.mx/mundo/los-tres-ataques-con-paquetes-bomba-en-austin-texas-pueden-ser-crimenes-racistas-policia-1239765.html>

Alerta en Texas ante una serie de ataques con paquetes bomba [Texas alert to a series of attacks with bomb packages], March 12, 2018. [VIDEO] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yln6-vKuP8>

Así se desarrollaron los atentados bomba en Texas [This is how the bomb attacks unfolded in Texas], March 21, 2018. [VIDEO] <https://cnnespanol.cnn.com/video/austin-ataques-bombas-timeline-original/>

## VBIED/SVBIED Events

Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIEDs) are IEDs delivered to the target and detonated in some kind of vehicle, such as a car, truck, or van. These “rolling IEDs” can carry larger amounts of explosive than can be put in a hand-carried object such as a backpack.<sup>48</sup> But like backpack-type IEDs, VBIEDs can easily be placed close to civilian targets.<sup>49</sup> If the driver of the vehicle detonates the IED without leaving the vehicle, it is referred to as a suicide vehicle-borne IED (SVBIED).

For the purposes of this scenario we use the term VBIED and SVBIED to refer to devices designed to kill, injure, or damage people and structures outside of the vehicle. These are distinct from “booby trap” car bombs, which are primarily used to kill the occupants of the vehicle. The following section contains examples of VBIED and SVBIED events. The two VBIED attacks occurred in the United States: the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. The nearly simultaneous bombings in 1998 of the US Embassies in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Nairobi, Kenya were SVBIEDs.

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<sup>48</sup> The History and Adaptability of the Islamic State Car Bomb, February 14, 2017.

<https://hugokaaman.com/2017/02/14/the-history-and-adaptability-of-the-islamic-state-car-bomb/>

<sup>49</sup> First Responder's Toolbox: VEHICLE BORNE IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE (VBIED): PREPAREDNESS, RECOGNITION, AND RESPONSE. <https://www.dni.gov/files/NCTC/documents/jcat/firstresponderstoolbox/VBIED-Preparedness-Recognition-Response-ONLINE-Version.pdf>

## U.S. Events

### World Trade Center Bombing, February 1993

On February 26, 1993, a VBIED exploded in a parking garage beneath the North Tower of the World Trade Center (WTC), creating a 150-foot wide crater and killing seven and injuring more than 1,000 others.<sup>50</sup> The driver and passengers in the van escaped in another vehicle left in the garage after lighting a long fuse that permitted them several minutes to exit before detonation. The 1,336 lb (606 kg) urea nitrate-hydrogen gas enhanced device<sup>51</sup> was intended to send the North Tower crashing into the South Tower, bringing both towers down and killing thousands of people.

The leader of the group who perpetrated the bombing was Ramzi Yousef. Yousef had decided to stage a high casualty attack against U.S. government interests to cause the U.S. to withdraw support for Israel. His co-conspirators were Ahmad Mohammed Ajaj (who entered the U.S. with him), Eyad Ismoil (a childhood friend), Nidal Ayyad, Mahmud Abouhalima, Mohammad Salameh, and Abdul Rahman Yasin, the latter four of whom were recruited in New York after Yousef moved to the U.S.; several of these people were followers of Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman.<sup>52</sup>

### *Timeline of Events Leading up to the 1993 WTC Bombing*

#### Radicalization

Most of the perpetrators had affiliations with known terrorist groups. The closest evidence of radicalization is affiliation with Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, who moved to the United States in 1990. Several of Yousef's co-conspirators are followers of the radical cleric.<sup>53</sup>

#### Planning and Preparation

The planning and preparation stage timeline includes weapons and bomb-making training, evidence of possible target selection activities and travel dating back over three years prior to February 26, 1993, and bomb construction and transportation in the days, weeks and months leading up to the bombing.

#### 1989

Ramzi Yousef begins to learn bomb-making and guerrilla tactics near Jalalaabad, Nangahar, Afghanistan.<sup>54</sup>

#### July 1989

FBI agents follow and photograph a group of men, including Mahmoud Abouhalima, Nidal Ayyad, El Sayyid Nosair, and Mohammed Salameh, as they move between the Farouq Mosque on Brooklyn's Atlantic Avenue<sup>55</sup> and the Calverton shooting range on Long Island.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>50</sup> <https://timeline.911memorial.org/#Timeline/>

<sup>51</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/07/04/AR2007070401814\\_pf.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/07/04/AR2007070401814_pf.html)

<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid.

<sup>55</sup> <https://web.archive.org/web/20160304081033/http://www.bohnbooks.com/2013/02/26/the-1993-world-trade-center-bombing-a-rehearsal-for-911/#>

<sup>56</sup> <https://timeline.911memorial.org/#Timeline/5>



1990

El Sayyid Nosair is arrested and charged with assassination of Rabbi Meir Kahane and when police search his New Jersey home, they find bomb-making literature and images of New York City landmarks, including the Twin Towers; Nosair's associates include some of Yousef's co-conspirators (Mahmoud Abouhalima, Nidal Ayyad, Mohammed Salameh) and others who plot to attack additional New York City landmarks.<sup>57</sup>

September 1, 1992

Ramzi Yousef and Ahmad Ajaj arrive in NYC from Pakistan.<sup>58</sup> Fake passports are discovered for each, but Yousef is released. Bomb-making instructions are discovered in Ahmad Ajaj's luggage by U.S. Customs and Ajaj is taken into custody for passport violations and spends six months in prison but no connection between the two travelers is established by authorities at the time.<sup>59</sup>

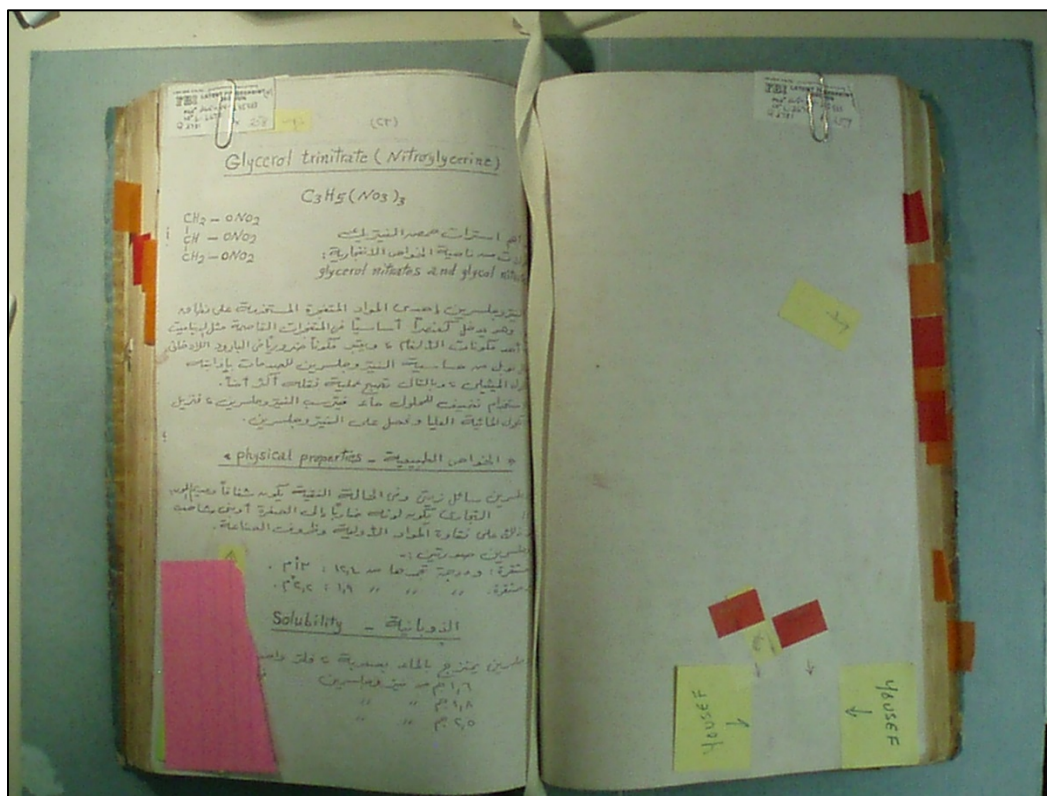


Figure 10. Bomb-making instructions found in Ahmad Ajaj's luggage in New York in September 1992<sup>60</sup>

<sup>57</sup> Ibid.

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.courtlistener.com/opinion/781722/united-states-v-ramzi-ahmed-yousef-eyad-ismoil-also-known-as-eyad/>

<sup>59</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ahmed\\_Ajaj](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ahmed_Ajaj)

<sup>60</sup> <https://timeline.911memorial.org/#Timeline/5>



November 30, 1992

A conspirator named "Kamal Ibrahim" rents a storage shed. Yousef later that day uses that alias to order some chemicals -- urea and nitric acid -- for delivery to the shed.<sup>61</sup>

January 1993

Yousef and Mohammed Salameh and Mahmud Abouhalima make explosives.<sup>62</sup>

February 9, 1993

Yousef calls Ismoil from a payphone on Pamrapo Ave in Jersey City, New Jersey.<sup>63</sup>



**Figure 11. FBI surveillance of Calverton shooting range shows Mahmoud Abouhalima, Nidal Ayyad, El Sayyid Nosair, and Mohammed Salameh<sup>64</sup>**

February 1993

Yousef visits WTC four to five times to determine the best location at the complex to place the bomb for maximum damage.<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> [https://www.globalsecurity.org/security/profiles/generate\\_movements.php?name=Ramzi%20Yousef](https://www.globalsecurity.org/security/profiles/generate_movements.php?name=Ramzi%20Yousef)

<sup>62</sup> Ibid.

<sup>63</sup> Ibid.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

<sup>65</sup> <https://timeline.911memorial.org/#Timeline/5>

February 23, 1993

Salameh rents a Ryder (Ford Econoline) van from a rental agency in Jersey City, New Jersey.<sup>66</sup>

February 25, 1993

Cell members load 12,000 lbs. of explosives into the rental van and prepare the bomb at a rented storage facility -- Space Station Storage, 69 Mallory Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey.<sup>67</sup>



**Figure 12. Same type of van as vehicle used to carry bomb<sup>68</sup>**

## Execution

February 26, 1993 12:00 PM

A group led by Yousef drives the rental van to the public parking garage underneath the WTC complex, wedges four bottles of nitroglycerine in between the boxes containing explosives in the back of the van, lights long fuses that give about 12 minutes lead time<sup>69</sup>, then escapes in another vehicle – a red Chevrolet Corsica – driven by an accomplice.<sup>70</sup>

February 26, 1993 12:18 PM

The rental van packed with 12,000 lbs. explosives explodes in the underground parking garage at the World Trade Center, killing seven people and injuring more than 1,000 others.<sup>71</sup>

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<sup>66</sup> Ibid.

<sup>67</sup> [https://www.globalsecurity.org/security/profiles/generate\\_movements.php?name=Ramzi%20Yousef](https://www.globalsecurity.org/security/profiles/generate_movements.php?name=Ramzi%20Yousef)

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

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<sup>70</sup> <https://timeline.911memorial.org/#Timeline/5>

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## Oklahoma City Bombing, April 1995

On April 19, 1995, a Ryder truck parked outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, exploded, tearing a portion of the building down and killing 168 people and injuring more than 500 others. Timothy McVeigh was arrested within hours of the bombing. He was charged, tried, and convicted and then executed on June 11, 2001.

### *Timeline of Events Leading up to the Oklahoma City Bombing*

#### Radicalization

Timothy McVeigh's radicalization can reportedly be tied to several pivotal national events he closely followed as well as his enthusiasm for the 1978 novel *The Turner Diaries*. The events were the siege at Ruby Ridge, Idaho in August 1992, the siege of the Branch Davidian compound at Waco, Texas, that lasted from February 28 to April 19, 1993, and the passage of the federal assault weapons ban in September 1994.

#### 1991-1992

Timothy McVeigh urges friends to read *The Turner Diaries*,<sup>72,73</sup> a novel which depicts a violent overthrow of the U.S. government and eradication of non-whites.<sup>74</sup>

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<sup>72</sup> <http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/mcveigh/mfortiertestimony.html>

<sup>73</sup> <http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/mcveigh/mcveighchrono.html>

<sup>74</sup> Reese, Allison, "From Ruby Ridge to Oklahoma City: The Radicalization of Timothy McVeigh" (2018). *Senior Theses*. 259. [https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/senior\\_theses/259](https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/senior_theses/259)

#### February-March 1992

McVeigh writes two letters to the editor of the *Lockport Union-Sun & Journal* in New York which were published. The first is an anti-government rant with suggestions of violence and bloodshed.<sup>75</sup>

#### March 1993

McVeigh travels to Waco to witness the siege of the Branch Davidian compound. He is videotaped by news organizations and interviewed by a journalism student to whom he expresses his views that “the government is continually growing bigger and more powerful, and the people need to prepare to defend themselves against government control.”<sup>76</sup>

#### Planning and Preparation

##### September 13, 1994 - December 16, 1994

McVeigh targets federal government buildings and the Murrah building because it housed many federal agencies. Target selection culminates with McVeigh driving by the Murrah building and identifying it as his target to Michael Fortier.<sup>77</sup>

##### September 22, 1994

McVeigh rents a storage unit in Herington, Kansas, under name Shawn Rivers where he stores the fertilizer he will use to make the bomb.<sup>78</sup>

##### September 23, 1994

McVeigh purchases bomb-making components: from a farm co-op in McPherson, Kansas, the first ton of ammonium nitrate.<sup>79</sup>

##### September 30, 1994

McVeigh and Nichols purchase forty fifty-pound bags of ammonium nitrate in McPherson, Kansas, under the name “Mike Havens.”<sup>80</sup>

##### September 30, 1994

Nichols buys 80 2,000-lb bags of fertilizer in McPherson, Kansas, and McVeigh buys bags in other towns near McPherson (8 in Manhattan, 1 in Burns, 6 in town below McPherson).<sup>81</sup>

##### Late September, 1994

McVeigh makes telephone calls in an attempt to obtain detonation cord and racing fuel.<sup>82</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> [https://www.lockportjournal.com/news/local\\_news/oklahoma-city-bombing-quickly-linked-to-timothy-mcveigh-25-years-ago/article\\_f6fac9b3-af13-5f73-8646-edb7d4fb62e5.html](https://www.lockportjournal.com/news/local_news/oklahoma-city-bombing-quickly-linked-to-timothy-mcveigh-25-years-ago/article_f6fac9b3-af13-5f73-8646-edb7d4fb62e5.html)

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<sup>78</sup> <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/documents/mcveigh/>

<sup>79</sup> Ibid.

<sup>80</sup> <http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/mcveigh/mcveighindictment.html>

<sup>81</sup> <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/documents/mcveigh/>

<sup>82</sup> <http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/mcveigh/mcveighindictment.html>

September 1994 - October 1994

Nichols sells gold and money used by McVeigh to purchase nitromethane from a racetrack (see October 21, 1994).<sup>83</sup>

October 1994

McVeigh ("Shawn Rivers") renews the lease on storage unit in Herington, Kansas, for an additional four months (total eight months which carries through May 1995).<sup>84</sup>

October 1, 1994

McVeigh and Nichols steal explosives from a rock quarry storage locker in Marion, Kansas.<sup>85</sup>

October 3, 1994

McVeigh and Nichols transport stolen materials to Kingman, Arizona.<sup>86</sup>

October 4, 1994

McVeigh rents storage unit in Kingman, Arizona, to store the stolen materials.<sup>87</sup>

October 8, 1994

McVeigh demonstrates bomb configuration to Michael and Lori Fortier.

Late October 1994

McVeigh and Fortier test explosives.<sup>88</sup>

October 20, 1994 - October 21, 1994

"Joe Kyle" rents a room at Amish Inn in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, under same address used by "Terry Havens" who stayed at Starlight Motel.<sup>89</sup>

October 21, 1994

McVeigh purchases \$2,775 worth of nitromethane racing fuel at a track in Texas.<sup>90</sup>

April 14, 1995

McVeigh checks into Dreamland motel and stays until April 17, 1995.<sup>91</sup>

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<sup>83</sup> <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/documents/mcveigh/>

<sup>84</sup> Ibid.

<sup>85</sup> Ibid.

<sup>86</sup> <http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/mcveigh/mcveighindictment.html>

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<sup>89</sup> Ibid.

<sup>90</sup> <https://oklahoman.com/article/2581313/salesman-tells-of-unusual-fuel-buy>

<sup>91</sup> <https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-1997-05-11-9705110100-story.html>

#### April 15, 1995

Using a driver's license with the name Robert Kling, McVeigh rents a 1993 Ford F-700 and reserves a moving truck for an April 17, 1995 4PM pickup from Elliott's Body Shop in Junction City, Kansas.<sup>92</sup>

#### April 17, 1995

McVeigh picks up a reserved 20-foot Ryder truck from Elliott's Body Shop in Junction City, Kansas.<sup>93</sup>

#### April 17, 1995 - April 18, 1995

McVeigh and Nichols remove bomb supplies from the storage unit in Herington, Kansas, and load them into the Ryder rental truck, then drive to Geary Lake State Park.<sup>94</sup>

#### April 18, 1995

McVeigh and Nichols nail boards to the floor of truck to hold barrels, mix chemicals then fill barrels and arrange them to cause maximum damage to the building.<sup>95</sup> McVeigh adds a dual-fuse ignition system that can be accessed from front cab of truck.<sup>96</sup>

### Execution

#### April 19, 1995

Timothy McVeigh parks the Ryder truck packed with explosives directly outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, during regular business and day-care hours and at 9:02 AM detonates the truck bomb, killing 168 people and injuring more than 500.<sup>97</sup>

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<sup>92</sup> <https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-1997-05-11-9705110100-story.html>

<sup>93</sup> Ibid.

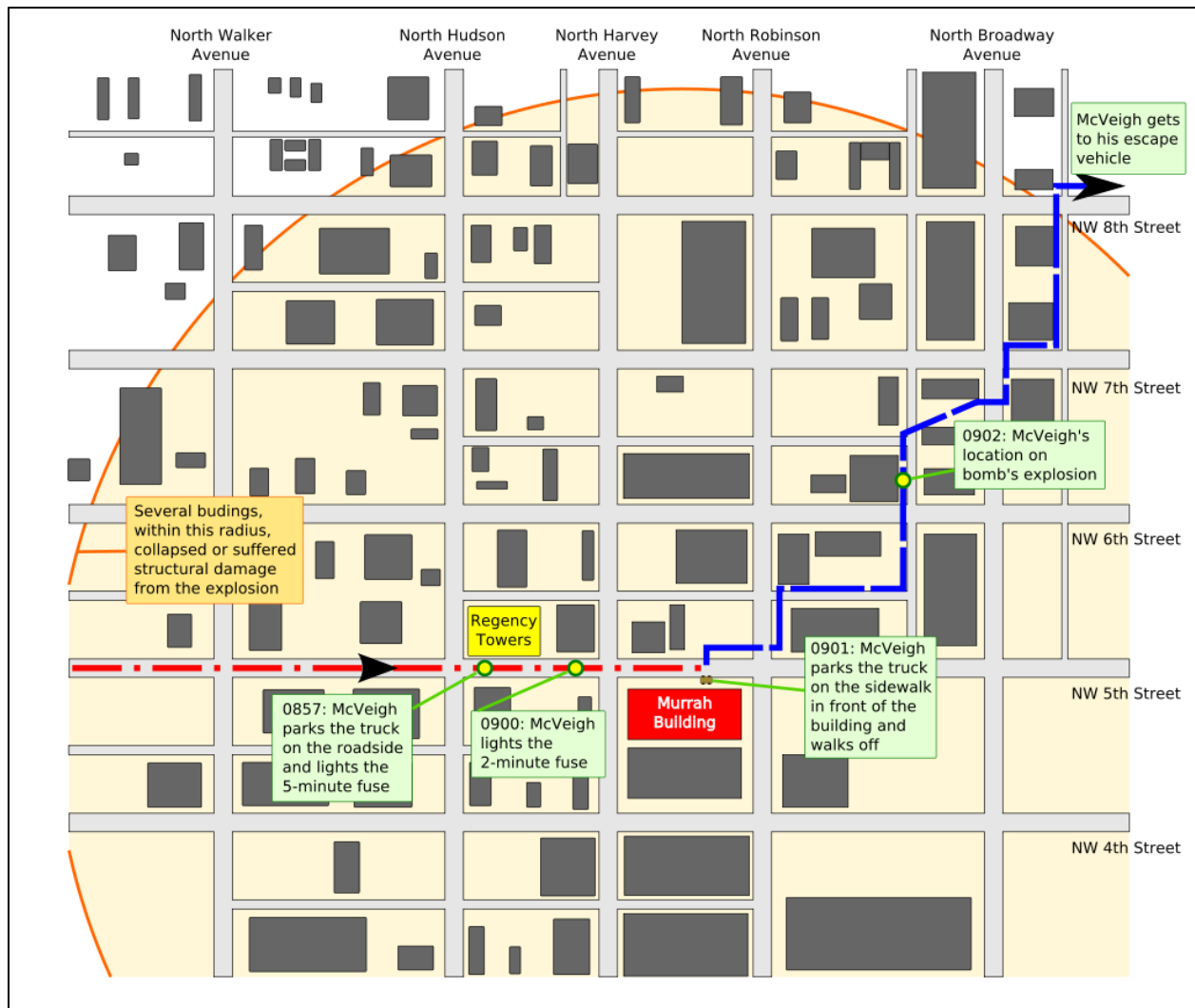
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<sup>97</sup> Ibid.





**Figure 13. McVeigh's movements in the Ryder truck (red dashed line) and escape on foot (blue dashed line) on the day of the bombing<sup>98</sup>**

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## **Events in Africa**

### **Tanzania and Kenya Embassy Bombings, August 1998**

On August 7, 1998, a truck bomb exploded outside of the U.S. embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, killing 213 people and injuring 5,000. Minutes later another truck bomb exploded at the U.S. embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, killing 11 people and injuring 85 others. These coordinated suicide attacks were planned and executed by members of the terrorist organization Al Qaeda. Of the 21 individuals involved, ten are deceased, including Al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, eight are imprisoned for life in

the U.S., and three are fugitives still being sought.<sup>99</sup> Table 3 lists the names, nationalities, and countries of origin of those involved.

**Table 3. Perpetrators of the 1998 U.S. Embassy Bombings in Kenya and Tanzania**

| Name (status)   | Nationality      | Country of Origin |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| Abdullah Ahmed Abdullah (fugitive <sup>100</sup> )        | Yemeni, Egyptian | Egypt             |
| Adel Abdel Bari (imprisoned in the US – 25-year sentence) | Unknown          | Unknown           |
| Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani (imprisoned in US - life)          | Tanzanian        | Tanzania          |
| Ahmed Mohammed Hamed Ali (deceased)                       | Egyptian         | Egypt             |
| Ali Abdul Saoud Mohamed (imprisoned in the US)            | Egyptian         | Egypt             |
| Anas al Libi (deceased)                                   | Libyan           | Libya             |
| Ayman al Zawahiri (fugitive <sup>101</sup> )              | Unknown          | Egypt             |
| Fahid Mohammed Ally Msalam (deceased)                     | Unknown          | Kenyan            |
| Fazul Abdullah Mohammed (deceased)                        | Unknown          | Kenyan            |
| Ibrahim Eidaous (deceased)                                | UNKNOWN          | UNKNOWN           |
| Khalfan Khamis Mohamed (imprisoned in US- life)           | Tanzanian        | Tanzania          |
| Khalid al Fawwaz (imprisoned in the US)                   | UNKNOWN          | UNKNOWN           |
| Mamdouh Mahmud Salim                                      | Iraqi            | UNKNOWN           |
| Mohamed Rashed Daoud al-'Owhali (imprisoned in US - life) | Saudi, British   | England           |
| Mohammed Sadeek Odeh (imprisoned in US - life)            | Jordanian, Saudi | Saudi Arabia      |
| Muhammad Atef (deceased)                                  | Egyptian         | Egypt             |
| Muhsin Musa Matwalli Atwah (deceased)                     | Egyptian         | Egypt             |
| Mustafa Mohamed Fadhil (deceased)                         | Egyptian, Kenyan | Egypt             |
| Osama bin Laden (deceased)                                | Saudi            | Saudi Arabia      |
| Saif al Adel (fugitive <sup>102</sup> )                   | Egyptian         | Egypt             |
| Sheikh Ahmed Salim Swedan (deceased)                      | Kenyan           | Kenyan            |
| Wadih el Hage (imprisoned in US - life)                   | U.S., Lebanese   | Lebanon           |

### *Timeline of Events leading up to the Tanzania and Kenya Embassy Bombings*

#### Radicalization

The perpetrators were affiliated with Al Qaeda and Egyptian Islamic Jihad.<sup>103</sup> Planning for the attacks occurred over a period of approximately two years, beginning with a meeting between Mohamed Rashed Daoud al-'Owhali and Osama bin Laden during which al-'Owhali asked bin Laden for a mission.<sup>104</sup>

<sup>99</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1998\\_United\\_States\\_embassy\\_bombings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1998_United_States_embassy_bombings)

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<sup>102</sup> [https://www.fbi.gov/wanted/wanted\\_terrorists/saif-al-adel](https://www.fbi.gov/wanted/wanted_terrorists/saif-al-adel)

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<sup>104</sup> Ibid.

## Planning and Preparation

### Late 1993

Anas al Libi and Ali Abdul Saoud Mohamed conducted visual and photographic surveillance of the United States Embassy in Nairobi.<sup>105</sup>

### 1996

Fazul Abdullah Mohamed transported \$7,000 received from Osama bin Laden to Mombasa, Kenya.<sup>106</sup>

### July 3, 1997

\$10,000 was transferred to an account from Kenya controlled by Wadih el Hage following a June 23, 1997 written request by el Hage to an unnamed co-conspirator in the Sudan.<sup>107</sup>

### 1997- 1998

Individuals listed in Table 3 communicate with Osama bin Laden, who endorses their plans, and coordinate via multiple letters and phone calls, arranging travel including fake passports.<sup>108</sup>

### March 4, 1998

Fazul Abdullah Mohammed travels from Khartoum in the Sudan to Nairobi, Kenya.<sup>109</sup>

### April 28, 1998

Fazul Abdullah Mohamed (aka Harun) travels from Khartoum in the Sudan to Nairobi, Kenya.<sup>110</sup>

### May 4, 1998

Khalfan Khamis Mohamed applies for a Tanzanian passport under the name Zahran Nassor Maulid.<sup>111</sup>

### May 10, 1998

Fazul Abdullah Mohamed (aka Harun) travels from Khartoum in the Sudan to Nairobi, Kenya.<sup>112</sup>

### May 18, 1998

Mohamed Rashed Daoud al-'Owhali arrives in Karachi, Pakistan, after traveling from Sanaa, Yemen, with a passport under the alias Khaled Salem Saleh Bin Rashed.<sup>113</sup>

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<sup>105</sup> Ibid.

<sup>106</sup> Ibid.

<sup>107</sup> Ibid.

<sup>108</sup> Ibid.

<sup>109</sup> Ibid.

<sup>110</sup> Ibid.

<sup>111</sup> Ibid.

<sup>112</sup> Ibid.

<sup>113</sup> Ibid.



#### May 1998

Fazul Abdullah Mohamed pays cash for a six-month lease of a villa with a garage, high walls surrounding the property and a steel-gated drive at 43 New Runda Estates outside the center of Nairobi for a six-month lease period.<sup>114</sup>

#### June or July 1998

Fahid Mohammed Ally Msalam and Sheikh Ahmed Salim Swedan purchase a beige colored Toyota Dyna cargo truck from a poultry farmer in Mombasa, Kenya, at twice what the farmer had paid and make alterations to the back of the truck to use it as the bomb vehicle.<sup>115</sup>



**Figure 14. House at 43 Runda in Nairobi where the bomb construction took place<sup>116</sup>**

#### June 1998

Mustafa Mohamed Fadhil and Khalfan Khamis Mohamed rent House 213 in the Illala district of Dar es Salaam, about four miles from the U.S. embassy. The house compound has a high wall and gate, as well as a large garage that can hold a truck.<sup>117,118</sup>

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<sup>114</sup> <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/binladen/bombings/summary.html>

<sup>115</sup> <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/211203.pdf>

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<sup>118</sup> <http://webarchive.loc.gov/all/20011110104742/http://cns.miiis.edu/pubs/reports/pdfs/binladen/indict.pdf>

June 1998

Khalfan Khamis Mohamed and Fahid Mohammed Ally Msalam purchase a white Suzuki Samurai in Dar es Salaam (see Figure 16).<sup>119</sup>

July 1998

Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani and Sheikh Ahmed Salim Swedan purchase a 1987 Nissan Atlas refrigeration truck in Dar es Salaam to use as the bomb truck and modify the back to accommodate the bomb.<sup>120</sup>

July 1998

Sheikh Ahmed Salim Swedan makes material preparations for the bombing including arranging for mechanical and welding work on the Nissan truck around Dar es Salaam and purchasing two large truck batteries in Dar es Salaam.<sup>121</sup>



**Figure 15. Toyota Dyna truck used in Nairobi bombing<sup>122</sup>**

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<sup>119</sup> Ibid.

<sup>120</sup> <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/211203.pdf>

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<sup>122</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/pictures/ghailani-terror-trial/23/>





**Figure 16. Truck used as a utility vehicle by Tanzania embassy bombers<sup>123</sup>**

July 1998

Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani and Fahid Mohammed Ally Msalam purchased oxygen and acetylene tanks tanks in Dar es Salaam.<sup>124</sup>

August 4, 1998

Abdullah Ahmed Abdullah and Mohamed Rashed Daoud al-'Owhali conduct reconnaissance of the U.S. embassy in Nairobi, deciding to place truck close to rear of building.<sup>125</sup>

August 5, 1998

Abdul Rahman, described as a bomb technician, makes the final connection between the bomb and the detonation device, which was in the passenger compartment of the bomb-delivery truck located at the Runda house in Nairobi.<sup>126</sup>

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<sup>123</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/pictures/ghailani-terror-trial/12/>

<sup>124</sup> Ibid.

<sup>125</sup> <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/binladen/bombings/summary.html>

<sup>126</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 17. 1987 Nissan Atlas refrigeration truck like the one used in the Tanzanian bombing<sup>127</sup>**

#### Execution

##### August 7, 1998

A pick-up truck driven by Fazul Abdullah Mohammed and the bomb truck driven by Mohamed Rashed Daoud al-'Owhali and an individual nicknamed "Azzam" (believed by the FBI to be Jihad Mohammed Ali<sup>128</sup>) exited the Nairobi house in Runda.<sup>129</sup>

##### August 7, 1998

At approximately 10:30 AM local time, a truck tries to force its way into the U.S. embassy compound in Nairobi, Kenya, but was prevented from doing so by Kenyan guards. al-'Owhali brandished a stun grenade before throwing it in the direction of a security guard, and then the truck driver ("Azzam") manually detonated the bomb inside at the gate at approximately 10:35 AM.<sup>130,131,132</sup>

##### August 7, 1998

At approximately 10:39 at the U.S. embassy in Dar es Salaam, a Nissan truck loaded with the bomb and driven by Khalfan Khamis Mohamed, detonated, killing 11 people and injuring 85 others.<sup>133,134</sup>

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<sup>128</sup> Ibid.

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<sup>130</sup> <http://webarchive.loc.gov/all/20011110104742/http://cns.miis.edu/pubs/reports/pdfs/binladen/indict.pdf>

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