

World

What we know about the Paris attacks and the hunt for the attackers

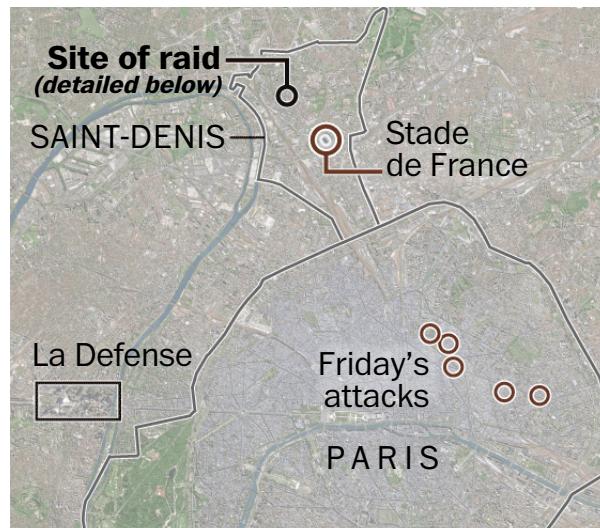
The Islamic State claimed responsibility for killing at least 130 people in a string of terrorist attacks Friday in Paris.

[2 terror suspects dead after French police raid north of Paris | Live updates](#)

Updated Nov. 18, 2015



Hours-long raid in the North of Paris



Suspected militants were planning an attack on La Defense business district.

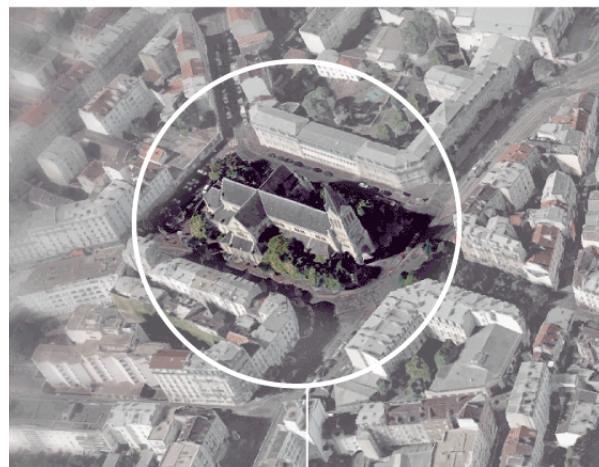
A seven-hour siege which began at 4:16 a.m. in Saint-Denis left two dead, including the suspected overseer of the Paris bloodshed, **Abdelhamid Abaaoud**.



No vehicles or pedestrians were allowed access to the area surrounding Rue du Corbillon during the seven hour operation.



Seven men and one woman were detained at the apartment and other locations Wednesday.



Eglise Neuve church

Police were seen using axes to enter this church at approximately 6 a.m.

What we know about the attackers

French authorities suspect three teams carried out the attacks, but not all

have been identified. Here is what we know so far:

[Suspected architect Abdelhamid Abaaoud of the Paris attacks is dead, according to two senior intelligence officials]

Suspected mastermind



Abdelhamid

Abaaoud

29 years old,
Belgian of
Moroccan descent.
Killed in Saint-
Denis

Attackers

Sought by police



Salah

Abdeslam

26 years old,
French
national, born
in Brussels



**Unidentified
suspect**

Died in attacks



Brahim

Abdeslam

31 years old,
French
national born
in Brussels

**Suicide bombers
near Stade
de France**



**“Ahmad
Almohammad”**

Name found
in fake Syrian
passport near
blast site

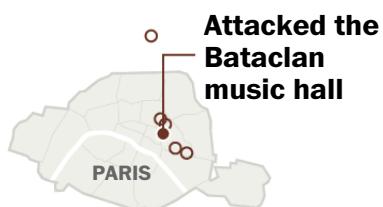


Bilal Hadfi

20 years old,
French
national



**Unidentified
attacker**



Samy Amimour

28 years old,
French national



**Ismael Omar
Mostefai**

29 years old,
French
national



**Unidentified
attacker**

Abdelhamid Abaaoud

Abaaoud was the suspected mastermind behind the Paris attacks and several others, and French authorities suspected he was planning a new attack near Paris when he was killed. He was believed to have gone into Syria in 2013 or 2014; one counterterrorism expert said he had “a big role” in recruiting French-speaking jihadists. He was linked to an attempted assault aboard a high-speed Paris-bound train from Amsterdam in August that was foiled by three Americans, a January plot to kill police officers in Verviers that was thwarted by Belgian authorities and a May 2014 attack in which four people were killed at a Jewish museum in Brussels.

“Ahmad Almohammad”

A Syrian passport bearing this name was found near one of the suicide bombers at Stade de France, but was later deemed fake by authorities. His fingerprints matched those of an asylum seeker who arrived from Turkey to the Aegean island of Leros with 198 Syrian immigrants on Oct. 3. He was

later found to have gone through Athens, Macedonia and Serbia; his identity remains unknown.

Bilal Hadfi

According to two European intelligence officials, Hadfi had fought in Syria. He returned from the Middle East to Belgium, then disappeared from the radar of Belgian security services.

Ismael Omar Mostefai

A former petty criminal with family ties to Algeria, Mostefai is believed to have crossed into Syria in 2013, a French police official said. The Associated Press reported he lived with his family in Chartres and frequented the Anoussra Mosque.

Samy Amimour

The former bus driver was questioned by French officials in 2012 about links to a network of terror sympathizers, prosecutors said. After Amimour went to Syria, his father told *Le Monde* that he tried but failed to get him to return home in June 2014.

Brahim Abdeslam

Abdeslam grew up in the Brussels neighborhood of Molenbeek and spent a month in a Belgian prison in 2003 for stealing and reselling official ID cards. He was charged in 2010 with fencing stolen goods and falsifying papers, according to Belgium's federal prosecutor. Abdeslam, who ran a sketchy café in Molenbeek, was interrogated by Belgian federal police and released in February after he was sent back from Turkey.

Salah Abdeslam

A massive manhunt is underway for a younger brother of Brahim who authorities suspect helped with logistics during the Paris attacks. He was stopped near the Belgian border after the attacks but not arrested; an alert called him “dangerous” and his whereabouts remain unknown. In February 2011, he was convicted of breaking and entering along with a friend, Abdelhamid Abaaoud. Earlier this year, Abdeslam was questioned by Belgian federal police; authorities said they knew he had been radicalized but didn’t think he was a terrorist.

A ninth suspect

French officials confirmed they are seeking another individual in connection with Friday’s attack.

Where and when the attacks occurred

The attacks occurred at the Bataclan concert hall, restaurants and outside a soccer stadium.



1

Stade de France

1 killed



← NORTH

3

Casa Nostra pizza restaurant

5 killed

6

Cafe Comptoir Voltaire

0 killed



2

Rue Alibert

15 killed

4

Bataclan

89 killed

5

La Belle Equipe

19 killed

Stade de France

9:20 p.m. – An explosion boomed through the stadium. A suicide bomber had blown himself up outside, killing one passerby. 1 PERSON KILLED

[Remembering the victims of Friday's attacks in Paris]

Rue Alibert

9:25 p.m. – Minutes after the first bomb blast, two gunmen stepped out of a black SEAT Leon car in front of Le Carillon, a modest cafe-bar in the city center, and started shooting. They then walked across the street and fired at the restaurant Le Petit Cambodge, or Little Cambodia.

15 KILLED, 10 INJURED

Casa Nostra

Moments later – On Rue de la Fontaine au Roi, gunmen with assault weapons stepped out of the same black car and opened fire at an Italian restaurant called Casa Nostra, a nearby cafe, La Bonne Bierre, and a laundromat. 5 KILLED, 8 INJURED

Stade de France

9:30 p.m. – A second explosion rang out at the stadium — and it still largely didn't occur to the cheering crowd that anything was amiss.

La Belle Equipe

About 9:36 p.m. – Police said the black SEAT Leon pulled up at La Belle Equipe, a popular eatery in Paris's 11th arrondissement, an area filled with restaurants and bars. The gunmen fired for “at least three minutes,” one

witness said. “Then they got back in their car.” 19 KILLED, 9 INJURED

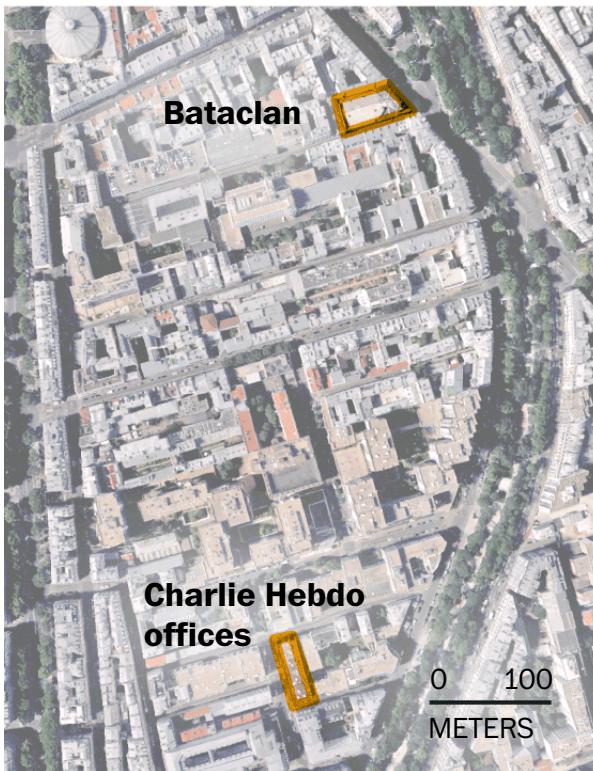
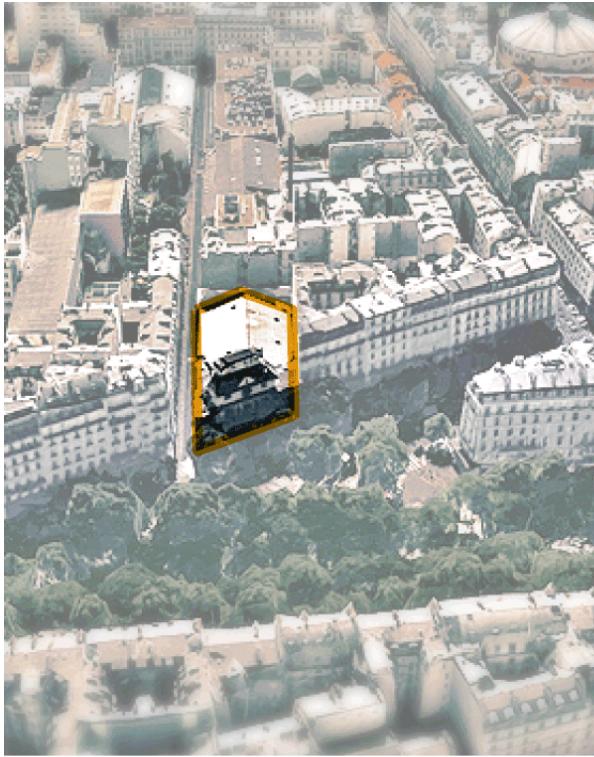
[La Belle Equipe a new and popular bistro]

Bataclan

9:40 p.m. – Police said a black Volkswagen pulled up in front of the Bataclan concert hall, a Paris landmark since the 19th century. Three gunmen entered the hall and started shooting. Witnesses said the shooting lasted about 15 minutes, then the gunmen held the remaining concertgoers hostage for the next two hours. When police finally stormed the concert hall at 12:20 a.m., the attackers blew themselves up.

89 KILLED, MORE THAN 200 INJURED

The theater is less than a mile from the site of the Jan. 7 shooting at the Charlie Hebdo offices.



[22-year-old offers most vivid account yet of surviving Bataclan massacre]



A member of the French fire brigade aids an injured man near the Bataclan concert hall. (Christian Hartmann/Reuters)

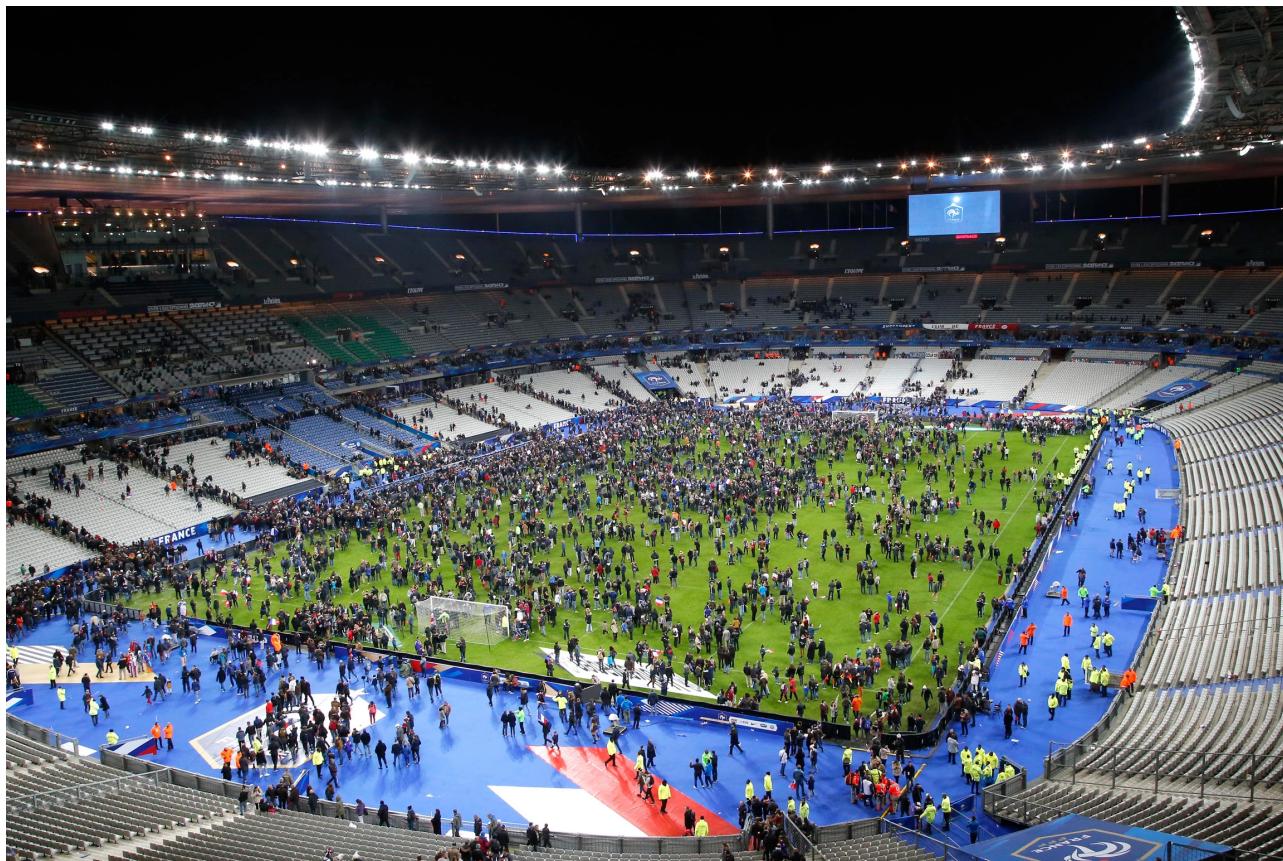
Cafe Comptoir Voltaire

9:40 p.m. – Police said the black SEAT Leon pulled up at La Belle Equipe, a popular eatery in Paris’s 11th arrondissement, an area filled with restaurants and bars. The gunmen fired for “at least three minutes,” one witness said. “Then they got back in their car.” 1 INJURED

Stade de France

9:53 p.m. – As police were responding to the Bataclan, they received word of a third explosion near the soccer stadium. A suicide bomber blew himself up outside a McDonald’s restaurant, but no one else was hurt. By then, spectators at the stadium had learned, mainly through messages on their phones, that Paris was under attack.

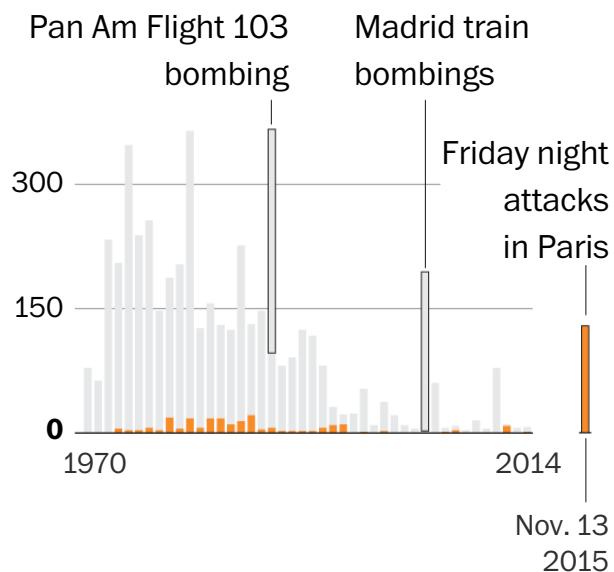
[*\[Attacker reportedly tried to enter Stade de France with a ticket\]*](#)



Spectators flood the field of the Stade de France after the international friendly soccer match between France and Germany. Explosions were heard outside the stadium during the game. (Michel Euler/Associated Press)

Deaths in terror attacks across Western Europe

Friday night's attacks in Paris make 2015 the deadliest year for terrorism in Western Europe since 2004.



Note: Only includes incidents that Global Terrorism Database analysts have considered exclusively terrorism. Excluded cases may include insurgency, hate crime and organized crime.

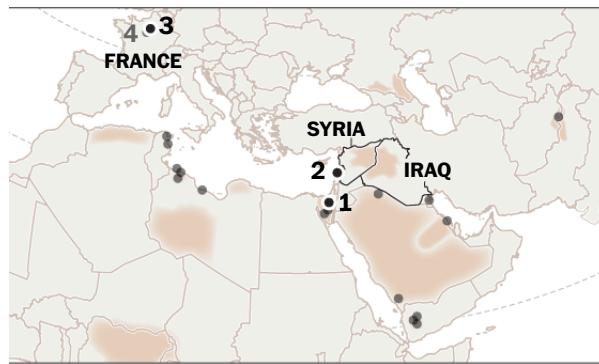
Source: [Global Terrorism Database](#) by the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism.

[How the Paris attacks combined more than a decade of terrorist tactics into one night]

Islamic State-linked attacks in 2015

Paris is the latest attack that the Islamic State has claimed responsibility for in 2015. In 21 attacks outside of Iraq and Syria, the Islamic State has claimed to have killed more than 800 people. One U.S. attack is claimed by the group: In May, two gunmen opened fire on police blocking their way to a cartoon exhibit and contest depicting the prophet Muhammad in Garland, Texas. The attack, which is not shown on the map, failed and only the gunmen were killed.

- Notable attacks outside Syria and Iraq
- Islamic State wilayat, or provinces



- 1 The Islamic State's affiliate in Egypt has repeatedly claimed responsibility for bringing down Metrojet 9268, which left 224 people dead.
- 2 Twin suicide bombings claimed by the Islamic State killed dozens of people and wounded more than 200 in the Lebanese capital of Beirut.
- 3 Attack in Paris, Nov. 13
- 4 Charlie Hebdo, Jan. 7

The majority of attacks carried out by the Islamic State have occurred in Syria and Iraq, where the group's campaign began. The militants' territory there is divided into wilayat, or provinces, which form the core of its operational presence. While the Islamic State claims much territory, only a handful of provinces successfully control territory.

[What a year of Islamic State terror looks like]

Boko Haram pledges allegiance to the Islamic State in March, giving the group a strong foothold in northern Nigeria. A group in Russia's North Caucasus region also vowed allegiance in June, splintering the territory of an al-Qaeda group that has operated in the region since 2007.

Reactions from world leaders

World leaders were quick to condemn the attacks, vowing to bring those responsible to justice. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad was an exception, saying Western policies were to blame for the expansion of terrorism.

**French President
François Hollande**



**President
Obama**



"In these difficult moments, we must — and I'm thinking of the many victims, their families and the injured — show compassion and solidarity. But we must also show unity and calm. Faced with terror, France must be strong, it must be great and the state authorities must be firm. We will be." ([Washington Post](#))

"Once again we've seen an outrageous attempt to terrorize innocent civilians. This is an attack not just on Paris, it's an attack not just on the people of France, but this is an attack on all of humanity and the universal values that we share." ([White House](#))

**Syrian President
Bashar al-Assad**



**German Chancellor
Angela Merkel**





"Wrong [policies] adopted by Western states, particularly France, toward events in the region, and its ignorance of the support of a number of its allies to terrorists, are reasons behind the expansion of terrorism."

([Washington Post](#))

"This attack on freedom was aimed not just at Paris. It targeted and it hits all of us. That is why we must all respond together. ... We, your German friends, feel very close to you. We cry with you. We will lead this fight together with you against those who did such unimaginable things to you." ([U.S. News](#))

[See more reactions](#)

Sources: News reports, Associated Press, Google Earth, IHS Jane's Terrorism and Insurgency Center, the Soufan Group, the Long War Journal, Institute for the Study of War. Graphics by [Laris Karklis](#), [Kevin Uhrmacher](#), [Todd Lindeman](#), [Kevin Schaul](#), [Darla Cameron](#), [Bonnie Berkowitz](#) and [Lazaro Gamio](#)



Editor's picks

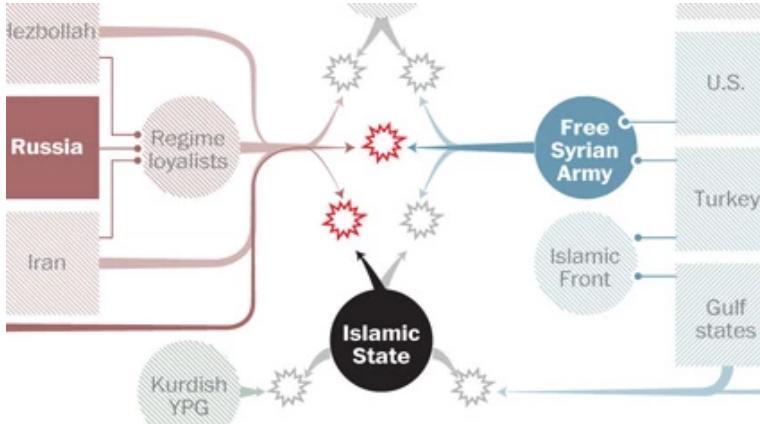


Remembering the victims of Friday's attacks in Paris

At least 129 people were killed in Paris Friday



night. Here are their stories.



The growing web of conflict in Syria

What started out as simple protests has expanded into an international crisis.



The Islamic State's inroads into America

U.S. authorities have charged dozens of men and women with alleged Islamic State activities.



Foreign fighters flow into Iraq, Syria

The last time this many militants traveled to fight in a foreign conflict was in 1945.

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Pause live updates ■■

Alex Harrigan

11/18/2015 1:15 PM CST

I agree with Brian Patronie! Any politician willing to let these monsters enter our country should be held responsible for any acts of terror they cause to U.S. citizens.

Like Reply Share

Searian

11/23/2015 10:58 AM CST

No one would know if one is a terrorist or not when passing through airlines. Even if we stopped airline travel from the Muslim countries, there would still be connections to the peoples in France that make terrorism a standing threat. Politicians don't have a say in terrorist movements for the very reason that those Muslim countries have their own independence and the only thing we can do as a country to ask them to pull off from attacking other countries besides themselves. Their religious beliefs say otherwise and they think they are just in what they are doing. Just like America thought they were right in taking my ancestors land away from them, in the early 1800s. Yes these attacks are happening, but politicians are not to blame.

Like Reply

Brian Patronie

11/17/2015 10:06 PM CST [Edited]

A message for Tom Wolfe, Governor of Pennsylvania;

It has recently come to my attention that you intend to allow Syrian "refugees" to arrive in the Commonwealth for permanent "resettlement". This decision of yours flies in the facts of recent events and common sense. You took an oath in Harrisburg to protect and defend us, the citizens of Pennsylvania. With your decision you have announced that you are no longer willing to carry out your duties as Governor.

You sir must recant your decision or resign your position.

Your call.

However if you decide to remain Governor and admit these "refugees" any future blood spilt as a result will be upon your hands...

Some of us will hold you to account.

1 · Like Reply Share

kevin quinn

11/18/2015 12:36 PM CST

Give it some more time. Nobody's made any decision yet. Your message is too early.

Like Reply

Itoldyouso2

11/17/2015 5:23 AM CST

#AllLivesMatter

"Those attacks traumatized France and other countries in Europe, elevating fears of religious extremism and violent jihadists who have been radicalized by the conflicts in Syria and elsewhere in the Middle East and North Africa."

Those attacks traumatized Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Libya, Yemen and other countries in the Middle East, creating the fight between The Sunnite- Wahhabies, and the Shiites. It started on 9/11 by 14 Saudi Arabian Citizen, and 5 other The Sunnite- Wahhabies. Since then over 1.5 million have been killed, over 6 million have fled their countries, another 6 million have been displaced, Etc..., Etc..., Etc.

The Saudis have been financing and arming the Wahhabies' sect of Sunni Muslim to fight the Shiites everywhere ever since. George W. Bush and his cronies brought this mayhem on all of us, on both the European and the Middle Eastern people; God would burn George W. Bush and his cronies' soul.

The Sunnite- Wahhabies who are doing these acts are Terrorist, they are not Muslims. Just like their Leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (same as Simon Elliot), an Israeli Zionist, turned Sunni Wahhabi, and the leader of ISIS. Google his names:

1) <http://www.globalresearch.ca/isis-leader-abu-bakr-...> (<http://www.globalresearch.ca/isis-leader-abu-bakr-al-baghdadi-trained-by-israeli-mossad-nsa-documents-reveal/5391593>)

2) <http://www.conspiracyclub.co/2015/04/23/cia-agent-...>

(<http://www.conspiracyclub.co/2015/04/23/cia-agent-isis-leader-abu-bakr-al-baghdadi-was-trained-by-israeli-mossad/>)

3) <http://www.veteranstoday.com/2014/08/04/french-rep...>

(<http://www.veteranstoday.com/2014/08/04/french-report-isil-leader-mossad/>)

Like Reply Share

NoToFalseVictims

11/16/2015 10:08 PM CST

Amazing that we allow this scum to be called "French" or "Belgian".

Our immigration and refugee system in the West is a joke. These people have absolutely no right to be in any European country nor America or anywhere other than their own region.

We don't owe them a thing. Stop being afraid of being called heartless. It's time to say NO and shut the door for the foreseeable future.

3 · Like Reply Share

gbooksdc

11/16/2015 5:19 PM CST

WaPo is so scared of the growing momentum to exclude the refugees that they've stopped their 24-7 Trump hate fest to emphasize that only one of the killers wasn't a French national.

1 · Like Reply Share

cents or sense

11/16/2015 5:25 PM CST

The passport was ruled a fake, and it is suspected that he was also a French national. However, that has not been verified.

Like Reply

Kow tao now

11/16/2015 3:11 PM CST

Kudos to WP for the excellent graphics as seen above.

1 · Like Reply Share

Rae Amelie Sherman

11/16/2015 1:10 PM CST

I was wondering if they were dancing in the Streets too like they did on 9/11/2001

Like Reply Share

Kow tao now

11/16/2015 1:49 PM CST

I thought dancing and music are banned in Sharia, silly me.

Like Reply

cents or sense

11/16/2015 5:26 PM CST

Nah, that is weird Christian groups.

Like Share

Kow tao now

Ahhh, I guess it's just the subjugation of women, the existential threat of the heads attached to their opponents, and ham sandwiches. What normal person doesn't like ham sandwiches? Did I mention anyone not enamored with Allah.

1 · Like Reply

Kow tao now

11/16/2015 6:41 PM CST [Edited]

Word of advice: Don't Boogy in Baghdad. Or woogy.

1 · Like Reply

Solstice1319

11/16/2015 12:41 PM CST

I was hoping to see the "how the world responded" comments from the Palestinians. Were they dancing in the streets like they did after September 11?

Like Reply Share

McGluetotherescue

11/16/2015 12:26 PM CST

someone help me remember what was going on in Western Europe in the mid 70s to mid 80s tp have such high death tolls?

Like Reply Share

Solstice1319

11/16/2015 12:38 PM CST

Did you never hear of the Black September? A Palestinian-led group that split off from the "peace-loving" PLO.

1 · Like Reply

Brian Patronie

11/17/2015 10:10 PM CST

Look up the Munich Olympics...that was a pivotal moment.

1 · Like Reply

Rozinante2

11/16/2015 11:40 AM CST

Is there some way to remove the appellation "Islamic" from these people?

I know they call themselves that, but they are committing every cruelty, atrocity, and act of barbarism that the word of god was sent to stop. Perhaps the Eastern Levant State?

2 · Like Reply Share

Solstice1319

11/16/2015 12:48 PM CST

I agree with you, Rozinante2, these are not believers of Islam, they are the slime of the world. The French government said in September 2014 they would refer to them as Daesh, the Arabic acronym for the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant. They consider the name Daesh as insulting, and I am in favor of insulting them every chance I get.

3 · Like Reply

NoToFalseVictims

11/16/2015 10:10 PM CST

"Daesh" is roughly translated as "pig feces".

Like Share

Kow tao now

11/16/2015 1:46 PM CST [Edited]

Now there's a plan. We can call the stadium event " Sports Place Violence". The cafe attacks "Food place Violence " (When the perps blurted out "Allahu Akbar" they were requesting a ham sandwich from the waiter, like any non Muslim would.)

Like Reply

tom abbott

11/16/2015 10:30 AM CST

I will read the opinion of every leader to decide their merit, except one.

Barrack has proven time and time again he is empty rhetoric. To wit; let me draw this red line in the sand. Afterward, I will color it with a new color...(executive privilege)... empty.

Like Reply Share

509Para

11/16/2015 9:50 AM CST

The startling contrasts between POTUS and Hollande are almost unbelievable. POTUS is more concerned about compassion towards refugees and sensitivity towards the bad guys (not to mention global warming). I did not hear a strong commitment to stand with our allied and a strong commitment to fight racial Islam, including IS. POTUS and his primary advisors (Jarrett and Rice) are out to lunch. POTUS is

over his head and the West is paying the consequences.

2 · Like Reply Share

Somebody's mom

11/16/2015 8:22 AM CST

I understand bombing the crap out of Syria, but if they know there are hotspots in Belgium and Paris when Jihadist live and plot terror, why not destroy these neighborhoods and get rid of the closet threats..they say cut off the head of the snake, but the snake had babies and the babies are living uniting and plotting terror all of over Europe and soon the United States..

2 · Like Reply Share

mikeman64118

11/15/2015 10:20 AM CST

We must remain solidified. We must condemn violence of any kind. We must pray and also understand not to offend other religions publicly. This will get you know where. It will only stir the enemy more. We must isolate the offenders while remaining sympathetic to the refugees. We must educate our citizens to promote safety. We must remember these attackers are all remnants of the fallen Iraqi movement. We had them on the run then and we do now also. Keep up the fight! Remember the fallen, they were our brothers and sisters. Provide unending support for our allies in Europe. Together in alliance we can defeat ISIS. As Allies we have a winning record. God Bless all.

1 · Like Reply Share

Mini5

11/14/2015 8:50 PM CST

keep taking those refugees! they are very peaceful but please let them stay in your beautiful countries only!

1 · Like Reply Share

paintcan

11/15/2015 8:38 AM CST

I continue to wonder who is left to fight for to reclaim their countries if all the capable people leave ? Their odds of defeating isis would be no greater than what General George Washington faced with his rag tag patriot army. The colonists won remember ?

3 · Like Reply

Oshbgosh

11/16/2015 8:44 AM CST

We won the revolution against Britain because the French came to America to fight alongside us. A united free world fighting alongside each other is required to defeat

Kow tao now

11/15/2015 5:09 PM CST [Edited]

Let them stay in their own country only. They made their bed ,now sleep in it. One of the French "refugees" was a Paris suicide bomber.

There is no way to vet these people.

Like Reply

More

More Coverage**End of the line**

This man survived the 2011 Utøya terror attack. Now, Norway wants to deport him and his family.

This man survived the 2011 Utøya terror attack. Now, Norway wants to deport him and his family.

As their numbers dwindle, Hiroshima survivors have a plan to keep memories alive

What's behind the return of al-Shabab, the terror group that killed at least 147 people in Kenya?