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NEWSLETTER **CBRNE** **TERRORISM**

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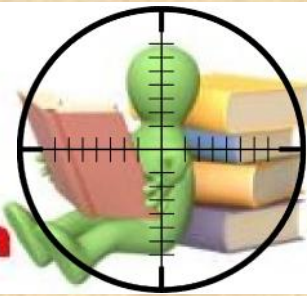
SPECIAL COLLECTION

Schools' & Churches'

TERRORISM



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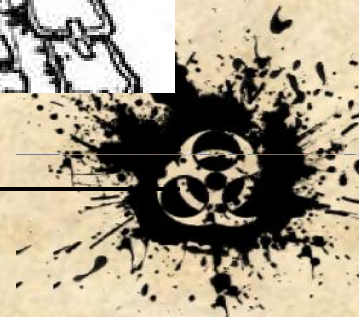


December 2013

Special Collection supplement Schools' and Churches' Terrorism

EDITOR'S COMMENT

This is a collection of papers focusing on schools' and churches' terrorism and extreme violence. This phenomenon although global is more intense in the United States. Although these incidents are recorded under the "civilized" title "extreme violence" in real life these are cases of pure terrorism in its primitive form (excluding political motivation or ambitions). Both churches and schools of all grades are "soft" targets that are easily accessible and with high counts of victims. Societies must organize their defenses and support these two entities in order to avoid future incidents. When come to schools, the family component is of crucial importance for the further development of the character of the children. Teachers are the second component that can both sculpture souls but also provide early warning and identification of psychological deviations. Parallel contribution can be provided my church people since they come into contact with people in distress evolving from modern way of life in Western societies. Risk and vulnerability assessment is the starting point to prevent and minimize the possibilities of repetition of extreme violence or terrorism in both schools and churches in our turbulent times. This topic is directly connected with the known debate on gun possession that has many followers and equal opponents. But this is not the focal point in this collection. Besides, it is the finger that is responsible, not the machine!



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Some U.S. Cities Have Higher Gun Violence Than Entire Countries

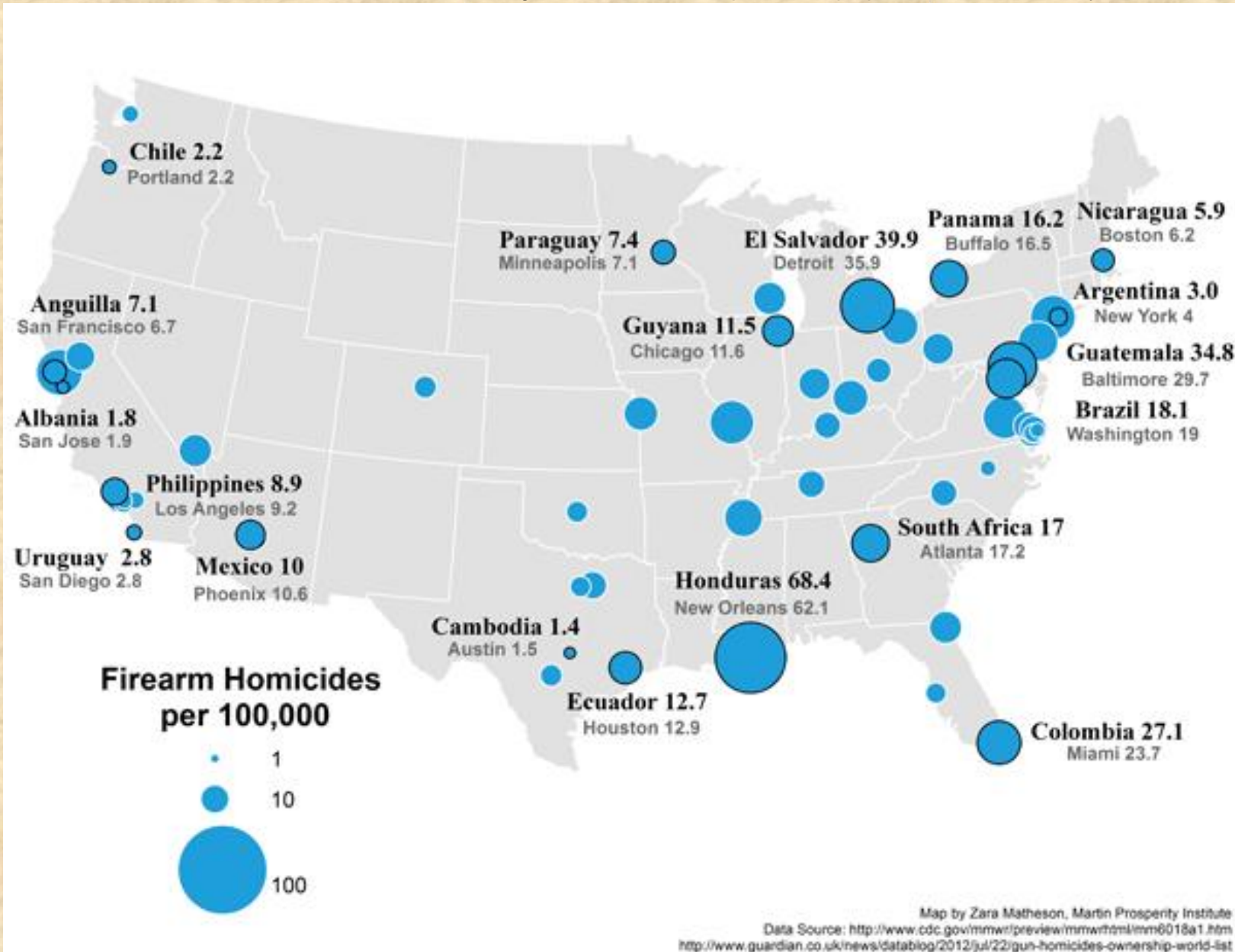
Source: <http://www.globalresearch.ca/some-u-s-cities-have-higher-gun-violence-than-entire-countries/5355672>

When it comes to gun murders in America, some American cities rank among the most dangerous in the world—even when they're compared to entire countries.

This map parallels the rate of gun murders in American cities to entire nations.

The bigger the dot, the worse it is.

For the United States as a whole, the rate of gun homicides is about 3 per 100,000 people. Honduras is the country



with the world's highest gun homicide rate, around 68 gun murders per 100,000 people.

The Martin Prosperity Institute compiled the data, building on statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, additional data from the United Nations Office on Drugs and



Crime and other sources collected by *The Guardian*. The statistics are buddled and from a mix of international crime data (which can be incomplete) and homicide data (which is more reliable).

Each dot represents gun murders per 100,000 people. For the United States as a whole, the rate of gun homicides is about 3 per 100,000 people. Honduras is the country with the world's highest gun homicide rate, around 68 gun

One Year of Gun Violence

31,593	Dead
66,769	Wounded
12,179	Murdered
18,223	Suicides
592	Accidentally killed
18,610	Accidentally wounded
200	Legal, self-defense homicides
85	Children under age 5 killed (2007)
57	Law enforcement officers killed on duty (2007)
20,702	Children (0-19) injured by a gun (2007)
3,067	Children (0-19) killed by a gun (2007)
1,190	Coalition casualties Iraq & Afghanistan (2007)

Sources: Brady Campaign, CNN

murders per 100,000 people.

New York, with a population of more than 8 million, had 237 people killed by guns in 2012, for a rate of around 3 gun homicides per 100,000 people. New York is a comparatively small dot. Still, New York has more gun murders than Argentina, which has a population over 41 million.

What's the most dangerous city in the world? That would be Honduras' San Pedro Sula. Shockingly, San Pedro Sula had 1,218 murders for 719,447 inhabitants in 2012.

Here's how things shake out:

- If it were a country, New Orleans (with a rate 62.1 gun murders per 100,000 people) would rank second in the world.
- Detroit's gun homicide rate (35.9) is just a bit less than El Salvador (39.9).
- Baltimore's rate (29.7) is not too far off that of Guatemala (34.8).
- Newark (25.4) and Miami (23.7) have gun murder statistics comparable to Colombia (27.1).
- Washington D.C. (19) has a higher rate of gun homicide than Brazil (18.1).
- Atlanta's rate (17.2) is about the same as South Africa (17).



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- Cleveland (17.4) has a higher rate than the Dominican Republic (16.3).
- Gun murder in Buffalo (16.5) is similar to Panama (16.2).
- Houston's rate (12.9) is slightly higher than Ecuador's (12.7).
- Gun homicide in Chicago (11.6) is similar to Guyana (11.5).
- Phoenix's rate (10.6) is slightly higher than Mexico (10).
- Los Angeles (9.2) is comparable to the Philippines (8.9).
- Boston rate (6.2) is higher than Nicaragua (5.9).
- New York, where gun murders have declined to just four per 100,000, is still higher than Argentina (3).
- Even the cities with the lowest homicide rates by American standards, like San Jose and Austin, compare to Albania and Cambodia respectively.

The numbers give a stark portrait of American urban centers and the laws (or lack thereof) that seeks to maintain safety in these cities. Other points on American gun culture itself, of course, can be teased out, but that's a whole different story.

RELIGIOUS PLACES TERRORISM/SHOOTINGS

2006 al-Askari Mosque bombing

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2006_al-Askari_Mosque_bombing

The **2006 al-Askari Mosque bombing** occurred at the **al-Askari Mosque** in the Iraqi city of Samarra, on February 22, 2006, at about 6:44 a.m. local time (0344 UTC). The attack on the mosque, one of the holiest sites in Shia Islam, is believed to have been caused by Al-Qaeda in Iraq. Although no injuries occurred in the blasts, the mosque was severely damaged.

The bombing was followed by retaliatory violence with over a hundred dead bodies being found the next day^[1] and well over 1,000 people killed in the days following the bombing – by some counts, over 1,000 on the first day alone.



The bombing

On February 22, 2006, at 6:44 a.m. (0344 UTC), explosions occurred at al-Askari Mosque, effectively destroying its golden dome and severely damaging the mosque. Several men wearing military uniforms, had earlier entered the mosque, tied up the guards there and set explosives, resulting in the blast. Two bombs were set off by five to seven men dressed as personnel of the Iraqi who entered the shrine during the morning.

No injuries were reported following the bombing. However, the northern wall of the

shrine was damaged by the bombs, causing the dome to collapse and destroying three-quarters of the structure along with it.

Following the blast, American and Iraqi forces surrounded the shrine and began searching houses in the area. Five police officers responsible for protecting the mosque were taken into custody.

The dome had been repaired by April 2009 and the shrine reopened to visitors.

Responsibility and accusations

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack on the mosque



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

2007 al-Askari Mosque bombing

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2007_al-Askari_Mosque_bombing

The **2007 al-Askari Mosque bombing** on 13 June 2007 at around 9 am local time at one of the holiest sites in Shia Islam, the **al-Askari Mosque**, and has been attributed to al-Qaeda in Iraq or the Iraqi Baath Party. While there were no injuries or deaths reported, the mosque's two ten story minarets were destroyed in the attacks. This was the second bombing of the mosque, with the first bombing occurring on 22 February 2006 and destroying the mosque's golden dome. By April 2009, both minarets had been repaired.

The bombing

At around 9 am on 13 June 2007, insurgents destroyed the two remaining ten-story tall golden minarets flanking the ruins of the dome of the Al-Askari Mosque. The mosque compound and minarets had been closed since the 2006 bombing and no fatalities were reported. Iraqi police reported hearing "two nearly simultaneous explosions coming from inside the mosque compound at around 9 am" Local residents reported blasts that shook the city and sent a cloud of dust into the air.

While it has been stated that "the collapse of the two minarets appeared to have been caused by explosive charges placed at their bases", different reports have caused some confusion as to whether bombs were actually used. A release from state run Iraqia Television stated that "local officials said that two mortar rounds were fired at the two minarets", in addition "a government spokesman claimed the minarets were hit by rockets".

It has been noted that the attack was one in a string of bombings in 2007 against major Shi'ite shrines, including two car bomb attacks in Karbala: one near the Imam Husayn Shrine (which killed 36 people and wounded 168) and the other near the Imam Abbas shrine, the second-holiest site in Shi'ite Islam, which killed at least 58 people and wounded 169.

Events around changing of the guard

Since the 2006 bombing of the al-Askari shrine, it had been under protection of local guards who were predominantly Sunni. Both American military and Iraqi security officials were worried that the guards had been infiltrated by Al Qaeda forces in Iraq. To counter this the Ministry of Interior in Baghdad were bringing in a new guard unit – predominantly Shiite. This changing of the guard is believed to have had some role in the timing of the attack. Abdul Sattar Abdul Jabbar, a prominent Sunni cleric, told Al Jazeera television that local Sunnis may have been provoked as he claimed "the new guards had arrived at the shrine shouting sectarian slogans". Gunfire was reported around the shrine before the attack, "which may have been related to the change of guards." Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki stated that Policemen at the shrine (15 of them according to US military sources) had been detained for questioning along with "an unspecified number of other suspects." It was confirmed that "the entire Iraqi security force responsible for guarding the mosque, the 3rd Battalion of the Salahuddin province police, was detained for investigation." The Interior Ministry would only tell reporters that agents of "a terrorist group" had been arrested and were under interrogation. On Sunday 17 June 2007 Iraqi forces captured four additional suspects and their raid "also turned up a compact disc showing attacks on U.S.-led troops, blasting caps and detonation wire, identification cards for access to al-Askari mosque and photographs depicting terrorist training exercises."

Iraq mosque bombing targets Sunni worshippers celebrating Eid

Tuesday 15 October 2013

Source: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/oct/15/baghdad-mosque-bombing-sunni-worshippers-eid>

A bomb has ripped through a crowd of Sunni worshippers coming out of a mosque in northern Iraq after prayers at the start of the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, killing 12 people and wounding 24, a police official has said.

The bomb went off on Tuesday morning as worshippers were leaving the al-Qodus mosque in the city of Kirkuk, 180 miles (290km) north of Baghdad.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)



More than 5,000 people have been killed in Iraq since al-Qaida and other militants stepped up attacks following a deadly security crackdown on a Sunni protest camp in April.

Much of the violence in Iraq is the work of the local al-Qaida branch, a Sunni extremist group. While it is possible that Sunni insurgents could be carrying out mosque attacks, hoping to stoke sectarian hatred, Shia militias may also be behind such assaults.

The latest attack came despite tight security measures imposed by security

forces to prevent attacks during the four-day Eid al-Adha celebrations.

May 2010 attacks on Ahmadi mosques in Lahore

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/May_2010_attacks_on_Ahmadi_mosques_in_Lahore

The **May 2010 Lahore attacks** also referred as **Lahore Massacre** occurred on May 28, 2010, in Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan, during Friday prayers. 94 people were killed and more than 120 were injured in nearly simultaneous attacks against two mosques of the minority Ahmadiyya Community. After the initial attack, a hostage situation lasted for hours. Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, as well as their Punjab wing, claimed responsibility for the attacks and were also blamed by the Pakistani Police.



Attack

The perpetrators lobbed grenades and started firing as they attacked mosques of the minority Ahmadi Muslim sect in two different residential neighborhoods. The near simultaneous attacks were at Darul Zikr, Garhi Shahu and Bait-al Noor. Lack of security meant they easily infiltrated both



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

the Mosques in Lahore Model Town and in Garhi Shahu, 15 km apart.

The attackers at any



Garhi Shahu, including two would-be suicide bombers, entered the mosque without resistance, before storming into the prayer halls firing guns, throwing grenades. The assault at Model Town involved two attackers opening fire on worshippers before exploding hand grenades. The attackers weren't taking any hostages and were killing indiscriminately.

The Elite Police arrived once the attackers had entered the mosques and did not launch an operation; the two attackers in Garhi Shahu blew themselves up though the attack in Garhi Shahu lasted four hours. 2 militants each were involved in both the attacks.

In Model Town, both the attackers were captured alive as they were overpowered by some of the worshippers, one of the attackers was captured on the first floor by some of the young members of the Ahmadiyya Jammāt i.e. Khuddam, and one was overpowered in the main hall on the ground floor by a worshiper who was an ex-army officer. At one time up to 3000 people were reported to be in the mosque during the attack. This is considered the deadliest attack on Ahmadi Muslims.

Responsibility

The Punjabi Taliban, a subset wing of the Pakistani Taliban reportedly laid claim to the attacks. It is allegedly composed of groups like Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, which were previously sponsored by the Government of Pakistan. A sms sent to many journalists and signed by the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan as well as the Punjabi wing of Al-Qaeda stated that "This is a final warning to the Ahmadi community to leave Pakistan or prepare for death at the hands of the Prophet Muhammad's devotees."

The Lahore police also stated that the attacks were carried out by six militants belonging to Pakistani Taliban, who were trained in the town of Miranshah in North Waziristan. They were aged between 17 and 28 and arrived in Lahore on May 21.



It has been claimed that the reason why the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan attacked Ahmadi mosques was because Al Qaeda wished to gain public support in Pakistan. Al Qaeda have been launching attacks on Shia congregations in the past, but a majority of Sunnis did not endorse these attacks. Brigadier Saad said that by attacking a "community that is not liked by most of (sic) Sunni Muslims belonging to [the] Deobandi and Barelvi schools of thought, the terror network has attempted to win some sort of support from these groups" and that also because of the attack "at least close to two million those who study at Deobandi madrassahs across Pakistan would definitely have some kind of "favorable" opinion about al Qaeda." Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan vowed to launch more such attacks on what it called "infidels."

Arrests

On 5 July 2010, Pakistani police arrested six men, members of the banned group Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami, believed to be linked to the attack. The men were in possession of 18,000 kg of explosives, 21 grenades, six AK-47 rifles, as well as bomb-making material, and four of the men are alleged to have been logistical supporters to the attack.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Mosque Attacked in Britain 'Every Three Days' Since Lee Rigby's Murder

Source: <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/articles/483403/20130626/mosque-attack-lee-rigby-murder-full-list.htm>



Muswell Hill was one of the mosque that was attacked following Lee Rigby's murder (MoD/Reuters)

The number of attacks on mosques and Islamic centres in the wake of Drummer Lee Rigby's murder has reached double figures, at a rate of one every three days.

The latest incident involves a mosque in Redditch in which racist slogans and swastikas were spray painted on the walls of the mosque on Jinnah Road.

The murder of the soldier in south east London on 22 May sparked a series of anti-Islamic attacks across Britain.

Since Rigby's death, there has also been more than 200 reports of hate assaults on Muslims and attacks on mosques, according to Faith Matters, an organisation that works to reduce extremism.

The backlash became so severe Rigby's family were forced to publicly condemn the disorder, saying the 25-year-old would not have wanted people to use his name as an excuse carry out attacks.

Following the graffiti incident at Redditch, below is a full timeline of the attacks on mosques and Islamic centres in the wake of Rigby's murder.

Mosque Attacks:

22 May - Braintree and Gillingham



On the night of the murder of Rigby, there were two separate incidents on mosques in Essex and Gillingham.

Geoffrey Ryan, 43, was been charged with two counts of possession of an offensive weapons and affray following the incident on Al Falah mosque in Silk Way, Braintree. He also allegedly used threatening behaviour towards someone inside the mosque. He is due to appear at Chelmsford Crown Court in July.

On the same night, a mosque was attacked and vandalised in Gillingham, Kent after a window and a bookcase containing copies of the Koran were smashed. Andrew Grindlay,



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

from Rochester, was arrested accused of religiously aggravated criminal damage and burglary following the incident. He has been released on bail pending further enquires.

23 May - Bolton and Bletchley

Police are still investigating the incident at the mosque in Bolton (Twitter/ Nazia Mogra)

The day after the soldier's murder, anti-Islamic graffiti, including the words "Islam = Evil" and "Terrorist inside" were seen scrawled on the walls of a mosque and a car in Bolton, Greater Manchester. No one has been arrested in connection with the incident.

A burning bottle was also hurled at the Zainabia Islamic Centre, commonly known as the Granby Mosque, in the Buckinghamshire town of Bletchley.

There was a reported 30 people inside the mosque at the time, but there was no significant damage caused.

25 May - Rhyl

An ex-soldier was sentenced to 18 months in jail and banned from every mosque in Wales and England after admitting to attempt to burn down the local mosque in Rhyl.

John parkin, 27, admitted to attempting to set the mosque on fire by stuffing a tissue into a bottle of beer and setting it alight after drinking 15 pints of beer.

26 May - Grimsby

In one of the most serious anti-Islamic attacks, the Grimsby Islamic Cultural Centre was attacked with three petrol bombs.

Stuart Harness, 33, from the town, and Gavin Humphries, 37, were arrested and appeared in court charged with arson with intent to endanger life following the attack. The cases were adjourned for a plea and casement hearing on 30 August.

Daniel Cressey, 24, was later charged with the same offences. He is due to appear in court at a later date.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)**5 June - Muswell Hill**

Firefighters stand at the fire as a firefighter walks past the Al-Rahma Islamic Centre in Muswell Hill (Reuters)

Counter Terrorism Police were brought in to investigate the fire which destroyed a Somali community centre in north London.

Graffiti reading EDL - the common acronym for the English Defence League - was seen on the walls of the Somali Bravanese Welfare Association in Muswell Hill by firefighters tackling the blaze.

No one has yet been arrested in connection with the incident.

8 June - Bromley

Four teenagers, aged 17 and two 18, were arrested on suspicion of arson following the fire at the Darul Uloom School in Foxbury Avenue, Chislehurst on 8 June.

More than 120 pupils and staff members were evacuated from the school, but firefighters were able to extinguish the fire quickly. There was so significant damage to the building and no one was seriously hurt following the fire.

18 June - Gloucester

The door of the Masjid-E-Noor mosque in Gloucester was damaged after it was set alight in a suspected arson attack.

Police say CCTV footage shows a man pouring petrol around the door of the mosque, then setting a rag on fire and using it to ignite the fuel before being driven away by a second man in a car.

Clive Ceronne, 37 and of Redwood Close in Gloucester and Ashley Juggins, 20, were arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit arson.

They remained in custody until their next hearing on 19 July at Gloucester Crown Court.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

21 June - Walsall

Police confirmed a suspicious package found outside a mosque in Walsall was a home-made explosive device. The bomb was discovered on 21 June, but police were only called when it was brought into the Aisha Mosque and Islamic Centre in Walsall.

The incident is being treated as a hate crime. Around 150 people were evacuated from their homes following the discovery.

26 June - Redditch

Swastikas seen painted on the walls and windows of mosque on Jinnah Road in Redditch

Research reveals HALF of all Britain’s mosques have been attacked since 9/11 as anti-Islam violence spreads

Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2351470/Research-reveals-HALF-Britains-mosques-attacked-9-11-anti-Islam-violence-spreads.html>

About half of all mosques and Muslim centres in Britain have been subjected to Islamophobic attacks since 9/11, it has been revealed.

The figures, from the Islamophobia watchdog Tell Mama, found that between 40 and 60 per cent of mosques and other Islamic centres - about 700 - have been targeted in Britain since the 2001 attack on New York’s World Trade

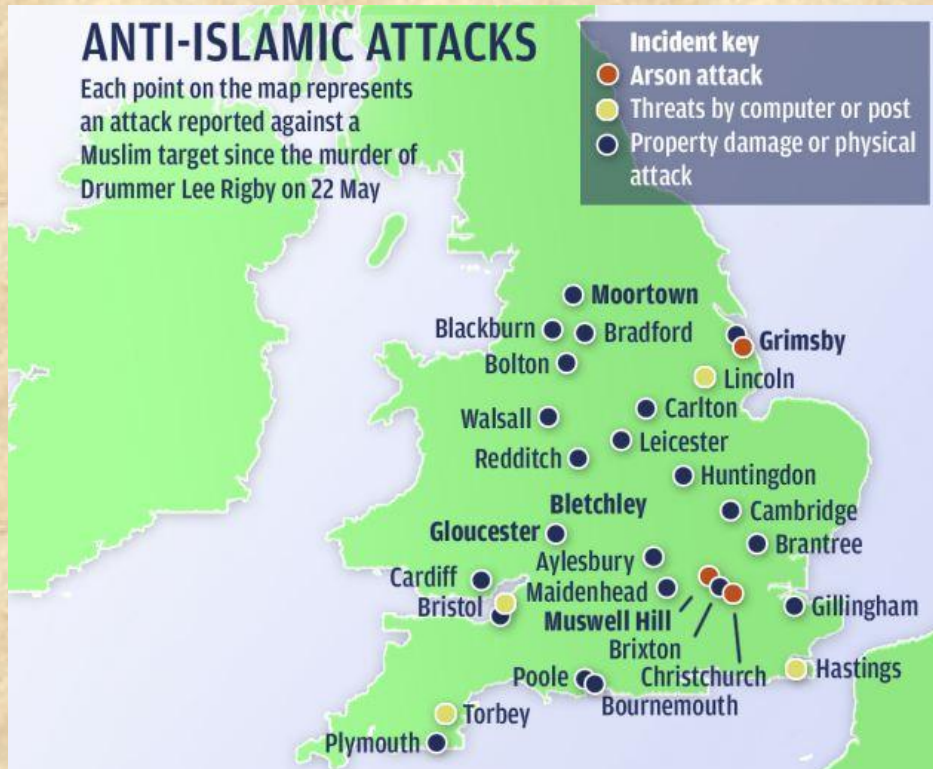
Center.

It comes as English Defence League supporters prepare to gather in Woolwich at the scene of Drummer Lee Rigby’s murder later this afternoon.

Drummer Rigby was hacked to death in front of horrified on-lookers in south-east London last month.

Report author Professor Nigel Copsey, of Teesside University, said: ‘What is significant about our analysis is the extent to which the far right is implicated in anti-Muslim hate crime.’

Research by the Independent newspaper also found almost a



tenfold increase in attacks in the days after Drummer Rigby’s death, with mosques being set alight and Muslims targeted at home.

There were nearly nine attacks per day in the immediate aftermath of the killing, settling back to around two per day over in the following weeks.

Professor Copsey said: ‘There has undoubtedly been a spike in anti-Muslim incidents since the Woolwich murder.’



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

'An obvious concern now is whether the number of hate crime incidents return to "normal" levels or whether Woolwich has been a game-changer in terms of increasing the underlying incidence of anti-Muslim hate over the longer term.'

Earlier this week, swastikas and the letters 'EDL', 'KKK' and 'NF' were sprayed on the walls of a mosque in Redditch. There were also reports of pigs' heads being left at Muslim families' homes and other attacks against individuals. In addition, there was an attack on an Islamic centre in north London.

Despite the warning signs, a senior Government adviser told the paper there remains a 'lack of political will' to take on the issue and identified Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Eric Pickles as one of the ministers slow to react to the problem.

The adviser, who did not want to be named, said attempts to 'tackle this issue – even before Woolwich – struggled to attract buy-in'.

The Muslim community was warned yesterday of the dangers it faces from hate groups in a sermon delivered at 500 mosques.

The piece said high-profile cases of sexual grooming of children by small groups of Muslim men 'hitting the headlines in a short space of time and the fallout from the Woolwich case will create a major challenge for the Muslim community'.

But Dr Matthew Goodwin, associate fellow at Chatham House and an expert on extremist groups, said: 'The broader picture is more positive than we think. Young people are more at ease accepting Muslims in society.'

A spokesman for the Department for Communities and Local Government said: 'There is no place for anti-Muslim hatred or any kind of hatred in Britain, and we are committed to tackling this unacceptable scourge.'

The revelations came ahead of today's EDL march, which was set to route past the East London Mosque and assemble outside Woolwich Barracks.

But police have imposed conditions on the protest and the march will now take place between Hyde Park Corner and end opposite the House of Lords, where supporters will be allowed to loiter for a maximum of two hours.

Any supporters seen gathering in Woolwich will be arrested, the Metropolitan Police said.

As well as laying flowers in memory of Drummer Rigby in Woolwich, EDL leader Tommy Robinson and his co-leader Kevin Carroll had planned to walk to raise money for a young girl fighting against neuroblastoma.

Reacting to the Met's decision, Mr Robinson said: 'The police are enforcing no-go zones for non-Muslims. It's a charity walk with two people taking part.

'When has a Muslim charity walk ever been made to have conditions?'

Norway Mosques under Threat of Attacks

Source: <http://www.onislam.net/english/news/europe/464626-norway-mosques-under-threat-of-attacks.html>

Terrifying Muslims in Norway, an anonymous extremist group has threatened to burn all mosques across the Northwest European country, sparking angry reactions from the peaceful religious minority.



"This is a result of attitudes that we have seen building for a long time," Mehtab Afsar, the Islamic Council's secretary general, told The Local.

"There is a sense of fear among our members who believe that this is starting to get a little serious."

The Muslim leader was concerned about the latest threats to burn all mosques across Norway.

The anti-mosque campaign was announced when an anonymous group sent an e-mail to World Islamic Mission Mosque threatening to burn all mosques across Norway.

"Before 2013 is over, all mosques in Norway be burned to the ground," the anonymous group said.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

"We are a group of men who have planned this for seven years."

The campaign was followed by a series of attacks targeting Muslim mosques in Norway.

Last Thursday, Muslim worshippers found a severed pig's head outside Norway's largest mosque, Central Jamaat-e Ahl-e Sunnat, in Oslo.

A day earlier, before Muslims came to pray on Friday, a huge banner of a sausage was erected outside a mosque in Fredrikstad, with the inscription "Always a wiener for a Muslim" written on it.

"Many people were very angry and I am also angry," Mohamed Hassan, a Somali-Norwegian, told The Local newspaper.

"I would never do something like that to others where they pray. They are insulting other peoples' religion."

Seeking Attention

Leading Muslim leaders have denounced the threats, dismissing them as from a group seeking attention.

"I think this is just some crazies who want attention," Ghulam Sarwar, Chairman of the Norway branch of Jamaat Ahle Sunnat told TV2.

Norwegian Muslims are estimated at 150,000 out of the country's 4.5 million population, mostly of Pakistan, Somali, Iraqi and Moroccan backgrounds.

There are nearly 90 Muslim organizations and Islamic centers across the northern European country.

In 2011, at least 76 people were killed and scores injured in twin anti-Islam attacks which targeted a government building in Oslo and a youth training camp on the nearby island of Utoya.

After the incidents, Oslo police had several meetings with the Islamic Council of Norway. Police confirmed that they look the issue very seriously.

Following repeated threats to Muslims, Oslo police confirmed that they are taking the issue seriously, undertaking heavy security precautions. They have also held several meetings with Islamic council to ensure security.

Eight attacks, 11 days

By Uzma Kolsy

Source: http://www.salon.com/2012/08/14/eight_attacks_11_days/

David Conrad, a resident of Morton Grove, Ill., was likely peeved by the noise from the Muslim Education Center.



Conrad's home is adjacent to the center's parking lot, and during the holy month of Ramadan, men, women and children pack the mosque on a nightly basis. On Friday, Aug. 10, Conrad allegedly shot a pellet rifle at the mosque wall, while some 500 people were praying inside. The building structure sustained minor damage, but no one was hurt. Was this just the rumbling of a disgruntled neighbor? Maybe.

But given a chain of incidents at mosques across the country over the past two weeks, the Morton Grove shooting doesn't appear to be an

isolated event. In the past 10 days, there have been eight cases of vandalism and attacks on houses of worship across the nation, including the deadly shooting spree in a Sikh gurdwara in Wisconsin on Aug. 5. The other seven incidents were mosque defacements, which have sent a tremor of fear through America's Muslim community.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

While Morton Grove Police have not charged Conrad with a hate crime, the FBI is currently investigating the attack as a hate crime and CAIR has also called on the FBI to investigate the Lombard incident as such. Just 25 miles from Morton Grove, an Islamic school in Lombard was targeted with an even more chilling assault on Sunday night. An assailant flung a homemade “MacGyver bomb” at the building, while worshippers prayed inside. The soda bottle — filled with household chemicals, including acid — did not break the window, and again, the worshippers were rattled but unharmed. According to local reports, no one has yet been charged, and the FBI is investigating the matter.

The Illinois attacks come on the heels of an incident in Joplin, Mo., where a mosque was reduced to ashes by a powerful fire last Monday. Although authorities are investigating whether it was an act of arson, a previous fire at the mosque over the July 4 weekend was determined to be arson. Elsewhere, a mosque in North Smithfield, R.I., was vandalized by a man who “head-butted” and pulled down signage. Teens were arrested on hate crime charges for taunting worshippers by throwing eggs and oranges and shooting bb pellets at a mosque in Hayward, Calif. Vandals defaced the Grand Mosque of Oklahoma City with paintballs, and, in an especially malicious incident, women hurled pig legs at a mosque site in Ontario, Calif., while people were leaving the temporary prayer space.

Is something deeper at work here? Last week, notoriously brusque Rep. Joe Walsh, R-Ill., who represents Lombard, may have helped stoke anti-Muslim hatred with comments at a town hall meeting in Elk Grove. Walsh sowed the seeds of mistrust and suspicion by alleging that “radical Islam” had made a home in the suburbs of Chicago; that “It’s in Elk Grove, it’s in Addison, it’s in Elgin. It’s here”; and that radical Muslims are “trying to kill Americans every week.” Walsh’s warnings were met with applause.

Many Muslims in Chicago spoke out to condemn Walsh’s comments. “How long are we going to go pretending like there is no relationship between this acquiescence of hatred and politics and the inclination of violence on the ground?” asked Ahmed Rehab, executive director of the Chicago chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Chicago). “You cannot demonize a community and then be surprised when they’re under attack.”

Walsh’s political ploy, fiery as it was, echoes past comments made by the likes of Michele Bachmann and Peter King, elected officials who have long spouted thinly veiled Islamophobia in the public sphere. “We’ve seen in the last few years, particularly after the manufactured controversy over the Park51 Islamic community center, there has been a steady rise in anti-Muslim sentiment in our society. It is promoted and exploited by the cottage industry of Muslim bashers,” said Ibrahim Hooper, national communications director at CAIR. “We are seeing the byproduct of that campaign of Islamophobia in these attacks on mosques and perhaps even on the attack on the Sikh gurdwara in Wisconsin.”

Some of the attacked Islamic centers are no strangers to hostility. Despite attaining necessary permits, Al-Nur Islamic Center in Ontario faced opposition from locals in its plans to build a permanent structure, much like mosques in Temecula, Calif., and Murfreesboro, Tenn. The pig legs gesture, however, escalated the resistance. “There is a palpable fear and concern amongst many members of the community because people are taking their opposition to the mosque to another level,” said Faisal Qazi, a member of the Al-Nur mosque. “Joplin was attacked before, and the Ontario community’s biggest fear is that if this sort of harassment continues, something worse may happen.”

According to FBI data, hate crimes against Muslims might be rising. The rate of anti-Muslim crimes fell from nearly 500 in 2001 to 107 in 2009. But in 2010 (the latest year for which the FBI has data) the total number of hate crimes jumped 50 percent to 160. In light of these recent episodes, CAIR has issued a safety advisory for Islamic centers that includes calling for mosque leadership to remain extra vigilant and requesting that local law enforcement increase patrol at mosques to ensure the safety of the worshippers.

Even so, a cloud of trepidation and panic has settled upon many Muslim communities. Mosque leaders around the country are gearing up for the 27th night of Ramadan tonight, the holiest night of the month, when Muslims swarm mosques in record numbers. Judge Marguerite Quinn of Morton Grove, understanding the gravity of this time of year for Muslims, told David Conrad, “This is the holy month of Ramadan, and it will not be because of your actions that these services be disturbed.”

Uzma Kolsy is an activist and freelance writer based in Southern California. She is the former Managing Editor of InFocus News, the largest newspaper in California serving the Muslim American community.



Buddhist mob attacks Sri Lankan mosque, 12 injured

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/08/11/us-srilanka-mosque-attack-idUSBRE97A04G20130811>

A Buddhist mob attacked a mosque in Sri Lanka's capital and at least 12 people were injured, the latest in a series of attacks on the minority Muslim community by members of the Buddhist majority.

A mob of Buddhists, who are mainly ethnic Sinhalese in Sri Lanka, threw stones at a three-storey mosque and nearby houses in a central Colombo neighborhood during evening prayers on Saturday, residents told Reuters.



Later, hundreds of Muslim residents took to the streets, some clutching sticks, to prevent any further attacks on their community, witnesses said. Police reinforcements were sent and authorities imposed a curfew until Sunday morning.

A senior member of staff at one of the city's main hospitals said 12 injured people, including two police officers, had been brought in. Three people were still in hospital on Sunday. Police appealed for calm and

imposed a night-time curfew in the area.

"Support the police to maintain the law and order," Inspector General of Police N.K. Ilangakoon told state media.

There has been increasing violence against Muslims in Sri Lanka since last year, mirroring events in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, which has also seen a surge of attacks by members of the majority community against Muslims.

In Myanmar, hardline Buddhist monks have been at the forefront of campaigns against Muslims.

In Sri Lanka, a group known as Bodu Bala Sena (BBS), or the "Buddhist power force", has been trying to win over Buddhists to their campaign against Muslims.

A spokesman for the BBS, Dilantha Vithanage, denied any involvement by his organization in the latest mosque attack.

"Extremists emboldened"

Buddhists make up about 70 percent of Sri Lanka's 20.3 million population. Muslims make up about 9 percent.

"The lukewarm and ineffective measures taken by the law enforcement agencies on previous occasions ... seem to have emboldened some extremist groups who seem to be determined to create chaos in the country," Muslim ministers in President Mahinda Rajapaksa's government said in a joint statement.

The mosque damaged in the Saturday night attack was only built a month ago after hardline Buddhists forced a nearby mosque to close.

The U.S. Embassy in Colombo said the incident was particularly troubling in light of a number of recent attacks against the Muslim community in Sri Lanka.

"Targeting any place of worship should never be permitted and we urge calm from all sides. We call for prosecution of perpetrators in this attack and an end to religious-based violence," the embassy said in a statement.



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N. M. Ameen, president of Sri Lanka Muslim Council, said more than 20 mosques had been attacked since last year. In a separate incident, a hand grenade was thrown at a Buddhist temple in the Jaffna peninsula, on the northern tip of the island. There were no injuries, police said.

Jaffna is largely made of ethnic minority Tamil people, most of whom are Hindu and Christian. The area was fiercely contested in a 26-year war between government forces and Tamil separatists that ended in 2009.

Man coming out of mosque attacked church on evening of Islam debate

Source: <http://tundratabloids.com/2013/10/finland-muslim-leaving-mosque-attacks-church-across-the-street-smashes-front-door-window.html>

A man dressed in a Muslim outfit broke the windows of a Roihuvuori church and shouted threats in front of the church on Tuesday evening. The police have taken into custody the ethnic Finnish male suspected of the offense, who took



attacked the church on the night of the YLE 2s Ajankohtaisen Kakkosen Islam evening.

There were a number of eye-witnesses. They said that the man came to the church, from the mosque on the opposite side. The man was dressed in a pale Muslim robe.

- The window to the Church's main door was smashed with the throwing of very large sized rock. It was at the same time as the program [of the Kakkosen Islam night] was going on. The case is now being handled by the police, says the vicar of the parish

Roihuvuori **Timo Pekka Kaskinen to Radio Dei.**

At the time of the incident, the cantor was practicing with volunteers at the Roihuvuori church,

- I was able to meet up with the Cantor later that night. While this was obviously a very daunting experience, Kaskinen described.

The police were summoned to the Church and the broken glass was repaired. The man behaved in a threatening manner to the glass repairman who quickly arrived at the scene. eyewitnesses have recounted that the perpetrator refused to allow the worker to repair the window and said that the act was a message of warning to the church.

- According to him [the repairman] it was a threatening situation, but very quickly over, Kaskinen says.

After leaving the church the Muslim dressed returned to the mosque, where the police arrested the man. The vicar Timo Pekka Kaskinen does not want to guess the motive.

- I do not at this stage want to go speculate about the motives. I have not met with the man. What's in question is a Finnish person, that's the information that I have. The perp was seen on the grounds. What's important to me is the piece of information that it was not a foreigner commented Kaskinen to Radio Dei.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

- After all, we know that it's the work of only one person, and any one person in the community can act strangely. According to Kaskinen the mosque on the opposite side of the Roihuvuori Church has not yet been contacted them about Tuesday night's events. Roihuvuori parish emphasizes that he does not want to risk church relations with the local Muslim community over the event.

- We have an idea that we could get access to the local Muslim community and I do not want to burden the situation to no avail because of this.

Grand Mosque Seizure

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Mosque_Seizure

The **Grand Mosque Seizure** on 20 Nov 1979, was a terrorist attack and takeover of the Al-Masjid al-Haram in Makkah, Saudi Arabia, the holiest place in Islam by Islamist dissidents. The insurgents declared that the Mahdi, or redeemer of Islam, had arrived in the form of one of the insurgent leaders, Mohammed Abdullah al-Qahtani, and called on Muslims to obey him.

The seizure shocked the Islamic world as hundreds of pilgrims present for the annual hajj were taken hostage, and hundreds of militants, security forces and hostages caught in crossfire were killed in the ensuing battles for control of the site. The siege ended two weeks after the takeover began with militants and the mosque was cleared. Following the attack, the Saudi state implemented stricter enforcement of Islamic code



Background

The seizure was led by Juhayman al-Otaybi, who belonged to a powerful family of Najd. He declared his brother-in-law Mohammed Abdullah al-Qahtani to be the Mahdi, or redeemer. His followers took that the fact that Al-Qahtani's name and his father's name are identical to Muhammad's name and that of his father, and the saying ("His and his father's names were the same as Muhammad's and his father's, and he had come to Mecca from the north") to justify their belief. Furthermore, the date of the attack, 20 November 1979, was the first day of the year 1400 according to the Islamic calendar, which was stated by another hadith as the day that the Mahdi would reveal himself.

Juhayman al-Otaybi was from "one of the foremost families of Najd. His grandfather had ridden with Ibn Saud in the early decades of the century." He was a preacher, a former corporal in the Saudi National Guard, and a former student of Sheikh Abdel Aziz al Baaz, who went on to become the Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia. Juhaiman had turned against al Baz, "and began advocating a return to the original ways of Islam, among other things; a repudiation of the West; an end of education of women; abolition of television and expulsion of non-Muslims." He proclaimed that "the ruling Al Saud dynasty had lost its legitimacy because it was corrupt, ostentatious and had destroyed Saudi culture by an aggressive policy of Westernization."

[Juhayman ibn Muhammad ibn Sayf al Otaibi](#)



al-Otaybi and Qahtani had met while being imprisoned together for sedition, when al-Otaybi claimed to have a vision sent by God telling him that Qahtani was the Mahdi. Their declared goal was to institute a theocracy in preparation for the imminent apocalypse. Many of their followers were drawn from theology students at the Islamic



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University in Medina. Other followers came from Egypt, Yemen, Kuwait, and Iraq, and also included some Sudanese black African Muslims. The followers preached their radical message in different mosques in Saudi Arabia without being arrested. The government was reluctant to confront religious extremists. Members of the ulema cross-examined Otaibi and Qahtani for heresy, but they were subsequently released as being traditionalists harkening back to the Ikhwan, like al-Otaybi's grandfather, and not a threat.

Because of donations from wealthy followers, the group was well-armed and trained. Some members, like al-Otaybi, were former military officials of the National Guard. Some National Guard troops sympathetic to the insurgents smuggled weapons, ammunition, gas masks, and provisions into the mosque compound over a period of weeks before the new year. Automatic weapons were stolen from National Guard armories, and the supplies were hidden in the hundreds of tiny underground rooms under the mosque that were used as hermitages.



Seizure

In the early morning of 20 November 1979, the imam of the Grand Mosque, Sheikh Mohammed al-Subayil, was preparing to lead the prayers for the fifty thousand worshipers who had gathered for prayer. Around 5:00 am, he was interrupted by insurgents who procured weapons from under their robes, chained the gates shut and killed two policemen who were armed with only wooden clubs for disciplining unruly pilgrims. The number of insurgents has been given as "at least 500" and "four to five hundred", which included several women and children who had joined al-Otaybi's movement.

At the time, the Grand Mosque was being renovated. An employee of the organization was able to report the seizure to outside before the insurgents cut the telephone lines.

The insurgents released most of the hostages and locked the remainder in the sanctuary. They took defensive positions in the upper levels of the mosque, and sniper positions in the minarets, from which they commanded the grounds. No one outside the mosque knew how many hostages remained, how many militants were in the mosque and what sort of preparations they had made.

At the time of the event, Crown Prince Fahd was in Tunisia for a meeting of the Arab Summit and then commander of National Guard Prince Abdullah was in Morocco for an official visit. Therefore, King Khalid assigned the responsibility to Prince Sultan, then Minister of Defense and Prince Nayef, then Minister of Interior, to deal with the incident.

Siege

Soon after the rebel seizure, about a hundred security officers of the Ministry of Interior attempted to retake the mosque, and were decisively turned back with heavy casualties. The survivors were quickly joined by units of the Saudi Arabian Army and Saudi Arabian National Guard.

By the evening, the entire city of Mecca had been evacuated. Prince Sultan appointed Turki bin Faisal Al Saud, then head of the Al Mukhabaraat Al 'Aammah (Saudi Intelligence), to take over the forward command post several hundred metres from the mosque, where Prince Turki would remain for the next several weeks. However, the first order of business was to seek the approval of the ulema, which was led by Abdul Aziz bin Baz. Islam forbids any violence within the Grand Mosque, to the extent that plants cannot be uprooted without explicit religious sanction. Ibn Baaz found himself in a delicate situation, especially as he had previously taught al-Otaybi in Medina. Regardless, the ulema issued a fatwa allowing deadly force to be used in retaking the mosque.

With religious approval granted, Saudi forces launched frontal assaults on three of the main gates. The assaulting force was repulsed, and never even got close to breaking through the insurgents'



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

defences. Snipers continued to pick off soldiers who showed themselves. The mosque's public address system was used to broadcast the insurgents' message throughout the streets of Mecca.

An elite unit called "Rahbar" of the SSG was rushed to Mecca from Pakistan on Saudi Government's request. In the middle of the day, Saudi troops abseiled from helicopters directly into the central courtyard of the mosque. The Saudi soldiers were picked off by insurgents holding superior positions. After failure of this exercise, Pakistani SSG Commandos split/showered water all over the Grand Masjid floors even in minarets. This situation was very surprising for the insurgents who did not know what was going to happen next. On having water all over the floors of the Grand Masjid, Pak Army Commandos released electric current in the water and insurgents suspended their activities and start changing their positions to save themselves from the electric shocks. During this Pak Army Commandos were dropped by helicopters into the Grand Masjid in different locations and they easily captured many of the insurgents alive.

The insurgents aired their demands from the mosque's loudspeakers, calling for the cutoff of oil exports to the United States and the expulsion of all foreign civilian and military experts from the Arabian Peninsula. On 25 November, the Arab Socialist Action Party – Arabian Peninsula issued a statement from Beirut alleging to clarify the demands of the insurgents. The party, however, denied any involvement of its own in the seizure.

Officially, the Saudi government took the position of not aggressively taking the mosque, but rather to starve the militants. Nevertheless, several unsuccessful assaults were undertaken, at least one of them through the underground tunnels in and around the mosque.

By 27 November, most of the mosque had been retaken by the Saudi National Guard and the Army, though they suffered heavy casualties in the assault. In the catacombs under the mosque, however, several militants continued to resist and tear gas was used to force them out. Several of the top militants escaped the siege and days later sporadic fighting erupted in other parts of the city as authorities tried to capture them.

The battle had lasted for more than two weeks, and had officially left "255 pilgrims, troops and fanatics" killed and "another 560 injured ... although diplomats suggested the toll was higher." Military casualties were 127 dead and 451 injured.

Aftermath

In Iran, Ayatollah Khomeini told radio listeners, "It is not beyond guessing that this is the work of criminal American imperialism and international Zionism."

Anti-American demonstrations followed in the Philippines, Turkey, Bangladesh, eastern Saudi Arabia, the United



Arab Emirates and Pakistan. Anger fueled by these rumours peaked within hours in Islamabad, Pakistan, and on 21 November 1979, the day following the takeover, the U.S. embassy in that city was overrun by a mob, who then burned the embassy to the ground. A week later, this anger swept to the streets of Tripoli, Libya, where a mob attacked and burned the U.S. embassy there on 2 December 1979.

Sandra Mackey, author of *The Saudis: Inside the Desert Kingdom*, said that "[i]n choosing the Grand Mosque as the point of attack, the rebels seized the symbol of the theocracy presided over by the House of Saud. But by failing the attack, the rebels sealed

their own fate and gave the al-Sauds carte blanche to carry out public executions for religious transgressions that were in reality crimes of politics." The rebels' leader, Juhayman, was captured, and he and 67 of his fellow rebels – "all the surviving males" – were tried secretly, convicted and publicly beheaded in the squares of four Saudi cities. In fact, 63 rebels were executed on 9 January 1980 in eight Saudi cities. The executions were decreed by King Khalid after the edict issued by ulemas. The cities and towns included Buraidah, Dammam, Mecca, Medina, Riyadh, Abha, Ha'il and Tabuk. Mackey said that the eight cities and



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

towns "were carefully chosen not only to give maximum exposure but, one suspects, to reach other potential nests of discontent."

Nigeria mosque attack leaves at least 44 dead, police official says

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2013/08/13/world/africa/nigeria-attacks/>

Gunmen attacked a mosque in Nigeria with automatic weapons over the weekend, killing at least 44 people, a local police official said.



It's not clear who was behind Sunday's massacre, but the militant Islamist group Boko Haram -- which has staged attacks in the same region before -- issued a video around the same time boasting that it was gaining in strength.

Details have been slow to emerge about the attack in Konduga, about 30 kilometers (almost 19 miles) southeast of Maiduguri, the capital of Nigeria's northern Borno state.

The police official in Konduga spoke to CNN on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to the media.

Another 26 victims were brought into Maiduguri Teaching Hospital for treatment on Sunday, some in critical condition, a source at the hospital who asked not to be identified told CNN.

Some villagers in Borno state have also been attacked in their own homes, accused of collaborating with government forces against Boko Haram, police sources said.

Local media reported that at least 12 people were killed on Saturday night in Ngom village alone.

In the video released by Boko Haram, its leader Abubakar Shekau claimed that the militant group is growing stronger



despite the Nigerian military's efforts to curb its activities.

"You soldiers have claimed that you are powerful, and that you have defeated us, you say we are mad people; but how can a mad man organize the attacks in Gamboru, in Malumfatori, slaughter people in Biu, kill in Gwoza and in Bama successfully, where soldiers fled under our heavy fire power?" he said.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

"We have killed countless soldiers and we are going to kill more. Our strength and firepower is bigger than that of Nigeria. Nigeria is no longer a big deal to us, as far as we are concerned.

"We will now comfortably confront the United States of America."

Shekau said the group would continue to kill unbelievers and "anyone who stands against the will of Allah by opposing Sharia," or Islamic law.

Boko Haram has often targeted Christians in Nigeria but the group will also attack other Muslims when it feels they are not adhering to strict Sharia law.

There have been suggestions that the group has attacked certain mosques because worshippers at that mosque have assisted government forces in tracking members of the militant group.

'Contemptible act'

The U.S. State Department named Shekau as a "specially designated global terrorist" in June last year. This year, it offered up to \$7 million for information leading to his arrest or conviction, under its Rewards for Justice Program. Britain and Spain each condemned the attack in Borno state and offered their condolences Tuesday to the victims and their families.

"This senseless attack has reportedly killed 44 people and left many others injured. Attacking innocent people in a place of worship is a contemptible and cowardly act," said Mark Simmonds, UK Foreign Office Minister for Africa.

"The UK stands with the government and people of Nigeria as they seek to reduce violence in the north east of the country."

Spain's Foreign Ministry "called on the authorities to advance their efforts to arrest the offenders, probably part of the Boko Haram terrorist group, bring them to justice, and put an end to the activities of the group which threatens the peace and coexistence in the country."

State of emergency

Boko Haram, whose name means "Western education is forbidden," seeks to overthrow the Nigerian government and replace it with a regime based on Islamic law.

A state of emergency has been imposed in Borno state since May 14, including a complete communications blackout, as authorities seek to tackle the militant group.

Yobe and Adamawa states, which border Borno state, were placed under a state of emergency at the same time.

Declaring the state of emergency in May, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan blamed "terrorists" aimed at "rebellion" who have caused "fear among our citizens and a near breakdown of law and order in parts of the country." He said the terrorists were mounting a "rebellion and insurgency" that threatened Nigeria's unity and stability, and pledged to send more troops to the three northeastern states.

"We have taken robust steps to unravel and address the root causes of these crises, but it would appear that there is a systematic effort by insurgents and terrorists to destabilize the Nigerian state and test our collective resolve," he said in a televised speech.

With an estimated 174.5 million people, Nigeria is Africa's most populous nation. The CIA World Factbook says the nation is roughly 50% Muslim and 40% Christian.

Violence between the mainly Muslim north and Christian south has taken at least 2,800 lives, according to Human Rights Watch.

Pakistan church bomb: Christians mourn 85 killed in Peshawar suicide attack

Source: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/sep/23/pakistan-church-bombings-christian-minority>

With its Mughalesque features, gleaming white dome and minaret-like towers, the All Saints' church in Peshawar has been a symbol of interfaith harmony ever since it was built in 1883.

As in a mosque, worshippers remove their shoes before entering the historic building, where biblical quotations are emblazoned on the walls in English, Hebrew and Persian scripts.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Some of the congregation were in bare feet as they filed out of the Anglican church on Sunday morning straight into the blast zone of one of two suicide bombers from a Taliban faction that has vowed to kill non-Muslims until the US cancels its lethal drone strikes in the country.



A day later and a blood-soaked jumble of shoes still lies in a pile on the right-hand side of the tall wooden doors where female worshippers usually congregate.

According to a tally based on information from local officials, 85 people were killed and more than 100 injured, although one doctor who arrived at the scene moments after the blast believes that even more

died but their bodies were recovered by relatives before they could be accounted for.

Whatever the number, it was Pakistan's worst attack on Christians, sparking impassioned, country-wide protests. Christians are a tiny and politically weak minority in Muslim-majority Pakistan who suffer from prejudice and sporadic bouts of mob violence. But Sunday was the first time that bombs had been used to such deadly effect on worshippers.

It bore the hallmarks of similar attacks by sectarian terror groups whose attacks have caused huge casualties among Shia communities. And Sunday's atrocity was claimed by the Jundullah branch of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a group that has orchestrated attacks against Shias. On Monday, the TTP's main spokesman denied any involvement.

In the streets and lanes of Peshawar's old city, where All Saints' is located a short distance from one of the historic gates of the city walls, all of the tightly-knit Christian community knows or is related to one of the dead.

"He had made a promise to God that when he got better he would go to church," said Joel Fakhar, the 20-year-old son of a man called Khalid who returned to the church after months of serious illness had kept him away.

Their 52-year-old father had been looking forward to it, particularly the period after the service when the congregation spills out into the enclosed courtyard to chat.

"He was looking forward to seeing his friends," said Joel.

On Monday the bodies had all been removed from the area where hundreds of worshippers milled around in the moments before the blasts, but dark, blood-soaked patches remained. The walls of the church and surrounding buildings were pockmarked by shrapnel, the windows blown in.

"It's not safe for Christians in this country," said Mano Rumlshah, the bishop emeritus of Peshawar, who was standing in the courtyard, comforting sobbing parishioners who clasped his white robes.

"Everyone is ignoring the growing danger to Christians in Muslim-majority countries. The European countries don't give a damn about us."

Others echoed the bishop's warning, saying that Christians would only be safe if they left Pakistan. But others vowed to remain and show they were not afraid.

Many analysts predict that the attack will torpedo efforts by the government to negotiate with the TTP and other militant groups – a policy agreed at a meeting of all the leading parties earlier this month.

On Sunday the prime minister, Nawaz Sharif, said during a visit to London that the government would be "unable to proceed further" with talks following the Peshawar attack.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Some diplomats think the government's offer of seemingly impossible negotiations with a loose coalition of violent Islamists intent on toppling the state was a strategy designed to demonstrate the futility of talks and build public support for a military crackdown on terrorist sanctuaries.

Nonetheless the policy has been angrily criticised, with many arguing it is tantamount to appeasement.

"How can you talk to people who are killing civilians?" said Tahir Naveed Chaudhary, chairman of the Pakistan Minorities Alliance. "We are just wasting time and we will lose more people. This is a message that the government must take concrete steps against terrorists."

He had harsh words for Imran Khan, the opposition leader whose party controls the provincial government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the north-western province that is home to much of the country's militant violence.

Khan has strongly promoted his solution to militancy, which includes ending Pakistan's support for the Nato mission in Afghanistan, withdrawing troops from the autonomous tribal areas and striking a deal with the Pakistani Taliban.

On Sunday he suggested the church attack was a deliberate effort by unnamed forces to scupper talks. He also linked militant violence to US drone strikes, prompting his many critics to accuse him of making excuses for terrorism.

"By going soft on these people he is showing that he is pro-Taliban," said Chaudhary.

But, in a sign of how hard it will be to persuade a sceptical public that tough action is required against militant groups, some victims of Sunday's bombing said they agreed with Khan.

"It's because of the drones and the US war on terror," said Amir Masih, a 25-year-old lying in a cacophonous ward in the city's Lady Reading hospital packed with survivors recovering from severe injuries, emergency surgeries and the grief of losing friends and relatives.

In addition to his badly injured wife in the adjacent bed, Masih's two sons and daughter were killed.

"We have no choice," he said. "We have to negotiate with them."

Islamic Terror Attacks on Christians (Since 9/11)

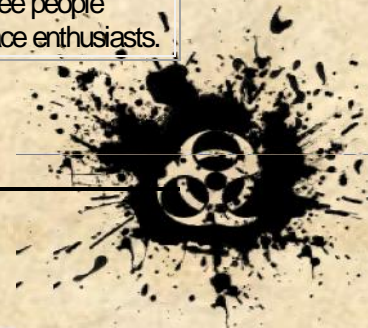
Source: <http://www.thereligionofpeace.com/Pages/ChristianAttacks.htm>

This is a list of targeted acts of terrorism on Christian civilians and church workers by religious Muslims since September 11th, 2001. These attacks have nothing to do with war, combat or insurgency. The victims are innocent Christians who were specifically targeted and abused solely on account of their faith by those who claim their own religion as a motive.

There may be a few anomalies on the list, as it is compiled by keyword search from our main database. Neither is this a complete account of Islamic terror attacks on Christians since much of the violence goes unreported

(Last updated on Sunday, October 20, 2013)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>City/State</i>	<i>Killed</i>	<i>Injured</i>	<i>Description</i>
10/17/2013	Iraq	Baghdad	8	15	Islamists set off a bomb in a Christian neighborhood, killing at least eight residents.
10/10/2013	Syria	Jaramana	11	23	Eleven people are killed when Sunni terrorists fire mortars into a Christian neighborhood.
10/5/2013	Centrafrique	Bangassou	9	0	Nine Christians protesting violence by Muslim 'rebels' are killed when their demonstration is attacked.
9/28/2013	Nigeria	Zangang	15	12	Muslim militia attack a Christian village, hacking to death fifteen residents and burning down their homes.
9/26/2013	Nigeria	Dorawa	3	0	A Pastor and his son are among three people machine-gunned by Religion of Peace enthusiasts.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

9/25/2013	Libya	Derna	2	0	Two Christians are invited to embrace Islam, then tied up and shot when they refuse.
9/25/2013	Kenya	Wajir	1	3	al-Shabaab claims credit for a grenade attack near a Catholic church.
9/22/2013	Pakistan	Peshawar	85	110	Two Jundullah suicide bombers obliterate over eighty-five worshippers at a church service, including many women and children.
9/14/2013	Pakistan	Karachi	1	0	A Christian's throat is slit on the street after being branded an 'infidel' and blasphemer.
9/13/2013	Tanzania	Zanzibar	0	1	Muslims throw acid on a priest, badly burning him.
9/12/2013	Egypt	Sahel Selim	2	0	Two Copts are shot to death for refusing to pay Jizya to Muslims.
9/8/2013	Syria	Maaloula	3	6	Three Christians are murdered in their home, and six others taken hostage by Islamists.
9/7/2013	Syria	Maaloula	3	0	At least three Christians are shot to death after declining an offer to embrace Islam.
9/4/2013	Syria	Maaloula	8	27	At least eight defenders are killed when Islamists storm a Christian village and shell a church.
9/4/2013	Syria	Maaloula	1	0	Islamists slit the throat of a Christian for refusing to deny his faith, then taunt his fiancée.
9/3/2013	Nigeria	Kunte-Kuru	6	0	A brutal assault by Muslim militia on the home of a Christian family leaves six members dead, including a 7-year-old child.
9/3/2013	Nigeria	Gura Dabwam	3	1	Muslims gun down a devout Christian villager and his two teenage sons.
9/1/2013	Nigeria	Adu	9	3	Nine Christian villagers, including two children, are machine-gunned in their own homes by Muslim terrorists.
9/1/2013	Somalia	Beledweyne	1	1	A Christian woman is murdered in front of her child, in a targeted attack by Islamic radicals.
8/29/2013	Nigeria	Jos	5	0	Five Christians are ordered off a bus and summarily executed by Religion of Peace activists.
8/25/2013	Nigeria	Nasarawa	0	7	Thirty Muslims attack a church armed with knives and clubs.
8/18/2013	Egypt	Minya	2	0	Islamists butcher two security guards on a boat owned by Christians.
8/17/2013	Egypt	Sohag	1	0	A civilian is killed while trying to defend a church from the Muslim Brotherhood.
8/17/2013	Egypt	Minya	0	1	A Copt survives a brutal stabbing by Muslims while trying to put out a fire at a church.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

8/17/2013	Syria	al-Hasn	15	24	Fifteen Christian villagers are reportedly massacred by Sunni terrorists.
8/17/2013	Syria	Homs	6	0	Six Christians are murdered by Sunni terrorists.
8/16/2013	Egypt	Alexandria	1	0	Muslim radicals pull a Christian taxi driver out of his cab and decapitate him.
8/15/2013	Egypt	Minya	2	48	Two Copts are killed and dozens more injured when Muslim Brotherhood supporters go on a church-burning rampage.
8/14/2013	Syria	Raqqa	1	0	An Italian priest is kidnapped and murdered by Islamists.
8/12/2013	Syria	Qusayr	1	0	A young Christian girl is reportedly raped, torture and murdered by Jihadis.
8/6/2013	Egypt	Souhag	1	3	Muslims attack a store owned by a Coptic family, shooting three members and kidnapping a fourth.
8/6/2013	Egypt	Ain Shams	1	0	A 10-year-old Christian girl is shot through the heart in front of her church by pro-Muslim Brotherhood activists.
8/6/2013	USA	Richmond, CA	1	0	A Muslim convert "on a mission from Allah" stabs a store clerk to death.
8/6/2013	Syria	Jaramana	18	56	Islamists set off a powerful car bomb in a Christian suburb. At least eighteen people are slain.
8/3/2013	Centrafrique	Bozoum	15	24	A baby is among at least fifteen Christian refugees massacred by the Seleka Islamic militia.
7/29/2013	Nigeria	Kano	45	15	Forty-five people lose their lives to Islamist bombers targeting Christian districts and churches.
7/27/2013	Pakistan	Okara	1	0	A Christian is beaten and executed in front of his children by Islamic gunmen.
7/15/2013	Pakistan	Quetta	1	0	Sipah-e-Sahaba terrorists kidnap and torture to death a former Sunni who converted to Shia.
7/12/2013	Egypt	Dabaaya	4	32	A Muslim bomb attacks a Christian village, burning dozens of homes and killing four Copts.
7/11/2013	Egypt	Zweid	1	0	A Christian is found beheaded several days after being kidnapped by Muslim extremists.
7/9/2013	Iraq	al-Tamriyah	1	0	A Christian 'infidel' is kidnapped and executed by Muslim terrorists.
7/6/2013	Egypt	al-Arish	1	0	Islamic gunmen murder a Coptic priest.
7/5/2013	Pakistan	Islamabad	1	0	Islamic fundamentalists attack a local church, shooting one person to death.
7/5/2013	Egypt	Nagaa Hassan	4	4	Four Christians are brutally hacked to death by Muslim Brotherhood supporters.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

7/2/2013	Nigeria	Borno	1	0	A Pentecostal pastor is gunned down by Boko Haram.
6/27/2013	Syria	Qatana	1	0	A Greek Orthodox priest is kidnapped and tortured to death by Religion of Peace proponents.
6/27/2013	Syria	Damascus	4	8	A suicide bomber detonates outside a church, killing four innocents.
6/27/2013	Syria	Idlib	2	0	Two Christians, including a priest, are reportedly kidnapped, bound and beheaded on video by Islamists.
6/25/2013	Iraq	Baghdad	2	2	Islamists set off a bomb near a church, killing two people.
6/25/2013	Iraq	Baghdad	0	2	Two guards are wounded when Muslims open fire on a Catholic church.
6/24/2013	Iraq	Baghdad	1	2	Jihadis bomb a Christian-owned store, killing a father of three.
6/23/2013	Syria	Idlib	1	0	A Catholic monk is beheaded Islamists for defending nuns.
6/18/2013	Nigeria	Bakin Rijjya	1	0	At least one resident is killed when Muslim terrorists attack a Christian village and burn four churches.
6/15/2013	Nigeria	Hwada	1	0	A pastor's throat is slit by Islamists upon refusal to convert.
6/11/2013	Pakistan	Sheikhupura	1	0	A Christian teen is tortured and killed on (false) suspicion of relations with a Muslim girl.
6/9/2013	Kenya	Mombasa	0	17	Islamists throw a grenade into a church during Sunday service, nearly killing a baby.
6/7/2013	Somalia	Jamaame	1	0	Islamists identify a Christian convert and publicly execute him.
6/6/2013	Bangladesh	Bolakipur	0	5	Muslim 'extremists' break in to a Catholic seminary and beat the rector and students 'with violence and brutality'.
6/2/2013	Tanzania	Geita	0	1	Religion of Peace activists enter the home of a Christian pastor and nearly hack him to death.
5/26/2013	Egypt	Cairo	1	0	Muslims abduct and kill a 6-year-old Coptic boy.
5/24/2013	Nigeria	Borno	1	0	Members of Boko Haram murder an elderly Christian woman in her home.
5/24/2013	Nigeria	Gwoza	2	0	A pastor and a church member are brutally slain by Islamist gunmen.
5/22/2013	Pakistan	Karachi	1	0	A Christian man is gunned down by two men in a targeted attack.
5/19/2013	Pakistan	Khushpur	1	3	Angry Muslims fire on a Christian village, killing a teenage student.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

5/17/2013	Egypt	Alexandria	1	3	A Copt is killed during an assault by a Muslim bomb on a church.
5/15/2013	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	Religion of Peace activists shoot a pastor to death in his home in front of his daughter.
5/5/2013	Nigeria	Njilan	10	0	Islamic extremists stage a Sunday morning attack on a church and a nearby cattle market, killing at least ten.
5/5/2013	Tanzania	Arusha	3	57	A 9-year-old child, a teenager and a woman bleed to death when a Muslim convert tosses a bomb into a church.
5/2/2013	Pakistan	Manghopir	2	2	Two watchmen are shot dead during an attack by the Taliban on a Belgian missionary school.
4/13/2013	Centrafrique	Bangui	1	0	A pastor is shot to death by Islamic militants at a funeral.
4/13/2013	Somalia	Buulodbarde	1	0	Islamists murder a Christian mother of five only four months after doing the same to her husband. Both were killed for leaving Islam.
4/11/2013	Egypt	Khusus	1	0	A 26-year-old Christian is doused with gasoline and set ablaze.
4/10/2013	India	Srinigar	0	9	Two children and five women are among nine Christians attacked in their home by a mob whipped into a frenzy by an imam.
4/9/2013	Nigeria	Gwoza	3	0	Islamists shoot three people in the head while they are playing cards, including a pastor's son.
4/7/2013	Nigeria	Mdlu Shalmi	14	5	Muslim radicals shoot, hack and slit the throats of fourteen Christians.
4/7/2013	Egypt	Cairo	2	89	Muslim radicals attack a group of mourners leaving a church, killing one on the spot and another in subsequent clashes.
4/6/2013	Egypt	Khusus	7	17	Angry Muslims torch a church and kill seven Christians over alleged desecration.
4/4/2013	Pakistan	Manga Mandi	1	0	A 20-year-old Christian is shot in the head by Muslims calling their religion 'supreme'.
4/3/2013	Tanzania	Tunduma	2	3	Two Christians are murdered by Muslim extremists for selling non-halal meat.
4/3/2013	Pakistan	Gujranwala	0	18	Eighteen Christians are injured by a Muslim mob whipped into a frenzy by a cleric.
3/31/2013	Nigeria	Ataka	19	12	Muslim 'nomads' attack a Christian village, butchering nineteen people, including women and children.
3/28/2013	Nigeria	Barkin Ladi	9	3	Nine Christians are machine-gunned during a Muslim raid on their village.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

3/26/2013	Nigeria	Riyom	36	12	Fulani 'militia' attack two Christian villages, hacking and shooting three dozen to death.
3/24/2013	USA	Ashtabula, OH	1	0	A Muslim convert walks into a church service with a Quran and guns down his Christian father while praising Allah.
3/23/2013	Somalia	Bulo Marer	0	1	A Christian convert is jailed and tortured for leaving Islam.
3/23/2013	Egypt	Cairo	0	1	Muslim Brotherhood cadres abduct a Christian and take him to a mosque for a brutal round of torture.
3/18/2013	Pakistan	Kalaswala	0	1	A Christian missionary is severely beaten by Muslim extremists.
3/18/2013	Nigeria	Kano	41	44	Over 40 Christians are blown to bits by Shahid suicide car bombers in a brutal attack.
3/17/2013	Nigeria	Torok	2	3	A Muslim fires on a Christian family, killing a baby and a 5-year-old and injuring three women.
3/14/2013	USA	Vancouver, WA	0	2	Two people suffer knife injuries when a Muslim convert attempts to stab a non-Muslim to death over religious views outside a coffee shop.
3/10/2013	Nigeria	Jama'are	7	0	Ansaru Islamists summarily execute seven 'Christian' hostages.
3/10/2013	Nigeria	Dakata	5	3	Five Christians are shot to death by Islamic extremists while returning home from church.
3/10/2013	Libya	Benghazi	1	0	A Christian arrested by Islamists for 'proselytizing' dies from 'natural causes' while being tortured.
3/9/2013	Pakistan	Lahore	0	35	A Muslim mob rampages through a Christian neighborhood, burning more than 100 homes and injuring three dozen.
3/2/2013	Egypt	Cairo	3	0	Three Christian brothers are machine-gunned in their home by Islamists angered over a church-building rumor.
3/2/2013	Libya	Benghazi	0	11	A priest and ten parishoners are beaten and humiliated in their own church by Muslim activists.
3/2/2013	Tanzania	Dar Es Salaam	0	1	An Islamist attempt to hack a church bishop to death is thwarted by a guard who suffers horrific injuries.
3/1/2013	Egypt	Kom Ombo	0	23	Muslims firebomb a church on a false rumor of a conversion.
2/24/2013	Nigeria	Fika	5	3	Islamists rampage through a Christian village, killing five people in attacks that included a church.
2/23/2013	Nigeria	Abuja	17	1	Fundamentalists storm a factory, separate Christian from Muslim workers and then murder seventeen of the former in cold blood.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

2/23/2013	Nigeria	Aduwan	5	11	A baby and a 13-year-old are among five innocents slain when Muslim extremists rake churches with machine-gun fire.
2/23/2013	Egypt	Alexandria	5	0	Islamists murder four Christians and a guard outside a church.
2/22/2013	Nigeria	Kogom	10	2	Fulani Muslims hack ten Christian family members to death including five small children.
2/19/2013	Cameroon	Lake Chad	2	1	Two Christian converts are lined up and shot to death for leaving Islam.
2/18/2013	Netherlands	Brabant	1	0	Islamists are suspected in the murder of a Christian convert from Iran.
2/18/2013	Somalia	Alanley	1	0	A 42-year-old Christian teacher and father of four is brutally executed by al-Shabaab outside his home.
2/17/2013	Tanzania	Zanzibar	1	0	A priest is murdered by Muslim extremists on his way to church.
2/16/2013	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	A 45-year-old Christian is murdered in cold blood by a Muslim arguing religion.
2/11/2013	Tanzania	Buseresere	1	0	A pastor is beheaded by a group of Muslim youth.
2/8/2013	Pakistan	Pattoki	0	3	Three Christian women are beaten and tortured by a Muslim mob in their own home.
2/7/2013	USA	Buena Vista, NJ	2	0	A Muslim targets and beheads two Christian Coptic immigrants.
2/7/2013	Kenya	Garissa	1	1	Islamists shoot two Christian pastors, killing one.
2/4/2013	Pakistan	Chaman	1	0	A Christian dies after being shot five times by Muslims angry that he would not embrace Islam.
2/1/2013	Nigeria	Samunaka	15	1	Islamists attack and burn three churches, killing at least fifteen innocents, including two children.
2/1/2013	Egypt	Alexandria	0	1	A Christian woman is stabbed on the street by Muslim hardliners.
1/28/2013	Turkey	Istanbul	1	0	An 85-year-old Christian woman is stabbed to death by an attacker who then carves a cross on her body.
1/16/2013	Nigeria	Jos	4	2	Four Christians are the victims of a Muslim drive-by.
1/16/2013	Algeria	Tigantourine	2	6	Armed Islamists attack an oil field, killing two people they identified as Christians and kidnapping over a hundred workers.
1/15/2013	Norway	Haugesund	0	2	A Muslim stabs two Christians who converted from Islam.
1/9/2013	Pakistan	Bahawalpur	1	0	Muslim stab a 19-year-old Christian to death for seeing a Muslim girl.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1/8/2013	Iraq	Mbsul	1	12	A car bomb at a supermarket in a Christian area kills a medical student.
1/7/2013	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A female Christian teacher's throat is cut by dedicated Muslims.
12/31/2012	Syria	Ras al-Ayn	1	0	A pregnant Christian woman is left widowed after her husband is beheaded by Islamic radicals and fed to dogs.
12/30/2012	Nigeria	Kyachi	15	0	Islamists invade a church service on Sunday morning, tie up fifteen worshippers and execute them. (Follows similar attack elsewhere two days earlier).
12/30/2012	Libya	Misrata	2	2	Islamists toss a hand grenade at worshippers leaving a Coptic church, killing two.
12/30/2012	Pakistan	Ittehad Chowk	1	1	Gunmen fire at two Christian brothers in a targeted attack. One later dies of injuries.
12/28/2012	Nigeria	Musari	15	0	Islamists tie up fifteen women and children inside a church, then slit their throats while shouting praises to Allah.
12/28/2012	Turkey	Samatya	1	0	An 84-year-old Christian woman is stabbed to death by a Muslim in what is called a 'racist' attack.
12/27/2012	Pakistan	Quetta	1	0	A Christian girl is shot execution style through the head.
12/26/2012	Sudan	Buram	4	0	A 70-year-old woman and two children are among four Christians killed in an Islamic bomb attack.
12/26/2012	Nigeria	Bachit	5	0	Suspected Fulani murder three villagers, including a married couple, in attacks on two Christian homes.
12/25/2012	Pakistan	Iqbal	0	12	At least a dozen Christian men, women and children s are set on with guns and iron rods by a Muslim mob outside their church.
12/25/2012	Tanzania	Zanzibar City	0	1	A Catholic priest is shot in the chest by Muslim gunmen.
12/25/2012	Nigeria	Peri	6	4	A pastor and five worshippers are slaughtered in a Religion of Peace attack on a Christmas morning church service.
12/25/2012	Nigeria	Rim	1	0	A Christian is killed in his home by Fulani gunmen in front of his family.
12/24/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	6	0	Six people are killed in a Christmas Eve church attack by Religion of Peace gunmen.
12/18/2012	Sudan	Eire	5	1	Two 4-year-olds and a baby are among a Christian family of five killed in an Islamic bombing.
12/8/2012	Somalia	Beledweyne	1	0	Religion of Peace activists shoot 55-year-old Christian to death for leaving Islam.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

12/6/2012	Nigeria	Yankaba	2	0	Two Christian teenagers are executed by gunmen on a motorcycle yelling, 'Allah akbar'.
12/3/2012	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	A 72-year-old female Christian charity worker is shot in the neck by suspected Islamists.
12/2/2012	Nigeria	Chibok	10	0	Religion of Peace proponents invade a Christian village in the middle of the night and massacre ten residents.
12/1/2012	Nigeria	Gamboru Ngala	2	0	Two guards die when Muslims shouting 'Allah Akbar' burn churches.
11/25/2012	Nigeria	Jaji	15	30	Two suicide bombers massacre fifteen worshippers at a Protestant church.
11/22/2012	Nigeria	Bichi	4	2	Angry Muslims riot, burn churches and kills four Christians over a rumor of blasphemy concerning a t-shirt.
11/18/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	An 70-year-old retired Protestant pastor is executed in cold blood by Islamic extremists.
11/17/2012	Sudan	South Kordofan	3	3	Three Christian villagers are killed in two targeted bombing attacks by the Islamic republic.
11/16/2012	Syria	Aleppo	20	60	Sunnis detonate a bomb outside an Orthodox church that leaves at least twenty dead.
11/16/2012	Somalia	Barawa	1	0	A Christian convert is beheaded for leaving the Religion of Peace.
11/16/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	3	0	Three Christian traders are shot to death by Boko Haram.
11/15/2012	Nigeria	Madauchi-Zonkwa	5	0	Muslim radicals are suspected in the slaughter and burning of a Christian family in their home.
11/10/2012	Nigeria	Gaidam	5	0	Five Christian iron welders are slaughtered in their own home by Boko Haram gunmen.
11/4/2012	Kenya	Garissa	1	10	One person dies from splinter injuries when Islamists toss a grenade at a church.
10/30/2012	Syria	Homs	1	0	An 84-year-old Christian is murdered by Sunnis.
10/28/2012	Syria	Jaramana	12	69	Twelve people outside a bakery in a Christian district are exterminated in a targeted bomb attack.
10/28/2012	Egypt	Cairo	0	5	Five Christians are injured by Muslims trying to block their way into church.
10/28/2012	Sudan	Delami	1	9	The Islamic Republic of Sudan aerial bombs several Christian villages, killing a 1-year-old baby.
10/28/2012	Nigeria	Kaduna	7	100	Seven worshippers are murdered when a suicide car bomber plows into a Catholic church during mass.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

10/27/2012	Syria	Deir Ezzor	5	24	Terrorists set off a car bomb in front of a church, killing five innocents.
10/25/2012	Syria	Qatana	1	0	An Orthodox priest is horribly tortured and murdered by Muslim 'criminals'. His eyes were gouged out.
10/21/2012	Syria	Damascus	13	29	A bomb targeting Christians on their way to church leaves thirteen dead.
10/21/2012	Nigeria	Atagara	2	0	Two people are killed when Islamic radicals torch a church.
10/19/2012	Lebanon	Beirut	8	78	A car bomb blast in a Christian suburb leaves eight dead, including children.
10/16/2012	Indonesia	Masani	2	0	Jamaah Anshorut Tauhid murder two investigators of a church bombing by stabbing them in the neck.
10/14/2012	Nigeria	Yogbo	30	0	Thirty people are left dead when Muslims resolve a "land dispute" by massacring thirty Christian villagers, mostly women and children.
10/14/2012	Egypt	Abdelmassih	2	3	Two members of a Christian family are shot to death in their own home by a Muslim gang attempting to kidnap and convert a 24-year-old female relative.
10/14/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	3	0	A family of three is cut down outside their church by Islamist gunmen.
10/10/2012	Nigeria	Riyom	14	5	Three children and their mother are among over a dozen Christians are slaughtered during a Muslim raid on their village.
10/10/2012	Nigeria	Dallyam	4	4	Muslim terrorists shoot four members of a Christian family at close range.
10/10/2012	Nigeria	Barkin Ladi	2	0	Two Christians are machine-gunned while sitting in their car.
10/2/2012	Nigeria	Mubi	26	15	At least twenty-six Christian students are singled out and executed by Islamists at their campus. Some are shot, others have their throats cut.
10/1/2012	Syria	Said Naya	3	0	Three Christians are abducted and murdered by a Muslim 'gang'.
9/30/2012	Kenya	Nairobi	1	6	A child is killed when Religion of Peace proponents toss a grenade into a church.
9/28/2012	Pakistan	Youhanaabad	0	1	A protestant bishop is assaulted and by angry Muslims and beaten outside his church.
9/23/2012	Nigeria	Bauchi	2	48	A woman and a child at a church service are murdered by a Shahid suicide car bomber.
9/21/2012	Pakistan	Mardan	0	12	Thousands burn down a Lutheran church and thrash a dozen Christians.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

9/16/2012	Pakistan	Hyderabad	0	1	Islamists angered over a Muhammad film ambush a nun and her driver outside a cathedral.
9/15/2012	Pakistan	Karachi	2	4	Six Christians are shot at close range in their homes by Religion of Peace gunmen.
9/3/2012	Syria	Jaramana	4	12	Sunni rebels are blamed for a car bomb blast targeting Christians in a residential neighborhood.
8/29/2012	Syria	Zamalka	7	0	A family of seven Christians, including three children, are shot in the street by 'Liva Islam'.
8/28/2012	Syria	Jaramana	27	48	Sunni terrorists are blamed for a car bombing attack on a Christian funeral that leaves twenty-seven dead, including children.
8/28/2012	Pakistan	Karachi	1	1	Islamic militants open fire on a pastor, injuring him and killing a church member.
8/21/2012	Pakistan	Faisalabad	1	0	A Muslim perpetrator is strongly suspected by the minority community in the targeted torture and murder of a 14-year-old Christian boy.
8/14/2012	Egypt	Asyut	1	0	Salafis storm a Christian-owned store and murder the owner.
8/14/2012	Pakistan	Sahiwal	1	0	A 14-year-old Christian girl is gang-raped and murdered by five Muslim men.
8/13/2012	Nigeria	Gombe	1	1	A guard is killed during a Religion of Peace assault on a Catholic church.
8/10/2012	Nigeria	Kombul	4	3	Four Christians are cut down in their homes by a Muslim raid on their village.
8/10/2012	Philippines	Jolo	1	0	A Christian man is gunned down by Abu Sayyaf terrorists on his way home from church.
8/10/2012	Nigeria	Kaduna	0	1	Muslim's yell 'Allah Akbar' as they set fire to a church and shoot at a pastor and his family.
8/6/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	A church pastor is shot to death in his home by two Islamists.
8/6/2012	Nigeria	Okene	20	9	Sharia proponents enter a church and open up on members with machine-guns, slaughtering at least nineteen, including the pastor.
8/5/2012	Philippines	Maguindanao	1	11	At least one woman is killed when Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Movement members overrun a Catholic village.
7/29/2012	Nigeria	Kano	2	0	Two Christians are gunned down outside their homes by Boko Haram Islamists.
7/26/2012	Philippines	Sumisip	5	22	Abu Sayyaf terrorists attack a Christian farming village, killing at least five.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

7/26/2012	Egypt	Shubra el Khayma	0	1	A Christian doctor is brutally blinded by Salafist Muslims after asking them to stop firing weapons in celebration.
7/22/2012	Syria	Damascus	4	0	The 'Islamic Brigade' stops a car carrying a Christian family, force them out and then massacre them, including the two children.
7/22/2012	Philippines	Tumahubong	0	4	There are four casualties when suspected Abu Sayaaf gunmen ambush a group of priests.
7/22/2012	Pakistan	Hyderabad	2	0	Two Christians are shot to death by Muslim radicals.
7/8/2012	Nigeria	Barkin-Ladi	23	1	Two politicians are among twenty-three Christians, including women and children, slaughtered by Muslims during a funeral for other victims of Islamic terror.
7/8/2012	Pakistan	Kot Ghulam	1	0	A Christian laborer is pulled out of his truck and shot point-blank by a Muslim.
7/7/2012	Nigeria	Kushen	80	300	Muslim terrorists attack twelve Christian villages and massacre eighty innocents, including fifty taking refuge in a church.
7/7/2012	Kosovo	Pristina	2	0	A middle-aged Christian couple is found shot to death in their home in what is presumed to be a targeted attack by members of the Muslim majority.
7/6/2012	South Africa	Philippi	14	0	al-Shabaab is suspected in the serial killings of fourteen Christians.
7/1/2012	Kenya	Garissa	18	66	Muslims throw grenades into two churches and then shoot fleeing Christians. Some eighteen die in the massacre, including three children..
7/1/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	9	0	Nine Christian construction workers have their throats cut by Islamists in a 'gruesome' killing.
6/29/2012	Egypt	El Sharqiya	2	0	Two Christians are reported murdered by Muslim Brotherhood activists.
6/25/2012	Somalia	Mogadishu	0	3	Three Christian converts are shot inside their home by Islamic fundamentalists.
6/17/2012	Nigeria	Trikania	5	40	A Shahid suicide car bomber crashes through a church gate and blows up at least five Christians.
6/17/2012	Nigeria	Zaria	34	125	Holy Warriors walk into two church services and detonate, leaving over thirty worshipers dead in the carnage, including at least ten children.
6/11/2012	Egypt	Cairo	0	12	Several Christian students are injured by Muslims angered over their evangelism.
6/10/2012	Nigeria	Jos	4	40	A Shahid suicide bomber detonates inside a church during Sunday morning service, killing at least four.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

6/10/2012	Nigeria	Biu	2	12	A woman and an usher are among two Christians machine-gunned by Islamists during a church service.
6/4/2012	Tunisia	Tunis	1	0	Video surfaces of an execution earlier in the year in which a man's throat is cut for embracing Christianity by Muslims who offer prayers as they slice.
6/3/2012	Nigeria	Bauchi	21	45	A Holy Warrior runs his car into a church service and detonates, taking out over twenty praying Christians. The responsible group later thanks Allah for the victory.
5/23/2012	Iraq	Mosul	3	2	Extremists enter the home of a Catholic priest, murder his father and two brothers, and rape his mother and sister.
5/21/2012	Nigeria	Benue	5	3	Five people in a Christian village are murdered by Muslim raiders.
5/19/2012	Nigeria	On-Mbaagbu	12	5	Muslim 'mercenaries' storm two Christian villages and slaughter seven people, including a 2-year-old boy butchered with a knife.
5/15/2012	Pakistan	Quetta	1	0	A Christian man is shot to death while walking home.
5/14/2012	Nigeria	Adamawa	15	48	Fifteen Christian villagers are massacred by twenty Fulani raiders.
5/9/2012	Nigeria	Rim	1	2	A Christian villager is killed by Muslim attackers.
5/9/2012	Nigeria	Tahoss	7	1	Muslim activists set fire to Christian homes and then shoot those trying to flee, killing at least seven, including two children.
5/8/2012	Pakistan	Dhamala	0	3	Three Christian women are 'beaten mercilessly' in their own home by a Muslim gang.
5/1/2012	Nigeria	Riyom	6	6	Muslims raid a Christian village, setting fire to homes and shooting those who fled.
4/29/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	5	6	The pastor is among five Christians shot to death by Boko Haram Islamists inside their church.
4/29/2012	Kenya	Nairobi	1	16	A suspected al-Shabaab member throws a grenade into a church during Sunday service, killing a worshipper.
4/29/2012	Nigeria	Kano	16	22	Sixteen Christians, including professors and doctors, are massacred by Islamists, who bomb their church service and then shoot them in the back as they try to flee.
4/25/2012	Nigeria	Riyom	5	5	Four women and a 4-year-old child are among members of a Christian village hacked to death by Fulani raiders.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

4/25/2012	Nigeria	Abuja	2	2	Muslims shoot a Christian father and teenage son to death for 'not serving Allah' and also kidnap the family's two young daughters, ages 7 and 9.
4/12/2012	Macedonia	Smilkovsko	5	0	Five young Christian fishermen between the ages of 18 and 22 are brutally slaughtered by a group of radical Muslims at a lake.
4/11/2012	Mali	Timbuktu	1	0	A Christian leader is beheaded shortly after Islamic forces take control of the city.
4/9/2012	Nigeria	Dikwa	3	0	A civilian and guard at a church are among three people shot to death by Boko Haram.
4/8/2012	Nigeria	Kaduna	41	33	A suicide car bomber detonates outside a church celebrating Easter. Nearly forty people lose their lives in the carnage.
4/7/2012	Mali	Timbuktu	1	0	A Christian leader is beheaded by Religion of Peace activists.
4/7/2012	Turkey	Bahcelievler	0	1	Radicals rush into a church and assault a pastor when he refuses to embrace Islam.
4/4/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	9	0	Islamic radicals fire on Christian traders at a market, killing nine.
4/1/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	A Christian is shot to death by Islamists on his way home from church.
3/31/2012	Kenya	Mtwapa	2	30	Two Christians are blown apart when Mujahideen toss a grenade into an outdoor worship service.
3/30/2012	India	Nutangram	0	1	A 65-year-old widow is badly beaten in her own church by Islamic extremists.
3/26/2012	Nigeria	Takum	2	2	Muslim 'mercenaries' attack two Christian villages and shoot a 22-year-old and an elderly man to death.
3/22/2012	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian is kidnapped and murdered.
3/20/2012	Iraq	Baghdad	2	5	Religion of Peace bombers kill two people with a blast at an Orthodox church.
3/20/2012	Iraq	Baghdad	3	0	Suspected al-Qaeda storm a church and kill three guards.
3/18/2012	Nigeria	Suleja	0	5	A church is firebombed during a service.
3/18/2012	Yemen	Taiz	1	0	al-Qaeda gunmen murder an American teacher accused of being a 'Christian proselytizer'.
3/15/2012	Nigeria	Nayi	10	4	A pastor is among ten people hacked and shot to death when armed Muslims raid Christian homes around a church.
3/12/2012	Nigeria	Bum	2	3	Fulani raiders slaughter two Christian villagers.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

3/11/2012	Nigeria	Jos	11	22	A suicide bomber detonates at a Catholic church during mass, killing at least eleven worshippers.
3/11/2012	Nigeria	Chugwi	3	3	Three Christians are shot dead by Muslim gunmen in a targeted attack.
3/6/2012	Nigeria	Bilala	2	0	At least two civilians are killed as Boko Haram devotees blow up a church and a police station.
3/4/2012	Nigeria	Benue	21	13	Women and children comprise the bulk of twenty-one members of a Christian farming community slaughtered by Fulani 'mercenaries' wielding machetes and burning homes.
3/4/2012	Egypt	Abu Al-Reesh	0	2	Two nuns are injured when a Muslim mob of 1500 lays siege to a Catholic school on rumors of a church building.
3/1/2012	Iraq	Sulaymaniyah	1	0	A Christian schoolteacher is gunned down by a Muslim student over 'religious differences'.
2/29/2012	Bangladesh	Madarganj	0	3	Three missionaries are injured when a mob, stirred up by an Islamic seminary, throw stones at them.
2/26/2012	Nigeria	Jos	4	38	A suicide bomber detonates during a church service, killing four worshippers including a woman and a father and 18-month-old child.
2/26/2012	Pakistan	Kot Meerath	0	1	A Christian woman is brutally tortured and paraded for harboring alleged 'anti-Islam' views.
2/25/2012	Sudan	Umsirdipa	5	0	Five members of a Christian family are killed in a targeted attack by the Islamic republic.
2/22/2012	Pakistan	Faisalabad	0	2	A Muslim mob attacks a church and shoots one Christian while pushing another off the roof.
2/22/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	Islamists slit the throat of a pastor's 75-year-old mother and leave a note in Arabic for her son.
2/19/2012	Israel	Jerusalem	0	1	One person is injured when Muslims hurl rocks at Christian tourists from their mosque on the Temple Mount.
2/19/2012	Nigeria	Sulieja	0	5	Sharia advocates set off a car bomb next to a church.
2/11/2012	Nigeria	Potiskum	2	0	Two Christian brothers are murdered in cold blood by Islamists in white robes.
2/9/2012	Syria	Qusayr	1	0	Sunni rebels pull a Christian family man out of his car and execute him in cold blood.
1/30/2012	Nigeria	Potiskum	1	0	A guard at a church is picked off by Islamist snipers.
1/26/2012	Egypt	Bahgourah	2	0	A Christian father and son are machine-gunned by Muslims after refusing to pay money.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1/24/2012	Norway	Haugesund	0	2	Two ex-Muslim converts to Christianity are stabbed by three attackers shouting 'kuffar' (unbeliever).
1/23/2012	Turkey	Istanbul	0	1	A Christian laborer is severely tortured with scalding water on orders of his Muslim employer.
1/22/2012	Nigeria	Tafawa Balewa	9	12	Militant Muslims hurl grenades into Christian homes, killing some as they slept and then shooting others as they tried to escape.
1/19/2012	Egypt	Keibly-Rahmaniya	0	2	A man and boy suffer gunshot injuries when a mob rampages through a Christian town, shouting 'Allah Akbar' and burning homes.
1/17/2012	Sudan	Khartoum	0	1	A church evangelist is arrested and brutally beaten by police.
1/15/2012	Syria	Damascus	3	0	Three Christians are killed in targeted attacks - two while waiting in line at a bakery.
1/15/2012	Sudan	Rabak	0	2	Islamic militia force their way into a church and kidnap two priests, who are then 'mistreated' in captivity.
1/11/2012	Nigeria	Potiskum	6	0	Six Christians, including a woman and a baby, are machine-gunned by Boko Haram while on a bus at a gas station.
1/10/2012	Nigeria	Dalman	3	0	Three Christians are shot and hacked to death in a sectarian attack at a farming community.
1/9/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	2	0	Religion of Peace activists shoot two Christians death in their own homes in separate attacks.
1/7/2012	Nigeria	Maiduguri	2	0	Two Christian university students are murdered by Religion of Peace gunmen.
1/6/2012	Nigeria	Adamawa	12	4	Islamists chanting 'Allah Akbar' barge into a church and massacre a dozen worshippers.
1/6/2012	Nigeria	Mubi	20	15	Twenty Christians gathered for a funeral are machine-gunned at close range by Muslims shouting 'Allah Akbar'.
1/5/2012	Nigeria	Gombe	9	10	Muslim gunmen spray a church congregation with machine-gun fire, killing nine, including the pastor's wife and several children.
1/5/2012	Nigeria	Mubi	4	0	Four Christians are gunned down by Boko Haram.
1/2/2012	Tajikistan	Dushanbe	1	0	A Christian dressed as Father Christmas is called an 'infidel' and stabbed to death by Muslim radicals.
1/2/2012	Somalia	Cee-Carfiid	1	0	A Christian humanitarian worker is beheaded by Religion of Peace activists for leaving Islam.
12/29/2011	Egypt	Assiut	0	5	At least five people are hurt when a Muslim mob burns Christian homes over a Facebook cartoon.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

12/28/2011	Pakistan	Plateau	3	0	A baby is among three members of a Christian family shot and hacked to death by machete-wielding Muslims.
12/25/2011	Nigeria	Jos	1	0	Muslim militants fire on a protestant church, killing a guard.
12/25/2011	Nigeria	Madalla	45	73	Religion of Peace bombers strike a Catholic church during a morning Christmas mass, slaughtering forty-five worshippers.
12/25/2011	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	Muslim snipers pick off a Christian just outside his home.
12/24/2011	Nigeria	Maiduguri	11	0	A pastor and his young daughter are incinerated when Islamists fire bomb three churches.
12/24/2011	Uganda	Namasuba	0	1	A young pastor, who left Islam after having been born the son of an imam, is blinded by acid in a vicious Christmas Eve attack.
12/22/2011	Pakistan	Lahore	0	1	A young Christian is stabbed several times after having been falsely accused of insulting Islam.
12/19/2011	Nigeria	Ungwan Rami	5	6	Five Christian villagers are hacked and shot to death by Muslim raiders. The victims include a mother and her baby.
12/15/2011	Saudi Arabia	Jeddah	0	6	At least six Ethiopian Christians are beaten when police storm a prayer meeting. Twenty-nine women are strip-searched.
12/14/2011	Iraq	Mosul	2	0	Two more Christians are shot to death.
12/13/2011	Iraq	Mosul	2	2	A Christian man and his wife are gunned down in their car by Jihad warriors. Their children survive with injuries.
12/11/2011	Nigeria	Kagoro	1	2	Fulani extremists gun down a Christian mother.
12/11/2011	Nigeria	Gombe	1	0	Muslim gunmen murder a Christian as he is putting gas in his car.
12/10/2011	Nigeria	Jos	1	11	A young fan is killed when Islamic bombers target several Christian areas, including an outdoor viewing of a televised soccer match.
12/10/2011	Nigeria	Kukum Gida	1	2	Muslim gunmen ambush Christian villagers in the middle of the night, murdering a 50-year-old woman.
12/5/2011	Kenya	Nairobi	0	1	A 23-year-old Christian is beaten into unconsciousness by seven Muslims for the crime of leaving Islam.
12/3/2011	Iraq	Zakho	0	32	Thirty-two people are injured during a rampage by fundamentalists against Christian-owned businesses.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

11/30/2011	Egypt	Ghorayzat	2	3	Two Christian brothers are murdered in cold blood by a Muslim mob rampaging through Christian homes and businesses.
11/26/2011	Nigeria	Geidam	4	20	Islamic radicals descend on a small town, burn eight churches and murder four defenders.
11/25/2011	Pakistan	Muzaffargarh	0	2	Two Christian women are beaten on their own land with clubs by a group of Muslim 'men'.
11/25/2011	Kenya	Garissa	1	0	One person is murdered outside of a church by Muslim radicals.
11/24/2011	Nigeria	Kwok	26	0	Twenty-six Christian villagers are shot and hacked to death by Fulani herdsman screaming 'Allah Akbar'.
11/24/2011	Nigeria	Barkin Ladi	18	1	A Christian family of sixteen, including children, is burned alive by Fulanis.
11/23/2011	Nigeria	Yobe	2	0	Militants kidnap and kill two children to punish their father for being 'disloyal to Islam' by converting to Christianity.
11/23/2011	Nigeria	Sabon Layi	4	0	A Bible teacher is among four worshipers slaughtered at a church by Muslim radicals.
11/23/2011	Pakistan	Khurda Renala	1	0	Muslims torture and shoot to death a Catholic father of four.
11/21/2011	Nigeria	Barkin Ladi	1	0	Islamic extremists behead a young Christian.
11/20/2011	Nigeria	Razat	3	1	Muslims hack three young Christians to death at an illegal roadblock.
11/17/2011	Egypt	Cairo	0	32	Islamic radicals violently attack a group of Copts, marching to a memorial for slain victims of another massacre.
11/17/2011	Nigeria	Gargari	4	6	Three young girls are among four Christians murdered by Muslim extremists in their own homes.
11/16/2011	Pakistan	Karachi	1	0	A pastor is shot in the neck and face in a targeted ambush.
11/15/2011	Israel	Haifa	0	1	An 82-year-old nun is tied up and severely beaten by a gang of four Muslims, including a father and son.
11/10/2011	Philippines	Carmen	1	0	A church elder and father of thirteen is beheaded by Religion of Peace activists at his farm.
11/6/2011	Pakistan	Abbottabad	0	1	A pregnant Christian woman is tortured for three hours by police.
11/5/2011	Kenya	Garissa	2	3	A member of the choir is killed along with an 8-year-old girls when al-Shabaab terrorists toss a grenade into a church.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

11/4/2011	Philippines	Malabang	2	0	Suspected Moro Islamists murder two Catholic roadside vendors.
11/4/2011	Nigeria	Zonkwa	1	1	Nigerian Islamists shoot another Christian to death in a village raid.
11/4/2011	Nigeria	Potiskum	150	200	Two-hundred militants shout 'Allah Akbar' as they slaughter one-hundred and fifty in a bombing and shooting rampage that targeted six churches and a police station. At least one-hundred and thirty of their victims were Christian.
11/3/2011	Nigeria	Kaduna	2	14	Mujahideen gunmen attack a church, shooting two female worshippers to death.
10/27/2011	Kenya	Nairobi	0	1	A young convert from Islam is left for dead after being severely beaten with iron rods in front of his church.
10/23/2011	Philippines	Cabengbeng	5	8	Five Catholic plantation workers are massacred by Moro Islamists in a pre-dawn attack on their village.
10/20/2011	Nigeria	Yelwa	1	0	Three Muslim soldiers break into a home and shoot a Christian mother of five to death.
10/20/2011	Nigeria	Bauchi	0	1	A Christian boy is shot at a soccer match by armed Muslims.
10/16/2011	Egypt	Mallawy	1	0	A Coptic high school student is beaten to death after refusing to take off his cross.
10/12/2011	Pakistan	Korangi	1	0	A Muslim slashes a Christian mother's throat after raping her.
10/9/2011	Egypt	Cairo	27	329	Military and Islamist gunmen massacre over two dozen Christians peacefully protesting a church burning.
10/9/2011	Philippines	Zamboanga	0	13	Abu Sayyaf bombers injured thirteen people in separate attacks targeting Christians.
10/8/2011	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	1	Muslim gunmen shoot an elderly Christian and a woman.
10/5/2011	Pakistan	Mian Channu	1	38	A Christian trying to build a church orphanage is murdered by Muslims in a "land dispute."
10/4/2011	Nigeria	Tanjol	1	1	Muslim militants gun down two Christian villagers.
10/2/2011	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	Islamists murder a 30-year-old restaurant employee in a targeted attack against Christians.
10/1/2011	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	0	A 60-year-old Christian is shot to death by Muslim assassins.
9/29/2011	Egypt	Tarnia	1	2	A guard at a church is taken out by a Muslim drive-by.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

9/25/2011	Indonesia	Solo	2	20	A teenage girl is among two worshippers cut to pieces by a Shahid who wanders into a church service and detonates a bomb packed with nails and bolts.
9/25/2011	Somalia	Deynile	1	0	Islamists behead a 17-year-old whose family held secret Bible studies in their home.
9/22/2011	Nigeria	Madala	5	0	Five Christian traders are executed by Boko Haram gunmen when they are unable to recite Quran verses as ordered.
9/18/2011	Nigeria	Bitaro	3	8	Muslim activists raid a village, pull members of a Christian family from their home and then hack and shoot them to death. The victims included children.
9/14/2011	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	A 15-year-old girl is strangled to death by her uncle for a suspected affair with a Christian boy.
9/12/2011	Indonesia	Maluku	6	80	Six people are killed when machete-wielding Muslims attack a Christian village on a false rumor.
9/10/2011	Nigeria	Vwang Fwil	14	6	Fourteen Christian villagers from the same family, including a woman in labor, are hacked to death during a midnight Muslim raid.
9/9/2011	Pakistan	Islamabad	1	0	A Christian imprisoned for 'offending the Quran' dies after being denied medical treatment by prison officials.
9/9/2011	Nigeria	Barkin Ladi	9	0	A Christian father and his seven young children are among nine shot to death in a Fulani raid on their home.
9/9/2011	Nigeria	Kunsen Gashish	3	0	Three Protestant farmers are hacked to death by machete-wielding Muslims.
9/8/2011	Nigeria	Tsohon Foron	10	0	Muslim extremists murder a family of ten Christians.
9/6/2011	Nigeria	Zakaleo	4	0	Four Christians are burned alive when militant Muslims set fire to their house.
9/6/2011	Nigeria	Kuru	14	13	Fourteen residents of a Christian village are hacked and shot to death in an orgy of Islamic violence that lasts an hour.
9/5/2011	Nigeria	Zakalio	7	0	Seven Christian villagers are murdered by Muslim extremists.
9/5/2011	Nigeria	Dabwak	4	0	An elderly Christian couple and their two grandchildren are shot to death in their home by Muslim raiders.
9/5/2011	Nigeria	Tatu	8	0	A Christian family of eight including the parents and six children are hacked to death by Muslim militants in their home.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

9/4/2011	Pakistan	Mariamabad	1	0	A Catholic pilgrim is kidnapped and murdered while walking to a shrine.
9/2/2011	Somalia	Hudur	1	0	A convert to Christianity is kidnapped and beheaded by Muslim activists.
8/29/2011	Nigeria	Jos	2	1	A pastor who preached religious tolerance is hacked to death by Islamic extremists along with his son at their church.
8/28/2011	Pakistan	Faisalabad	0	1	A 64-year-old maid is beaten by madrassah students for hosting a Christian prayer meeting in her home.
8/27/2011	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	A Protestant evangelist is assassinated in his own home by Religion of Peace enthusiasts.
8/26/2011	Norway	Jaeren	0	1	A Christian convert from Islam is scalded with boiling water and acid at a refugee center.
8/21/2011	Nigeria	Bajju	2	3	Suspected Muslim radicals shoot two Christians to death in their homes, including a 10-year-old boy.
8/21/2011	Nigeria	Riyom	6	0	Fulani raiders attack a Christian village, hacking six to death, including women and children.
8/15/2011	Iraq	Kirkuk	0	14	Fourteen are injured when Muslims bomb a church.
8/15/2011	Nigeria	Heipang	9	1	Seven children are among a Christian family of nine brutally murdered in their home by Muslim raiders.
8/14/2011	Pakistan	Karachi	0	2	Two Christians are beaten to unconsciousness with iron rods after refusing an offer to embrace Islam.
8/14/2011	Pakistan	Karachi	0	1	A Christian is beaten with iron rods after declining an offer to embrace Islam.
8/12/2011	Pakistan	Bilal	0	12	A small group of Catholics are beaten by fundamentalists after gathering to watch a religious film.
8/12/2011	Indonesia	Sepe	5	2	Jihad warriors attack a Christian village with bombs and knives, killing at least five residents and burning homes and churches.
8/11/2011	Indonesia	Malei	1	0	A Christian is killed while trying to salvage items from his home after it is destroyed by a Muslim mob.
8/11/2011	Nigeria	Ratsa Foron	6	0	Six Christians are hacked to death in the middle of the night by Muslim raiders.
8/8/2011	Egypt	Minya	1	1	A Christian farmer has his throat slit in front of his son by a Muslim mob, who attack Christian homes and also severely beat a pastor.
8/5/2011	Pakistan	Drigh Road	1	0	A Catholic man with children is the target of an attack that leaves his driver dead.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

8/2/2011	Iraq	Kirkuk	0	23	Two dozen are injured when radicals bomb a Catholic church.
7/29/2011	Egypt	Minya	2	2	Two Christians are taken out by snipers while riding in a car.
7/25/2011	Egypt	Samalout	0	6	A pregnant woman is among six Christians brutally assaulted with iron rods by a Muslim mob angered over a church bell.
7/10/2011	Nigeria	Suleija	3	0	At least two women are among three Christians killed by a Boko Haram bomb detonated outside a church.
6/26/2011	Egypt	Awlad Khalaf	0	3	Three Christians are injured when a Muslim mob torches eight homes on a rumor that one was to become a church.
6/26/2011	Senegal	Dakar	0	24	About two dozen Christians are severely injured when a Muslim mob sets fire to their church during a service under orders from a local imam.
6/25/2011	Philippines	Isabela City	2	8	Muslim militants are suspected of detonating a bomb outside a Catholic church that leaves two people dead.
6/21/2011	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	A Christian father of four who worked as a garbage collector is stabbed to death by an angry Muslim.
6/16/2011	Nigeria	Damboia	4	1	Four children leaving a church are brutally taken out by a Boko Haram blast.
6/14/2011	Sudan	South Kordofan	2	5	At least two church workers are killed when the Islamic republic bombs a village.
6/11/2011	Indonesia	East Java	0	1	A young woman is kidnapped by Islamic hardliners on her way home from church, beaten, slashed, and held for two days.
6/10/2011	Sudan	Kadugli	0	1	Islamists kidnap a pastor and torture him for two days.
6/10/2011	Pakistan	Farmwala	0	1	A Christian boy is beaten for refusing to embrace Islam.
6/9/2011	Pakistan	Landhi	1	0	A Christian civilian is shot to death by Muslim gunmen.
6/9/2011	Nigeria	Maiduguri	2	0	A pastor at a Church of Christ and his secretary are brutally gunned down by Religion of Peace loyalists.
6/8/2011	Sudan	al Shaeer	1	0	A Christian seminary student is shot to death in front of bystanders by agents of the Islamic government.
6/8/2011	Sudan	Kadugli	1	0	A young Christian man is dragged to a market and slaughtered by the sword by men yelling 'Allah Akbar'.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

6/7/2011	Nigeria	Maiduguri	2	14	Two innocents bleed to death after Islamists detonate a bomb outside a church.
5/30/2011	Iraq	Mbsul	2	1	A Christian father of four is murdered by Jihadi gunmen along with a bystander.
5/24/2011	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	Islamists murder a guard outside a Catholic church.
5/19/2011	Egypt	Cairo	0	3	Three Catholics are severely injured by a rock-throwing Muslim mob intent on preventing a church from opening.
5/16/2011	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	0	Muslim kidnappers gouge out the eyes of a Christian victim and then cut off his head.
5/15/2011	Egypt	Cairo	2	0	Two Copts are gunned down in a Muslim drive-by attack.
5/15/2011	Egypt	Cairo	0	50	About fifty Christians are injured when a Muslim mob hurls rocks and homemade bombs into a peaceful protest.
5/9/2011	Egypt	Cairo	1	0	A 60-year-old Catholic grandfather is beaten to death by enraged Muslims.
5/8/2011	Egypt	Imbaba	1	0	Islamists break into a Catholic church and slit a member's throat.
5/8/2011	Egypt	Imbaba	1	0	Salafists shoot the 16-year-old nephew of a Catholic bishop in the head.
5/7/2011	Egypt	Cairo	12	232	Fundamentalists assault two churches with firebombs and gunfire, killing five Copt defenders and seven more in an ensuing rampage.
5/6/2011	Sudan	Abu Shouk	0	1	After being spotted with a Bible, a female aid worker is arrested for apostasy and severely beaten.
5/6/2011	Nigeria	Kano	17	3	Seventeen residents of a Christian village, including a pastor's wife and three children are massacred in a pre-dawn Muslim attack.
5/4/2011	Sudan	Khartoum	0	2	A husband and wife survive a violent knife attack in their home after converting from Islam to Christianity.
4/30/2011	Bulgaria	Pazardjik	0	1	A pastor who converted from Islam is beaten bloody in front of his church by a gang of Muslims.
4/30/2011	Pakistan	Gujranwala	0	25	Twenty-five Christian men and women suffer injury following an attack by an enraged Muslim mob of about 350.
4/30/2011	Pakistan	Gujranwala	0	25	Fueled by rumors of a Quran desecration, a Muslim mob of hundreds attacks a Christian village, burning homes and assaulting the innocent.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

4/27/2011	Pakistan	Hamza	0	3	Anti-Christian activists go on a spree, attacking a pastor, severely injuring his son and later raping a woman.
4/24/2011	Iraq	Baghdad	0	7	Seven people are injured when Muslim activists detonate a bomb outside a church.
4/20/2011	Nigeria	Bauchi	10	17	Women are among a group of young Christians murdered by a Muslim mob.
4/19/2011	Nigeria	Kaduna	321	575	Angry Muslims go on a two-day bender, torching over forty churches and hacking and burning over three hundred Christians to death.
4/18/2011	Somalia	Shalambod	1	0	A 21-year-old convert to Christianity is pulled from his home and shot 10 times by Islamists yelling 'Allah Akbar'.
4/18/2011	Egypt	Minya	1	11	One Copt is killed by Muslim rioters, who throw a grandmother out of a second story balcony while shouting praises to Allah.
4/17/2011	Pakistan	Gujranwala	0	12	Twelve worshippers at a Pentecostal church are pulled out and beaten by a Muslim mob.
4/8/2011	Nigeria	Bogoro	10	0	Muslims armed with machetes attack a Christian village and burn at least ten people to death, including several who were elderly.
4/7/2011	Brazil	Rio de Janeiro	12	20	A convert to Islam walks into a school and guns down a dozen children, apparently inspired by fundamentalist websites.
4/5/2011	India	Motijil	0	1	A female convert to Christianity is stripped naked and beaten by angry Muslims.
4/4/2011	Ethiopia	Worabe	1	1	Muslims beat a Christian evangelist to death and assault his pregnant wife.
4/3/2011	Nigeria	Bogoro	2	1	A Muslim mob, angered over rumor of a local Quran desecration storms a Christian village and kills two people.
3/30/2011	Nigeria	Jos	2	5	Fulani raiders attack a college and murder two Christians.
3/25/2011	Pakistan	Hyderabad	2	0	A Muslim mob invades a Pentecostal church, burns Bibles and kills two worshippers.
3/23/2011	Israel	Jerusalem	1	39	Palestinian terrorists leave a bomb at a bus stop which kills a female Bible translator and injures thirty others.
3/22/2011	Pakistan	Hyderabad	2	0	After yelling abuse at worshippers outside a church, a Muslim mob opens fire, killing two.
3/21/2011	Nigeria	Baten	4	0	Two women and two children are hacked and shot to death during a Muslim raid on a Christian village.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

3/20/2011	Egypt	Qena	0	1	A Christian has his ear torn off by Muslims enforcing Sharia law.
3/20/2011	Nigeria	Jos	2	0	Muslim extremists kill two worshippers with bombs placed at several churches.
3/20/2011	Nigeria	Jos	1	0	A Christian boy is shot to death by Islamic radicals.
3/14/2011	Nigeria	Plateau	6	0	Five family members are among six Christian villagers slaughtered by Muslim raiders.
3/14/2011	Iran	Evin	2	0	A Christian man and his Jewish wife are hung in captivity by Iranians.
3/9/2011	Egypt	Cairo	9	150	Nine Copts, including a child, are killed and over a hundred more injured when a Muslim mob hurls firebombs and shoots into a group protesting a church burning.
3/8/2011	Ethiopia	Asendabo	2	0	Two Christians are killed when angry Muslims rampage through their community, burning churches and homes.
3/4/2011	Egypt	Sol	2	0	A Muslim mob, angry over a relationship between a Muslim girl and Christian boy, kills the two fathers and burns down a church.
3/2/2011	Pakistan	Islamabad	1	1	A Catholic cabinet minister is brutally shot to death in his car after being accused of blasphemy.
3/1/2011	Ethiopia	Oma	0	17	Seventeen students are beaten with rods and pelted with stones for distributing Bibles.
3/1/2011	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	A guard at a church is gunned down in an Islamist drive-by.
2/28/2011	Nigeria	Dabwak	5	0	A Christian mother and four of her children are slaughtered in their home by Muslim militants..
2/24/2011	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	A 70-year-old Christian man is stabbed to death in his home by Muslim radicals.
2/24/2011	Egypt	Wadi el-Natroun	0	19	Two monks are among nineteen injured when military forces storm a Coptic monastery with live ammunition.
2/23/2011	Egypt	Assiut	1	0	A priest is brutally stabbed to death in his home by killers shouting 'Allah Akbar!'
2/22/2011	Oman	Coast	4	0	A retired missionary couple is among four Americans taken hostage and executed in cold blood by Muslim pirates.
2/22/2011	Nigeria	Borno	18	7	Eighteen Christian villagers are massacred during a Muslim raid.
2/18/2011	Tunisia	Tunis	1	0	After receiving death threats from Muslim extremists, a priest is kidnapped and eventually has his throat slit.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

2/15/2011	Nigeria	Maiduguri	2	0	Two people are killed when Boko Haram gunmen attack two churches.
2/10/2011	Nigeria	Alice	2	3	A father is among two Christians shot to death by militant Muslims in their homes.
2/10/2011	Nigeria	Kuru	5	9	A 4-year-old is one of five Christian villagers hacked and shot to death by Islamic raiders.
2/8/2011	Indonesia	Temanggung	0	7	A Muslim mob viciously beats a priest trying unsuccessfully to keep them from burning three churches and an orphanage.
2/6/2011	Pakistan	Nut Kallan	1	0	A young Christian is tortured to death by several Muslims.
2/1/2011	Somalia	Mogadishu	1	0	A convert to Christianity suffers deep injuries after being bound and assaulted with metal objects and rocks, then stomped.
1/31/2011	India	Sopore	2	0	Two teenage daughters of a poor laborer are pulled out of their home and brutally executed by Lashkar-e-Toiba, reportedly for reading the Bible.
1/30/2011	Egypt	Sharona	11	4	Very young children are among eleven members of two Coptic families shot to death in their homes at point-blank range by Islamic radicals.
1/30/2011	Nigeria	Ayaruje	3	0	Three Christian villagers are hacked to death by Muslims with machetes.
1/29/2011	Nigeria	Jos	1	0	A Muslim soldier deliberately shoots a 6-year-old Christian boy to death before he is taken down by other soldiers.
1/28/2011	Nigeria	Jos	3	0	Two university students belonging to a local church are stabbed to death.
1/27/2011	Nigeria	Barkin Ladi	14	8	Muslim raiders invade four Christian villages and hack fourteen people to death in their own homes.
1/27/2011	Nigeria	Were	2	11	Islamic radicals kill two people and burn down several Christian homes.
1/23/2011	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	A guard outside a church is murdered by Islamic gunmen.
1/23/2011	Nigeria	Jos	8	5	A woman and daughter are among six Christian villagers hacked to death in the middle of the night during two separate Muslim raids.
1/15/2011	Iraq	Mbsul	0	1	A Christian doctor is brutally shot and seriously injured in a targeted hospital attack.
1/11/2011	Pakistan	Lahore	0	2	Two Christian women are violently beaten and humiliated by a Muslim mob over claims they had 'abused' Muhammad.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1/11/2011	Egypt	Samalout	1	5	A policeman boards a train and opens fire on a group of elderly Christians while yelling 'Allah Akbar.' A 71-year-old victim dies on the scene.
1/11/2011	Nigeria	Kuru Station	19	3	Children are among the victims when Muslims attack a Christian village, hacking nineteen to death and burning their homes.
1/9/2011	Nigeria	Borno	1	2	A guard at a church is shot to death in an Islamist drive-by.
1/7/2011	Somalia	Warbhigly	1	0	Islamic militants slit the throat of a Christian mother of four.
1/4/2011	Pakistan	Islamabad	1	0	A regional governor is assassinated at a cafe for appealing on behalf of a Christian woman jailed for blasphemy.
1/3/2011	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	A Christian woman who survived an Islamist church massacre a few weeks earlier is shot to death in her sleep.
1/2/2011	Philippines	Maguindanao	2	3	A Christian farmer is gunned down while driving home.
1/1/2011	Egypt	Alexandra	23	77	Twenty-three parishioners are incinerated by a Shahid suicide bomb attack on a New Year's Day church mass.
12/30/2010	Iraq	Baghdad	2	13	Coordinated Mujahideen attacks against Christian families leave at least two dead.
12/27/2010	Iraq	Dujail	1	1	Jihadi bombers take down a Catholic woman and injure a family member.
12/25/2010	Philippines	Sulu	0	11	A priest and a 9-year-old girl are among eleven injured when Islamists set off a bomb inside a chapel.
12/24/2010	Nigeria	Jos	86	74	At least eighty-six people are killed in a series of Islamic bomb blasts and attacks, mostly targeting Christmas Eve church services. The dead include choir members hacked to death.
12/24/2010	Pakistan	Shahdra	0	1	A 12-year-old Christian girl is kidnapped, raped for eight months and forcibly converted to Islam.
12/21/2010	Nigeria	Turu	3	2	Angry Muslims armed with swords and machetes assault a group of local Christian villagers, killing three.
12/19/2010	Israel	Jerusalem	1	1	An American woman on a Christian mission is kidnapped, tied up and stabbed to death by Arab warriors.
12/5/2010	Iraq	Baghdad	2	0	Four Holy Warriors bind and stab an elderly Christian couple to death in their home.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

12/3/2010	Nigeria	Nwachukwu	7	4	Christian women and children are slaughtered in their homes by Muslim attackers in a midnight raid.
11/30/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	1	Islamists rush into a Christian shop and gun down the proprietor brothers.
11/25/2010	Nigeria	Kwata Zawan	3	1	Muslim radicals shoot three Christian villagers to death.
11/25/2010	Kenya	Bardher	1	0	A 17-year-old girl is tortured and murdered by her parents for leaving Islam for Christianity.
11/25/2010	Egypt	Giza	1	0	A 4-year-old boy suffocates when tear gas is thrown into a church chapel.
11/24/2010	Egypt	Giza	1	68	Police shouting 'Allah Akbar' block a church construction and then fire on a group of Coptic demonstrators, killing one.
11/22/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	An elderly Christian woman is strangled in her home by Religion of Peace activists.
11/22/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	Two Christian brothers are shot to death in their shop by Muslim extremists.
11/22/2010	Pakistan	Sargodha	0	1	A protestant pastor is beaten and set on fire by six Muslims who caught him evangelizing.
11/16/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	A 6-year-old Christian girl and her father are exterminated by Islamic bombers.
11/15/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	3	0	Three Christian brothers are brutally shot to death in their home by Religion of Peace advocates.
11/10/2010	Iraq	Baghdad	6	20	Islamists blast Christian areas of Baghdad with bombs and mortars, killing at least six.
11/7/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	Two more Christian worshippers are murdered by Muslim gunmen in separate attacks.
10/31/2010	Iraq	Baghdad	53	80	Forty-four church members and two young priests are slaughtered when Islamic State of Iraq Fedayeen invade a church, shooting members and tossing grenades into the congregation. Seven policemen are also killed.
10/26/2010	Nigeria	Chewenkur	6	3	Four teenagers and two women are hacked to death when Muslims armed with machetes attack a Christian village.
10/24/2010	Iran	Tehran	1	0	A devout Muslim beats his Christian relative to death for leaving Islam.
10/9/2010	Bangladesh	Jhenaidah	0	2	An elderly Christian man and his son are beaten by Muslim villagers for refusing to return to Islam.
10/8/2010	Pakistan	Punjab	0	2	An 80-year-old Christian and his elderly wife are beaten unconscious by Muslim attackers.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

10/8/2010	Philippines	Cotabato	2	1	Militant Muslims previously targeting missionaries kill two people and kidnap a woman.
10/1/2010	Pakistan	Haripur	7	0	A Christian couple and their five children (ages 6-17) are brutally shot to death in their home by Muslim extremists.
9/18/2010	Kenya	Nairobi	0	6	Six Christian missionaries are abducted, raped and tortured for three days by Muslims proclaiming the truth of Islam.
9/13/2010	Ethiopia	Dufti	0	1	A group of Islamists stab a Christian who had left Islam.
9/12/2010	Indonesia	Bekasi	0	2	Holy Warriors beat a pastor with a board and stab a worshipper in the stomach as there are on their way to church.
9/9/2010	Iraq	Baghdad	2	2	Two people are reportedly killed when gunmen open fire on an Anglican church in an incident tied to a threatened Quran burning.
8/29/2010	Philippines	Bukidnon	0	2	'Irate Muslims' throw a grenade into a Catholic church during mass.
8/27/2010	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	The body of a Christian man is found several days after he is kidnapped.
8/25/2010	Pakistan	Swat	3	6	Three Christian aid workers helping flood victims are kidnapped and murdered by Islamic fundamentalists.
8/21/2010	Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	0	1	A popular church leader is brutally assaulted by Muslims with wooden clubs.
8/14/2010	Egypt	Shimi	0	11	Eleven Christians are injured in assaults by Muslims stirred to anger by a local cleric.
8/8/2010	Indonesia	Bekasi	0	12	A mob of hundreds of Muslims chase and beat Christian worshippers after disrupting their service.
8/7/2010	Afghanistan	Nuristan	10	0	Ten members of a medical team, including Christian doctors, are pulled out of their cars and executed by devout Muslim fundamentalists, who spare an Afghan able to recite the Quran.
7/22/2010	Pakistan	Rawalpindi	0	2	Two Christian girls are gang-raped by Muslims.
7/21/2010	Somalia	Mogadishu	1	4	Islamic militants enter a Christian home, gun down the father in front of the family and kidnap his wife and children.
7/19/2010	Pakistan	Faisalabad	2	1	Two Christian brothers who were pastors, are accused of blasphemy and then brutally gunned down outside a courthouse while in chains.
7/17/2010	Nigeria	Jos	10	14	Young children are among ten Christians hacked to death in their homes by Muslims, who also burn a church.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

7/16/2010	Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	0	1	A Christian convert is brutally beaten by angry Muslims.
7/16/2010	Dagestan	Makhachkala	1	0	A Pentecostal pastor and father of five is shot in the head by Muslim extremists.
7/15/2010	Pakistan	Sukkur	5	6	Five members of a church, including the pastor are brutally shot to death outside the building by Religion of Peace advocates.
7/13/2010	Pakistan	Karachi	0	1	A Christian woman is raped and then thrown from a roof by a Muslim doctor.
7/5/2010	Nigeria	Jos	3	0	Three Christian farmers are brutally slain in a 'mindless' attack by militant Muslims.
7/5/2010	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	A 54-year-old Christian father of three bleeds to death after Islamists bomb his car in a targeted attack.
7/5/2010	Egypt	Cairo	0	1	A Christian convert survives an attempt by Muslim radicals to behead him for leaving the faith.
7/4/2010	India	Kerala	0	1	A Christian professor has his forearm and hand hacked off by Muslims for the alleged crime of insulting Muhammad.
7/4/2010	Nigeria	Ganawuri	3	0	Muslims hack three Christians to death.
7/3/2010	Nigeria	Kizachi	7	5	A school teacher and mother of six are among seven Christians brutally executed in their homes by Muslim raiders.
7/1/2010	Somalia	Hudur	1	0	A Christian convert from Islam is publicly executed in a soccer stadium by Islamists, leaving behind a pregnant widow.
6/21/2010	Pakistan	Punjab	5	0	Religious clerics lead a mob into the home of a Christian man and slaughter his wife and four children.
6/14/2010	Pakistan	Peshawar	0	1	A Christian professor is badly beaten by his students for refusing to embrace Islam.
6/14/2010	Iraq	Sammarah	1	0	A convert to Christianity is murdered by his own son and nephew for 'abandoning Islam'.
6/8/2010	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	0	A Christian father is murdered outside his home by Islamist gunmen.
6/3/2010	Pakistan	Sahiwal	0	3	A pastor and his pregnant wife are brutally assaulted by angry Muslims accusing them of evangelism.
6/3/2010	Turkey	Iskenderun	1	0	A Catholic bishop is stabbed to death by a Muslim who says it was Allah's will.
5/28/2010	Pakistan	Faisalabad	0	5	Muslims fire into a Christian community, hitting five innocents.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

5/23/2010	Nigeria	Jos	2	0	Two Christians are hacked to death with machetes by passing Muslims.
5/11/2010	Iraq	Baghdad	5	16	A Christian community may have been the target of a double bombing that leaves five dead.
5/4/2010	Somalia	Xarardheere	1	0	Islamists pull a 57-year-old Christian father of three from his home and execute him for running an underground church.
5/2/2010	Iraq	Mosul	4	171	Four people are killed, and over one-hundred injured when Islamic bombers target buses carrying young Christian students.
4/28/2010	Pakistan	Quetta	1	0	A Christian man is gunned down by suspected Muslim militants as he is washing a car.
4/24/2010	Nigeria	Jos	5	0	Three Christians stabbed to death and two others hacked to pieces with machetes by a Muslim mob.
4/24/2010	Pakistan	Karachi	1	0	A Christian police officer is kidnapped and brutally tortured to death by Religion of Peace advocates.
4/21/2010	Pakistan	Sargodha	1	1	Two young Christian brothers (ages 12 and 14) are beaten with an iron rod by a Muslim yelling religious slurs. One dies.
4/19/2010	Nigeria	Riyom	4	0	Four Christian farmers are murdered in their field by Muslim terrorists.
4/15/2010	Nigeria	Boto	2	0	A Christian pastor and his wife are abducted by Muslims and burned to a crisp.
4/14/2010	USA	Marquette Park, IL	5	2	After quarrelling with his wife over Islamic dress, a Muslim convert shoots his family members to 'take them back to Allah' and out of the 'world of sinners'.
4/13/2010	Philippines	Isabela	9	7	Abu Sayyaf terrorists disguised as policemen attack a Christian town, shooting and blasting nine people to death and destroying a Catholic church.
4/13/2010	Pakistan	Sargodha	0	1	A Christian barber is badly beaten and sodomized by an angry mob for cutting a Muslim's beard (on request).
4/8/2010	Nigeria	Dakyo	2	0	A teenager is among two Christians stabbed to death by Muslim attackers.
4/5/2010	Nigeria	Jos	3	12	Three Christians are killed when their peaceful rally is attacked by militant Muslims.
4/4/2010	Pakistan	Punjab	0	10	Ten Christians are severely beaten by Muslim fundamentalists.
3/28/2010	Iraq	Mosul	1	3	A 3-year-old child dies when Mujahideen bombers target a Christian woman and her three daughters in their home.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

3/23/2010	Somalia	Afgoye	1	0	Islamists execute a Christian father of ten children at close range in front of his home.
3/22/2010	Pakistan	Rawalpindi	1	1	A Christian dies after being burned alive three days earlier for refusing to embrace Islam. His wife was also raped.
3/17/2010	Nigeria	Dyie	13	6	Thirteen more Christian villagers are massacred by Muslim raiders in an overnight attack, including a mother and two children burned to death. Victims also had their tongues cut out.
3/17/2010	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	A 55-year-old Christian father is shot down in cold blood.
3/15/2010	Somalia	Mahaday	1	0	The Christian pastor of an underground church is hunted down like an animal by Islamists and shot to death. (He was not a convert to Islam).
3/12/2010	Egypt	Marsa Matruh	0	23	Twenty-three Christians are injured when a Muslim mob attacks their community after rumors of a church construction.
3/10/2010	Pakistan	Oghi	6	0	Six aid workers of a Christian charity are herded out of their office by Muslim gunmen and machine-gunned to death.
3/9/2010	Pakistan	Punjab	1	0	A 36-year-old Christian is hacked to death with an ax after refusing to embrace Islam.
3/7/2010	Nigeria	Dogo Nahauwa	528	600	Over five-hundred Christians, mostly women and children, are hacked to death by Muslim raiders with machetes in a night-time attack on their village. The killers yelled 'Allah Akbar,' as they chopped.
3/7/2010	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	A Christian man dies during a home invasion by Muslim gunmen.
2/27/2010	Philippines	Tubigan	15	13	Women and five children (ages 1 to 11) are among thirteen gunned down by Moro Islamists sweeping through a Christian village.
2/27/2010	Egypt	Teleda	0	2	A pastor and his wife are brutally gunned down by Religion of Peace advocate, angry that they are trying to build a church.
2/26/2010	Liberia	Voinjama	4	23	A Muslim mob burns churches and kills at least four Christians.
2/26/2010	Pakistan	Lahore	0	3	A Christian family is terrorized in their home by a Muslim gang. One girl is raped and the other stabbed four times.
2/23/2010	Iraq	Mosul	3	0	A Christian father and his two sons are murdered in their home. They were relatives of a priest.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

2/20/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 57-year-old Christian shopkeeper is kidnapped and brutally shot to death by Muslim kidnappers.
2/20/2010	Bangladesh	Baghaichhari	8	200	At least eight people are killed when Muslim villagers riot against Christian and Buddhist neighbors.
2/17/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	Another young Christian is shot to death by Muslim extremists.
2/15/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 42-year-old Christian is shot to death in front of his store.
2/15/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 20-year-old Christian student is kidnapped and brutally murdered by Mujahideen.
2/14/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	1	Islamists enter a Christian businessman's home and murder him.
2/9/2010	Egypt	Menoufia	1	0	A young Christian carpenter is gunned down at close range by a Muslim policeman in a suspected sectarian attack.
2/8/2010	Pakistan	Punjab	0	1	A Christian man is beaten unconscious for refusing to embrace Islam.
2/5/2010	Pakistan	Karachi	33	80	A Christian family and dozens of Shiites are blown to bits by Sunni bombers at two locations, one a hospital.
1/26/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	0	1	A Christian shopkeeper is targeted by Muslim gunmen and seriously injured.
1/22/2010	Bangladesh	Netrokona	0	2	A Catholic humanitarian worker and his wife are attacked by a gang of Muslims.
1/22/2010	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	A 12-year-old Christian girl is raped, tortured and killed by her Muslim employer, a respected lawyer.
1/19/2010	Somalia	Mogadishu	19	30	Women and children are among nineteen killed when Islamists launch multiple assaults on 'apostates and Christian backers.'
1/18/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	Islamic terrorists gun down a Christian man inside a grocery.
1/17/2010	Nigeria	Jos	48	96	Muslim youth go on a rampage, hacking about 48 Christians to death after an attack outside a church. The victims include two pastors.
1/17/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	At least one of two men gunned down in a targeted shooting is a Christian father of two.
1/15/2010	Kenya	Nairobi	1	5	A Muslim gunmen fires into a crowd, killing one Christian and injuring five.
1/12/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 75-year-old Christian is gunned down in his grocery store by Religion of Peace militants.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1/11/2010	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 51-year-old Christian man is brutally gunned down while selling vegetables by the side of the road.
1/7/2010	Egypt	Nag Hamadi	7	10	Six worshippers and one guard are gunned down by Muslim radicals as they leave mass at a Christian church. A 14-year-old is among the dead.
1/1/2010	Somalia	Hodan	1	0	Islamists murder a 41-year-old Christian convert and church leader.
12/26/2009	Pakistan	Punjab	0	2	Two young Christians are shot in the chest after refusing to convert to Islam.
12/25/2009	Pakistan	Kalar Kahar	0	60	About sixty Christians are injured when a Muslim mob attacks them during Christmas prayers.
12/24/2009	Pakistan	Peshawar	4	24	A suicide bomber detonates near a Christian school, killing four others.
12/24/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian is gunned down in front of his home by Islamists.
12/23/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	A bomb placed near an ancient Christian church kills two people.
12/17/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 30-year-old Christian man is shot to death in cold blood by Mujahideen.
12/15/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	4	40	Four Christians are killed when Islamic bombers target a church and Christian school.
12/9/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	Two Christian brothers are kidnapped and shot to death by Muslim terrorists.
12/3/2009	Pakistan	Karol	1	0	A Christian man is shot to death by Muslims after refusing to 'embrace' Islam.
11/19/2009	Russia	Moscow	1	1	An anti-Islam priest is assassinated in his own church by a suspected Muslim gunman.
11/14/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 16-year-old Christian boy is gunned down outside his home by suspected radicals.
11/14/2009	Somalia	Mogadishu	1	0	A 23-year-old Christian convert is kidnapped by Islamists and executed with two shots to the head.
11/9/2009	Philippines	Jolo	1	0	Abu Sayyaf militants cut the head off of a Christian school principal and leave it in a paper bag at a gas station.
10/19/2009	Somalia	Galkayo	1	0	A Christian woman is murdered by Islamists inside her home for refusing to wear a veil.
10/18/2009	Egypt	Attaleen	1	0	Muslims gun down a 61-year-old Christian whose son was dating a Muslim girl.
10/10/2009	Somalia	Mogadishu	1	0	A Christian pastor is shot to death by al-Shabaab militants as he is returning home.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

10/5/2009	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	0	The tortured body of a Christian businessman is discovered three days after being kidnapped by Muslims.
10/4/2009	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	0	A 55-year-old Christian nurse is kidnapped and tortured to death by Religion of Peace militants.
9/28/2009	Somalia	Marerey	1	0	A 46-year-old Christian woman is shot to death by Islamists after being found with Bibles.
9/16/2009	Egypt	Bagur	1	2	A 63-year-old Christian is stabbed to death by a rampaging Muslim.
9/15/2009	Somalia	Merca	1	0	A 69-year-old Christian is executed by al-Shabaab militants after they find him carrying Bibles through their checkpoint.
9/14/2009	Pakistan	Sialkot	1	0	A young Christian is beaten to death after being arrested for blasphemy.
9/13/2009	Bangladesh	Dhaka	1	0	A Christian evangelist dies from injuries suffered from severe torture at the hands of a Muslim gang.
9/12/2009	Bangladesh	Dhaka	1	0	A group of Muslims brutally torture and murder a young Christian student.
9/11/2009	Ethiopia	Senbete	0	3	A Muslim mob ransacks two Christian churches and seriously injures three Christian worshippers.
8/29/2009	Sudan	Wernyol	43	62	An Islamic-backed militia targets Christian villagers, hacking or shooting at least 43 to death including a senior church leader.
8/28/2009	Pakistan	Quetta	6	7	Six Christians are gunned down after refusing a 'convert or die' offer from Islamists.
8/19/2009	Iraq	Kirkuk	0	0	Islamic militants kidnap and murder a Christian doctor.
8/18/2009	Somalia	Bulahawa	1	0	A 41-year-old Christian is hunted down and shot to death for leaving Islam.
8/15/2009	Egypt	Cairo	1	0	A 22-year-old Christian conscript is murdered in his barracks after suffering horrible abuse over his religion.
8/3/2009	Pakistan	Gorja	1	0	A Christian man succumbs to injuries suffered by a Muslim mob attack.
8/1/2009	Pakistan	Gojra	8	18	Eight Christians are burned alive by a mob angered over a rumor of Qur'an desecration.
7/30/2009	Pakistan	Gojra City	7	19	Seven people, including women and children (the youngest of whom was 4), are burned alive when a Muslim mob rampages through a Christian community over rumors of a Qur'an desecration.
7/28/2009	Nigeria	Maiduguri	3	0	Three Christian pastors are kidnapped by Boko Haram Islamists and then beheaded after they refuse to accept Islam.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

7/28/2009	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	Islamists pull a Christian man from his home and slit his throat.
7/27/2009	Nigeria	Maiduguri	1	0	A Christian pastor and father of seven is hacked to death by radical Muslims, who then burn down his church.
7/27/2009	Somalia	Merca	4	0	Four Christian orphanage workers are beheaded by Islamists after declining the offer to return to Islam.
7/26/2009	Iraq	Ninewa	1	0	A Christian worker is murdered at a Pepsi plant by Islamic gunmen.
7/23/2009	Eritrea	Mtire	1	0	A 43-year-old man dies from torture after refusing to renounce his Christian faith.
7/20/2009	Turkey	Istanbul	1	0	A Christian is stabbed shortly after leaving a church by a Muslim who said he just 'wanted to kill a Christian.'
7/20/2009	Somalia	Mahadday Weyne	1	0	A father of two is shot to death by Muslims for leaving Islam and becoming a Christian.
7/12/2009	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	0	A Christian man is pulled from his car and murdered in front of his daughter.
7/12/2009	Iraq	Baghdad	4	33	Four people are killed when Islamists place bombs at four Christian churches.
7/10/2009	Somalia	Baidoa	7	0	al-Shabaab Islamists stage the public beheading of seven people for "being Christian."
7/7/2009	Pakistan	Lahore	0	1	A Christian man is crippled by a Muslim, who shoots him eight times in the legs for refusing to pay Jizya.
7/7/2009	Philippines	Jolo	2	27	Abu Sayyaf militants detonate a bomb outside a second Christian church, killing two innocents.
7/5/2009	Philippines	Cotabato	6	44	A Religion of Peace nail bomb outside a Christian church leaves at least six innocents dead.
7/3/2009	Ethiopia	Dessie	2	0	Two Christians are shot to death by Muslim gunmen while working on a church.
7/1/2009	Pakistan	Faisalabad	0	1	A young Christian is brutally tortured by a Muslim mob on charges of desecrating a Qur'an.
7/1/2009	Pakistan	Lahore	0	15	Fifteen Christian women and children are burned when a Muslim mob throws acid on them.
7/1/2009	Pakistan	Ghaziabad	1	0	A 16-year-old Christian boy is tortured to death in a police station.
6/22/2009	Philippines	Maguindanao	1	4	Moro Islamists storm a village and shoot a 15-year-old Christian boy dead.
6/21/2009	Egypt	El-Fashn	0	22	A Muslim mob assaults a Christian church, smashing and slashing until at least twenty-two worshippers lay injured.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

6/19/2009	Pakistan	Ittanwali	0	3	A Christian woman's family is beaten, including two young children, after she refuses to embrace Islam.
6/18/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian is gunned down by Muslim gunmen in the process of kidnapping another Christian.
6/15/2009	Yemen	Sanaa	9	0	Women and children are among nine foreign missionaries kidnapped and executed by Shiite fundamentalists.
6/13/2009	Pakistan	Bahawalpur	0	10	Ten Christians are injured by a Muslim package bomb.
6/8/2009	Bangladesh	Boalia	0	3	Three Christians, including a pastor, are pulled from their church and tortured for their faith with burning cigarettes and wooden clubs.
6/8/2009	Pakistan	Tiasar	1	0	An 11-year-old boy is shot in the head when the Taliban attack his church.
5/18/2009	Philippines	Basilan	1	0	The beheaded body of a 61-year-old Christian farmer is found following his abduction by Islamic militants.
5/15/2009	Pakistan	Punjab	1	0	A Christian man is raped and murdered for refusing to convert to Islam.
5/15/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian is kidnapped and beheaded.
5/11/2009	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	Muslim kidnappers murder a 5-year-old Christian boy.
5/9/2009	Pakistan	Machharkay	1	0	A Christian man is beaten to death with pipes by Muslims angry that he drank tea at a 'Muslim-only' establishment.
4/26/2009	Iraq	Kirkuk	2	0	Islamists slit the throats of a Christian woman and her daughter-in-law.
4/26/2009	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	2	A Christian man is gunned down by Mujahid.
4/25/2009	Iraq	Tal Keef	1	0	A Christian woman is abducted and beheaded by Islamic radicals.
4/21/2009	Pakistan	Taseer	3	0	A mob of Islamic hardliners invade a Christian neighborhood and terrorize the residents. Two Christians are killed as they attempt to defend women from rape. An 11-year-old boy dies a few days later.
4/19/2009	Iraq	Baghdad	3	0	Three Christian jewelers are brutally murdered in their shop by Muslim gunmen.
4/13/2009	Philippines	Basilan	1	0	Abu Sayyaf terrorists behead a kidnapped Christian.
4/10/2009	Philippines	Basilan	1	8	Muslim terrorists attack a Christian village, killing one and kidnapping several young children.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

4/4/2009	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	A Christian repairman is shot to death by Muslim gunmen in front of his workshop.
4/3/2009	Philippines	Basilan	2	8	A woman is among two people killed when Islamic militants bomb a fast food shop near a Catholic cathedral.
4/2/2009	Iraq	Baghdad	2	0	Two older Christian sisters are murdered by Mujahideen gunmen.
4/1/2009	Iraq	Mashtal	1	0	A Christian man is gunned down in front of his restaurant by Islamic terrorists.
3/31/2009	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	0	A 71-year-old Christian man is killed in his own home by Muslim intruders.
3/31/2009	Iraq	Kirkuk	1	0	An elderly Christian is gunned down by Muslim radicals.
3/15/2009	UK	London	0	1	A Christian minister critical of Islam is brutally beaten by local Muslims.
3/5/2009	Egypt	Qalubiya	2	0	Muslims set a young Christian on fire and also stab his 60-year-old father to death.
3/2/2009	Pakistan	Songo	1	28	Muslim radicals open fire on a Presbyterian church, then enter the building and beat a 45 woman to death.
2/21/2009	Nigeria	Bauchi	11	38	A Muslim mob goes on a rampage, burning churches and killing Christians.
2/21/2009	Somalia	Yonday	2	0	Two young Christian boys (ages 11 and 12) are beheaded by Religion of Peace extremists.
2/19/2009	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	A Christian businessman is gunned down in his shop.
2/17/2009	Iraq	Mosul	1	1	A Christian is gunned down by suspected Islamists.
2/9/2009	Afghanistan	Kabul	1	0	An Indian Christian, who worked for a food chain, is reported dead four months after being abducted by Sunni extremists.
2/8/2009	Afghanistan	Kabul	1	0	The Taliban release a video showing the beheading of a kidnapped Polish Christian who declined the offer to save his life by converting to Islam.
2/1/2009	Pakistan	Shajwal Chak	1	0	A Christian man begging for wages owed is murdered by Muslim employers as they deride his faith.
1/16/2009	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	The local Christian owner of a car repair shop is brutally murdered by Islamic terrorists.
1/16/2009	Eritrea	Mtire	1	0	A 42-year-old man dies after being tortured in prison for his Christian faith.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1/10/2009	Pakistan	Chak	0	1	Six Muslim men gang-rape a 14-year-old girl in front of her parents because they are Christian.
1/5/2009	Eritrea	Mtire	1	0	A 37-year-old man dies from torture after refusing to recant his Christian faith.
12/30/2008	Egypt	Cairo	0	1	A woman who embraced Christianity is arrested, raped and tortured by police, who promise to release her if she will return to Islam.
12/30/2008	Philippines	Esperanza	1	0	A 17-year-old Christian taxi driver is killed by a bomb planted by Muslim radicals.
12/18/2008	Philippines	Iligan	3	47	Islamists detonate nail-packed bombs at two shopping malls in Christian areas, killing at least three people.
11/28/2008	Nigeria	Jos	2	0	Two Christians are macheted to death after a cleric inspires his followers to 'kill unbelievers.'
11/28/2008	Nigeria	Jos	6	0	Six Christian pastors are among hundreds killed when Muslim rioter stage a deadly church-burning rampage.
11/12/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	Two Christian sisters are shot to death inside their home by Muslim militants.
10/22/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	Two Christians, a father and son, are shot to death by Islamic radicals.
10/20/2008	Afghanistan	Kabul	1	0	A female aid worker is shot to death by Sunni extremists over fears that she was sharing her Christian faith.
10/14/2008	Philippines	North Cotabato	1	0	Moro Islamists attack a Christian village, killing one civilian and driving many families from their homes.
10/12/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	1	1	A Christian business owner is gunned down in his music store by Islamic fundamentalists.
10/11/2008	Philippines	Sultan Kudarat	5	5	Moro Islamists attack a Christian village, killing five innocents and kidnapping two others for use as human shields.
10/11/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	3	0	The bodies of three Christians are discovered following their abduction by Islamic radicals.
10/10/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	Two Christians are shot to death by Islamists at a roadblock after being forced to identify themselves.
10/8/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	Two more Christians are murdered by Muslim extremists in separate attacks.
10/7/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	2	0	A Christian man and his elderly father are shot to death at their workplace by Religion of Peace radicals.
10/7/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	Islamic extremists enter a Christian pharmacy and kill the owner.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

10/6/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A disabled Christian is abducted from his shop by Islamists and then shot to death.
10/5/2008	Egypt	al-Tayeba	1	3	A 19-year-old Christian is shot to death by a Muslim mob.
10/4/2008	Iraq	Tahrir	1	0	A 15-year-old Christian boy is shot to death by Mujahideen while standing outside his home.
10/4/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	4	0	Islamists enter a Christian store and murder the owner. Three tortured and executed kidnap victims are found elsewhere.
9/28/2008	Somalia	Tayeglow	0	2	Two Christians are seriously injured when a Muslim mob invades their church with spears and machetes.
9/23/2008	Somalia	Manyafulka	1	0	A Christian is beheaded for leaving Islam by men who read the Qur'an aloud before decapitating him.
9/20/2008	Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	0	1	A 35-year-old Christian leaders is nearly beaten to death by Religion of Peace advocates.
9/14/2008	Somalia	Afgoye	1	0	A 22-year-old Christian is casually shot to death at a wedding after being accused of apostasy.
9/14/2008	Kenya	Garissa	0	10	A Muslim mob storms a church during a service, pelting worshippers with stones and injuring ten.
9/10/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian man is shot to death by Muslim fundamentalists.
9/2/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	Islamic fundamentalists abduct and murder a 65-year-old Christian doctor.
8/31/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian man is kidnapped and murdered by Islamic fundamentalists.
8/30/2008	Angola	Andulo	1	40	A young girl is decapitated by Muslims rampaging through a Christian community on a church-burning spree. (Reported)
8/18/2008	Philippines	Mindanao	49	50	Forty-nine Christian villagers are shot or hacked to death by Moro Islamists rampaging through three towns.
8/13/2008	Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	1	0	A Christian girl has her tongue cut out and is then burned alive by her father for leaving Islam.
8/12/2008	Philippines	Basilan	4	0	At least four Catholic civilians are killed when Moro Islamists strafe their homes with gunfire.
8/10/2008	Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	1	0	A 26-year-old woman has her tongue cut out, then is set on fire by her father (a moral policeman) for converting to Christianity.
7/29/2008	Philippines	Mindanao	4	1	Four Christian passengers are pulled from a bus and murdered by Islamic terrorists.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

7/26/2008	Indonesia	Jakarata	0	265	Over two-hundred people are injured when a Muslim mob storms a Christian school.
7/25/2008	Pal. Auth.	Gaza	1	3	A bomb set outside a Christian cafe kills one person.
7/19/2008	Ethiopia	Jijiga	0	2	Two former Muslims who converted to Christianity are attacked by a stone-throwing mob of Muslims.
7/16/2008	Somalia	Anjel	1	0	A Muslim gang murders a Christian man.
7/16/2008	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	A teenaged Christian boy is kidnapped, tortured for two days, then killed by Muslims for dating a Muslim girl.
7/10/2008	Somalia	Afgyoye	1	0	Islamists with automatic weapons shoot a Christian man to death for not praying toward Mecca.
7/1/2008	Philippines	Aleoson	1	0	A Christian man is shot to death after refusing to give up his property to Moro Islamic Front raiders.
6/18/2008	Iraq	Nineveh	12	0	A report surfaces of a dozen Christian children kidnapped and crucified by Muslim extremists over the course of five years.
6/3/2008	Indonesia	Jakarta	0	12	Radical Muslims with machetes attack a group of Christians at a religious tolerance rally, shouting 'Repent or die!'
5/4/2008	Pakistan	Hafizabad	1	0	A 19-year-old Christian is tortured and killed for having a relationship with a Muslim woman.
5/2/2008	Indonesia	Horale	3	0	A Muslim mob rampages through a Christian village, killing three people and setting fire to churches and homes.
4/5/2008	Iraq	Karradah	1	0	A Christian priest is shot to death by Muslim fanatics.
3/13/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian archbishop is killed while in the captivity of Muslim militants.
2/29/2008	Iraq	Mbsul	3	0	Three Christians are killed trying to unsuccessfully protect their archbishop from an abduction.
2/28/2008	Germany	Odenwald	3	0	Muslims ask three innocent Christians to identify their religion, then brutally execute them.
2/5/2008	Bangladesh	Rangpur	1	0	A convert to Christianity dies from burns suffered when a Muslim mob set fire to her house four weeks earlier.
2/1/2008	Bangladesh	Cinatuly	1	0	An elderly Christian woman dies from burn suffered when a Muslim mob set fire to her home for converting her family members.
1/29/2008	Pakistan	Punjab	1	0	A 16-year-old Christian is kidnapped and sold for organ harvesting.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1/17/2008	Pakistan	Peshawar	1	0	A Christian man (and father of an infant daughter) is brutally gunned down by masked men.
1/15/2008	Philippines	Mindanao	1	0	A priest resists a kidnapping attempt by Abu Sayyaf terrorists and is shot to death in his chapel.
1/11/2008	Pakistan	Sheikhupura	1	0	A 13-year-old Christian boy is targeted and killed by Muslim gunmen.
12/16/2007	Turkey	Barakli	0	1	A 65-year-old priest is stabbed during mass by a young Muslim angered over Christian "proselytizing."
12/12/2007	Lebanon	Baabda	2	10	Muslims militants assassinate a military general with a bomb blast in a Christian neighborhood.
12/11/2007	Iraq	Basra	2	0	Islamic radicals kill a Christian brother and sister, then dump their bodies at a garbage site.
12/9/2007	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian girl is shot to death at a marketplace by Islamists.
10/23/2007	UK	Leeds	1	0	A 19-year-old Catholic girl is stabbed to death by a Muslim who said she was too 'sexually provocative.'
10/13/2007	Nigeria	Ganji Gate	2	0	Two young Christians are murdered by Muslim radicals in separate attacks. One is beaten to death and the other hacked with a sword.
10/13/2007	Nigeria	Bauchi	10	0	Ten Christians are killed by a Muslim mob rampaging through a village. Three churches are burned down as well.
10/7/2007	Pal. Auth.	Gaza	1	0	A Christian bookseller is abducted and stabbed to death by Islamic fundamentalists.
9/29/2007	Nigeria	Kano	10	61	Ten Christians, including a Catholic priest, are murdered over a two day period by a Muslim mob, angered over a cartoon written by one of their own. Churches are burned as well.
9/28/2007	Iraq	Qaraqush	1	0	A Christian college student is shot nine times by Islamic terrorists.
9/19/2007	Lebanon	Beirut	9	30	Muslim bombers assassinate an anti-Syrian political leader and eight others in a Christian neighborhood.
9/9/2007	India	Kolkata	1	0	A Muslim is murdered for his intention to convert to Hinduism.
8/29/2007	Pakistan	Islamabad	2	0	A Christian pastor had his wife are brutally murdered in their home by Muslim gunmen.
8/3/2007	Philippines	Koronadal	1	12	A Christian pastor is killed in a bus bombing by a group linked to the Moro Islamic terror group.
7/31/2007	Afghanistan	Kabul	1	0	The Taliban murder a 29-year-old Christian man taken hostage.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

7/30/2007	Pakistan	Punjab	1	0	A Christian man is shot to death by two Muslims.
7/25/2007	Afghanistan	Kandahar	1	0	The Taliban shoot a Christian man to death.
7/22/2007	Lebanon	Tanbourit	1	4	Shiites shoot Christian villagers who complained of harassment.
7/18/2007	Philippines	Lamitan	1	0	A Sunni missionary is dismembered by Abu Sayyaf militants on suspicion of spying.
7/16/2007	Ingushetia	Ordzhonikidzevskaya	3	7	A Christian woman and her two children are murdered in their home by Islamic gunmen. Seven mourners are injured when their funeral is bombed two days later.
7/10/2007	Philippines	Basilan	14	9	Abu Sayyaf militants kill 14 members of a search party looking for a kidnapped priest. At least ten are beheaded.
6/27/2007	Iraq	Mosul	2	0	Two Christians are murdered by Sunni radicals.
6/26/2007	Bangladesh	Nilphamari	0	10	Ten Christian converts from Islam are savagely beaten by a Muslim mob.
6/12/2007	Iraq	Razaliyah	1	0	A Christian father of two young children is kidnapped and killed when he refuses to accept Islam.
6/8/2007	Indonesia	Pekanbaru	1	0	A Christian schoolteacher is shot to death in front of his 9-year-old son by Muslim extremists.
6/7/2007	Lebanon	Beirut	1	0	Muslim bombers take out one Christian civilian and injure four others.
6/3/2007	Iraq	Mosul	4	0	Islamists shoot a Catholic priest and three other Christians to death as they are leaving a church.
5/20/2007	Lebanon	Beirut	1	10	A 63-year-old woman is killed in a bomb attack on a Christian neighborhood.
5/11/2007	Egypt	Behma	0	10	Ten Christians are injured as a Muslim mob rampages through their neighborhood, enraged over the construction of a church.
4/30/2007	Ethiopia	Jijiga	2	3	Two Christians are killed when Muslims bomb a tent gathering.
4/27/2007	Sudan	Gnaya	4	5	Four Christians, including a boy, are shot to death by radical Muslims after showing a 'Jesus' film in a village.
4/19/2007	Philippines	Parang	7	0	Seven Christian laborers are kidnapped and beheaded by Moro Islamists.
4/18/2007	Turkey	Malatya	3	3	Three Christians working at a Bible distribution company are brutally tortured and murdered by local Islamists. All three had their throats cut.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

4/15/2007	India	Pulwama	1	0	A Christian church worker is kidnapped, brutally tortured and then beheaded by the Mujahideen.
3/26/2007	Iraq	Kirkuk	2	0	Two elderly nuns, aged 79 and 85, are stabbed to death in their home.
3/21/2007	Nigeria	Gombe	1	0	A female Christian teacher is attacked and killed by her students, who accused her of 'desecrating' the Qur'an.
2/20/2007	USA	Nashville, TN	0	1	A Muslim cab driver runs over a Christian after arguing about religion. The young man's ankle and hip are broken by the vehicle.
2/14/2007	Iraq	Baghdad	4	10	Four Christians are killed in an Islamic car bombing of their hospital.
2/13/2007	Lebanon	Bikfaya	3	19	Following threats by Islamic groups, two coordinated bomb blasts rip through a Christian town, killing at least three persons.
1/5/2007	Ethiopia	Kofele	1	0	A Christian is beaten to death by Muslims with a metal bar.
12/14/2006	India	Mamoosa	1	0	A convert to Christianity, and father of four, is gunned down in broad daylight by Islamic radicals.
12/3/2006	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 69-year-old Christian church leader is kidnapped and murdered by Islamic extremists.
11/21/2006	India	Mamoosa	1	0	A 50-year-old Christian convert is gunned down by members of his former religion.
11/21/2006	Lebanon	Beirut	1	0	A Christian leader is gunned down by Muslim terrorists supported by Syria.
10/31/2006	Pakistan	Azad Kashmir	1	0	A Christian missionary is shot to death by Islamic radicals.
10/21/2006	Iraq	Baqubah	1	0	A 14-year-old Christian boy is abducted and beheaded by Muslim extremists.
10/17/2006	Eritrea	Adi-Quala	2	0	Two Christians are arrested and tortured to death for hosting a church meeting.
10/16/2006	Indonesia	Sulawesi	1	0	A Christian priest is murdered by Muslim gunmen in front of his wife.
10/14/2006	Ethiopia	Beshasha	6	15	A mob of 300 Muslims attack a group of unarmed Christians worshipping at a church, murdering at least six of them - including two priests.
10/11/2006	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	A Christian priest is abducted and decapitated by Muslim extremists. The head is not found with the body.
10/4/2006	Iraq	Baghdad	16	87	Jihadis bomb a Christian district, killing sixteen innocents and injuring many dozens more.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

10/1/2006	Ethiopia	Jimma	10	12	Ten people are killed, more than a dozen injured, and at least two churches burned down as Muslims attempt to ban a Christian ceremony.
10/1/2006	Indonesia	Poso	0	1	A Christian man is pulled off a bus and stabbed by a Muslim mob.
9/30/2006	Pakistan	Bahawlnagar	1	0	A Christian is killed by authorities who arrest and imprison him for 'blaspheming' Islam.
9/24/2006	Iraq	Baghdad	2	17	Radical Muslims place bombs outside a Christian cathedral, intending to kill worshippers. Two people, including a child, are killed.
9/17/2006	Somalia	Mogadishu	2	0	A 70-year-old nun working at a children's' hospital is shot to death by radical Muslims, along with a guard.
9/16/2006	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	Muslims stab a Christian to death in a marketplace in retaliation for the pope's remarks.
9/15/2006	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	A Christian is killed when radical Muslims attack a Catholic church.
9/9/2006	Indonesia	Poso	1	0	A young Christian woman is killed when Islamic radicals throw a bomb at her house.
9/7/2006	Somalia	Mogadishu	1	0	A young college student is murdered after converting from Islam to Christianity.
9/6/2006	Indonesia	Tangkuran	1	0	A Christian is killed in a bombing attack by militant Muslims.
9/5/2006	Lebanon	Rmeileh	4	4	Four members of a detail investigating a Christian's death are themselves killed in a bombing by Muslim radicals.
9/1/2006	Pakistan	Neelum Valley	2	3	Two Christian children of missionaries are brutally murdered. The girl had her breast cut off and was raped.
8/19/2006	Egypt	Cairo	1	0	A Christian cobbler is stabbed to death by an angry Muslim.
7/5/2006	Nigeria	Kumutu	3	30	Nigerian 'Taliban' attacks Christian villagers, killing at least three.
6/30/2006	Pakistan	Gadi Wnd	1	0	A group of Muslim bulldoze a Christian family's house, killing an infant.
6/8/2006	Philippines	Patikul	1	2	Islamists attack Christians at a carnival, killing one and injuring two more.
5/25/2006	Philippines	Jolo	1	0	A 32-year-old cigarette vendor is gunned down by Abu Sayyaf near a Catholic church.
5/12/2006	Kenya	Nairobi	1	2	A Christian radio station airing the testimony of Muslim apostates is targeted in a bombing attack. One guard is shot to death by the radicals.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

5/11/2006	Kosovo	Kosovska Mitrovica	0	2	Two Christian youth are seriously injured when Muslims open up on them with automatic weapons.
4/16/2006	Ethiopia	Jijiga	3	23	Islamists bomb a two bars and a church, killing three people and injuring two dozen.
4/14/2006	Egypt	Alexandria	1	3	Knife-wielding Islamists attack Christians gathered outside a church, stabbing four of them. A 78-year-old man dies.
4/10/2006	Afghanistan	Badghis	5	0	Five Afghan humanitarian workers working for a Christian aid agency are slaughtered by Muslim extremists at their clinic.
3/22/2006	Ethiopia	Arisi Negellie	1	0	Muslims gun down a father of seven in front of a Lutheran church. The victim was a convert from Islam.
3/14/2006	Indonesia	Ambon	1	0	In a suspected Muslim attack, a 33-year-old Catholic nun is stabbed to death by an intruder.
3/11/2006	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	A 'Christian Peacemaker' pacifist is kidnapped by Islamic radicals, held for three months, tortured and then shot to death.
2/24/2006	Nigeria	Potiskum	4	12	At least four Christians are clubbed to death by a Muslim mob, and five churches burned.
2/24/2006	Nigeria	Kontagora	9	27	Machete-wielding Muslims hack nine Christians apart and set fire to four churches.
2/21/2006	Nigeria	Bauchi	25	100	Muslims mobs take out their rage on Christians in yet a third Nigerian state, killing at least twenty-five and injuring over one-hundred in a two-day spree.
2/20/2006	Nigeria	Maiduguri	30	95	An additional thirty bodies are counted from the Muslim rioting against Christians over the weekend.
2/19/2006	Nigeria	Borno	7	24	Muslim mobs target Nigerian Christians in a protest against Danish cartoons. More churches are burned and seven more are killed.
2/18/2006	Nigeria	Maiduguri	21	112	Angry Muslim mobs burn churches and beat Christians to death. At least sixteen people are killed in the violence.
2/5/2006	Turkey	Trabzon	1	0	A Catholic priest is murdered by an assailant who shouts 'Allah Akbar!' after he fires the gun.
2/3/2006	Philippines	Patikul	6	5	Islamists massacre a family of Christians after confirming their religious identity. The victims included an infant and other young children.
1/29/2006	Philippines	Pulunding	2	0	Muslims shoot a Christian couple to death as they are riding a motorcycle on their way home.
1/29/2006	Iraq	Kirkuk	3	11	Muslims target Christian churches with six car bombs, killing at least three people and injuring eleven.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1/19/2006	Egypt	Udaysaat	2	14	Muslims go on a rampage against Christians, angered by the construction of a church. Two, including a 13-year-old boy, are killed.
12/31/2005	Indonesia	Sulawesi	8	56	Eight Christians are killed when Islamists bomb a market selling pork at a time when it is packed with shoppers. The bomb was packed with nails.
12/31/2005	Pakistan	Rawalpindi	2	0	Islamic fundamentalists kill a 23-year-old Christian and his Muslim girlfriend because their relationship was against Sharia.
12/12/2005	Lebanon	Mkalles	4	30	Christian reporter is assassinated by a car bombing that kills three other people. Thirty innocents are injured in the blast.
12/4/2005	Egypt	Cairo	1	0	Christian pastor killed following threats.
11/29/2005	Iraq	Mosul	2	1	Two Christians are gunned down by Muslim militants as they are hanging campaign posters.
11/22/2005	Iran	Gonbad-e-Kavus	1	0	A Muslim convert to Christianity is stabbed to death by radical Islamists after being abducted from his home.
11/21/2005	Iraq	Baghdad	4	0	Four Christian women are killed when gunmen storm their home in the middle of the night.
11/19/2005	Indonesia	Palu	0	2	Christian couple shot by radical Muslims while on their way to church.
11/8/2005	Indonesia	Poso	1	1	Two Christian 17-year-old girls are shot in the head in a brutal attack only a few days after three others were beheaded.
10/31/2005	Nigeria	Niger Province	3	13	Three Christians are killed by Muslims in unrest following the carrying out of a Sharia sentence of amputation against a Christian.
10/29/2005	Indonesia	Bukit Bambu	3	1	Three Christian 16-year-old girls on their way to school are attacked and beheaded by six Muslim gentlemen, who leave the headless bodies in the street and carry the heads to a different location.
10/23/2005	England	Birmingham	1	1	Pakistanis stab a 24-year-old Christian man senselessly to death in what is either a racial or religious attack.
10/18/2005	Bangladesh	Narsingdi	1	0	A Hindu priest is kidnapped and murdered by Islamic extremists.
10/12/2005	Egypt	Alexandria	0	2	A nun and one other person are stabbed in front of their church by a Muslim demonstrator.
10/3/2005	Indonesia	Pantangolemba	1	0	A 53-year-old Christian is shot to death.
9/29/2005	Indonesia	Landangan	1	0	A 43-year-old Christian is shot to death.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

9/23/2005	Iraq	Baghdad	4	0	Four Assyrian Christians are killed in a Muslim bomb attack on a Christian minister.
9/16/2005	Lebanon	Beirut	1	22	A bomb placed in a Christian neighborhood kills one man and injures twenty-two other people.
9/13/2005	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A 21-year-old Christian woman is assaulted by Muslim radicals for wearing jeans. She is beaten and stabbed to death.
8/27/2005	Kosovo	Urosevac-Skopje	2	2	Two Christians are killed and two wounded when Muslim gunmen attack their car.
8/27/2005	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	A Christian is gunned down by Muslim militants.
8/25/2005	Indonesia	Ambon	0	7	A bomb set by Muslim radicals in a Christian sector of town injures seven people.
8/15/2005	Iraq	Dura	1	0	'Holy Warriors' kidnap a Christian woman and then cut off her head.
8/11/2005	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	Islamic radicals kidnap, torture and kill a Catholic layman.
8/9/2005	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	A Catholic layman is abducted and strangled to death by Islamic fundamentalists.
8/4/2005	Indonesia	Poso	2	0	Two witnesses who testified against the Islamic bombers behind a massacre of Christians at a market are themselves assassinated.
7/29/2005	Bangladesh	Boalmari	2	0	Two Christian charity workers are hacked to death inside their home by hard-line Islamic militants, who chained the doors shut to prevent their escape or rescue.
7/23/2005	Lebanon	Beirut	0	12	Twelve people are injured by a car bomb placed in a Christian neighborhood.
7/20/2005	India	Srinagar	6	17	Hizbul Mujahideen suicide bomber targets a missionary children's school in the Indian capital, killing at least six and injuring more than a dozen.
7/19/2005	Ethiopia	Jigjiga	1	0	Islamic militants stop a bus and force the Christians on it to repeat a Muslim creed and pray to Mecca. The one who refuses to do so is shot to death.
7/12/2005	Lebanon	Beyrouth	1	12	Muslim terrorists target a Christian politician with a bomb, but kill a civilian instead.
6/2/2005	Lebanon	Beirut	1	1	Car bombing in a Christian area of the city takes the life of a journalist who opposed Syrian hegemony.
6/2/2005	Iraq	Mbsul	5	0	Thinking that they were a Christian family, Jihad gunmen spray the inside of a car with weapons fire, killing two parents and their three young children.
5/28/2005	Indonesia	Sulawesi	24	54	A priest and an infant are among the nearly two dozen Christians killed when Islamic militants detonate two bombs in the center of a village. At least sixty others are injured.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

5/16/2005	Indonesia	Maluku	6	0	Five policemen and a civilian are killed by Islamic militants in Indonesia, as they were sleeping. The militants accused them of protecting a Christian village.
5/7/2005	Lebanon	Jounieh	2	28	Two people are killed by a bomb set in a commercial district of a Christian town.
5/6/2005	Iraq	Baghdad	14	0	Assyrian Christians are thought to be among the fourteen, bound corpses of torture victims found in a city garbage dump.
4/24/2005	Indonesia	Sulawesi	6	0	At least six Christian villagers are killed by their Muslim neighbors after refusing to 'return to Islam.'
4/10/2005	Nigeria	Benue	14	4	Fourteen Christians are killed in an attack on their villages by Muslim militants in the large African nation.
4/7/2005	Pakistan	Peshawar	2	0	A priest and his Christian driver are detained then stabbed to death by Muslim extremists, who also cut off the hands, noses and ears of the victims.
4/1/2005	Lebanon	Broummana	0	12	Bomb placed outside a shopping center in a Christian resort village by Syrian-backed terrorists injures a dozen.
3/27/2005	Pakistan	Khambay	1	6	Four Islamic militants open fire on an church Easter service, killing at least one Christian and injuring six other worshippers.
3/26/2005	Lebanon	Beirut	0	5	Bomb in a predominately Christian suburb injures five.
3/24/2005	Iraq	Basra	2	0	A female Christian college student is kidnapped and beaten to death by Shiite radicals. A man coming to her rescue is murdered as well.
3/23/2005	Lebanon	Jounieh	3	3	Three people are killed when Muslim terrorists detonate an 80kg bomb in a shopping center in a Christian area north of Beirut.
3/19/2005	Lebanon	Beirut	2	11	Syrian-backed terrorists set off a car bomb in a Christian neighborhood, killing two innocents.
3/17/2005	Nigeria	Benue	1	0	Two Muslim men rape a Christian girl and then poison her.
3/8/2005	Bangladesh	Jalalpur	1	0	Christian pastor attacked and beheaded by Muslim extremists as he is returning home from work.
2/28/2005	Iraq	Hilla	135	141	A Fedayeen suicide car bomber blows his way to paradise by driving into a crowd of unemployed Iraqis, taking the lives of more than one-hundred souls, most of whom were Christian.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

2/18/2005	Lebanon	al-Shuwayfat	2	0	Islamists bomb a Christian-owned gas station, killing two people.
2/17/2005	Iraq	Zakho	1	0	Christian taxi driver gunned down after refusing to convert back to Islam.
2/4/2005	Nigeria	Demsa	36	0	Militant Muslims attack a Christian village in Nigeria, killing at least three dozen and displacing some three thousand others.
1/27/2005	Nigeria	Numan	1	0	A Christian woman is shot to death by Muslim troops in the troubled African province.
12/19/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	2	0	Two Christians are kidnapped and then murdered by Jihadists.
12/12/2004	Indonesia	Sulawesi	0	3	Muslims open fire on churches in Indonesia, injuring three Christians.
12/8/2004	Iraq	Ramadi	1	0	Islamic terrorists kill a Christian doctor as he is attending to (Muslim) patients in a hospital.
12/8/2004	Nigeria	Bauchi	1	0	Muslim students at an African university abduct and kill a Christian student.
12/2/2004	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	Islamic terrorists kidnap and decapitate a 29-year-old Christian man.
11/30/2004	Thailand	Yala	1	2	Two separate shooting attacks by Muslim missionaries from the back of a motorcycle leave a teacher dead and two other civilians injured.
11/23/2004	Nigeria	Jigawa	2	10	Muslim extremists attack a group of Christian evangelists. Two people are beaten to death and at least ten others injured.
11/17/2004	Philippines	Zamboanga	0	1	24-year-old Christian man is attacked by Muslim activists, badly beaten and left for dead.
11/8/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	3	45	Muslim extremists bomb two Christian churches, killing three and injuring over forty, including women and children.
11/4/2004	Indonesia	Poso	1	0	The Mujahideen kidnap and decapitate the Christian leader of an Indonesian village.
11/2/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	2	2	A Christian family is ambushed in their car by Muslim gunmen, who manage to kill the father and his 10-year-old son.
10/27/2004	Pakistan	Karachi	6	2	A vicious killing by Islamists, who barge into a Christian charity office, tie up six men, then execute six by shooting them in the back of the head.
10/25/2004	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	An Assyrian Christian woman, mother of three children, is murdered in her home by Jihad warriors.
10/21/2004	Indonesia	Poso	1	0	Muslim gunmen kill the security guard at a Catholic church.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

10/16/2004	Syria	Hasaka	2	0	An Assyrian Christian is beaten and killed by Muslim attackers, who then mutilate his body and dump it in the Christian quarter of town. A friend coming to help is shot and killed.
10/14/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	Small Christian girl kidnapped and killed by Muslims who had demanded ransom from her family.
10/13/2004	Indonesia	Jono Oge	2	0	Sword-wielding Muslim mob kills two Christians on a busy street in an Indonesian province. One dies at the scene, another at the hospital.
10/13/2004	Indonesia	Sulawesi	1	2	Laskar Jihad gunmen kill a Hindu woman and injure two Christian men by opening fire on their houses.
10/5/2004	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	Jihadists kidnap and then behead a 15-year-old Christian boy. They then burn his body.
9/18/2004	Bangladesh	Jamalpur	1	0	A Christian convert from Islam has his throat slashed by Muslim fundamentalists.
9/15/2004	Iraq	Al Dijail	3	0	The headless bodies of three people, two of who were Assyrian Christians, are found in a field with Qur'anic inscriptions carved into them.
9/14/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	2	0	Two Canadian (Arab) Christians are chased by a mob of Muslims and beaten to death.
9/2/2004	Iraq	al-Mayasa	2	0	Islamic terrorists gun down two Christian brothers, known for advocating the rights of minorities.
9/1/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	A 43-year-old Christian man is killed by Jihadists just after leaving a hospital where he was treated for injuries following an earlier attack.
8/31/2004	Iraq	Bartella	3	0	Three young Christian women are slaughtered by Islamic extremists in a small Iraqi village.
8/26/2004	Iraq	Mosul	1	0	A Christian man is murdered by Muslim terrorists.
8/19/2004	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	Muslim mob takes 26-year-old Christian from his home then tortures him to death.
8/7/2004	Afghanistan	Awdand	1	0	Islamic radicals murder a 40-year-old 'well-educated' man for converting to Christianity.
8/1/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	11	61	Islamic radicals bomb five Catholic churches, murdering nearly a dozen Christians and injuring close to one-hundred people.
7/28/2004	Afghanistan	Kabul	1	0	A married father is stabbed to death after being discovered associating with other Christians.
7/23/2004	Afghanistan	Kabul	1	0	A Christian is stabbed to death by the Taliban over praying in the name of Jesus.
7/19/2004	Indonesia	Palu	2	3	Islamic gunmen enter a church and kill the female pastor and a 17-year-old girl. Three other teenage worshippers were also shot.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

7/19/2004	Iraq	Mosul	1	1	Islamists kill the Christian owner of a restaurant selling food to Americans. They also blind and cut off both hands of his Muslim business partner.
7/18/2004	Indonesia	Palu	1	4	Radical Muslims fire into a church service, killing a female pastor and injuring four Christian worshippers.
7/15/2004	Afghanistan	Kabul	1	0	A Christian is beaten to death for studying the Bible.
7/11/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	2	0	In a particularly senseless attack, Islamic fundamentalists enter the home of a Christian family and stab two girls (ages 16 and 6) to death.
6/30/2004	Afghanistan	Ghazni	1	0	A convert to Christianity (and father of four daughters) is dragged out of his home by the Taliban, who then slit his throat.
6/23/2004	Iraq	Basra	2	0	As their father waited at home for their return, two Christian sisters are gunned down by Muslim extremists in a particularly heinous and senseless murder.
6/10/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	A Christian man is attack and murdered by Islamists in his home.
6/9/2004	UK	Brixton	1	0	A 21-year-old man is stabbed to death by Muslim gang members for refusing to convert to Islam.
6/7/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	4	3	Islamic terrorists target Christian workers in a morning shooting attack that leaves four dead and several wounded.
6/7/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	4	0	In the same Christian neighborhood as the morning drive-by, Islamic extremists murder four, including three women returning from work.
6/6/2004	Kosovo	Gracanica	1	0	17-year-old Christian teenager is shot to death in a restaurant by Muslim terrorists.
5/29/2004	Indonesia	Palu	1	0	A Christian prosecutor, working to keep three Bali bombers in jail, is assassinated by Jemaah Islamiyah extremists in his car.
5/29/2004	Saudi Arabia	Khobar	22	45	"Are you Christian or Muslim," ask al-Qaeda militants as they shoot twenty-two infidels to death, including a 10-year-old boy, and take over forty-five hostages in an attack on an office complex.
5/28/2004	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	Pakistani Christian who was attacked with a hammer by a policeman for violating the State's blasphemy laws dies of his injuries. The killer claimed he wanted to "earn a spot in Paradise."
5/28/2004	Sudan	Tabit	20	17	Sudanese warplanes bomb a Christian village, killing at least twenty.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

5/28/2004	Nigeria	Langtang	3	0	Assault by armed Muslims leaves three Christians dead and several hundred homeless after their village is burned.
5/27/2004	Uzbekistan	Isfara	1	0	A Baptist pastor gunned down by members of the Islamist group, Bayrat.
5/25/2004	Indonesia	Ambon	1	13	Bomb blast in the Christian sector of the city kills one and injures thirteen. A second bomb is found near a church and defused.
5/21/2004	Nigeria	Saminaka	7	0	In the latest of a series of attacks on Christian villagers, seven more are killed by Nigerian Jihadists as they sought refuge in their homes.
5/21/2004	Nigeria	Jiram	15	0	Fifteen Christian villagers are massacred by Jihadists.
5/19/2004	Nigeria	Sabo Gida	10	0	Ten Christian villagers are killed by armed Muslims. An unknown number are injured by the attackers, who also burned churches and houses.
5/19/2004	Nigeria	Bakin Ciyawa	24	0	Jihadists kill twenty-four Christian villagers.
5/18/2004	Nigeria	Gidan Sabo	18	0	Muslim Nigerians kill eighteen Christian villagers - mostly farmers, women and children.
5/18/2004	Pakistan	Karachi	4	0	Four members of Pakistan's Christian minority are targeted and killed by Islamists. One was a kidnapped youth and two others were on their way to a picnic.
5/16/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	3	1	Muslim radical opens fire on a minibus carrying Christian women, forcing them to the side of the road. He then tosses an explosive in the vehicle, killing three, including the driver.
5/12/2004	Philippines	Jolo	1	14	Abu Sayyaf terrorists kill a fifteen-year-old Catholic girl with a grenade - fourteen others are also injured in the attack.
5/12/2004	Nigeria	Kano	30	44	Muslim rampage against Christians continues in Kano with at least another thirty people losing their lives.
5/11/2004	Nigeria	Kano	11	0	At least eleven Christians are burned to death by a Muslim mob that also sets two churches on fire.
5/7/2004	Pakistan	Toba Tek Singh	1	0	Catholic student abducted by Muslim school refuses to convert to Islam and is tortured to death.
5/5/2004	Egypt	Taha al-Aamida	3	0	Muslim police take three Christians, including a priest, into custody as they are repairing a church wall. All three are then murdered.
5/5/2004	Indonesia	Maluku	2	3	Muslim gunmen in a speedboat kill a Christian man and an 11-month-old baby. Three others are also shot, but manage to survive.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

4/25/2004	Indonesia	Ambon	38	24	Islamic radicals go on a rampage against Christians, killing more than thirty (some in sniper attacks) and then setting a UN building on fire.
4/11/2004	Nigeria	Rwang Doka and Jenkur	3	0	Muslim militia attacks two Christian villages and kills three people, in addition to burning homes.
4/11/2004	Indonesia	Sulawesi	0	7	Islamic gunmen open fire on an Easter church service, wounding seven worshippers.
4/10/2004	Indonesia	Poso	0	7	Radical Muslims fire on a group of Christians gathered for Easter service.
4/2/2004	Pakistan	Lahore	1	0	Christian pastor is gunned down by Muslim extremists in front of his wife and four children.
3/30/2004	Indonesia	Tomura	1	1	A Christian pastor is fatally wounded by Muslim gunmen in front of his wife at his church. One other person is also injured in the attack.
3/27/2004	Indonesia	Poso	1	0	A 27-year-old Christian is gunned down by Muslim terrorists. (2004)
3/25/2004	Iraq	Mbsul	1	0	Sunni gunmen kill a Christian Assyrian police officer.
3/22/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	2	0	Islamists bind and cut the throats of an Assyrian (Christian) couple in their home. (2004)
3/18/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	4	1	Muslims barge into a Christian home and kill the two children they find there. Their mother is also killed, as well as their grandfather.
3/15/2004	Iraq	Mbsul	4	1	Four Christian missionaries working on a humanitarian clean water project for Iraqis are gunned down by Fedayeen terrorists while riding in their vehicle.
3/11/2004	Indonesia	Maranatha	1	5	Brutal machete attack on a Christian village leaves a mother of two dead and five others injured.
3/6/2004	Sudan	al-Kureinik	15	0	Government-supported militia group raids a refugee camp and kills fifteen Christian civilians, including a child.
2/25/2004	Nigeria	Yelwa	49	0	Forty-nine members of a farming community are slaughtered by Muslim Fulanis after taking refuge in a local church. Most of the Christians were brutally hacked to death. The number of injured is unknown.
2/19/2004	Philippines	Jolo	1	1	Abu Sayyaf gunmen abduct a 7-year old girl at a Roman Catholic school after killing her driver.
2/15/2004	Iraq	Baghdad	1	4	A Christian pastor is killed, and four others are injured when a vehicle pulls alongside their car and fires into the cabin.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

2/9/2004	Iraq	Mosul	2	0	Two Christian family members murdered by radical Jihadists.
1/21/2004	Iraq	Fallujah	4	1	Four Christian Iraqi women, who were laundry workers for the coalition, are attacked and killed while riding in a minivan. The male driver was injured.
1/21/2004	Indonesia	Maranatha	1	0	The 56-year-old head of a local Christian community is killed by Muslim villagers. (2004)
1/15/2004	Pakistan	Karachi	0	12	At least a dozen people are injured when a car bomb explodes outside the local headquarters of the Christian Bible Society.
1/10/2004	Indonesia	Palopo	4	2	Four people are killed, and at least two injured by a bomb blast at a karaoke cafe. Islamist terrorist attacks killed nearly a dozen Christians there in November.
1/5/2004	Egypt	Patmos Center	1	2	One Christian is killed, and two others injured when elements of the Egyptian army burn down a church.
1/5/2004	Pakistan	Khanewal	1	0	Christian priest shot dead by Islamic terrorists as he was boarding a train.
1/4/2004	Philippines	Parang	22	81	Twenty-two people at a political rally for a Christian mayor in a predominately Muslim region are killed by a bomb blast. More than eighty are injured. Two Muslims later identified and charged..
11/16/2003	Indonesia	Sulawesi	1	0	A Christian man is dragged from his motorcycle and beaten to death by a Muslim mob.
11/15/2003	Indonesia	Sulawesi	2	0	A church official and his nephew are shot to death by radical Muslims.
11/4/2003	Iraq	Mosul	2	0	Christian judge is assassinated in shooting attack. This occurs a day after another judge is kidnapped and murdered in Najaf
10/28/2003	Philippines	Cotabato	0	5	Five people are injured when suspected Jemaah Islamiyah members bomb a Catholic church.
10/27/2003	Indonesia	Sulawesi	1	0	Christian farmer killed by Jemmah Islamiyah terrorists while working his field.
10/12/2003	Iraq	Fallujah	2	0	Two Iraqi Christians murdered by Holy Warriors.
10/11/2003	Indonesia	Sulawesi	8	24	Muslim gunmen attack Christian villagers, killing eight, injuring dozens more and burning at least one church.
10/9/2003	Indonesia	Poso	2	0	Armed Muslims kill at least two Christian villagers and burn homes.
10/5/2003	Somalia	Borama	1	0	60-year old Italian medical missionary, a woman honored by the U.N. for her work with refugees, is shot twice in the head while leaving a hospital.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

10/1/2003	Indonesia	Pandiri	1	0	A 44-year-old man murdered for leaving Islam and embracing Christianity.
8/22/2003	Philippines	Barangay Matarling	1	4	Abu Sayyaf gunmen attack the house of a 37-year old Christian woman. They kill her and injure four members of her family.
7/29/2003	Pal. Auth.	West Bank	1	0	Muslim extremists abduct a Christian convert, butcher him and then return his body to his children in pieces.
7/10/2003	Indonesia	Kawua	0	5	A Christian-owned restaurant is bombed. Five people suffer injuries including a child.
7/10/2003	Indonesia	Sulawesi	1	0	Muslims attack and shoot a Christian to death as he was working his farm.
7/5/2003	Pakistan	Ranala Kot	1	0	Catholic priest, who received death threats from fundamentalist Muslims, is shot and killed in his home.
6/8/2003	Nigeria	Numan	1	0	Female Christian pastor stabbed to death by a radical Muslim as she was returning home from work (2003).
6/2/2003	Indonesia	Kapompa	1	1	Muslim attack on a Christian village leaves one dead and at least one other injured.
5/29/2003	Indonesia	Marowo	1	1	Muslim terrorists gun down a man for traveling with his Christian brother-in-law.
5/29/2003	Philippines	Cotabato	5	0	Moro Islamic fighters raid three Christian villages, killing five civilians.
5/22/2003	Sudan	Longochok	59	0	Islamic troops attack a Christian village, burning homes and killing at least fifty-nine villagers. They also take captive several women and children (some of whom are killed later).
5/21/2003	India	Anantnag	1	1	Muslim grenade attack on a Christian convent kills one female teacher and injures another.
5/14/2003	Yemen	Jibla	0	4	Terrorist bomb thrown into a courthouse where al-Qaeda militant was sentenced to death for killing three U.S. missionaries.
5/7/2003	Lebanon	Tripoli	1	0	Bomb left at the front door of a Christian missionary couple explodes, killing one person.
5/4/2003	Philippines	Siocon	27	23	Muslim separatists attack a Christian village, firing on houses and a hospital. At least twenty-seven are killed and about two dozen wounded. Fifteen residents are taken hostage.
4/22/2003	Nigeria	Kano	7	0	Muslims set fire to a house, killing a Christian pastor and six other members of his family, including his wife and three children.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

4/4/2003	Indonesia	Wamena	15	0	Indonesian military raids Christian town, burning Bibles and churches, killing two Baptist pastors along with at least thirteen others. Other Christians were tortured.
4/4/2003	Nigeria	Fobur	1	4	Armed Muslims attack a village, kill a woman and burn down the houses of Christians.
3/26/2003	Philippines	Mlang	7	5	Muslims blast Christian village with RPGs, killing seven, including a six-year-old child and injuring five others.
3/25/2003	Philippines	Carmen	2	0	Islamists stop a cargo truck, tie up the Christian driver and his helper then shoot them to death.
3/18/2003	Philippines	Cotabato	0	5	Rebel bomb attack on a Roman Catholic church during mass injures five worshippers.
3/18/2003	Nigeria	Kadarko	22	44	Armed Muslims shouting "we are going to finish off the infidels" attack a Christian village and kill at least 22 villagers. More than forty-four others were injured or missing.
3/7/2003	Philippines	Mindanao	1	2	Two Moro Islamic Liberation Front bomb attacks kill one and injure two at a Catholic school.
3/4/2003	Philippines	Davao	21	150	Muslim rebels plant a bomb at a civilian airport. Twenty-one are killed in the blast and about 150 others are injured. Among the dead is an American missionary and several children.
2/28/2003	Philippines	Bukidnon	1	0	Muslim rebels burn ten homes in a Christian village, killing at least one person.
2/19/2003	Philippines	Tubud	14	8	Muslims attack a Christian village, burning and murdering at least fourteen civilians.
2/11/2003	Israel	Bethlehem	1	0	Palestinian sniper guns down Israeli soldier in front of the Church of the Nativity.
1/26/2003	Lebanon	Beirut	1	3	Car bomb explodes in Christian residential area killing one and injuring three.
1/13/2003	Philippines	Zamboanga	3	0	Muslim gunmen kill three Christians.
12/30/2002	Yemen	Jibla	3	1	Muslim gunman posing as a father carrying a child kills three American humanitarian workers at a missionary hospital and wounds one other.
12/25/2002	Pakistan	Daska	3	14	Christmas grenade attack on a Christian church kills three girls and injures fourteen young women.
12/12/2002	Nigeria	Rim	13	0	Muslim nomads attack a Christian village and kill thirteen people including a clergyman and his family.
11/22/2002	Nigeria	Kaduna	216	521	A Muslim mob, angered by an insult to Muhammad, burns 58 Christian churches and rampages through the streets stabbing, bludgeoning and burning over two hundred people to death.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

11/21/2002	Lebanon	Sidon	1	0	Female missionary shot three times in the head by Muslim radicals.
10/31/2002	Nigeria	Zaria	20	51	Muslims go on a rampage against Christian students at a local college, killing twenty and injuring over fifty.
10/24/2002	Nigeria	Fajul	40	48	At least forty Christians are killed by a Muslim mob of several thousand, who also rape women and burn churches.
10/20/2002	Philippines	Zamboanga	1	18	A Roman Catholic shrine is bombed by Muslim terrorists. One killed, eighteen injured.
9/25/2002	Pakistan	Karachi	7	3	Seven persons are killed and three others injured in a terrorist attack on a Christian welfare organization's office - the Idara Amn-O-Insaaf (Institute for Peace and Justice). The victims were blind-folded, tied to chairs and shot in the head.
9/21/2002	Indonesia	Kelang	2	2	Two Christians are killed and two wounded by Muslim gunmen.
9/8/2002	Indonesia	Galunggung	1	0	A Christian is beaten, then burned to death by a Muslim mob.
8/15/2002	Iraq	Baghdad	1	0	A 71-year-old nun is savagely attacked and stabbed to death in a monastery by Islamic extremists, who then behead her.
8/15/2002	Indonesia	Manyomba	1	3	Fifty militants attack two Christian villages. They shoot three people and strangle a 3-year-old child to death.
8/11/2002	Indonesia	Kayamanya	5	0	A Muslim mob attacks a bus and one other vehicle, killing five Christians, including one who was burned.
8/10/2002	Philippines	Unknown	2	4	Abu Sayyaf kidnap six missionaries. Two are subsequently beheaded.
8/9/2002	Indonesia	Malei	2	0	Jihad warriors attack two Christian villages and kill two people.
8/5/2002	Pakistan	Jhika Gali, Murree	6	4	Six persons killed and four others injured in terrorist attack on Christian missionary school.
8/4/2002	Indonesia	Matako	0	8	A Muslim mob screaming praises to Allah sweeps through a Christian village, burning homes and churches, and shooting residents.
7/22/2002	Indonesia	Mayoa	0	3	Three Christian farmers survive a brutal shooting attack by Jihad warriors.
7/12/2002	Indonesia	Kawua	1	4	Islamic bombers nearly crash a bus carrying Christians. Only one passenger is killed by the explosion.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

7/7/2002	Philippines	Unknown	2	1	Kidnapped American missionary and Philippine nurse are killed during rescue attempt.
7/7/2002	Indonesia	Wayura	1	0	A Christian fisherman is shot in the head by suspected Islamists.
7/3/2002	Indonesia	Landangan	1	0	Muslim gunmen murder a Christian man.
6/27/2002	Pakistan	Kachi Abadi	1	2	15-year old Christian tortured to death by police for blasphemy. In the same country a 17-year old Christian girl was blinded from having acid thrown in her face and another girl was raped (occurring on different days).
6/15/2002	Pakistan	Faisalabad	0	1	A 16-year-old Christian girl is doused with acid for refusing to convert to Islam.
6/9/2002	Indonesia	Kayamanya	1	0	An older Christian man is beheaded by a Muslim.
6/6/2002	Nigeria	Katsina	1	0	A Muslim mob dubs a Christian police officer to death after a cleric makes false charges that he trampled a Qur'an.
6/5/2002	India	Bangalore	2	0	A Christian man and his Muslim wife are captured and hacked to death by her family for marrying outside Islam. Their one-year-old baby is spared.
6/5/2002	Indonesia	Tentena	4	17	A bomb planted by Muslim radicals explodes on a church bus killing four, including the pastor, and wounding seventeen.
5/25/2002	Indonesia	Saparua	5	11	A Muslim boat attack kills five Christians and wounds eleven others.
5/16/2002	Indonesia	Tamonjeka	2	0	Two Christian men are killed by suspected Muslim radicals.
4/28/2002	Indonesia	Soya	12	6	Muslims attack a Christian village with knives and guns. They are able to slaughter twelve people and hurt six more.
4/4/2002	Indonesia	Ambon	5	57	An Islamist throws a bomb into a Christian center, killing five and injuring fifty-seven other innocents.
3/17/2002	Pakistan	Islamabad	5	45	Grenade attack on a Christian church kills five worshippers including American woman and her 17-year-old daughter. Forty-five others were injured.
3/7/2002	Nigeria	Enugu	12	0	Muslim gunmen storm a Christian prayer meeting attempting to kill the leader. Twelve are killed, an unknown number injured.
2/27/2002	Nigeria	Ilorin	3	0	Eid-el-Kabir celebrants kill three Christians.
2/24/2002	Nigeria	Gombi	1	0	A young Christian woman is kidnapped by four Muslim men, who slit her throat and leave her to die.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1/16/2002	Indonesia	Malei	1	0	A Christian man is gunned down by angry Muslims while collecting fruit.
1/1/2002	Indonesia	Palu	1	0	Four bombs explode at Christian churches and one man dies in a hand grenade attack in Jakarta.
12/30/2001	Nigeria	Vwang	5	0	Armed Muslims attack Christian community, kill five and destroy much of the town.
12/19/2001	Indonesia	Kapaha	9	1	Nine Christians aboard a boat are killed by Jihad attackers.
12/7/2001	Indonesia	Ewiri	2	3	Jihadists attack a Christian village, killing two and wounding three.
12/2/2001	Indonesia	Sepe	6	0	Six Christians are murdered by a Muslim mob while fleeing their homes.
11/13/2001	Indonesia	Ambon	2	5	A Muslim attack kills two Christians and injures five more.
11/1/2001	Indonesia	Palu	4	0	Four Christians murdered by Jihad terrorists at an illegal roadblock.
11/1/2001	Indonesia	Tomata	3	12	Jihad warriors attack Christian village and kill three.
11/1/2001	Indonesia	Waimulang	5	2	Jihad warriors attack Christian village, killing five and wounding at least two.
10/28/2001	Pakistan	Bahawalpur	18	9	A policeman and seventeen Christians, including five children, are killed and nine others injured when six gunmen opened fire on a church.
10/21/2001	Indonesia	Toyado	1	0	A Christian is pulled from a car and hacked to death by Jihad warriors.
10/20/2001	Indonesia	Betalemba	2	0	At least two killed in a Muslim attack on Christian village.
10/16/2001	Indonesia	Madale	1	1	A Muslim mob burns down a Christian refugee barracks, killing one and seriously injuring another.
10/15/2001	Nigeria	Kano	32	51	Scores of Christians are murdered by Muslim mobs. Dozens of others are injured and at least five churches are burned down.
10/3/2001	Indonesia	Peleru	10	0	Jihad warriors kill 10 Christian villagers and injure an unknown number.
10/1/2001	Indonesia	Tomata	3	0	Terrorists attack a Christian church, killing three women.

At least 56 Christians dead in Pakistan church suicide bombing

September 22, 2013

Source: <http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/431346/WARNING-GRAPHIC-IMAGES-At-least-56-Christians-dead-in-Pakistan-church-suicide-bombing>

The terrorist detonated the explosives which ripped through the church in Peshawar as parishioners were leaving the church. It is believed two explosions took place and a pair of bombers was involved.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Police said six hundred people were inside the church when the blast took place and that the death toll included four children and that it is likely to rise.

Speaking to Pakistani TV, a man outside the scene of the attack said: "Terrorists have not spared mosques, temples and churches. Please have mercy on us."



Eyewitness Nazir John said: "There were blasts and there was hell for all of us.

"When I got my senses back, I found nothing but smoke, dust, blood and screaming people. I saw severed body parts and blood all around."

Survivors from the attack, which took place while hundreds were inside the church, wailed in despair and hugged each other outside the church.

Former information minister Mian Iftikhar Hussain said the number of casualties from the blast was so high the hospital were running out of beds for the wounded.

John Tariq, who was wounded in the attack, lost his father in the terrorist attack this morning.

He said: "What have we done wrong to these

people? Why are we being killed?"

Islamist militants frequently bomb targets they see as heretical [EPA]

No one has claimed responsibility for the suicide attack but suspicions will fall of the country's many Islamic militant groups.

The church is located in a densely populated city, while Christians make up four per cent of Pakistan's 180 million strong population.

The attack is the worst sectarian attack since Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was sworn in in June.

In its immediate aftermath a number of residents took to the streets to protest against the violent attack by burning tires.

Pakistan is one of the most dangerous countries for minorities and Christians tend to keep a low profile in the area. Islamist militants frequently bomb targets they see as heretical which includes Christians and Shi'ites.

European Parliament condemns violence against Christians in Syria, Pakistan and Iran

Source: <http://www.christiantoday.com/article/european.parliament.condemns.violence.against.christians.in.syria.pakistan.and.iran/34340.htm>



(AP) – Portraits of two men are on display as people pray for three Christian men killed by gunmen in the predominately Christian village of Maaloula during a service at the al-Zaytoun Roman Catholic Church, Damascus, Syria, September 14, 2013. Government troops are battling for the ancient Christian village of Maaloula northeast of the capital of Damascus that was a major tourist attraction before the civil war

The European Parliament passed a resolution on Thursday condemning violence and persecution against Christians in Syria, Pakistan and Iran.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

MEPs voiced particular concern over the attacks on Christians in Maaloula, Syria, and the suicide attack on All Saints Church, Peshawar, Pakistan, which killed at least 80 people.

Maaloula came under heavy attack last month from rebel groups reportedly linked to Al-Qaeda. Monasteries were targeted and the 5,000 Christians in the town fled. At least 10 Christians were killed in the series of attacks, with some eyewitnesses claiming that they were killed when they refused to convert to Islam.

The MEPs called for "immediate support and humanitarian assistance" to a group of around 40 nuns and orphans still trapped in the Convent of St Tekla.

They also spoke of their "deep concern" about the general situation of religious minorities in Pakistan and the Christian churches in particular.

They urged the Pakistani authorities to overhaul the blasphemy laws and their current application "thoroughly", noting that the laws were open to misuse against people of faith.

Concerning Iran, they said the fate of imprisoned Pastor Saeed Abedini was also a matter of "deep concern".

Pastor Abedini, an Iranian with US citizenship, was sentenced to eight years in prison in January this year on charges related to undermining national security. In August, a court rejected his appeal and refused to reduce his prison sentence.

They called upon the Iranian government to exonerate and release the pastor "immediately".

Security expert: churches not immune from acts of violence

By Michael Ireland (Chief Correspondent, ASSIST News Service)

Source: <http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue5145.html>

A pastor shot to death during a Sunday morning service, a policeman and two soldiers killed in Northern Ireland, a shooting rampage that killed ten in Alabama, and 15 murdered by a disgruntled student in Germany.

Random acts of violence affecting and forever changing the lives of those around the victims who have been gunned down in cold blood, all pointing to the fact we live in a fallen world and that we should all be prepared for the inexplicable.

Christian security expert Jeffrey Hawkins, executive director of Christian Security Network, a national organization that provides security planning, training and emergency preparedness and response resources for Christian churches, ministries, schools and missionaries, says these Christian groups should take note and prepare themselves for potential acts of violence.

"From a moral and spiritual point of view, I have had Pastors tell me that it is their obligation, as 'Shepherds,' to protect their 'Flocks.' From a legal point of view, although we haven't seen it yet in the Christian community, other organizations have been sued when an incident occurs and someone is hurt or injured for lack of security or negligent security," Hawkins told ASSIST News.

"There is an obligation to provide a safe environment and by law employers must do so for their staff. We have seen multi-million dollar judgments against organizations for not providing adequate security," Hawkins said.

Formerly chief security officer for a large international Christian ministry, Hawkins is a senior public safety and security professional with more than 27 years experience working for profit, not-for-profit and government organizations locally, nationally and around the world.

Hawkins is a Certified Institutional Protection Manager (CIPM) and a Certified Institutional Protection Instructor (CIPI). He currently serves on the U.S. State Department Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) and the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS International) Leadership, the world's largest organization of security professionals.

A Chicago native and a graduate of the Chicago Police Academy, Elmhurst College (B.A – Business Administration), and National-Louis University (M.S – Management), Hawkins has more than 1,000 hours of post-graduate training in security, law enforcement and emergency management with such specialty agencies as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and counter terrorism agencies in Israel.

Hawkins has worked with White House Advance Teams under Presidents Reagan and Clinton, conducted investigations with the FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and coordinated protection details for politicians and foreign dignitaries with the Diplomat Security



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Service (DSS), the U.S. Secret Service and foreign security agencies.

ANS wanted to know what kinds of things should Christian groups take into account when considering security options? What questions should they be asking themselves and experts like him?

"They need to do three things, in this order. One, accept the fact that they may be the victim of a crime or violent act, either from outside or even inside their own organization," he said.

"Second, once they have adopted that mindset, conduct a Risk Assessment, whether an organization like the Christian Security Network conducts it or they use our material to do it themselves, the Risk Assessment should give them a basis to develop a short term and long term plan addressing security and emergency plans.

"Third, don't wait on starting the plan -- get help from us, from local law enforcement, fire departments and emergency services, as well as their insurance carriers," Hawkins said.

I asked Hawkins what sort of measures and precautions are available to these groups? How easily available are these things and how cost effective are they?

"The Christian Security Network offers a free weekly newsletter and free webinars to get churches, schools, ministries and missionaries started! We also offer a wide variety of services from education and training to risk assessments and consulting. We offer on-line subscription plans that offer training articles, webinars, forums to communicate to other churches and Christian organizations, and a host of other benefits. Security is not a one time 'thing,' it is not a 'product' -- it should be an on-going part of the organization, just like any other Ministry, except geared towards security, safety and emergency planning and response."

Hawkins continued: "Crimes happen almost every day against Christian organizations, however most do not make national headlines.

"The Christian Security Network has tracked over 140 incidents in more than 31 states in 2009 alone. We post recent events on the front page of our website so people can see the types of incidents that occur in all areas.

"Ironically while everyone was focused on the tragic shooting of the Pastor in Illinois, there were three other incidents that day in different parts of the country, two arsons of churches (one in South Carolina and one in Virginia) and one incident where a man in California went to shoot his Pastor but was apprehended by police before he could carry out the plot -- we almost had two Pastors killed in one day," Hawkins said.

I asked Hawkins what are some instances where random acts of violence have been prevented by wise and cautious planning? What made the difference?

"Church security professionals tell us incidents on a regular basis of crimes they prevent and lives they save by having the proper measures in place.

"One Christian security professional related to me an incident in a large church where they were protecting a Pastor and during the altar call, at the end of the service, they spotted a man in line waiting to see the Pastor and noted something peculiar about him. So they asked him to step out of line and took him to a secure room where they discovered he had two machetes strapped to his back. He said the devil told him to cut the Pastor's head off. He was taken into custody and turned over to police without incident," Hawkins said.

What does the need for these kinds of groups to think along these lines say about our society?

"What the Bible has been telling us all along -- we live in a fallen world, there is evil present all around us, and we must do everything we can to combat it and stand firm for the Lord," said Hawkins.

I asked Hawkins what he would say to those groups who say they will "just trust in the Lord" that all will work out well if they are ever attacked?

"The Bible does not tell us to stand idle in the face of evil, it tells us to foresee danger and plan ahead. If that type of attitude is taken, than we do not need police, fire fighters, paramedics or the military -- all who protect us every day against danger and evil. The Bible says God gave to each their own spiritual gifts -- we believe ours is to protect the family of believers," he said.

I also asked Hawkins what he would you say to those groups who say that talk of increased security measures is pandering to fear?

"First, look at the statistics -- no one is making up these reports of arson, burglary, armed robbery and violence against Christian organizations, God wants us to be good stewards of what He has given us and we need to protect what we invest into His church.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

"Second, the very definition of 'security' is to be free of anxiety or worry of threats; by establishing security in the church people should be free of worry and concentrate on why they are there, to praise and worship the Lord. They can't do that if they are worried about their child in daycare or is someone breaking into their car in the parking lot, or who is walking in the back door of the church. Security brings peace," he said.

"In my 28-plus years in law enforcement and public safety, almost every crime victim I have every dealt with says the same thing 'I didn't think it could happen to me' or 'Things like this just don't happen here' -- God gave us the Holy Spirit to help and guide us, and people just don't listen. Most victims say 'I had a little voice inside that just telling me something wasn't right, but I didn't listen....' When God talks to you, you should listen....it has saved my life more than once," Hawkins said.

"There is no tomorrow, safety and people's lives are too important to put off -- act today."

Taking action against domestic violence

September 27, 2013

By **Melissa Lauber**

Source: <http://umc-gbcs.org/faith-in-action/taking-action-against-domestic-violence>

The horrifying impact of domestic violence has drawn together the United Methodist Men (UMM) and the United Methodist Women (UMW) of the Baltimore-Washington Conference (BWC) for the first time ever.

While their three-hour meeting to announce this partnership was being held Aug. 11, 800 women in the United States were beaten in their homes by a spouse or partner, reported United Methodist Men President Richard Campbell.

"The statistics are staggering," Campbell said. "Every nine seconds a woman is beaten. Every 35 seconds a man falls prey to domestic violence; and each year, more than 3 million children witness domestic violence in their homes.

"We need to let people know that God and the people of this church do care and will stand up for them as a matter of justice."

Education essential

Nancy Randers-Pehrson, president of BWC's United Methodist Women, agreed. Educating area United Methodists about domestic violence being perpetrated all around them is essential, according to her.

But so is empathy and action.

"With this new initiative we are attempting to provide paths of healing," Randers-Pehrson said. "Our churches need to become shelters in a time of storm. To experience freedom as whole people in Jesus Christ, we need to live in safe homes."

We are attempting to provide paths of healing.

To undergird BWC's new initiative, Julie Taylor from the General Board of Global Ministries is offering resources to area churches.

Domestic violence, Taylor explained, is a pattern of behavior in which one family member willfully intimidates or assaults another. This violence transcends all economic, educational, geographic, racial and cultural boundaries.

But it's a problem the church tends to sweep under the rug, uncertain of how to respond in the midst of family dynamics.

2 statistics stand out

Two statistics stand out for Taylor: one because it defines the scope of the problem; the other because it illuminates society's response.

Taylor said that every day in the United States more than three women and one man are murdered by their intimate partners. Also in the United States, there are 1,500 shelters for battered women and 3,800 shelters for animals, she pointed out.

Campbell said the statistics surrounding domestic violence can bring you to tears. But within the Baltimore-Washington Conference the response must be one of hope, according to him.

"We must choose hope," said Taylor.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

To encourage the 100 people in attendance at the meeting to find hope and a path toward action, several people shared their own personal stories of abuse. Iola Stemley, a UMMV vice president, asked that those present “receive these stories as though we’re talking to Jesus.”

One woman shared stories of being hit in the face with a hammer; a man told of being burned, cut, hit in the head with a baseball bat and poisoned. Both now consider themselves survivors. They say they “owe everything to God.”

A face on domestic violence

Another held up a photo of his niece, who was murdered Feb. 9. “I didn’t know anything about domestic violence,” he said. “Jenny put a face on it for me.”

This man said he often considers what the church can do. “We need to be aware. We need to listen and have our eyes open,” he said. “We need to be ready to understand.”

Still another man told about being abused by an older brother when he was 8-years-old. “As a child I lived in constant fear,” he said. “Belts, ropes, whatever he could get around my neck, he used, and I would wake up on the floor. Your house is where you’re supposed to learn about love and trust.”

This man, a pastor, encourages the church to “name the demon,” and to listen to the victims instead of “pushing them back deeper into closets of shame and mistrust.”

Painful to hear stories

Jeanne Hitchcock, a member of Sharp Street United Methodist Church in Baltimore, works with the state of Maryland to address domestic violence. She said it’s painful to hear these stories and these statistics, but what you don’t know you can’t address.

Hitchcock applauds the 40% reduction in crime and violence in Maryland since 2007. But, she said, 49 people died as a result of domestic violence last year. “There’s still a lot left to do,” she said.

Churches that want to do advocacy ministries can begin lobbying to strengthen protective orders, and expand hospital-based programs. There are seven hospital-based programs in Maryland and that’s not enough, Hitchcock said. “Each of us needs to stand up, speak out and stop domestic violence,” she emphasized.

This fall, the UMM and UMMV will begin implementing their action plan in local churches.

4 main objectives

The plan has four main objectives:

- Increase awareness of domestic violence and resources available to address it;
- Make the church’s position on this issue clear, while using language of responsibility and healing rather than blame and punishment;
- Promote clear policies that address sexual abuse committed by pastors and other church leadership;
- Develop a long-term vision of hope for victims of domestic violence and abuse.

“For victims of domestic violence, who often get trapped in the darkness of abuse, it’s often hard to see a light of hope. As the men and women of the Baltimore-Washington Conference come together, we can be that light, said Director of Connectional Ministries Sandy Ferguson. “It is my prayer that all of our churches will begin to participate in this important initiative. Lives depend on it.”

Melissa Lauber is Director of Communications for the Baltimore-Washington Conference. This article first appeared as “UMW and UMM join forces to address domestic violence” in the Sept. 11 issue of UMConnection, the newspaper of the Baltimore-Washington Conference.



School Violence/Shootings/Terrorism

Beslan school hostage crisis

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beslan_school_hostage_crisis

The **Beslan school hostage crisis** (also referred to as the **Beslan school siege** or **Beslan massacre**) of early September 2004 lasted three days and involved the capture of over 1,100 people as hostages (including 777 children), ending with the death of over 380 people. The crisis began when a group of armed Islamic separatist militants, mostly Ingush and Chechen, occupied School Number One (SNO) in the town of Beslan, North Ossetia (an autonomous republic in the North Caucasus region of the Russian Federation) on 1 September 2004. The hostage-takers were the Riyadus-Salikhin Battalion, sent by the Chechen separatist warlord Shamil Basayev, who demanded recognition of the independence of Chechnya at the UN and Russian withdrawal from Chechnya. On the third day of the standoff, Russian security forces entered the building with the use of tanks, incendiary rockets and other heavy weapons. At least 334 hostages were killed as a result of the crisis, including 186 children, with a significant number of people injured and reported missing.

The event led to security and political repercussions in Russia, most notably it contributed to a series of federal government reforms consolidating power in the Kremlin and strengthening of the powers of the President of Russia. As of 2011, aspects of the crisis in relation to the militants remain contentious: Questions remain regarding how many militants were involved, the nature of their preparations and whether a section of the group had escaped. Questions about the Russian government's management of the crisis have also persisted, including allegations of disinformation and censorship in news media, whether the journalists who were present at Beslan were allowed to freely report on the crisis, the nature and content of negotiations with the militants, allocation of responsibility for the eventual outcome, and perceptions that excessive force was used.

Background

Comintern Street SNO was one of seven schools in Beslan, a town of around 35,000 people in the republic of North Ossetia–Alania, in Russia's Caucasus. The school, located next to the district police station, had around 60 teachers and more than 800 students. Its gymnasium, where most of the hostages were held for 52 hours, was a recent addition, measuring 10 metres wide and 25 metres long. There were reports that men disguised as repairmen had concealed weapons and explosives in the school sometime during July 2004, but this was later officially refuted. However, several witnesses have since testified they were made to help their captors remove the weapons from the caches hidden in the school. There were also claims that a "sniper's nest" on the sports hall roof had been set up in advance.

It was also reported that the SNO in Beslan was used by Ossetian nationalist militia forces as an internment camp for ethnic Ingush civilians in late 1992 during the short but bloody Ingush–Ossetian East Prigorodny conflict, in which hundreds of Ingush residents of North Ossetia lost their lives or disappeared during the week-long hostilities, and thus the school was arguably chosen as the target of the attack by the mostly Ingush rebel group because of this connection. According to media reports, SNO was one of several buildings in which the Ossetian militants had held hundreds of Ingush hostages, many of them women and children. The hostages were all kept in the same gymnasium, and deprived of food and water; at least one newborn, and several dozen male hostages were executed. Beslan was also the site of an airfield used by the Russian Air Force for combat operations in Chechnya since 1994.

Day one

The attack on the school took place on 1 September—the traditional start of the Russian school year, referred to as "First Bell" or Knowledge Day. On this day, the children, accompanied by their parents and other relatives, attend ceremonies hosted by their school. Because of the Knowledge Day festivities, the number of people in the schools was considerably higher than on normal school day. Early in the morning, a group of several dozen heavily armed Islamic-nationalist guerrillas left a forest encampment located in the vicinity of the village of Psedakh in the neighbouring republic of Ingushetia, east of North Ossetia and west of war-torn Chechnya. The rebels wore green military camouflage and black balaclava masks, and in



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

some cases were also wearing explosive belts and explosive underwear. On the way to Beslan, on a country road near the North Ossetian village of Khurikau, they captured an Ingush police officer, Major Sultan Gurazhev. Gurazhev escaped after reaching the town and went to the district police department to inform them that his duty handgun and badge were taken away.

At 09:11 local time, the terrorists arrived at Beslan in a GAZelle police van and a GAZ-66 military truck. Many witnesses and independent experts claim that there were, in fact, two groups of attackers, and that the first group was already at the school when the second group arrived by truck. At first, some at the school mistook the guerrillas for Russian Special Forces practicing a security drill. However, the attackers soon began shooting in the air and forcing everybody from the school grounds into the building. During the initial chaos, up to 50 people managed to flee and alert authorities to the situation. A number of people also managed to hide in the boiler room. After an exchange of gunfire against the police and an armed local civilian, in which reportedly one attacker was killed and two were wounded, the militants seized the school building. Reports of the death toll from this shoot-out ranged from two to eight people, while more than a dozen people were injured.

The attackers took approximately 1,100 hostages. The number of hostages was initially downplayed by the government to 200–400, and then for an unknown reason announced to be exactly 354. In 2005, their number was put at 1,128. The militants herded their captives into the school's gym and confiscated all their mobile phones under threat of death, and ordered everyone to speak in Russian and only when spoken to. When a father named Ruslan Betrozov stood to calm people and repeat the rules in the local language, Ossetic, a gunman approached him, asked Betrozov if he was done, and then shot him in the head. Another father named Vadim Bolloyev, who refused to kneel, was also shot by a captor and then bled to death. Their bodies were dragged from the sports hall, leaving a trail of blood later visible in the video made by the hostage-takers.

After gathering the hostages in the gym, the attackers singled out 15–20 of whom they thought were the strongest adults among the male teachers, school employees, and fathers, and took them into a corridor next to the cafeteria on the second floor, where a deadly blast soon took place. An explosive belt on one of the female bombers detonated, killing another female bomber (it was also claimed the second woman died from a bullet wound) and several of the selected hostages, as well as mortally injuring one male hostage-taker. According to the version presented by the surviving hostage-taker, the blast was actually triggered by the "Polkovnik" (the group leader); he set off the bomb by remote control to kill those who openly disagreed about the child hostages and intimidate other possible dissenters. The hostages from this group who were still alive were then ordered to lie down and shot with an automatic rifle by another gunman; all but one of them were killed. The militants then forced other hostages to throw the bodies out of the building and to wash the blood off the floor. One of these hostages, Aslan Kudzayev, escaped by jumping out the window; the authorities briefly detained him as a suspected hostage-taker. Karen Molinaradze, the Alania football team's cameraman, survived the explosion as well as the shooting; when discovered to be still alive,

he was allowed to return to the sports hall, where he lost consciousness.

Beginning of the siege

Overhead map of school showing initial positions of Russian forces



A security cordon was soon established around the school, consisting of the Russian police (*militiya*) Internal Troops, and Russian Army forces; spetsnaz, including the elite *Alfa* and *Vypel* units of the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB); and the OMON special units of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD). A line of three apartment buildings facing the school gym was evacuated and taken over by the special forces. The perimeter they made was within 225 metres (738 ft) of the school, inside the range of the militants' grenade launchers.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

No fire-fighting equipment was in position and, despite the previous experiences of the 2002 Moscow theater hostage crisis, there were few ambulances ready. The chaos was worsened by the presence of Ossetian volunteer militiamen (*opolchentsy*) and armed civilians among the crowds of relatives who had gathered at the scene; there were perhaps as many as 5,000 of them.

The attackers mined the gym and the rest of the building with improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and surrounded it with tripwires. In a further bid to deter rescue attempts, they threatened to kill 50 hostages for every one of their own members killed by the police, and to kill 20 hostages for every gunman injured. They also threatened to blow up the school if government forces attacked. To avoid being overwhelmed by gas attack like their comrades in the 2002 Moscow hostage crisis, insurgents quickly smashed the school's windows. The captors prevented hostages from eating and drinking (calling this a "hunger strike", which they said they joined too) until North Ossetia's President Alexander Dzasokhov would arrive to negotiate with them. However, the FSB set up their own crisis headquarters from which Dzasokhov was excluded, and threatened to arrest him if he tried to go to the school.

The Russian government announced that it would not use force to rescue the hostages, and negotiations towards a peaceful resolution took place on the first and second days, at first led by Leonid Roshal, a paediatrician whom the hostage-takers had reportedly asked for by name (Roshal had helped negotiate the release of children in the 2002 Moscow siege, but also had given advice to the Russian security services as they prepared to storm the theatre, for which he received the Hero of Russia award). However, a witness statement in the court indicated that the Russian negotiators confused Roshal with Vladimir Rushailo, a Russian security official. According to Savelyev's report, the official ("civilian") headquarters was looking for a peaceful resolution of the situation at the same time when the secret ("heavy") headquarters set up by the FSB was preparing the assault. Savelyev wrote that in many ways the "heavies" restricted the actions of the "civilians", in particular in their attempts to negotiate with the militants.

At Russia's request, a special meeting of the United Nations Security Council was convened on the evening of 1 September, at which the council members demanded "the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages of the terrorist attack". U.S. President George W. Bush made a statement offering "support in any form" to Russia.

Day two

On 2 September 2004, negotiations between Roshal and the hostage-takers proved unsuccessful, and they refused to allow food, water, or medicine to be taken in for the hostages, or for the dead bodies to be removed from the front of the school. At noon, FSB First Deputy Director, Colonel General Vladimir Pronichev showed Dzasokhov a decree signed by Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov appointing North Ossetian FSB chief Major General Valery Andreyev as head of the operational headquarters. In April 2005, however, a *Moscow News* journalist received photocopies of the interview protocols of Dzasokhov and Andreyev by investigators, revealing that two headquarters had been formed in Beslan: a formal one, upon which was laid all responsibility, and a secret one ("heavies"), which made the real

decisions, and at which Andreyev had never been in charge.

The Russian government downplayed the numbers, repeatedly stating there were only 354 hostages; this reportedly angered the hostage-takers who further mistreated their captives. Several officials also said there appeared to be only 15 to 20 militants in the school. The crisis was met with a near-total silence from then-President of Russia Vladimir Putin and the rest of Russia's political leaders. Only on the second day did Putin make his first public comment on the siege during a meeting



in Moscow with King Abdullah II of Jordan: "Our main task, of course, is to save the lives and health of those who became hostages. All actions by our forces involved in rescuing the hostages will be dedicated exclusively to this task." It was the only public statement by Putin about the crisis until one day after its bloody end. In protest, several people at the scene raised signs reading: "Putin!



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Release our children! Meet their demands!" and "Putin! There are at least 800 hostages!" The locals also said they would not allow any storming or "poisoning of their children" (an allusion to the Moscow hostage crisis chemical agent).

Hundreds of hostages packed into the school gym with wired explosives attached to the basketball hoop (a frame from the Aushev tape)

In the afternoon, the gunmen allowed Ruslan Aushev, respected ex-President of Ingushetia and retired Soviet Army general, to enter the school building and agreed to release 11 nursing women and all 15 babies personally to him. The women's older children were left behind and one mother refused to leave, so Aushev carried out her child instead. The rebels gave Aushev a video tape made in the school and a note with demands from their purported leader, Shamil Basayev, who was not himself present in Beslan. The existence of the note was kept secret by the Russian authorities, while the tape was declared as being empty (which was later proved incorrect). It was falsely announced that the hostage-takers made no demands. In the note, Basayev demanded recognition of a "formal independence for Chechnya" in the frame of the Commonwealth of Independent States. He also said that although the Chechen separatists "had played no part" in the Russian apartment bombings of 1999, they would now publicly take responsibility for them if needed. Some Russian officials and state-controlled media later attacked Aushev for entering the school, accusing him of colluding with the hostage-takers.

The lack of food and water took its toll on the young children, many of whom were forced to stand for long periods in the hot, tightly packed gym. Many children took off their clothing because of the sweltering heat within the gymnasium, which led to rumours of sexual impropriety, though the hostages later explained it was merely due to the stifling heat and being denied any water. Many children fainted, and parents feared they would die. Some hostages drank their own urine. Occasionally, the militants (many of whom took off their masks) took out some of the unconscious children and poured water on their heads before returning them to the sports hall. Later in the day, some adults also started to faint from fatigue and thirst. Because of the conditions in the gym, when the explosion and gun battle began on the third day, many of the surviving children were so fatigued that they were barely able to flee from the carnage.

At around 15:30, two grenades were detonated approximately ten minutes apart by the militants at security forces outside the school, setting a police car on fire and injuring one officer, but Russian forces did not return fire. As the day and night wore on, the combination of stress and sleep deprivation—and possibly drug withdrawal—made the hostage-takers increasingly hysterical and unpredictable. The crying of the children irritated them, and on several occasions crying children and their mothers were threatened with being shot if they would not stop crying. Russian authorities claimed that the hostage-takers had "listened to German heavy metal group Rammstein on personal stereos during the siege to keep themselves edgy and fired up" (Rammstein had previously come under fire following the Columbine High School massacre, and again in 2007 after the Jokela High School shooting).

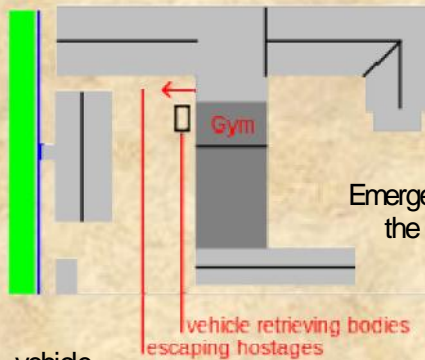
Overnight, a police officer was injured by shots fired from the school. Talks were broken off, resuming the next day.

Day three

Early on the third day, Ruslan Aushev, Alexander Dzasokhov, Taymuraz Mansurov (North Ossetia's Parliament Chairman), and First Deputy Chairman Izrail Totoonti together made contact with Aslan Maskhadov. Totoonti said that both Maskhadov and his Western-based emissary Akhmed Zakayev declared they were ready to fly to Beslan to negotiate with the militants, which was later confirmed by Zakayev. Totoonti said that Maskhadov's sole demand was his unhindered passage to the school; however, the assault began one hour after the agreement on his arrival was made. He also mentioned that journalists from Al Jazeera television offered for three days to participate in the negotiations and enter the school even as hostages, "but their services were not needed by anyone."

Russian presidential advisor and former police general, an ethnic Chechen Aslambek Aslakhonov, was also said to be close to breakthrough in the secret negotiations. By the time he left Moscow on the second day, Aslakhonov had accumulated the names of more than 700 well-known Russian figures who were volunteering to enter the school as hostages in exchange for the release of children. Aslakhonov said the hostage-takers agreed to allow him to enter the school the next day at 15:00. However, the storming had begun two hours before.





Rough plan of the situation

The first explosions and the fire in the gymnasium

Around 13:00 on 3 September 2004, it was agreed to allow four Ministry of Emergency Situations medical workers in two ambulances to remove 20 bodies from the school grounds, as well as to bring the corpse of the killed rebel to the school. However, at 13:03, when the paramedics approached the school, an explosion was heard from the gymnasium. The hostage-takers then opened fire on them, killing two. The other two took cover behind their

vehicle.

The second, "strange-sounding", explosion was heard 22 seconds later. At 13:05 the fire on the roof of the sports hall started and soon the burning rafters and roofing fell onto the hostages below, many of them injured but still living. Eventually, the entire roof collapsed, turning the room into an inferno. The flames reportedly killed some 160 people (more than half of all hostage fatalities).

There are several widely conflicting versions regarding the source and nature of the explosions:

- The first theory claims that the cause of the firing and the subsequent storming of the school had been an accidental explosion. This was voiced, among others, by Aslambek Aslakhanov and Ruslan Aushev.
 - According to the early official version, one of the bombs had been insecurely attached with adhesive tape, falling and then exploding. However, no one is reported to have seen this happen.
 - Aushev said that an initial explosion was set off by a hostage-taker accidentally tripping over a wire. As a result, armed civilians, some of them apparently fathers of the hostages, started shooting. Aushev said no security forces or captors were shooting at this point, but the gunfire led the militants to believe that the school was being stormed.
 - In a similar version, Igor Senin, president of the association of Alfa veterans, said that somebody in the school building set off a hand grenade, probably by accident, after which the militants decided they were being attacked and opened fire.
- According to the December 2005 report by Stanislav Kesayev, deputy speaker of North Ossetian parliament, some witnesses said a federal forces sniper shot a militant whose foot was on a dead man's switch detonator, triggering the first blast. The captured hostage-taker Nur-Pashi Kulayev has testified to this, while a local policewoman and hostage Fatima Dudiyeva said she was shot in the hand "from outside" just before the explosion. Kesayev's commission actually rejected the sniper shot theory, and said there were three blasts: two small explosions at 13:03, followed by the big one at 13:29.
- Another theory was put forward in August 2006 by State Duma member Yuri Savelyev, a weapons and explosives expert. Savelyev claimed that the exchange of gunfire was not begun by explosions within the school building but by two shots fired from outside the school and that most of the home-made explosive devices installed by the rebels did not explode at all. He says the first shot was fired most likely from a RPO-A Shme infantry rocket located at the roof of nearby five-story House No. 37 in School Lane and aimed at the gymnasium's attic, while the second one fired from a RPG-27 grenade launcher located at the House No. 41 on the same street, destroying a fragment of the gym wall (alternative weapons mentioned in the report were RPG-26 or RPG-7 rocket-propelled grenades). Savelyev, a dissenting member of the federal Torshin commission (see below for the findings of Torshin), claims these explosions killed many of the hostages and that dozens more died in the resulting fire. Yuri Ivanov, another parliamentary investigator, further contended that the grenades were fired on the direct orders of President Putin. Several witnesses during the trial of Kulayev previously testified that the initial explosions were caused by projectiles fired from outside.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

- In the current officially approved version, Alexander Torshin, head of the Russian parliamentary commission which concluded its work in December 2006, said the militants had started the battle by intentionally detonating bombs among the hostages, to the surprise of Russian negotiators and commanders. That statement went beyond previous government accounts, which have typically said the bombs exploded in an unexplained accident. Torshin's 2006 report says the hostage taking was planned as a suicide attack from the beginning and that no storming of the building was prepared in advance. The 2005 court ruling in Kulayev's case also determined that the explosion was set off by the militants. However, according to the testimonies by Nur-Pashi Kulayev and several former hostages and negotiators, the hostage-takers (including their leaders) blamed the government for the ensuing explosions.

Storming by Russian forces

Part of the sports hall wall was demolished by the explosions, allowing some hostages to escape. Local militia opened fire, and the militants returned fire. A number of people were killed in the crossfire. Russian officials say militants shot hostages as they ran, and the military fired back. The government asserts that once the shooting started, troops had no choice but to storm the building. However, some accounts from the town's residents have contradicted that official version of events.

Police Lieutenant Colonel Elbrus Nogatayev, whose wife and daughter died in the school, said, "I heard a command saying, 'Stop shooting! Stop shooting!' while other troops' radios said, 'Attack!'" As the fighting began, an oil company president and negotiator Mikhail Gutseriyev (an ethnic Ingush) phoned the hostage-takers; he heard "You tricked us!" in answer. Five hours later, Gutseriyev and his interlocutor reportedly had their last conversation, during which the man said, "The blame is yours and the Kremlin's."

According to Torshin, the order to start the operation was given by the head of the North Ossetian FSB Valery Andreyev. However, statements by both Andreyev and the Dzasokhov indicated that it was FSB deputy directors Vladimir Pronichev and Vladimir Anisimov who were actually in charge of the Beslan operation. General Andreyev also told North Ossetia's Supreme Court that the decision to use heavy weapons during the assault was made by the head of the FSB's Special Operations Center, Colonel General Aleksandr Tikhonov.

A chaotic battle broke out as the special forces fought to enter the school. The forces included the assault groups of the FSB and the associated troops of the Russian Army and the Russian Interior Ministry, supported by a number of T-72 tanks from Russia's 58th Army (commandeered by Tikhonov from the military on 2 September), BTR-80 wheeled armoured personnel carriers and armed helicopters, including at least one Mi-24 attack helicopter. Many local civilians also joined in the chaotic battle, having brought along their own weapons – at least one of the armed volunteers is known to have been killed. At the same time, regular conscripted soldiers reportedly fled the scene as the fighting began. Civilian witnesses claimed that the local police also had panicked, even firing in the wrong direction.

At least three but as many as nine powerful *Shmel* rockets were fired at the school from the positions of the Special Forces (three or nine empty disposable tubes were later found on the rooftops of nearby apartment blocks). The use of the *Shmel* rockets, classified in Russia as flamethrowers and in the West as thermobaric weapons, was initially denied, but later admitted by the government. A report by an aide to the military prosecutor of the North Ossetian garrison stated that RPG-26 rocket-propelled grenades were used as well. The rebels also used grenade launchers, firing at the Russian positions in the apartment buildings.

According to military prosecutor, a BTR armoured vehicle drove close to the school and opened fire from its 14.5x114mm KPV heavy machine gun at the windows on the second floor. Eye-witnesses (among them Totoontand Kesayev) and journalists saw two T-72 tanks advance on the school that afternoon, at least one of which fired its 125 mm main gun several times. During the later trial, tank commander Viktor Kindeyev testified to having fired "one blank shot and six antipersonnel-high explosive shells" on orders from the FSB. The use of tanks and armoured personnel carriers was eventually admitted to by Lieutenant General Viktor Sobolev, commander of the 58th Army. Another witness cited in the Kesayev report claims that he had jumped onto the turret of a tank in an attempt to prevent it from firing on the school. Scores of hostages were moved by the militants from the burning sports hall into the other parts of the school, in particular the cafeteria, where they were forced to stand at windows. Many of them were shot by troops outside as they were used as



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

human shields, according to the survivors (such as Kudzeyeva, Kusrayeva and Naldikoyeva). Savelyev estimated that 106 to 110 hostages died after being moved to the cafeteria.

By 15:00, two hours after the assault began, Russian troops claimed control of most of the school. However, fighting was still continuing on the grounds as evening fell, including resistance from a group of militants holding out in the school's basement. During the battle, a group of some 13 militants broke through the military cordon and took refuge nearby. Several of them were believed to have entered a nearby two-story building, which was destroyed by tanks and flamethrowers around 21:00, according to the Ossetian committee's findings (Kesayev Report). Another group of militants appeared to head back over the railway, chased by helicopters into the town.

Firefighters, who were called by Andreyev two hours after the fire started, were not prepared to battle the blaze that raged in the gymnasium. One fire truck crew arrived after two hours at their own initiative but with only 200 litres (53 US gal) of water and unable to connect to the nearby hydrants. The first water came at 15:28, nearly two and a half hours after the start of the fire; the second fire engine arrived at 15:43. Few ambulances were available to transport the hundreds of injured victims, who were mostly driven to hospital in private cars. One suspected militant was lynched on the scene by a mob of civilians, an event filmed by the Sky News crew, while an unarmed militant was captured alive by the OMON troops while trying to hide under their truck (he was later identified as Nur-Pashi Kulayev). Some of the dead insurgents appeared to be mutilated by the commandos.

Sporadic explosions and gunfire continued at night despite reports that all resistance by militants had been suppressed, until some 12 hours after the first explosions. Early the next day Putin ordered the borders of North Ossetia closed while some hostage-takers were apparently still pursued.

Aftermath



A Beslan mother at the cemetery for the siege victims in 2006

After the conclusion of the crisis, many of the injured died in the only hospital in Beslan, which was highly unprepared to cope with the casualties, before the patients were sent to better-equipped facilities in Vladikavkaz. There was an inadequate supply of hospital beds, medication, and neurosurgery equipment. Relatives were not allowed to visit hospitals where the wounded were treated, and doctors were not allowed to use their mobile phones.

The day after the storming, bulldozers gathered the debris of the building, including the body parts of the victims, and removed it to a garbage dump. The first of the many funerals were conducted on 4 September, the day after the final assault, with more following soon after, including mass burials of 120 people. The local cemetery was too small and had to be expanded to an adjacent plot of land to accommodate the dead. Three days after the siege, 180 people were still missing. Many survivors remained severely traumatized and at least one female former hostage committed suicide after returning home.

Russian President Vladimir Putin reappeared publicly during a hurried trip to the Beslan hospital in the early hours of 4 September to see several of the wounded victims in his only visit to Beslan. He was later criticised for not meeting the families of victims. After returning to Moscow, he ordered a two-day period of national mourning on 6–7 September 2004. In his televised speech Putin paraphrased Joseph Stalin saying: "We showed ourselves to be weak. And the weak get beaten." On the second day of mourning, an estimated 135,000 people joined a government-organised rally against terrorism on the Red Square in Moscow. An estimated 40,000 people gathered in Saint Petersburg's Palace Square.

Increased security measures were introduced to Russian cities. More than 10,000 people without proper documents were detained by Moscow police in a "terrorist hunt". Colonel Magomed Tolbojev, a cosmonaut and Hero of the Russian Federation, was attacked by Moscow police patrol



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

and beaten because of his Chechen-sounding name. The Russian public appeared to be generally supportive of increased security measures. A 16 September 2004 Levada-Center opinion poll found 58% of Russians supporting stricter counter-terrorism laws and the death penalty for terrorism, while 33% would support banning all Chechens from entering Russian cities.

Long-term effects

In the wake of Beslan, the government proceeded to toughen laws on terrorism and expand the powers of law enforcement agencies.

In addition, Vladimir Putin signed a law which replaced the direct election of the heads of the federal subjects of Russia with a system whereby they are proposed by the President of Russia and approved or disapproved by the elected legislative bodies of the federal subjects. The election system for the Russian parliament was also repeatedly amended, eliminating the election of State Duma members by single-mandate districts. The Kremlin consolidated its control over the Russian media and increasingly attacked the non-governmental organizations (especially those foreign-founded). Critics allege that the Putin circle of *siloviki* used the Beslan crisis as an excuse to increase their grip on Russia. On 16 September 2004, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said that Russia was "pulling back on some of the democratic reforms" while George W. Bush expressed concern that Putin's latest moves to centralize power "could undermine democracy in Russia." Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov rejected such criticism, insisting the measures are an "internal matter."

The attack also marked the end to the mass terrorism in the North Caucasus separatist conflict until 2010, when two Dagestani female suicide bombers attacked two train stations in Russia. This is discussed in more detail below. After Beslan, there was a period of several years of lack of suicide attacks in and around Chechnya.

The raid on Beslan had, in fact, more to do with the Ingush involved than the Chechens, but was highly symbolic for both nations. The Ossetes and Ingush had (and have) a conflict over ownership of the Prigorodny District, which hit high points during the 1944 Stalinist purges, and the ethnic cleansing of Ingush by Ossetes (the Ossetes getting assistance from the Russian military) in 1992-3. At the time of the raid, there were still over 40,000 Ingush refugees in tent camps in Ingushetia and Chechnya. The Beslan school itself had been used against the Ingush, as in 1992 the gym was used as a pen to round up Ingush during the ethnic cleansing by the Ossetes. For the Chechens, the motive was revenge for the destruction of their homes and, indeed families: Beslan was one of the sites from which federal air raids were launched at Chechnya. The overwhelming majority of the people involved in the hostage-taking raid had also been direct victims of Russian government abuse, including many who were victimized as children; the female hostage-taker Khaula Nazirov reportedly had her children killed by the Russian forces in an attack on a school in Chechnya.

Once, however, it was broadcast that there were large numbers of children killed by a group that included Chechens, the Chechens were struck with a large amount of shame. One spokesman for the Chechen independence cause stated, "Such a bigger blow could not be dealt upon us...People around the world will think that Chechens are monsters if they could attack children".



Casualties

[The Tree of Grief, a monument to the Beslan hostage tragedy in North Ossetia, by sculptors Alan Kornaev and Zaurbek Dzanagov](#)

Initially, at least 396 people, mostly hostages, were reportedly killed during the crisis. By 7 September 2004, Russian officials revised the death toll to 334, including 156 children, although close to 200 people remained missing or unidentified. It was claimed by the locals

that over 200 of those killed were found with burns, and 100 or more of them were burned alive.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

The last reported fatality was 33-year-old librarian Yelena Avdonina, who succumbed to her wounds on 8 December 2006.

Russia's Minister of Health and Social Reform Mikhail Zurabov said the total number of people who were injured in the crisis exceeded 1,200. The exact number of people that received ambulatory assistance immediately after the crisis is not known, but is estimated to be around 700 (753 according to the UN). Moscow-based military analyst Pavel Felgenhauer concluded on 7 September 2004 that 90% of the surviving hostages had sustained injuries. At least 437 people, including 221 children, were hospitalized; 197 children were taken to the Children's Republican Clinical Hospital in the North Ossetian capital of Vladikavkaz, and 30 were in cardiopulmonary resuscitation units in critical condition. Another 150 people were transferred to the Vladikavkaz Emergency Hospital. Sixty-two people, including 12 children, were treated in two local hospitals in Beslan, while 6 children with severe injuries were flown to Moscow for specialist treatment. The majority of the children were treated for burns, gunshot injuries, shrapnel wounds, and mutilation caused by explosions. Some had to have limbs amputated and eyes removed and many children were permanently disabled. One month after the attack, 240 people (160 of them children) were still being treated in hospitals in Vladikavkaz and in Beslan. Surviving children and parents have received psychological treatment at Vladikavkaz Rehabilitation Centre.

It is not known how many members of Russia's elite special forces died in the fighting, as official figures ranged from 11 through 12 and 16 (7 Alfa and 9 Vypel) to more than 20 killed. There are only 10 names on the special forces monument in Beslan. The fatalities included all three commanders of the assault group: Colonel Oleg Ilyin, Lieutenant Colonel Dmitry Razumovsky of Vypel, and Major Alexander Perov of Alfa. At least 30 commandos suffered serious wounds. Most of the officers were killed trying to protect escaping children from gun fire.

Hostage-takers

According to the official version of events, 32 militants participated directly in the seizure, one of whom was taken alive while the rest were killed on spot. The number and identity of hostage-takers remains a controversial topic, fuelled by the often contradictory government statements and official documents. The 3–4 September government statements said total of 26–27 militants were killed during the siege. At least four militants, including two women, died prior to the Russian storming of the school.

Many of the surviving hostages and eyewitnesses claim there were many more captors, some of whom may have escaped. It was also initially claimed that three hostage-takers were captured alive, including their leader Vladimir Khodov and a female militant. Witness testimonies during the Kulayev trial involved the reported presence of a number of apparently Slavic-, unaccented Russian-, and "perfect" Ossetian-speaking individuals among the hostage-takers who were not seen among the bodies of the militants killed during the assault by Russian security forces; witnesses also said they were not seen by the day of the crisis at all. The unknown men (and a woman, according to one testimony) included a man with red beard who was reportedly issuing orders to the kidnapers' leaders, and whom the hostages were forbidden to look at. He was possibly the militant known only as "Fantomas", an ethnic Russian who served as a bodyguard to Shamil Basayev).

- Kesayev Report (2005) estimated that about 50 rebel fighters took part in the siege, based on witness accounts and the number of weapons left at the scene.
- Savelyev Report (September 2006) said there were from 58 to 76 hostage-takers, of which many managed to escape by slipping past the cordon around the school.
- Torshin Report (December 2006) determined that 34 militants were involved, of which 32 entered the school and 31 died there, and says the two accomplices remain at large (one being Yunus Matsiyev, a bodyguard of Basayev).

According to Basayev, "Thirty-three mujahideen took part in Nord-West. Two of them were women. We prepared four [women] but I sent two of them to Moscow on August 24. They then boarded the two airplanes that blew up. In the group there were 12 Chechen men, two Chechen women, nine Ingush, three Russians, two Arabs, two Ossetians, one Tartar, one Kabardinian and one Guran. The Gurans are a people who live near Lake Baikal who are practically Russified."

Basayev further said an FSB agent (Khodov) had been sent undercover to the rebels to persuade them to carry out an attack on a target in North Ossetia's capital, Vladikavkaz, and that the group



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

was allowed to enter the region with ease because the FSB planned to capture them at their destination in Vladikavkaz. He also claimed that an unnamed hostage-taker had survived the siege and managed to escape.

Gunmen kill 20 students, teacher in Nigerian school shooting

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2013/07/07/world/africa/nigeria-school-shooting/index.html>



Gunmen stormed a school in Nigeria killing 20 students and a teacher over the weekend, state news reported.

Four more students suffered critical wounds, when the men opened fire early Saturday, Voice of Nigeria said.

An investigation is underway to find the suspects.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the incident.

The attack occurred in the state of Yobe, in Nigeria's northeast, where Islamist extremists from the terror group Boko Haram regularly carry out attacks.

An attack on a school in June in the same state took

the lives of seven students and two teachers, VoN reported. Boko Haram claimed responsibility for that attack, according to local media reports.

School security and emergency planning strategies for preventing and responding to terrorism

Source: http://www.schoolsecurity.org/terrorist_response.html

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the victims, their families, the responding public safety officials and our nation as a whole in the aftermath of the tragic terrorist attacks on Americans on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, and subsequent terrorism threats. As our nation moves forward with the war on terrorism, National School Safety and Security Services has received requests from school officials, parents and the media for terrorism and school safety issues to consider as they support their students, staff and school community during these difficult times. It important to remember that no single strategy, or even a collection of multiple strategies fits, all school and school-community situations, and that district and building specific guidelines for managing emergency situations must be individually developed, trained, tested and exercised.

Items for discussion and consideration as schools develop their security and emergency/crisis plans may include:

The Terrorist Threat to Schools: Ostrich-Syndrome, Naysayers, and Reality

Although a terrorist attack upon a school in the United States may be *improbable*, the first step toward preparedness is admitting that it is at least *possible* that terrorists could strike a school or schools in our country. Even the U.S. Department of Education, a federal agency characterized for years by their denying and downplaying of the potential for a terror attack upon American schools, issued an advisory to schools in October of 2004 with recommendations for heightening security and emergency preparedness in light of the Beslan, Russia, school terror attack months earlier. (Click here to see U.S. Department of Education heightened security advisory in .pdf file format.)

Some consultants and trainers who are inexperienced in the school safety profession may be overly alarming on the issue of terrorism and schools. Some public officials, consultants, and trainers take a "company line, middle-of-the-road, and politically-correct" position of downplaying and completely dismissing the possibility of a terror attack on American schools because doing so is consistent with the wishes of the bureaucracies with which they are associated. And yet other



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

self-proclaimed "experts" in anti-terrorism, emergency planning, and/or school safety appear to ride the politically-correct fence of talking out of both sides of their mouths: They talk about terrorism and schools when it serves their benefit (such as when they are paid to speak on the topic and/or to sell their overly-priced and questionably-beneficial products), while downplaying it at other times in an effort to please the official naysayers who provide them with funding elsewhere.

At National School Safety and Security Services, we believe that the key to successfully preparing school communities without creating panic is for school and public safety officials to be candid about the possibility that schools can be impacted by terrorism. Success in managing the issue also requires that officials communicate terrorism issues in a balanced and rational context, and that they educate their school communities on the roles that everyone plays in keeping schools and communities safe. Denial (aka: Ostrich-Syndrome) and inconsistent messages exacerbate, not reduce, fear and panic.

Frequently used weak arguments from the "naysayers" who misguidedly attempt to downplay the possibility of a terrorist attack on U.S. schools, along with our counterpoints to their self-serving denial, include:

Naysayers: "Terrorist attacks upon schools in the U.S. and abroad are statistically rare events. It has been an extremely rare event when terrorists attack a school."

Reality: The Columbine High School attack in 1999 was an extremely rare event which no one ever thought would or could happen. It was an attack in an American school at a level for which no prior precedent had been established. The impact of Columbine changed the landscape of the school safety profession forever, causing many schools to play "catch-up" with decades of neglect in security and emergency planning, while setting a new threshold for best practices in school safety.

The 9/11 terror attacks on America were extremely rare events which no one ever thought would or could happen. These were attacks on the U.S. at a level for which no prior precedent had been established. The impact of 9/11 changed the landscape of American homeland security forever, setting an unprecedented focus on heightened security and emergency preparedness measures comparable to no other time in American history.

To state or imply that we should ignore or downplay the possibility that terrorists would strike American schools defies logic and is contrary to the lessons learned on 9/11, at Columbine, in Beslan (Russia), and elsewhere. It is this mindset of denial and Ostrich-Syndrome (head-in-the-sand) that makes us most vulnerable. It is also a mindset contrary to the overall goals of our U.S. Homeland Security policy which encourages "thinking outside of the box" and being proactive to prevent a future terrorist attack, rather than looking for ways to rationalize that, "It can't happen here," until such an attack occurs again.

Naysayers: "Talking about the possibility of terrorist attacks upon schools only furthers the terrorists' goals of creating fear."

Reality: Talking about terrorists possibly using airplanes to attack American buildings did not instill the fear which occurred on and after 9/11. In fact, our failure to talk about the possibility of such an event before it occurred has been identified by many professionals as creating a climate which made us more vulnerable.

School and public safety officials nationwide now proactively pursue prevention programs, security measures, and emergency preparedness measures to prevent a future Columbine-like attack in their schools. The failure to talk about the possibility of such an incident occurring and the failure to take steps to prevent such an occurrence would be considered as "negligence" in the eyes of most educators, public safety officials, parents, media, and courts. Talking about the possibility in a balanced and rational way does not create fear, but instead it reduces fear, improves preparedness, and has resulted in many death plots being foiled thanks to a heightened awareness.

The naysayer mindset that talking about the possibility of terror attacks upon our schools furthers terrorist goals of creating fears is contrary to our overall national approach to homeland security. Our President, Congress, military, homeland security, and other federal officials talk regularly and openly about the potential for terrorists to strike our airlines, military facilities, government offices, and other American interests right here in the United States, and in turn our need to be appropriately prepared. If we followed the logic of the naysayers who claim we should not talk about terrorism and schools, we would also not be talking about the possibility of terror attacks on our airlines and other government facilities. In fact, using their logic,



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

there would be no need for a Homeland Security Department...and it is this mindset which makes us the most vulnerable.

Fear is best managed by education, communication, and preparation — not denial. Educate school community members to define the issues and appropriate context. Communicate with school community members to discuss risk reduction, heightened security, and emergency preparedness strategies. Be prepared for both natural disasters and manmade acts of crime and violence by taking an "all-hazards" approach to school emergency planning.

Naysayers: "Money spent on preparing schools for terrorism is wasted money that could be better spent elsewhere. Just prepare our first responders in the community and they will take care of the schools if something happens."

Reality: Teachers, administrators, school support staff, School Resource Officers, school security personnel, and other professionals on the front lines of our nation's school **are** the first responders to any emergency which occurs in their schools. While we value our community public safety partners and we encourage our schools to work hand-in-hand with them in emergency planning, the reality is that those working inside a school will be the ones immediately responding to and managing an emergency incident while police, fire, EMS, and other community first responders are enroute. School officials will also be the individuals working with community first responders once they arrive and throughout the emergency incident. In fact, if an event occurs on the scale of the 9/11 terror attacks, school officials may be forced to manage a school-based emergency with minimal support from community first responders if these responders are tied up managing other aspects of the emergency elsewhere in the community and/or if they cannot get to the school. School officials will also be the individuals left to carry the school a long way through the recovery phase after an emergency.

Although no public budgets are unlimited and no "blank checks" exist for school security and emergency preparedness efforts, the trend in recent years to cut school safety budgets is disturbing. It is also counter to the direction America is going in heightening security and emergency preparedness efforts at other public and private facilities. It makes no sense that at a time when our nation's leaders have pushed to increase funding for protecting airlines, bridges, monuments, and even the hallways of Capitol Hill that they simultaneously cut funding to protect the children and teachers in the "soft target" hallways of America's schools.

Funding for school security and emergency planning should not only be spared from cuts, but should also be incrementally increased as we continue to increase our national defense and anti-terrorism preparedness in other public sectors.

A terror attack upon American schools would create fear and panic, disrupt the economy if the "business" side of school operations were shut down on a large scale, and instill a lack of confidence in our school and community leadership. Such terror tactics have already been employed elsewhere including attacks upon schools and school buses in the Middle East, and most recently the Beslan, Russia, school terror attack. While it may not be a *probability* that terrorists will strike our schools, we must acknowledge that it is a *possibility* and take reasonable steps to prevent and prepare for such an incident.

Heightened school security procedures during terrorist threats

A number of potential terrorist threats have been discussed ranging from the potential use of car/truck bombs to biological attacks. In addition to the recommendations above, schools should give serious consideration to additional heightened security procedures during times of terrorist threats including:

- Prepared schools will train teachers and support staff, evaluate and refine security plans, and test/exercise school crisis plans.
- Encourage school personnel to maintain a "heightened awareness" for suspicious activity and to report same. This may include suspicious vehicles on and around campus, suspicious persons in and around school buildings including those taking photographs or videotaping, suspicious packages around the building perimeter and/or in the school, and suspicious information seeking efforts by phone or by unknown "visitors."



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

- Provide special attention to perimeter security and access control issues. Have clearly defined perimeters for schools through the use of fences, gates, environmental design, signage, and other professional security measures. Use designated parking areas especially for visitors and register staff and student vehicles. Provide supervision and monitoring of parking lots and outside areas as appropriate. Train custodial, maintenance, and grounds personnel on identifying and handling suspicious packages and items found on campus. Establish routine inspections of the building and grounds by trained facility personnel. Secure roof hatches and eliminate structural items that facilitate easy access to school roofs. Make sure that classroom windows are secured at the end of the school day. Utilize security technology and devices for monitoring and controlling exterior facilities as defined by professional security assessments.
- Review staffing and supervision plans. Stress the importance of adult supervision before, during, and after school, both inside school buildings and on campus, and in common areas such as hallways, stairwells, restrooms, cafeterias, bus areas, and other high-traffic areas. Encourage staff to maintain a heightened awareness during recess, physical education classes, drop-off and dismissal, and other outside activities. Examine staffing levels and procedures for security personnel, school resource officers and other police personnel, and associated protection personnel.
- Maintain a proactive effort of visitor access and control. Reduce the number of doors accessible from the outside to one designated entrance. Stress the importance of staff greeting and challenging strangers, and reporting suspicious individuals. Review security procedures for after-school and evening activities and building use. Utilize security technology and devices for monitoring and controlling interior facility access as defined by professional security assessments.
- Verify the identity of service personnel and vendors visiting the school, including those seeking access to utilities, alarm systems, communications systems, maintenance areas, and related locations. Do not permit access and report suspicious individuals representing themselves as service or delivery personnel who cannot be verified. Maintain detailed and accurate records of service and delivery personnel including a log (signed in by school personnel) of the full names, organization name, vehicle information (as appropriate), and other identification information.
- Evaluate security measures at school transportation facilities. Assess emergency plans involving buses and other transportation issues.
- Secure access to utilities, boiler rooms, and other maintenance/facilities operations locations. Examine and enhance physical security measures related to outside access to HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) systems, utility controls (electrical, gas, water, phone), and related facility operations mechanisms. Secure chemical and cleaning product storage areas, and maintain appropriate records of such items according to local, state, and federal guidelines.
- Evaluate food and beverage service stock, storage, and protection procedures. Determine if schools have adequate water, food, and related supplies in the event that students and staff would have to be detained at the school for an extended period of time beyond normal school hours. Examine measures for securing access to food and beverage products and food service areas during normal food service periods and after hours.
- Assess school health and medical preparedness. Evaluate school nurse staffing levels. Make sure that schools maintain an adequate number and level of emergency kits and medical supplies. Maintain a stock of at least three days worth of medications for students required to have medications at school. Consider offering first aid/ first responder training to faculty members who are interested in volunteering for such training so as to increase the number of trained individuals available to assist in the event of medical emergencies.
- Conduct a status check of emergency communications mechanisms. Be sure that two-way radio units and cell phones are functioning, and have back-up batteries charged. Make sure that the public address system is fully functioning. Test the fire alarm system. Review procedures for emergency communications with parents, notify parents in advance how school officials will communicate with them in an emergency (media, district web site, etc.), discuss importance of parents not flocking to the school if directed during an active crisis, review



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

family reunification procedures and communicate other relevant information to ease parent concerns.

- Review procedures for mobilizing mental health services for students and staff in the event of a crisis. Plan in advance how adults will communicate with children in a time of crisis. Discuss approaches for age and developmentally appropriate communications with students about violence and threatening issues. Be familiar with community mental health resources for families and have plans for securing supplemental mental health services from outside of the school/district in a major crisis.
- Evaluate and enforce employee screening procedures. Review guidelines for subcontractors and identify all individuals working on school property.
- Implement "information security" programs. Evaluate the storage, access, and security of sensitive information. Create guidelines and conduct periodic assessments of school and district web sites to avoid posting of security-sensitive information.
- Identify higher-risk facilities, organizations, and potential terrorist targets in the community surrounding schools. Such entities might include military facilities, government offices and facilities, nuclear power plants, airports and airport flight paths, railroads, chemical companies, etc. Develop appropriate security countermeasures and crisis preparedness planning guidelines accordingly.
- Continue local field trips unless specific threat assessments suggest otherwise, using safety plans that include adequate supervision, communications capabilities, etc. Evaluate national travel decisions based upon ongoing threat assessments and common sense. International travel during war-time and terrorist acts is discouraged.
- Develop, review, refine, and test crisis preparedness guidelines. Be sure to have guidelines for both natural disasters and acts of violence. Particular procedures for handling bombs, bomb threats, hostage situations, kidnappings, chemical and biological terrorism, and related information should be reviewed. Review with staff their specific roles and responsibilities consistent with your crisis guidelines. Identify back-up crisis team leaders in case normally assigned leaders are not at the building or are unable to lead.
- Provide K-12 school-specific security, crime prevention, and crisis preparedness training to staff.

Biological and chemical threats (including anthrax, mail handling)

In addition to basic security and crisis preparedness guidelines noted above, school officials must also take into account current national threat trends regarding biological and chemical terrorism. School officials should encourage their school staff and communities to remain calm and not panic during these times. School leaders may wish to consider the following as a part of their risk-reduction and crisis preparedness planning:

- Establish procedures for detecting and reporting unusual absence patterns, in particular sudden mass absences due to reported illnesses. Schools may be in one of the best positions to recognize early signs of such a terrorist attack via major increases in student illness rates. School and community officials should consider having a protocol for school officials to notify public health and/or other appropriate public safety personnel as soon as they detect an unusual occurrence.
- Do not allow students to open school mail. Limit the opening of mail to one individual staff member. Have this person open school mail in a room separate from open, main office areas. Staff who wish to open mail with protective (latex-type) gloves should be allowed to do so if they desire. Educate school staff, especially the person who opens school mail, so that he/she is familiar with issues related to suspicious packages. See the U.S. Postal Service poster on suspicious mail and related updates at its site on anthrax related mail concerns.
- Work with custodial and maintenance personnel to establish procedures for quickly shutting down heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems if necessary.
- Review procedures for handling suspicious items such as envelopes with power substances that may be found in hallways, stairwells, restrooms and other areas of the school. Anticipate that, unfortunately, some hoax incidents may occur. However, all threats should be treated seriously. Firm, fair, and consistent consequences, both administratively and criminally, should be sought including for hoax scares and students should be informed of the seriousness of such offenses.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

- Review lockdown and evacuation procedures. Note that you may have to have a simultaneous lockdown of one section of the building while evacuating other parts of the school, so both lockdowns and evacuations may need to occur at the same time.
- Create "Shelter in Place" plans to supplement lockdown and evacuation plans. Identify safe area in building to relocate students, preferably with no windows. Confer with local fire, HAZMAT, emergency management, and police officials for specific advice.
- Create plans for bringing in students outside and where to locate them if contaminated (away from others), including discussing if/how you would have contaminated individuals shower and put on second set of stored clothes. Remember to have a procedure to shut down HVAC system as soon as possible, and discuss backup heating for winter and related other concerns. Custodial and maintenance staff should be a part of the school's crisis planning and response team.
- A significant amount of discussion has evolved around having duct tape and plastic to seal windows, vents, doorways and related areas. A number of officials have recommended having duct tape and plastic to cover windows and to seal off Shelter-in-Place areas. In the worst possible scenario and under the proper conditions, this is an extra resource schools may wish to have available. However, a number of school and safety officials have appropriately expressed concern about an over-emphasis being placed on this strategy. In particular, several school officials have stated that reviews of air circulation needs have suggested that individuals sheltered in areas designated for Shelter-in-Place in their schools would have a limited amount of air over a number of hours to survive under conditions where HVAC was shut down, areas sealed off, etc. Schools should consider this issue, evaluate their own unique environment and plan accordingly. No school should look at duct tape and plastic as a single, cure-all panacea for emergency planning. Schools may wish to prepare "Shelter-in-Place" kit materials in advance. This might include battery-operated AM/FM radios; flashlights with fresh batteries; bottled water and adequate food supply; towels; candles; matches; first-aid kit; medicines for students who normally have them at school; charged batteries for cell phones for school's crisis team; personal cleaning supplies and hand sanitizers; etc. Again, schools wishing to include duct tape and plastic for extreme situations may wish to do so if it is viewed in context and as a part of a broader preparedness plan.
- Confer with HAZMAT (hazardous materials) officials, fire, emergency medical, law enforcement, emergency management, and other local, county, and/or state officials to establish specific response and prevention protocols, and to educate your school faculty, staff, crisis teams, and community on biological and chemical terrorism issues.

General recommendations related to terrorism and school safety

Specific needs will obviously vary based upon the location, local issues, and impact of unique factors influencing each school and school community. Some issues that school and community leaders may wish to consider during these difficult times include:

- Many school and elected officials are afraid to talk about, and prepare for, terrorist attacks upon schools out of concern that it will create fear among parents and the broader school community. The exact opposite, however, is true. Fear is created by a lack of information and conflicting messages. Fear is best managed through education, communication and preparation. By not addressing these issues, we are actually creating more fear and panic among parents and school officials. The key rests in context, balance and reasonable efforts. Discussions with students must be age and developmentally appropriate.
- Identify school and community mental health support services available to students and their families, and communicate the availability of these services to members of the school community.
- Communicate openly and honestly with students. Attempt to maintain a sense of normalcy in school operations as best possible, while still providing adequate and appropriate opportunities for students to share their feelings, concerns, thoughts, etc. When communicating with students, mental health professionals typically suggest that adults: 1) Keep discussions age and developmentally-appropriate, 2) Let students know when they are having normal



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

reactions to abnormal situations, 3) Include facts and be honest, 4) Reaffirm existing adult support of students, and 5) Reassure students of measures taken to keep them safe.

- Review your school crisis guidelines and implement pertinent responses relevant to the conditions facing your school, as appropriate. Be sure that school crisis guidelines include lockdown and evacuation procedures, alternative evacuation sites, family reunification procedures, and related considerations for use in any natural or manmade crisis situation.
- Maintain a balanced, common-sense approach to school safety and security. School and safety officials should maintain a heightened awareness for potential spin-off incidents. In light of the nature of the national incidents, particular awareness and preparation for possible spin-off incidents involving bomb threats, suspicious devices, and hate crimes may be worthy of consideration. It would also be prudent for school officials to develop, refine, and/or review with staff their policies and procedures related to school threat assessment and threat management.
- School officials may wish to review security issues related to access control, perimeter visibility and security, and other crime prevention measures. The importance of adult supervision before, during, and after school, both inside school buildings and on campus, should also be reviewed and reinforced. Involve all school staff, including support personnel such as secretaries, custodians, and bus drivers, in your school safety review.
- Communicate hotline numbers and other methods that students, parents, staff, and members of the school community can use to report safety and related concerns.
- Use school district call-in lines, web sites, and other information sources that can be accessed by the school community to provide ongoing information to the school community.

9/11 Anniversary Considerations

Many school officials, parents and others in school-communities are concerned around the anniversary time of any national tragedy. In consideration of the first 9/11 anniversary date, we offered the following recommendations for school officials to consider. In subsequent anniversary years, the attention to the anniversary date will likely not be as great. However, we will leave these recommendations posted for reference.

- Hold a meeting with all teachers, support staff and administrators to discuss guidelines and resources for classroom instruction, mental health services, heightened security procedures and to review school crisis guidelines prior to September 11th. Discussions could include issues related to age-appropriate communication, limitation of television viewing that may include excessive revisiting of graphic sites from the terrorist attacks, classroom curricula and discussion parameters, service learning, and other related topics.
- Establish a heightened sense of security in and around the school while not going to extremes unless specific threats warrant extreme measures. Work with local public safety agencies to coordinate special attention needs and to review emergency plans. Examples of heightened school security procedures are listed above.
- Encourage a heightened awareness among administrators, faculty members and support staff as to the importance of adult visibility throughout the campus. School officials should be prepared for threats, hoax incidents (such as anthrax scares), and other "spin-off" security concerns that could result from pranksters and others who may capitalize on the sensitivity of the day. A serious and timely response should be given to all incidents, real and hoax, with appropriate consequences for all inappropriate behavior.
- Make the availability of counseling and psychological services known to students, staff and parents. Be sure that adequate mental health services are available, if needed. Acknowledge and monitor reactions of faculty and staff, too, in terms of being sensitive to their anniversary reactions.
- Be sensitive to security concerns if considering school field trips on September 11th.
- Make available and advertise mechanisms for students, parents and others in the school community to report any safety concerns.
- Communicate with parents and members of the school community prior to September 11th to let them know that their school is aware of the sensitivity of the anniversary and that measures are being taken to acknowledge special needs associated with the anniversary.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Media liaison officials should be designated for the school and these individuals should be prepared to address media inquiries, without going into specific details that would compromise school safety, regarding how school officials are handling the anniversary. Consider limiting direct access to students by media seeking to interview them about 9/11 so as not to overwhelm students.

National surveys of School Resource Officers

The second largest professional industry survey of school-based officers was conducted in July of 2002 by National School Safety and Security Services. This was the first known survey of school-based police officers on terrorism and school safety related issues.

The survey found 95% of responding school-based police officers indicating that their schools are vulnerable to terrorist attacks and 79% stating that their schools are not adequately prepared for such attacks. School officers also report significant gaps in school security and emergency preparedness measures at their schools, and limited training and support received themselves for preventing and preparing terrorist attacks upon schools. See our page on the 2002 National Survey of School Resource Officers which includes survey highlights and a download link to the full report.

The third annual survey in the June/July of 2003 also addressed terrorism preparedness issues. Over 90% of the survey respondents believe that schools are "soft targets" for potential terrorist attacks. Over 76% of the officers feel that their schools are not adequately prepared to respond to a terrorist attack upon their schools. And over 51% of the respondents' schools do not have specific, formal guidelines to follow when there is a change in the national homeland security color code/federal terrorism warning system. See our pages on the 2003 National Survey of School Resource Officers which includes survey highlights and a download link to the full report.

Sparks Middle School student: Gunman said "you ruined my life and now I'm going to ruin yours"

October 22, 2013

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505263_162-57608607/sparks-middle-school-student-gunman-said-you-ruined-my-life-and-now-im-going-to-ruin-yours/



Michael Landsberry, a Sparks Middle School math teacher and soccer coach, is being called a hero. Authorities said he gave his life to protect his students, when one of their classmates started shooting Monday. Two other students remain hospitalized and are expected to survive.

At least one witness has pointed to revenge being a possible motive.

"He pointed to us and he said, 'You ruined my life and now I'm going to ruin yours,'" said Alfrancis de Vera, a student at Sparks Middle School.

After shooting Landsberry and two other classmates, the student turned the semi-automatic handgun on himself and was killed. Federal officials tell CBS News the gun was owned by his parents.

"I just heard this bang and I thought it was a joke," said student Adam Ramirez. "Then I saw people running."

The two 12-year-old victims were rushed to local hospitals.

"One was shot through the shoulder. The other shot in the abdomen. Both sustained non life-threatening injuries," said Sparks Police Department Deputy Chief Tom Miller.

Students and their parents remembered



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Landsberry, a 45-year-old military veteran, Monday night.



One student said "Mr. Landsberry was an amazing teacher with a good heart," and another "Landsberry, forever my favorite coach."

Even Sen. Harry Reid chimed in: "Michael Landsberry: Veteran, wonderful math teacher, admired by students, died a hero."

Landsberry leaves behind a wife and two stepdaughters. He served two tours in Afghanistan with the Nevada National Guard. The school will remain closed for the rest of the week.

"He was tough, but he had a really soft heart," said 14-year-old Jeremy Hannah. "That's why he became a teacher."

Police say Landsberry died trying to intervene and students took to Twitter to praise their fallen teacher.



The Best Defense

By Laura Spadantua

Source: <http://www.securitymanagement.com/print/12580>

When a person faces a life-threatening situation, like an active shooter, higher analytic functions shut down. But training can ensure that the proper response to the threat occurs almost instinctively. That's the basis of boot-camp training for soldiers. Police and private security professionals have long understood the need for strong training programs. In the wake of deadly shootings at Columbine and elsewhere, K-12 schools have come to realize that one or more attackers with modern large-capacity weaponry can cause massive loss of life before the police are able to arrive on the scene and intervene. Thus, students and staff will have to confront the threat on their own. Given that reality, schools are starting to put more emphasis on the importance of training students and staff in various response scenarios.

The approaches to active-shooter training are evolving, especially in light of the recent Newtown and Aurora shootings. Not everyone can agree on the best approach, but they all agree that any training program must be tailored to the school, taking into consideration the facility's layout, the makeup of the classes, and other characteristics.

Evolution

When a school orders a traditional lockdown, it includes shutting and locking doors, turning off lights, and having students hide as best they can. In some situations, this is still the safest approach. However, in other cases, students end up being defenseless targets for the shooter or shooters to easily and cruelly pick off. This was the case at Columbine when students were shot while hiding under tables in the library. (Though if the students had evacuated at the point that they knew there was a shooter, they may have met the gunmen in the hallway as well.)

Although many schools still teach traditional lockdowns, there has been a movement toward newer approaches that enhance the traditional techniques, says Amy Klinger, educational administration professor at Ohio's Ashland University, who spoke on the topic at the GovSec conference earlier this year in Washington, D.C. Klinger is also director of programs for the Educator School Safety Network, a nonprofit school training organization.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Not everyone applauds the newer approaches, however. Kenneth Trump, president of consulting company National School Safety and Security Services, is concerned that people are too quick to discard proven best practices, like lockdowns. While the lockdown and other security measures implemented during the active-shooter situation at



Sandy Hook Elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut failed to save the lives of 26 people, those measures did save many other lives in that incident, he says. “There were people who reportedly were in lockdown when the gunman went past the room. So it did not work for all, but it did work for some. So you just don’t summarily throw out decades-plus of best practices,” asserts Trump.

Proponents of the newer options counter that they are trying to marry the best of the old with something new. “Oftentimes, people think that it’s replacement of lockdown. It’s really not. It’s adding additional components

to lockdown that are much more situation-specific rather than just sort of a general response to any particular event,” Klinger tells *Security Management*.

New Tactics

Two popular active-shooter response-training approaches that go beyond traditional lockdown in active-shooter training are Department of Homeland Security (DHS)-supported “Run Hide Fight,” and ALICE (Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate).

The City of Houston used federal DHS funds to produce “Run Hide Fight” as an active-shooter-response video. It instructs viewers that when they are confronted with an active-shooter threat, they should first run out of the building or kill zone if possible; if that’s not possible, they should hide. If hiding securely isn’t an option, they should fight with anything available to end the threat, rather than simply waiting to become the next victim. This approach has won many supporters, and it is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s online active-shooter training program. But it was for the workplace, not schools.

ALICE, a training course developed by former SWAT-team leader Greg Crane, of training company Response Options, is specifically geared toward school shooters. However, the “Run Hide Fight” tools are now used in schools as well. Though both programs include the traditional tactics of evacuating (running) when possible and locking down in a room (hiding) when evacuation isn’t a reasonable option, they also include instruction on how to fight back, which has generated controversy (more on that later).

Evacuation. The evacuation aspect can be difficult. That’s true in a multi-level hotel or a high-rise office building, and it’s no less true in a school. There are often classrooms on several floors, and those rooms may not be near an exit. Additionally, there may not be communication about where the shooter is. But having a plan can help. That’s why Klinger tells *Security Management* that schools should have certain protocols for when to flee. Klinger said during her presentation that kids who leave tend to survive these attacks.

It’s important to remember that schools have a wide range of communication capabilities. “We work in schools where they don’t even have a PA system,” Klinger says. Others have advanced systems that can send messages throughout the school. But even where communications are good, it’s possible that the person responsible for operating the system will be incapacitated at the start of an attack—or that person may simply not have good information to relay—so there is no telling what sort of information will be



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

passed back to teachers and classrooms. Faculty must be prepared to work with what they've got in the moment and use that for quick action.

"When I have information about what's happening, if I'm at the north end of a building and the active-shooter event is occurring at the south end of a building in the gym, why would I lock the door and sit there, and wait for him to find me? Why would we not remove ourselves from this situation?" asks Klinger.

But running has its risks, because one never knows if the shooter will be along the escape route, and young children might be hard to keep quiet or control in an evacuation, increasing the risk of evacuation, while sheltering in place has fewer risks if the room is secure. "We're talking about in K-12, with maybe the exception of the lunchroom or the gymnasium, those rooms lock. Even in many of those cases, those rooms lock. And if they don't, we're usually putting the kids in the kitchen or in locker rooms," says Paul Timm, PSP, president of RETA Security.

Bob Lang, assistant vice president for strategic safety and security at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, sees evacuations as one viable option, depending on the circumstances. His school trains teachers to plan out possible evacuations. "So we are training them in what to do when they first walk into their new facility and new classroom and what to look for relative to escape routes...what to look for in figuring out how to get people out."

In training and conducting drills with the students to prepare them for evacuations during an active-shooter situation, it's important to stress that those evacuation routes might differ from the ones used daily or during a fire drill, Klinger says. They'll also need to be taught that doors and windows that they normally wouldn't think of using might be something they'd need in this unique type of threat situation.

The key is "to make sure kids understand there [are] multiple ways out of a room or out of an area. Especially areas like gyms or cafeterias, where you have large numbers of kids. They're going to try to go out whatever door they came in as opposed to the four or five other doors that might also lead them to safety," Klinger says.

Barricading. If there is a closet or a safe room for children to hide in so that it appears there is no one in the classroom, that's a desirable option and one that has been employed successfully by schools in mass shooting events. But when there is nowhere to hide, a barricade against the door may help deter the shooter or at least stall him while law enforcement arrives. In training, teachers are taught to be aware of the way the door opens. They are taught "to determine whether the door opens in or opens out, [because].... If it opens out, then you're not able to barricade the door," says Lang.

Barricades are going to be makeshift, says Klinger. "You're not trying to keep this individual out for two hours. You're trying to keep him out for a very brief amount of time, until he moves on to the next room or until law enforcement arrives or to delay, deter, and defend from that individual. So we use whatever you have—desks, chairs, tables. Whatever you can flip over and put up against a door," she explains.

Klinger adds that there can be internal barricades also, so children can be barricading within the room, such as behind overturned desks. That way, if the shooter does get through the door, at least it will be more difficult to actually get at anyone, which might buy time to disarm the shooter.

Situational specifics. An important aspect of training is to get teachers to recognize that they will have to make some snap judgments based on the specifics at the time. In Klinger's training program, faculty are taken into a classroom environment where they can role-play how they would respond in certain scenarios. That way, she explains, they can get the hang of thinking through the scenario and quickly deciding what the best route to take is. This "really helps people to start to understand that there is no right or wrong answer, that there [are] a lot of different options that people could undertake depending on the situation and what they know is happening and so on," says Klinger.

Teachers are also taught what factors to consider in evaluating the viability of evacuations. For example, if the teacher has a first-floor classroom where there's a door that leads directly outside the building rather than into a hallway, or if there are windows that the students can climb out of, then evacuation may be feasible and safe—and thus desirable—even if the teacher or students can't tell where the shooter is.

If the shooter comes at lunchtime, evacuation may also be the best option for those teachers and students in the cafeteria, because there are typically multiple exits in that area, and it's an open space where it might be harder to find cover from the shooter, says Klinger.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

If the teachers are in upper-floor classrooms, however, the only exits will be into hallways, which could be a more dangerous choice if they don't know where the shooter is; so instead, their best option might be to barricade the room until they get a better sense of the situation.

Fight/Counter. Most people agree that evacuating when possible and barricading when stuck in a room are the right approaches, but there are many dissenters from the idea of fighting back in an environment that involves K-12 students. Trump thinks the ALICE approach, particularly the “counter” portion, is preying on the heightened post-Newtown emotions and isn't the best way to prepare for a potential active shooter. “You're asking a kid to take a 20-minute or 40-minute workshop or assembly, and then implement something that people in the public-safety community armchair quarterback every time they have an encounter with someone,” Trump says. Trump notes that the approach doesn't take various age levels, development stages, and special needs into consideration. He adds that it could open students up to further injury, such as if the shooter has explosives or was only going to commit suicide rather than hurt others.

Moreover, schools that encourage students to attack may be opening themselves to additional legal liability. “One kid stands up and runs to attack the armed gunman and gets shot and killed, somebody's going to be held accountable. There's going to be tough questions. What were your policies and procedures? Was this run by your school attorney and approved? Did your school insurance carrier consider this and review this and give you the go-ahead?” Trump states.

Timm agrees that teaching students to fight back might not be the best approach, particularly if the students are in schools where the doors can be locked and the students might be safe in traditional lockdown. “From a liability standpoint, I probably don't want the kids fighting anybody,” he says. And while he wouldn't want kids to just be sitting ducks if the shooter gets into the safe room, he worries that if kids are told fighting is an option, they won't understand that it should only be a last resort. “I just get nervous that whether the kid is 8 or 12 or...even 15, he might have a little cowboy in him and think, ‘I'm going to get that guy. I'm going to sprout a cape and get that guy.’ And maybe even leave the confines of the safe room to do it. I just think it's not a good idea,” Timm says.

Supporters stress that fighting back is a last resort. “If you're in a dire situation, you need to go into survival mode and do whatever you have to do to have a chance to live,” Linda Watson, CPP, security consultant with Whirlaway Group LLC says. She adds, “We know these kids aren't cops. They're not trained in martial arts. They're just little kids going to school... But do you sit there paralyzed, or do you say, ok, if we have to fight, we fight?”

“Ninety percent of our time training is on evacuation and barricading. We also spend time talking about violence-prevention measures. We talk about how teachers and school people can think more like an emergency responder, and even with things like communication and calling 911 and how to assist a law enforcement response, all those kind of things,” Klinger says.

“We spend hardly any time...on the counter or fight aspect of it, for a lot of reasons,” she explains. “Number one because there is that pushback. But the primary reason is that when you focus on the fight aspect, everything else gets lost.” Klinger adds that what little training she does do on fighting back includes throwing things and creating diversions to get away. The “Run Hide Fight” video advises people to incapacitate the shooter if possible, by using whatever is available, such as chairs. The video also shows people hiding beside the door so they can catch the shooter off-guard when he enters the safe room.

Emergency Communications

Ensuring that critical information can be communicated during an active-shooter situation is important. Klinger notes that the whole staff should know how to carry out these tasks in case the people who would normally fill those roles are hurt or not available during an attack.

Teachers and other staff throughout the school should be trained not only in how to use the school's emergency communications equipment but also in how to provide effective information to 911. For example, they should learn to be as specific as possible when giving information to 911 operators or when communicating with the rest of the school; in describing a shooter's suspected location, for instance, that would mean providing room numbers if possible rather than just providing a wing or a floor.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)**Drills**

Experts all agree that it's not enough just to tell people what they should do. You have to give them a chance to act out those lessons through exercises, both to test their training and to test the protocols themselves. "We have to do drills because there's only a few times we know if our emergency procedures work and one of those is during the emergency. So that would be an inconvenient time to find out they don't work," says Timm. He advocates including local law enforcement agencies in such drills when possible so that there is collaboration and consensus between the school and potential first responders to any incident.

Watson says that going through the motions during drills can make the actions that will be required feel more like second nature to the students should they ever have to respond in a real incident. "We pop up, and we hide under a desk, and we all pull into this room. . . or we all shelter in place so that it becomes a very natural, not a scary thing, just something that we do maybe once a month or whatever the frequency they feel they need," says Watson.

Klinger says that for the lockdown enhancement drills, her group conducts "what-if" scenarios, where teachers might find out from the principal whether there is a certain level of lockdown or if there is a shooter in a certain area, and then they have to figure out what the appropriate reaction would be to that particular threat situation. It's not as crucial for the students to actually practice barricading as it is for them to understand all of the potential evacuation routes, she says.

It is important to drill for a variety of possible situations that could arise with an active shooter. Trump is concerned that some schools do drills that are convenient for them, rather than ones that will be helpful in demonstrating the different problems that might come up during a true emergency. For example, some schools will only do drills in the morning but not when there are lunch periods. "That doesn't make sense. That's not good practice," he states.

The age of the children involved will affect how they are trained in these procedures, says Klinger. "When you're looking at high-school kids, when you're looking at secondary kids, I think you can be very open and very forthcoming, [explaining] 'this is what we're doing and why,'" Klinger says.

However, for elementary students, Klinger says her organization encourages teachers to build on important skills that are already being taught. Among those skills are moving together quickly without pushing or trampling, and obeying certain commands quickly without asking questions. For younger kids, especially, it's "not necessarily saying 'this is what we would do if there was a guy with a gun,' but instead you're saying 'this is what we would do if in an emergency we all needed to move quickly away, or if we all needed to get away very quickly, or we all needed to be together.'" She adds that these are skills that are transferable to other extreme situations, such as a weather emergency.

John Bruner, founder of In-Crisis Consulting, compares drills to game-day training in professional sports; for example, football players will practice with loud crowd noise being pumped in so they get used to playing in hostile stadiums. He says he has at times used simulated gunfire during drills with teachers and faculty to simulate the noise and smell of gunpowder that might send the individuals into fight or flight responses. He adds, however, that they would only do this when students are not at the school and with advance notice to participants and cooperation from local police and public safety.

"Even though [they] know what's going on. . . I've seen teachers at the end get a little emotional and start crying because they've gotten a true feel for what this feels like," says Bruner.

Some schools go even farther and use the sounds of live gunshots on drills with student participants. Those sorts of drills may do more harm than good, however, according to Stephen Brock, school psychology professor at California State University in Sacramento and a member of the emergency assistance team for the National Association of School Psychologists. Brock worries that many children are going to be upset and potentially traumatized by being exposed to that type of training.

Brock also says that training for an active shooter could have the effect of making young children, in particular, view schools as violent, scary places, even when their schools are safe. It can help to avoid referring to the events as active-shooter drills and to reassure younger children that the school and the teachers are there to protect them, he says. However, he questions whether active-shooter training is an effective use of school resources. He says limited dollars and time might be better spent preparing for other incidents, including natural disasters like earthquakes and tornadoes.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Other experts agree that schools must not forget about the natural disasters that Brock mentions and other emergencies that need to be prepared for. Watson says that emergency managers should consider using an all-hazards approach because tornadoes and hurricanes occur more frequently than active shooters. Considering the high consequences of this type of low-probability event, however, it is understandable why some schools find it worth a portion of their limited resources.

The Evolution of School Security

By Charles Schnabolk, P.E., PSP

Source: <http://securitymanagement.com/print/11412?page=0%2C1>

Every time a school is attacked by some maniac intent on killing innocent children, the nation becomes outraged and people demand more security, stricter gun control on automatic weapons, and more government funds to add security devices and procedures to stop the horrific rampage and mass killings. Such an event took place at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut on December 14, 2012. Twenty children, and six adults were killed before the shooter took his own life. That put it among the deadliest mass shootings in recent history worldwide.



The same outrage occurred after Columbine [1], the Amish school murders [2], and after the mass shooting at Virginia Tech [3] massacres.

Each incident brings a wave of sometimes newly minted experts who offer up all types of remedial solutions [4]. Some are ridiculous; most are simply ineffective.

I have been designing school security systems for some of the nation's most troublesome school districts since 1978, and some of my recommendations have made a notable impact on lowering the rate of school vandalism, and stopping drug dealers and pedophiles from entering the

school buildings. I have also helped schools develop training for staff so that they can be adept at handling emergency situations, but like the thousands of other consultants, I have never found a practical solution that can stop a deranged individual from entering a school and slaughtering students and killing himself.

Just as we can never stop terrorists from flying into high-rise buildings or prevent all bank robberies or keep out all undocumented immigrants, we cannot make schools 100 percent safe. As schools evaluate the need for added security [5] after the Newtown incident, we have to keep that reality in mind.

But that doesn't mean we should not try to make schools safer. Schools that think of security and reject it sometimes quote the statistic that the chance of one child being shot in a school is one in a million. Those that follow that dictum fail to recognize that the only statistic they should really be concerned with is that a child is one in a million.

While school security is an area where there are no simple solutions, a brief history of school security may place the situation that occurred at the Sandy Hook school in proper perspective. To ignore past history will only encourage school administrators to repeat the same mistakes all over again.

Evolution of School Security

Schools placed security low in their list of priorities until the late 1970s, and the security industry had traditionally neglected school security by concentrating on developing protection devices and surveillance systems for other type of facilities where card access and CCTV systems predominate. These type ID and surveillance systems are impractical in a school environment. When security in schools started to become a concern, many, if not most, public schools developed their own



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

protection systems, which consisted of chaining their secondary exits against intruders and then focusing on the problem relating to night-time vandalism and theft of visual-aid equipment.

In the early 1980s, some schools tried to solve the night-time vandalism problem by installing audio detectors throughout the empty building that would send an alarm signal to the police when the noise exceeded a preset decibel level (caused by vandals breaking the furniture). It had so many false alarms that it never became a reliable solution and was followed by other short term security systems that were purchased before undergoing adequate testing.

Most of those early devices focused on protecting the building with little attention given to protecting students and teachers. In 1984, a high school in Newark became the nation's first building (not just school buildings – but any building) to install a fail-safe electromagnetic lock on a fire exit that had become legal in 1980 when the NFPA added it their Life Safety Code 101. It was very effective alternative to the common practice in those days of placing chains on the panic hardware but over time schools stopped locking these doors with the fail-safe mag-lock because they believed it was still illegal or posed a safety hazard.

There was an institution in the New York City School System that had installed only one mag-locking system in 1984, and school officials did nothing to expand the system to other district schools, claiming they had more important issues to address with their limited budgets. An intruder entered a high school through the secondary door and killed a student in 1986. The very next day the district allocated \$20 million to lock exits in most of their high schools. This was a typical example of how security is initially treated as a low priority until some disaster takes place, and it is only then the school district finds the funds. School security has always been reactive rather proactive as seen by the reaction for stricter gun control only after a mass killing.

Designing Blunders

Architects design school buildings with little attention to security and protection because they have traditionally left that concern to building owners [6], or the school district supervisors, after the building is occupied. In working with some of the most prodigious architectural firms in the country for almost a half century, I have found far too many architects with no interest and no knowledge of the latest technology in security controls. They, with few exceptions, are indifferent to concerns of building managers and schools administrators and some even dislike locks on the doors because it breaks up the esthetics of the hallway.

As a perfect example of this short-sighted approach to security was the round school that won design awards because during the course of a school day, the sun would revolve around the structure giving light to each classroom part of the time. In suburbia, it was enthusiastically welcomed but when the same concept was erected in an inner city with a long history of lacking proper control of an unruly student body, it proved to be an unmitigated disaster. Teachers were unable to control the classes as they moved from one room to another because the curvature of the hallway restricted observations to only few feet – rather than the length of a straight hallway. The school district had to replace the building three years after it opened.

Changing Teacher Concerns

In the mid-1980s school security was still a low priority but there were a few school districts that were concerned about the safety of teachers in the classroom. After threats to teachers made by their own students, three schools in one city installed a hand held device for every teacher that was the size of a cigar. Activating the device was done by pressing a button which transmitted a coded radio signal to the principal's office alerting the administration to a potential problem and identifying the room of the disturbance.

As an indication of how attitudes change, when the engineer that designed the system had to explain how the system would add a safety factor to each classroom, the teachers in the audience expressed their total displeasure with such a system by describing it as if "big brother" was watching their every move. There was so much opposition to the \$50,000 system that the schools had it removed. There were some technical issues as well as issues with some teachers leaving the devices on their desks and kids grabbing the devices and setting off false alarms. Many of those problems can be dealt with, and panic devices do offer a very effective way to try to minimize the number of victims [7] there will be if there is a shooter in a school, assuming that the alert can be followed by other effective actions, like getting children to a safe place.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Twenty-five years later, one of those schools had a teacher attacked in an incident. That led it to have all doors locked with a police officer at front entrances. There is a metal detector that each student and visitor must pass through, and students carry a picture ID card. The school has recently installed a management entrance system [8], similar to the one installed at the Newtown grade school, which requires all visitors to submit a photo ID that is automatically sent to the state criminal justice data bank to find out if the visitor had a criminal record, particularly as a pedophile. But, of course, no data bank can identify anyone coming into the building with the intention of killing the children and their teachers.

The Sandy Hook school had done a lot of things right, like conducting training drills where the children were taught to stay low and quiet and to turn off the lights, [9] but when the real event occurred, it is not surprising that the plan could not prevent panic among very young children and loss of lives. Though panic alarms, access controls, and other measures can help, no system is going to be 100 percent effective in preventing this type of incident.

Two final comments: A great deal was made over the fact that a teacher had crowded students into a small room and locked the door to keep the roving killer out. Having locks on these doors can backfire, however, because if the killer had gotten into the room, he would lock the door preventing a SWAT team from entering or slowing them down for precious moments, enough to cause further loss of life. Students would then become sitting ducks. It is just one of the solutions that should be considered but not automatically adopted in developing an overall emergency response plan.

Another issue apart from security measures at schools is gun control. The nation's outrage after the Sandy Hook massacre [10] has once again been directed toward the lack of gun control laws, especially focusing on automatic weapons that can rapidly fire 30 rounds in a few seconds without reloading. It is doubtful that Congress will now act on the gun control. Outside the Northeast, a gun culture exists that has been shown to resist any kind of firearms regulations despite numerous other tragedies, including recent shootings in a mall and in a theater and the shooting of a Congresswoman and staff members meeting with constituents.

It seems that when a postal worker kills their supervisors little attention is paid to the event and when college students are killed in their classrooms, the outrage lasts only a little longer. Even killing high school and elementary school students has not had much of an impact on existing laws. We will now find out whether the slaughter of young children is the only way to get a change in the law. That said, it should also be noted that most guns used in mass killings were obtained legally, and it's doubtful the laws would or could be changed sufficiently to really prevent them from being obtained and used by determined mass murderers.

Charles Schnabolk, P.E., PSP, is principal partner at Security Design Group, New York, New York. He has been a security consultant for 45 years, and has worked with many school districts to design their security systems. He is a member of ASIS International.

Hard Lessons

By Laura Spadanuta

Source: <http://securitymanagement.com/print/10123?page=0%2C1>

On April 2, 2012, One Goh, a former student at Oikos University, in Oakland, California, opened fire on the campus, killing seven people and wounding three others. That incident happened nearly five years to the day after the April 16, 2007, mass shooting at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), in Blacksburg, Virginia. It was a sad reminder that, though rare, shootings are a threat to universities large and small, and school authorities must be prepared to handle them.

In the Virginia Tech tragedy, a current student first shot two students in a dormitory; a few hours later, he entered an academic building and opened fire in several classrooms before turning the gun on himself. Thirty-three people were killed in the massacre, including the gunman, Seung-Hui Cho. The Virginia Tech community has been through much since that day. It has also attempted to learn important lessons to limit the chances of a similar tragedy in the future. Other campuses have taken note. Ahead is a look at some of the long-term lessons and evolving best practices for communications, sheltering in place, and threat assessment teams.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Communications

A key factor in the Virginia Tech shooting was that the gunman first murdered two students in the dorms in the morning. The university took more than an hour after that first incident to warn students that there had been a shooting on campus. The school was ultimately judged by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) to have violated a provision in the applicable law, the Clery Act, which calls for “timely warnings” when reportable crimes occur on campus. Some examples of reportable Clery Act crimes are robbery, murder, and assault.

Virginia Tech officials disagreed with that judgment. According to Mark Owczarski, Virginia Tech’s director of news and information, while there was no clear definition of what constituted a “timely” warning at the time, precedent and DOE guidelines had those warnings coming out within 48 hours of the incident. An hour seemed reasonable in that context. Moreover, the Virginia Tech warnings were not more immediate because universities were expected to first determine the facts and then put as much information into the warning as possible, asserted Virginia Tech in its defense.

The reason for the delay was not accepted initially, and the school was fined \$55,000. But in March 2012, the school got some vindication when the DOE’s chief administrative judge overturned the DOE fine. However, also in March, a civil trial jury awarded \$4 million to two families of Virginia Tech victims who accused the school of negligence.

The fuzziness around the definition of what would be considered “timely” with regard to a warning prompted a legislative change in 2008, when the Clery Act was amended to include an additional responsibility for a more instantaneous emergency notification whenever a school has reason to believe that there is any imminent threat to the health and safety of students on campus. Situations meriting a notification might include chemical spills or even concerns about an infectious

disease, in addition to crimes and active shooters.

Emergency notifications must be issued immediately even if all of the facts of the case are not yet gathered. The objective is to let people in and around the campus know that they may be in danger. “Immediate” is defined as meaning “as soon as law enforcement officers can confirm the threat,” says Owczarski.

The notification should be made by the police department as soon as possible after it responds to a call and confirms that there is a potentially threatening situation. When both an emergency notification and a timely warning would apply (Clery-reportable crimes, for example), the DOE has stated that a redundant timely warning is not necessary in addition to the emergency notification.

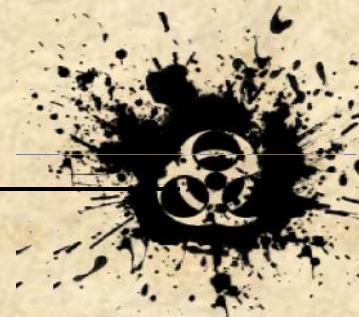
Conversely, when emergency notifications are not needed, the subsequent “timely warning” is still required under the law and should be issued after the school or police gather basic information. Schools have up to 48 hours to do that, but Owczarski says few, if any, institutions would wait that long today.

“The landscape has changed,” says Owczarski. “[I]n light of what happened five years ago, colleges and universities are far more likely to communicate first, think and respond second.”

Virginia Tech’s VT Alert system has about 10 mechanisms for disseminating information (more on these ahead). Each has its application. For example, outdoor sirens might be used for tornado warnings, but they would not likely be used in a timely-warning situation.

Communication is the most important aspect of security, says Paul Timm, PSP, president of RETA Security. Virginia Tech did have mass notification capabilities when the 2007 tragedy occurred, and it did use such mechanisms as e-mail to send out information about the shootings, but technology has made instant mass communications far easier since then.

For example, many notification systems in effect before the shooting did not use text messages. That was because it was complicated. “[Y]ou had to buy Sprint’s [service] or Verizon, or what have you, and you then had to carry their particular device,” explains Bob Lang, CPP, assistant vice president of safety and security at Kennesaw State University in Georgia.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

A 2008 report called *The Ripple Effect of Virginia Tech* from the Midwestern Higher Education Compact found that nearly three-quarters of respondents whose schools did not previously possess the ability to send notification via text had since implemented a system capable of doing that or planned on implementing such a system.

Helping to facilitate this change is the fact that today's notification systems can generally be used with all carriers, and most every student has a smartphone. Thus, it's not just that mass notification systems are more widespread, says Timm, it's that they are easier to implement and, therefore, end up being more useful.

Schools are also getting more students to sign up for notifications. That's because "schools are speaking to other schools, and we're learning from each other," says Timm. "So we're not just going to leave it up to the student to walk in and sign up. We're saying 'here, if you're going to register for classes, the screen that you get before you're allowed to register is the sign-up for mass notification.'"

It is best practice to have numerous ways to reach members of the campus with pertinent information. In the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) blueprint for safer campuses, "one of the things that we focused on was to have redundant systems so that if cell phones didn't work because they were jammed, you had other ways of getting the word out to the campus if there was an imminent danger," says Christopher G. Blake, IACLEA's associate director and campus preparedness project director.

Virginia Tech's current alert system includes text messaging, e-mail, message boards, sirens, and desktop alerts, among other mechanisms. "The bottom line to a lot of this is coming up with a layered approach to notifications," says Lang.

Virginia Tech added digital message boards in classrooms and laboratories to its system after the 2007 tragedy. "Those are immediate; they literally will send a message within a second of deployment. Text messaging can take up to 20 minutes depending on cell phone service, the number of people, the number of subscribers, says Owczarski.

Owczarski says the university prioritized which classrooms would have the signs first, and the installation process is ongoing as opportunity and funding becomes available. For example, large lecture halls and the most widely used spaces received the signs initially. There are about 700 signs currently. University policy states that the boards must be included in new construction projects and renovations.

The notification process is ever-developing based upon technology improvements. For example, Virginia Tech has also added Twitter and Facebook to its cadre of notification media.

Content and context. Another issue universities have to wrangle with is exactly what the content of the message will be for any given situation.

Owczarski says that in these situations it is important to keep information updated, "because of the world in which we live in; people tweet, people Facebook, rumors go rampant." He says that if 30 minutes goes by with no news, he will repeat what has been said or confirm that police are continuing to investigate.

For example, in December 2011, a campus police officer was shot on the Virginia Tech campus following a routine traffic stop. The police sent out the initial emergency notification when the shooting was confirmed and then quickly updated it when they knew the shooter had been spotted in a parking lot, says Owczarski. He says he then took over the communications to flesh out the warnings and information being delivered to the community. The emergency response plan was implemented, and the school was in a state of emergency response until police could confirm that the gunman was no longer a threat to the community.

Every situation will require different directives. In a potential or actual active-shooter situation, for example, the message might be to shelter in place, which simply means not to leave the building you are in. That was the case after the December shooting, though some media called it a "lockdown."

Owczarski says that "lockdown" is a word that his school does not use, because it's probably impossible to accomplish on a campus the size of a small municipality.

By contrast, it is feasible to advise anyone on campus to shelter in place, though that has its limitations as well. "It is not enforceable, and it might even be counterproductive if the people are in the same building as the shooter when they receive the warning," says Owczarski.

Communicating is challenging when you have maybe a minute or two to make a decision about what to say, he says. And part of the challenge is that things are reported over Twitter and rumors and facts are often confused in the heat of a moment. "Yet what litigation and lawsuits will often say



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

is you're better off saying something, anything, and then reacting second. And that's one of the great challenges that all of higher education in all municipalities face," he says.

Virginia Tech has developed a Web portal with emergency messages for authorized individuals to send. The portal walks the user through a series of steps. The person would first put in information such as which campus the message is for and the delivery mechanisms to use (in an emergency, the default is to use them all).

There are about 30 templates of scenarios to provide a starting point for the notification. The template provides language appropriate to each type of incident and delivery mechanism; for example, e-mails might be longer and more conversational than text messages. The messages go out simultaneously. The language for the templates has been refined, and new templates have been created as drills and real-life emergencies have yielded lessons.

Threat Assessment Teams

Virginia Tech shooter Cho had behavioral issues that professors and mental health professionals knew about. After the fact, there were discussions about whether he should have been monitored more closely or removed from campus before the tragedy. It is impossible to know whether anything might have prevented that situation, but schools are trying to do what they can to focus on potentially risky situations—or people in need of assistance on or outside of their campuses—and to spot red flags that might signal trouble ahead.

The Virginia Tech incident led to a state law that requires colleges to have threat assessment teams for just that purpose. When that law came about, Virginia Tech was already putting together its behavioral threat assessment program.

Dewey Cornell, clinical psychologist and professor of education at the Curry School of Education, University of Virginia, thinks colleges traditionally have spent more resources on dealing with a tragedy than preventing it, so he sees the rise of threat assessment teams as a positive change. "I really think more emphasis should be given to prevention than just to crisis response," he says.

Virginia Tech has spent a lot of time on refining its behavioral threat assessment team. The team consists of various individuals from different departments and disciplines.

Gene Deisinger joined Virginia Tech as threat management director in 2009. He says the school threat management team evaluates a few hundred cases a year, most of which are closed if no threat is perceived.

There are numerous ways a case can be opened, including reports from an individual on campus. When a case is reported, the team must examine the risks and the behavior in the context of whatever the individual is going through. The team will talk to the individual directly to assess and address any problems. The team also gathers information from various resources. One of the first orders of business is to determine whether the person is already being helped by other counseling or campus services. If that help is deemed to be adequate or the team determines that the person poses no threat, the case is closed.

Cornell points out that revisions to Virginia law and clarifications by the DOE have been made to facilitate information sharing with law enforcement and other groups, such as those in the medical professions. For example, a DOE clarification of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) states that school officials are not prohibited from sharing information obtained through school officials' observation and personal knowledge, such as threatening remarks.

That is not considered part of student educational records, which makes it easier for the information to be shared.

The threat assessment team is separate from the CARE Team, which is a student aid team that was in existence prior to the 2007 shootings. The CARE Team will focus on student assistance issues, but some cases may go back and forth between CARE and threat assessment. For example, a financial-aid issue might start with CARE and then go to threat assessment if the student's behavior becomes inflammatory. But both teams will not be working on the same case at once.

The threat assessment team is charged with identifying dangerous behaviors not just from students or faculty members but anyone who might pose a danger.

The threat assessment team mostly acts after concerns are reported, but Virginia Tech also introduced a proactive threat assessment element to the admissions process. During admissions, various background questions are asked in the application, and behavior is assessed during interaction with admissions officers.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

If it is determined that an applicant has a history of violent offenses or other potentially disruptive behavior, for example, he or she would be referred to the threat assessment team. The team will then assess whether it's possible to have a support plan to help that person be successful at the school. If the team doesn't believe that's possible, the applicant will not be permitted to attend the school. But, says Deisinger, "We recommend denial of very few applications."

Red flags

The school also tries to provide some guidance to the campus community with regard to what red flags they should look for. These are listed on Virginia Tech's Web site, but Deisinger emphasizes that there is no absolutely reliable list of behaviors, and all behavior must be taken in context. Just because a person was violent in the past doesn't mean they will be in the future. Similarly, a person with no violent past might still pose a risk.

Deisinger says that simplistic ways of predicting who is going to be violent have not worked, and he doesn't anticipate that changing. He adds that though most of the referrals to his team do not end up requiring long-term monitoring, they're still helpful.

"One side of the equation is, is the subject of concern dangerous or significantly disruptive? Even if the answer is no, if they're perceived that way, there's still an issue, because others will continue to respond to them based on the perception. And so, for many of the cases, we're not actively working the subject of concern so much as we are the persons who shared the concern," Deisinger says. The objective is "to share to the extent it's lawful and appropriate to do so, the information that would help mitigate their concerns."

Deisinger adds that it's the nature of the beast of dealing with potentially violent and disruptive behavior that it's unlikely that any individual in the community would be in a position to know the whole story, "so we set up a process that we know will [yield] false positives, because that enables us to look at potential linkages across the institution."

Awareness training

Schools also are seeking ways to make students comfortable with reporting any issues or concerns. At the University of Virginia, Cornell says, they hold a series of meetings with students to discuss such issues. The school also developed a Web site with videos that depict different kinds of situations where people might want to seek help.

Additionally, many universities have special Web sites or systems set up to receive information or concerns. Deisinger stresses how important it is to do community outreach, because the campus population is always changing. "The things we did for outreach or awareness last year do not mean that this year the community knows what resources are available to assist with concerns," he says, adding "So that has to be a continual process."

Response Coordination

Another key issue is how various authorities will work together in the event of a major incident where they all respond to the scene. Many schools had good relationships with local law enforcement prior to the Virginia Tech tragedy, but even with good relations, coordinating activity on the scene can be challenging.

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS) lay out protocols for such situations. In recent years, more schools are adopting the NIMS and ICS approaches even when they are not required to follow them.

The basic ICS course is actually tailored for administrators in higher education, says Timm. "Now, not enough of them are taking advantage of that, but...we're on a crusade to help them at least be aware and then get on board," he says. He adds that it helps them become more familiar with first responders and gets everyone speaking the "same language."

IACLEA's Blake stresses the importance of mutual-aid agreements and working with local law enforcement. "You don't want to be introducing yourself to these folks at the scene [of an incident]; you want to have working relationships with them in advance."

Five years after the 2007 shooting, Virginia Tech received high marks for its reaction to the police officer shooting, says Blake. "They were really applauded by the media and others about what a fantastic job they did of getting the word out, almost immediately, to the community, and they had regular updates and so forth."



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

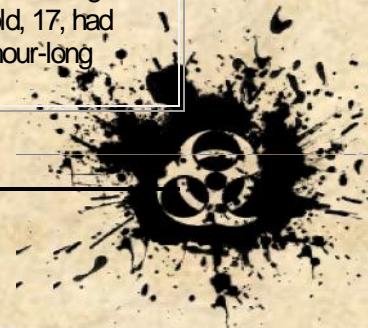
That proficiency was the result of lessons learned the hard way after the 2007 tragedy. But at least they have been learned. “Virginia Tech sadly has a degree of experience that hopefully will serve us in the future for when those instances will happen again,” says Owczarski, adding, “And if we can help others prepare better for the instances that have yet to occur, [we are] glad to do that.”

Gun-related tragedies in the U.S. and around the world

Source: <http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0777958.html>

The following table lists the worldwide mass and school shootings from 1996 to the present. Find the date, location, and a short description of each incident.

Feb. 2, 1996 Moses Lake, Wash.	Two students and one teacher killed, one other wounded when 14-year-old Barry Loukaitis opened fire on his algebra class.
March 13, 1996 Dunblane, Scotland	16 children and one teacher killed at Dunblane Primary School by Thomas Hamilton, who then killed himself. 10 others wounded in attack.
Feb. 19, 1997 Bethel, Alaska	Principal and one student killed, two others wounded by Evan Ramsey, 16.
March 1997 Sanaa, Yemen	Eight people (six students and two others) at two schools killed by Mohammad Ahman al-Naziri.
Oct. 1, 1997 Pearl, Miss.	Two students killed and seven wounded by Luke Woodham, 16, who was also accused of killing his mother. He and his friends were said to be outcasts who worshiped Satan.
Dec. 1, 1997 West Paducah, Ky.	Three students killed, five wounded by Michael Carneal, 14, as they participated in a prayer circle at Heath High School.
Dec. 15, 1997 Stamps, Ark.	Two students wounded. Colt Todd, 14, was hiding in the woods when he shot the students as they stood in the parking lot.
March 24, 1998 Jonesboro, Ark.	Four students and one teacher killed, ten others wounded outside as Westside Middle School emptied during a false fire alarm. Mitchell Johnson, 13, and Andrew Golden, 11, shot at their classmates and teachers from the woods.
April 24, 1998 Edinboro, Pa.	One teacher, John Gillette, killed, two students wounded at a dance at James W. Parker Middle School. Andrew Wurst, 14, was charged.
May 19, 1998 Fayetteville, Tenn.	One student killed in the parking lot at Lincoln County High School three days before he was to graduate. The victim was dating the ex-girlfriend of his killer, 18-year-old honor student Jacob Davis.
May 21, 1998 Springfield, Ore.	Two students killed, 22 others wounded in the cafeteria at Thurston High School by 15-year-old Kip Kinkel. Kinkel had been arrested and released a day earlier for bringing a gun to school. His parents were later found dead at home.
June 15, 1998 Richmond, Va.	One teacher and one guidance counselor wounded by a 14-year-old boy in the school hallway.
April 20, 1999 Littleton, Colo.	14 students (including killers) and one teacher killed, 23 others wounded at Columbine High School in the nation's deadliest school shooting. Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, had plotted for a year to kill at least 500 and blow up their school. At the end of their hour-long rampage, they turned their guns on themselves.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

April 28, 1999 Taber, Alberta, Canada	One student killed, one wounded at W. R. Myers High School in first fatal high school shooting in Canada in 20 years. The suspect, a 14-year-old boy, had dropped out of school after he was severely ostracized by his classmates.
May 20, 1999 Conyers, Ga.	Six students injured at Heritage High School by Thomas Solomon, 15, who was reportedly depressed after breaking up with his girlfriend.
Nov. 19, 1999 Deming, N.M.	Victor Cordova Jr., 12, shot and killed Araceli Tena, 13, in the lobby of Derring Middle School.
Dec. 6, 1999 Fort Gibson, Okla.	Four students wounded as Seth Trickey, 13, opened fire with a 9mm semiautomatic handgun at Fort Gibson Middle School.
Dec. 7, 1999 Veghel, Netherlands	One teacher and three students wounded by a 17-year-old student.
Feb. 29, 2000 Mount Morris Township, Mich.	Six-year-old Kayla Rolland shot dead at Buell Elementary School near Flint, Mich. The assailant was identified as a six-year-old boy with a .32-caliber handgun.
March 2000 Branneburg, Germany	One teacher killed by a 15-year-old student, who then shot himself. The shooter has been in a coma ever since.
March 10, 2000 Savannah, Ga.	Two students killed by Darrell Ingram, 19, while leaving a dance sponsored by Beach High School.
May 26, 2000 Lake Worth, Fla.	One teacher, Barry Grunow, shot and killed at Lake Worth Middle School by Nate Brazill, 13, with .25-caliber semiautomatic pistol on the last day of classes.
Sept. 26, 2000 New Orleans, La.	Two students wounded with the same gun during a fight at Woodson Middle School.
Jan. 17, 2001 Baltimore, Md.	One student shot and killed in front of Lake Clifton Eastern High School.
Jan. 18, 2001 Jan, Sweden	One student killed by two boys, ages 17 and 19.
March 5, 2001 Santee, Calif.	Two killed and 13 wounded by Charles Andrew Williams, 15, firing from a bathroom at Santana High School.
March 7, 2001 Williamsport, Pa.	Elizabeth Catherine Bush, 14, wounded student Kimberly Marchese in the cafeteria of Bishop Neumann High School; she was depressed and frequently teased.
March 22, 2001 Granite Hills, Calif.	One teacher and three students wounded by Jason Hoffman, 18, at Granite Hills High School. A policeman shot and wounded Hoffman.
March 30, 2001 Gary, Ind.	One student killed by Donald R. Burt, Jr., a 17-year-old student who had been expelled from Lew Wallace High School.
Nov. 12, 2001 Caro, Mich.	Chris Buschbacher, 17, took two hostages at the Caro Learning Center before killing himself.
Jan. 15, 2002 New York, N.Y.	A teenager wounded two students at Martin Luther King Jr. High School.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Feb. 19, 2002 Freising, Germany	Two killed in Eching by a man at the factory from which he had been fired; he then traveled to Freising and killed the headmaster of the technical school from which he had been expelled. He also wounded another teacher before killing himself.
April 26, 2002 Erfurt, Germany	13 teachers, two students, and one policeman killed, ten wounded by Robert Steinhäuser, 19, at the Johann Gutenberg secondary school. Steinhäuser then killed himself.
April 29, 2002 Vlasenica, Bosnia- Herzegovina	One teacher killed, one wounded by Dragoslav Petkovic, 17, who then killed himself.
October 28, 2002 Tucson, Ariz.	Robert S. Flores Jr., 41, a student at the nursing school at the University of Arizona, shot and killed three female professors and then himself.
April 14, 2003 New Orleans, La.	One 15-year-old killed, and three students wounded at John McDonogh High School by gunfire from four teenagers (none were students at the school). The motive was gang-related.
April 24, 2003 Red Lion, Pa.	James Sheets, 14, killed principal Eugene Segro of Red Lion Area Junior High School before killing himself.
Sept. 24, 2003 Cold Spring, Minn.	Two students are killed at Rocori High School by John Jason McLaughlin, 15.
Sept. 28, 2004 Carmen de Patagones, Argentina	Three students killed and 6 wounded by a 15-year-old Argentinian student in a town 620 miles south of Buenos Aires.
March 21, 2005 Red Lake, Minn.	Jeff Weise, 16, killed grandfather and companion, then arrived at school where he killed a teacher, a security guard, 5 students, and finally himself, leaving a total of 10 dead.
Nov. 8, 2005 Jacksboro, Tenn.	One 15-year-old shot and killed an assistant principal at Campbell County High School and seriously wounded two other administrators.
Aug. 24, 2006 Essex, Vt.	Christopher Williams, 27, looking for his ex-girlfriend at Essex Elementary School, shot two teachers, killing one and wounding another. Before going to the school, he had killed the ex-girlfriend's mother.
Sept. 13, 2006 Montreal, Canada	Kimveer Gill, 25, opened fire with a semiautomatic weapon at Dawson College. Anastasia De Sousa, 18, died and more than a dozen students and faculty were wounded before Gill killed himself.
Sept. 27, 2006 Bailey, Colo.	Adult male held six students hostage at Platte Canyon High School and then shot and killed Emily Keyes, 16, and himself.
Sept. 29, 2006 Cazenovia, Wis.	A 15-year-old student shot and killed Weston School principal John Klang.
Oct. 3, 2006 Nickel Mines, Pa.	32-year-old Carl Charles Roberts IV entered the one-room West Nickel Mines Amish School and shot 10 schoolgirls, ranging in age from 6 to 13 years old, and then himself. Five of the girls and Roberts died.
Jan. 3, 2007 Tacoma, Wash.	Douglas Chanthabouly, 18, shot fellow student Samnang Kok, 17, in the hallway of Henry Foss High School.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

April 16, 2007 Blacksburg, Va.	A 23-year-old Virginia Tech student, Cho Seung-Hui, killed two in a dorm, then killed 30 more 2 hours later in a classroom building. His suicide brought the death toll to 33, making the shooting rampage the most deadly in U.S. history. Fifteen others were wounded.
Sept. 21, 2007 Dover, Del.	A Delaware State University Freshman, Loyer D. Brandon, shot and wounded two other Freshman students on the University campus. Brandon is being charged with attempted murder, assault, reckless engagement, as well as a gun charge.
Oct. 10, 2007 Cleveland, Ohio	A 14-year-old student at a Cleveland high school, Asa H. Coon, shot and injured two students and two teachers before he shot and killed himself. The victims' injuries were not life-threatening.
Nov. 7, 2007 Tuusula, Finland	An 18-year-old student in southern Finland shot and killed five boys, two girls, and the female principal at Jokela High School. At least 10 others were injured. The gunman shot himself and died from his wounds in the hospital.
Feb. 8, 2008 Baton Rouge, Louisiana	A nursing student shot and killed two women and then herself in a classroom at Louisiana Technical College in Baton Rouge.
Feb. 11, 2008 Memphis, Tennessee	A 17-year-old student at Mitchell High School shot and wounded a classmate in gym class.
Feb. 12, 2008 Oxnard, California	A 14-year-old boy shot a student at E.O. Green Junior High School causing the 15-year-old victim to be brain dead.
Feb. 14, 2008 DeKalb, Illinois	Gunman killed five students and then himself, and wounded 17 more when he opened fire on a classroom at Northern Illinois University. The gunman, Stephen P. Kazmierczak, was identified as a former graduate student at the university in 2007.
Sept. 23, 2008 Kauhajoki, Finland	A 20-year-old male student shot and killed at least nine students and himself at a vocational college in Kauhajok, 330km (205 miles) north of the capital, Helsinki.
Nov. 12, 2008 Fort Lauderdale, Florida	A 15-year-old female student was shot and killed by a classmate at Dillard High School in Fort Lauderdale.
March 11, 2009 Winnenden, Germany	Fifteen people were shot and killed at Albertville Technical High School in southwestern Germany by a 17-year-old boy who attended the same school.
April 30, 2009 Azerbaijan, Baku	A Georgian citizen of Azerbaijani descent killed 12 students and staff at Azerbaijan State Oil Academy. Several others were wounded.
Feb. 5, 2010 Madison, Alabama	At Discovery Middle School, a ninth-grader was shot by another student during a class change. The boy, whose name was not released, pulled out a gun and shot Todd Brown in the head while walking the hallway. Brown later died at Huntsville Hospital.
Feb. 12, 2010 Huntsville, Alabama	During a meeting on campus, Amy Bishop, a biology professor, began shot her colleagues, killing three and wounding three others. A year earlier, Bishop had been denied tenure.
March 9, 2010 Columbus, Ohio	A man opens fire at Ohio State University, killing two employees and wounding one other. The shooter had recently received an "unsatisfactory" job evaluation and was going to be fired on March 13.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Jan. 5, 2011 Omaha, Nebraska	Two people were killed and two more injured in a shooting at Millard South High School. Shortly after being suspended from school, the shooter returned and shot the assistant principal, principal, and the school nurse. The shooter then left campus and took his own life.
Jan. 8, 2011 Tucson, Arizona	Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords was shot in an assassination attempt. At least 17 others are shot by a gunman, identified as Jared Lee Loughner, who opened fire on the congresswoman's constituent meeting outside a local grocery store. Six people are fatally wounded, including U.S. District Court Judge John Roll, and a young girl.
Jan. 5, 2011 Houston, Texas	Two people opened fire during a Worthing High School powder-puff football game. One former student died. Five other people were injured.
April 7, 2011 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	A 23-year-old former student returned to his public elementary school in Rio de Janeiro and began firing, killing 12 children and seriously wounding more than a dozen others, before shooting himself in the head. While Brazil has seen gang-related violence in urban areas, this was the worst school shooting the country has ever seen.
May 10, 2011 San Jose, California	Three people were killed in a parking garage at San Jose State University. Two former students were found dead on the fifth floor of the garage. A third, the suspected shooter, died later at the hospital.
July 22, 2011 Tyrifjorden, Buskerud, Norway	A gunman disguised as a policeman opened fire at a camp for young political activists on the island of Utoya. The gunman kills 68 campers, including personal friends of Prime Minister Stoltenberg. Police arrested Anders Behring Breivik, a 32-year-old Norwegian who had been linked to an anti-Islamic group.
Dec. 8, 2011 Blacksburg, Virginia	A Virginia Tech police officer was shot and killed by a 22-year old student of Radford University. The shooting took place in a parking lot on Virginia Tech's campus.
Feb. 10, 2012 Walpole, New Hampshire	A 14-year-old student shot himself in front of 70 fellow students.
Feb. 27, 2012 Chardon, Ohio	At Chardon High School, a former classmate opened fire, killing three students and injuring six. Arrested shortly after the incident, the shooter said that he randomly picked students.
March 6, 2012 Jacksonville, Florida	Shane Schumerth, a 28-year-old teacher at Episcopal High School, returned to the campus after being fired and shot and killed the headmistress, Dale Regan, with an assault rifle.
March 19, 2012 Toulouse, France	Mohammed Merah, a French man of Algerian descent, shot and killed a rabbi, two of his children, and another child at a Jewish school. Police believe he had earlier shot and killed three paratroopers. Merah said he was a member of Al Qaeda and that he was seeking revenge for the killing of Palestinian children.
April 2, 2012 Oakland, Calif.	One Goh, a 43-year-old former student at Oikos University, a Christian school populated by mostly Korean and Korean-Americans, opened fire on the campus, killing seven people and wounding several others.
July 20, 2012 Aurora, Colo.	During a midnight screening of the film <i>The Dark Knight Rises</i> , a gunman opens fire on the crowded theater. At least 12 people are killed and 38 others are wounded. The suspect, James Holmes, set off a smoke device in the front of the theater before opening fire. Directly after the incident, Holmes, age 24, was arrested in a parking lot behind the theater.

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

August 5, 2012 Oak Creek, Wis.	A gunman opens fire at a Sikh temple, killing six people and wounding three. Police shot and killed the suspect, Wade Michael Page, after the attack. Page, a neo-Nazi, served in the U.S. Army from 1992 to 1998.
December 11, 2012 Portland, Ore.	Jacob Tyler Roberts, 22, opened fire in the Clackamas Town Center mall, located 11 miles from downtown Portland, Oregon. Using an AR-15 semiautomatic assault rifle, Roberts killed two people and wounded one other. He then took his own life.
December 14, 2012 Newtown, Conn.	Adam Lanza, 20, killed 20 children and six others at the Sandy Hook Elementary School. He killed his mother, Nancy, at her home prior to the massacre at the school. Lanza committed suicide after the rampage. The shooting was the second deadliest in U.S. history, behind the 2007 shooting at Virginia Polytechnic Institute that claimed 32 people.
September 16, 2013 Washington, DC	Former Navy reservist Aaron Alexis, 34, killed 12 people at the Washington Navy Yard, near the U.S. Capitol. He was killed in a shootout with police. Alexis was employed at the base by a military subcontractor.
September 21, 2013 Nairobi, Kenya	Shabab militants, who are based in Somalia, attacked an upscale mall, killing nearly 70 people and wounding about 175. The siege lasted for three days, with persistent fighting between government troops and militants. The attack was meticulously planned, and the militants proved to be challenging for the government to dislodge from the Westgate mall.
October 21, 2013 Sparks, Nevada	A middle-school student shoots and kills Michael Landsberry, a math teacher at Sparks Middle School. The student then shot himself in front of other students.

Columbine High School shootings

Source: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1528263/Columbine-High-School-shootings>

Columbine High School shootings, massacre that occurred on April 20, 1999, at Columbine High School in



Littleton, Colorado, leaving 15 dead, including the two students responsible for the attack. It was one of the deadliest school shooting incidents in American history.

The shootings were carried out by Eric Harris, age 18, and Dylan Klebold, age 17. On April 20, 1999, they entered Columbine High School with semiautomatic rifles, pistols, and several explosives. In less than 20 minutes they killed 12 fellow students and a teacher and wounded 21 others. The violence came to an end when Harris and Klebold took their own lives. Officials later found two propane tank bombs in the cafeteria;

had they detonated, the death toll would have been much higher.

News of the Columbine tragedy stunned the country. There was strong criticism of the slow police response. Despite the fact that the shooting ended by noon, police and sheriff's deputies, believing there was continuing danger, did not move into the shooting area until several more hours had passed, during which time some victims bled to death. In the larger view, the Columbine massacre set off a national debate on how to end gun violence in schools, and a growing number of schools throughout the country invested in private security forces and metal detectors.





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🔴 Multiple fatalities 🟡 One or no fatalities

AK	1 shootings (2 dead)
AL	8 shootings (11 dead)
AR	3 shootings (9 dead)
AZ	5 shootings (8 dead)
CA	69 shootings (86 dead)
CO	6 shootings (22 dead)
CT	4 shootings (29 dead)
DC	9 shootings (10 dead)
DE	2 shootings (2 dead)
FL	21 shootings (21 dead)
GA	12 shootings (13 dead)
IA	3 shootings (3 dead)
IL	19 shootings (25 dead)
IN	2 shootings (2 dead)
KS	1 shootings (2 dead)
KY	4 shootings (12 dead)

MA	13 shootings (12 dead)
MD	5 shootings (9 dead)
MI	16 shootings (19 dead)
MN	4 shootings (10 dead)
MO	8 shootings (7 dead)
MS	4 shootings (4 dead)
MT	1 shootings (1 dead)
NC	10 shootings (9 dead)
NE	2 shootings (2 dead)
NJ	6 shootings (11 dead)
NM	2 shootings (1 dead)
NV	7 shootings (9 dead)
NY	8 shootings (7 dead)
OH	9 shootings (16 dead)
OK	2 shootings (4 dead)
OR	2 shootings (2 dead)

SC	6 shootings (6 dead)
TN	18 shootings (24 dead)
TX	29 shootings (17 dead)
UT	4 shootings (3 dead)
VA	5 shootings (36 dead)
VT	1 shootings (4 dead)
WA	18 shootings (12 dead)
WI	4 shootings (2 dead)
WV	2 shootings (4 dead)
WY	1 shootings (4 dead)

AGE OF VICTIMS

0 - 9	31 (6%)
10 - 19	300 (59%)
20 - 29	80 (16%)
30 - 39	28 (5%)
40 - 49	33 (6%)
50+	38 (7%)

AGE OF SHOOTERS

0 - 9	5 (2%)
10 - 19	168 (69%)
20 - 29	36 (15%)
30 - 39	12 (5%)
40 - 49	14 (6%)
50+	9 (4%)

DEADLIEST U.S. SHOOTINGS

2007-04-16
[Virginia Tech](#)
Blacksburg, VA
33 fatalities

2012-12-14
[Sandy Hook Elementary School](#)
Newtown, CT
28 fatalities

1999-04-20
[Columbine High School](#)
Littleton, CO
15 fatalities

U.S. Statistics

387 SHOOTINGS since 1992

LAST SHOOTINGS

Jan 10, 2013
[Taft Union High School](#)
Taft, CA
0 fatalities

Dec 14, 2012
[Sandy Hook Elementary School](#)
Newtown, CT
28 fatalities

Nov 30, 2012
[Morgan State University](#)
Baltimore, MD
0 fatalities



31 School shooters/school related violence committed by those under the influence of psychiatric drugs

Source: <http://www.cchrint.org/school-shooters/>



At least 31 acts of school-related acts of violence, including mass school shootings, have been committed by individuals taking or withdrawing from psychiatric drugs documented in 22 drug regulatory agency warnings to cause mania, psychosis, hostility, aggression and homicidal ideation.

Fact: At least 31 school shootings and/or school-related acts of violence have been committed by those taking or *withdrawing from* psychiatric drugs resulting in 162 wounded and 72 killed (in other school shootings, information about their drug use was never made public—neither confirming or refuting if they were under the influence of prescribed drugs). The most important fact about this list, is that these are only cases where the

information about their psychiatric drug use was made public. **(See full list below)**

To give an example, although it is known that **James Holmes**, suspected perpetrator of the mass shooting in Aurora, Colorado, was seeing psychiatrist Lynne Fento, it took 9 months for the release of information showing that police had found psychiatric drugs in Holmes apartment—including the anti-anxiety drug clonazepam and the antidepressant sertraline, the generic version of the antidepressant Zoloft.



A legal appeal has been filed calling for the public disclosure of Sandy Hook Shooter Adam Lanza's psychiatric drug history

In other cases, such as Navy Yard shooter **Aaron Alexis**, it took less than 48 hours to ascertain and confirm that Alexis was under the influence of the antidepressant Trazodone. The two cases cited above, aren't in the list of school related acts of violence listed below, but illustrate the broad scope of mass murders and acts of senseless violence committed by those under the influence of psychiatric drugs documented by 22 international drug regulatory agencies to cause violent and psychotic reactions.

In addition, a legal appeal calling on the release of Sandy Hook school shooter Adam Lanza's toxicology reports and medical records to ascertain if he was under the influence of, or in withdrawal from psychiatric drugs is still pending.

One of the most misunderstood concepts by the public and even some legislators, is thinking HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) prevents the release of toxicology reports to the general public in the cases of mass murders/school shooters. This is false. According to HIPAA privacy and security rules, (Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 160 and Subparts A, C and E of Part 164), the only entities bound by HIPAA are: 1) health care providers, 2) health plans, and 3) health care clearinghouses. A state medical examiner releasing toxicology reports does not fall into any of those three categories and thus is exempt from HIPAA.



The below list includes individuals documented to have been under the influence of psychiatric drugs and not only includes mass shootings, but the use of knives, swords and bombs.

22 international drug regulatory agency warnings cite side effects including mania, violence, psychosis and even homicidal ideation.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

1. St. Louis, Missouri – January 15, 2013: 34-year-old Sean Johnson walked onto the Stevens Institute of Business & Arts campus and shot the school's financial aid director once in the chest, then shot himself in the torso. Johnson had been taking prescribed drugs for an undisclosed mental illness.
2. Snohomish County, Washington – October 24, 2011: A 15-year-old girl went to Snohomish High School where police alleged that she stabbed a girl as many as 25 times just before the start of school, and then stabbed another girl who tried to help her injured friend. Prior to the attack the girl had been taking "medication" and seeing a psychiatrist. Court documents said the girl was being treated for depression.
3. Planoise, France – December 13, 2010: A 17-year-old youth held twenty pre-school children and their teacher hostage for hours at Charles Fourier preschool. The teen was reported to be on "medication for depression". He took a classroom hostage with two swords. Eventually, all the children and the teacher were released safely.
4. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina – September 21, 2011: 14-year-old Christian Helms had two pipe bombs in his backpack, when he shot and wounded Socastee High School's "resource" (police) officer. However the officer was able to stop the student before he could do anything further. Helms had been taking drugs for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and depression.
5. Huntsville, Alabama – February 5, 2010: 15-year-old Hammad Memon shot and killed another Discover Middle School student Todd Brown. Memon had a history for being treated for ADHD and depression. He was taking the antidepressant Zoloft and "other drugs for the conditions." He had been seeing a psychiatrist and psychologist.
6. Kauhajoki, Finland – September 23, 2008: 22-year-old culinary student Matti Saari shot and killed 9 students and a teacher, and wounded another student, before killing himself. Saari was taking an SSRI and a benzodiazapine. He was also seeing a psychologist.
7. Fresno, California – April 24, 2008: 17-year-old Jesus "Jesse" Carrizales attacked the Fresno high school's officer, hitting him in the head with a baseball bat. After knocking the officer down, the officer shot Carrizales in self-defense, killing him. Carrizales had been prescribed Lexapro and Geodon, and his autopsy showed that he had a high dose of the antidepressant Lexapro in his blood that could have caused him to be paranoid, according to the coroner.
8. Dekalb, Illinois – February 14, 2008: 27-year-old Steven Kazmierczak shot and killed five people and wounded 21 others before killing himself in a Northern Illinois University auditorium. According to his girlfriend, he had recently been taking Prozac, Xanax and Ambien. Toxicology results showed that he still had trace amount of Xanax in his system. He had been seeing a psychiatrist.
9. Jokela, Finland – November 7, 2007: 18-year-old Finnish gunman Pekka-Eric Auvinen had been taking antidepressants before he killed eight people and wounded a dozen more at Jokela High School in southern Finland, then committed suicide.
10. Texas – November 7, 2007: 17-year-old Felicia McMillan returned to her former Robert E. Lee High School campus and stabbed a male student and wounded the principle with a knife. McMillan had been on drugs for depression, and had just taken them the night before the incident.
11. Cleveland, Ohio – October 10, 2007: 14-year-old Asa Coon stormed through his school with a gun in each hand, shooting and wounding four before taking his own life. Court records show Coon had been placed on the antidepressant Trazodone.
12. Sudbury, Massachusetts – January 19, 2007: 16-year-old John Odgren stabbed another student with a large kitchen knife in a boy's bathroom at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. In court his father testified that Odgren was prescribed the drug Ritalin.
13. North Vernon, Indiana – December 4, 2006: 16-year-old Travis Roberson stabbed another Jennings County High School student in the neck, nearly severing an artery. Roberson was in withdrawal from Wellbutrin, which he had stopped taking days before the attack.
14. Hillsborough, North Carolina – August 30, 2006: 19-year-old Alvaro Rafael Castillo shot and killed his father, then drove to Orange High School where he opened fire. Two students were injured in the shooting, which ended when school personnel tackled him. His mother said he was on drugs for depression.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

15. Chapel Hill, North Carolina – April 2006: 17-year-old William Barrett Foster took a shotgun to school and took a teacher and a fellow student hostage at East Chapel Hill High School. After being talked out of shooting the hostages, Foster fired two shots through a classroom window before fleeing the school on foot. Foster's father testified that his son had stopped taking his antidepressants and antipsychotic drugs without telling him.
16. Red Lake, Minnesota – March 21, 2005: 16-year-old Jeff Weise, on Prozac, shot and killed his grandparents, then went to his school on the Red Lake Indian Reservation where he shot dead 5 students, a security guard, and a teacher, and wounded 7 before killing himself.
17. Greenbush, New York – February 2004: 16-year-old Jon Romano strolled into his high school in east Greenbush and opened fire with a shotgun. Special education teacher Michael Bennett was hit in the leg. Romano had been taking "medication for depression". He had previously seen a psychiatrist.
18. Red Lion, Pennsylvania – February 2, 2001: 56-year-old William Michael Stankewicz entered North Hopewell-Winterstown Elementary School with a machete, leaving three adults and 11 children injured. Stankewicz was taking four different drugs for depression and anxiety weeks before the attacks.
19. Ikeda, Japan – June 8, 2001: 37-year-old Mamoru Takuma, wielding a 6-inch knife, slipped into an elementary school and stabbed eight first- and second-graders to death while wounding at least 15 other pupils and teachers. He then turned the knife on himself but suffered only superficial wounds. He later told interrogators that before the attack he had taken 10 times his normal dose of antidepressants.
20. Wahluke, Washington – April 10, 2001: Sixteen-year-old Cory Baadsgaard took a rifle to his high school and held 23 classmates and a teacher hostage. He had been taking the antidepressant Effexor.
21. El Cajon, California – March 22, 2001: 18-year-old Jason Hoffman, on the antidepressants Celexa and Effexor, opened fire on his classmates, wounding three students and two teachers at Granite Hills High School. He had been seeing a psychiatrist before the shooting.
22. Williamsport, Pennsylvania – March 7, 2001: 14-year-old Elizabeth Bush was taking the antidepressant Prozac when she shot at fellow students, wounding one.
23. Oxnard, California – January 2001: 17-year-old Richard Lopez went to Hueneme High School with a gun and shot twice at a car in the school's parking lot before taking a female student hostage. Lopez was eventually killed by a SWAT officer. He had been prescribed Prozac, Paxil and "drugs that helped him go to sleep."
24. Conyers, Georgia – May 20, 1999: 15-year-old T.J. Solomon was being treated with the stimulant Ritalin when he opened fire on and wounded six of his classmates.
25. Columbine, Colorado – April 20, 1999: 18-year-old Eric Harris and his accomplice, Dylan Klebold, killed 12 students and a teacher and wounded 26 others before killing themselves. Harris was on the antidepressant Luvox. Klebold's medical records remain sealed. Both shooters had been in anger-management classes and had undergone counseling. Harris had been seeing a psychiatrist before the shooting.
26. Notus, Idaho – April 16, 1999: 15-year-old Shawn Cooper fired two shotgun rounds in his school, narrowly missing students. He was taking a prescribed antidepressant and Ritalin.
27. Springfield, Oregon – May 21, 1998: 15-year-old Kip Kinkel murdered his parents and then proceeded to school where he opened fire on students in the cafeteria, killing two and wounding 25. Kinkel had been taking the antidepressant Prozac. Kinkel had been attending "anger control classes" and was under the care of a psychologist.
28. Blackville, South Carolina – October 12, 1995: 15-year-old Toby R. Sincino slipped into the Blackville-Hilda High School's rear entrance, where he shot two Blackville-Hilda High School teachers, killing one. Then Toby killed himself moments later. His aunt, Carolyn McCreary, said he had been undergoing counseling with the Department of Mental Health and was taking Zoloft for emotional problems.
29. Chelsea, Michigan – December 17, 1993: 39-year-old chemistry teacher Stephen Leith, facing a disciplinary matter at Chelsea High School, shot Superintendent Joseph Piasecki to death, shot Principal Ron Mead in the leg, and slightly wounded journalism teacher Phil Jones. Leith was taking Prozac and had been seeing a psychiatrist.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

30. Houston, Texas – September 18, 1992: 44-year-old Calvin Charles Bell, reportedly upset about his second-grader's progress report, appeared in the principal's office of Piney Point Elementary School. Bell fired a gun in the school, and eventually wounded two officers before surrendering. Relatives told police on Friday that Bell was an unemployed Vietnam veteran and had been taking anti-depressants.
31. Winnetka, Illinois – 20 May 1988: 30-year-old Laurie Wasserman Dann walked into a second grade classroom at Hubbard Woods School in Winnetka, Illinois carrying three pistols and began shooting children, killing an eight-year-old boy, and wounding five others before fleeing. She entered a nearby house where she shot and wounded a 20-year-old man before killing herself. Dann had been seeing a psychiatrist and subsequent blood tests revealed that at the time of the killings, she was taking the antidepressant Anafranil.

National Threat Assessment Center – Secret Service Safe School Initiative

Source: http://www.secretservice.gov/ntac_ssi.shtml

In 2002, the U.S. Secret Service completed the Safe School Initiative, a study of school shootings and other school-based attacks that was conducted in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education. The study examined school shootings in the United States as far back as 1974, through the end of the school year in 2000, analyzing a total of 37 incidents involving 41 student attackers. The study involved extensive review of police records, school records, court documents, and other source materials, and included interviews with 10 school shooters. The focus of the study was on developing information about the school shooters's pre-attack behaviors and communications. The goal was to identify information about a school shooting that may be identifiable or noticeable before the shooting occurs, to help inform efforts to prevent school-based attacks.

The study found that school shootings are rarely impulsive acts. Rather, they are typically thought out and planned out in advance. In addition, prior to most shootings other kids knew the shooting was to occur - but did not alert an adult. Very few of the attackers, however, ever directed threats to their targets before the attack. The study findings also revealed that there is no "profile" of a school shooter; instead, the students who carried out the attacks differed from one another in numerous ways. However, almost every attacker had engaged in behavior before the shooting that seriously concerned at least one adult - and for many had concerned three or more different adults.

The findings from the study suggest that some school attacks may be preventable, and that students can play an important role in prevention efforts. Using the study findings, the Secret Service and Department of Education have modified the Secret Service threat assessment approach for use in schools - to give school and law enforcement professionals tools for investigating threats in school, managing situations of concern, and creating safe school climates.

At the completion of the Safe School Initiative, the Secret Service and Department of Education published two reports that detail the study findings and lay out a process for threat assessment in schools:

- [Final Report and Findings:](#)
Implications for Prevention of School Attacks in the United States
pdf - 185 Kb
- [Threat Assessment in Schools:](#)
A Guide to Managing Threatening Situations and to Creating Safe School Climates
pdf - 271 Kb
- [Press Release:](#)
U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Department of Education Release CD-ROM Based on the Safe School Initiative
pdf - 83.5 Kb



How Russian Schools Deal With Terrorism

Source: <http://pri.org/stories/2011-09-08/how-russian-schools-deal-terrorism>



Victims of Beslan school siege in 2004 (Photo: Aaron Bird/Wiki Commons)

Russia has long been battling an Islamist insurgency in the country's Northern Caucasus region, which includes Chechnya, Ingushetia and Dagestan. The Kremlin has fought two separatist wars in Chechnya. There are near-daily attacks on police and government officials there.

And not infrequently, the violence spills over into Russian cities.

"Our teachers tell us that we have to be careful, of course. And our teachers tell us that we have to see the face and try to be so careful," said student Anastasia Zavyalova.

Zavyalova sits on a bench near a playground in central Moscow. Her pretty blue eyes become as huge as saucers when she describes the type of person she's learned to steer clear of at all costs.

"Avoid the people of Caucasus. They have black dresses; we can notice it in their eyes. We were very afraid, these people were very bad; they wanted to kill Russian girls and Russian children," said Zavyalova.

Many analysts and the government opposition blame the situation in the Caucasus — and the resulting violence in Russian cities — on the Kremlin's oppressive approach to its former republics. The government maintains that a hard hand is needed to keep rebels and insurgents from their main goal of killing innocent people.

Back on the playground bench Zavyalova says she often asks her teachers why Russians should avoid people from the northern Caucasus. She says their response is very well, Soviet — in other words, no explanation is given.

"No history. Really no history. Because we have situation. This is our problem and our teachers say we have to avoid them. They are bad. Not why," said Zavyalova.

"How we find truth?" asked 17-year old Maxim Titov. "I read historical books sometimes or in Internet. I do my own opinions about this."

Titov says you can't really rely on Russian teachers to explain why these horrible acts of terrorism keep happening here in the former Soviet Union. There's no historical context at all.

Titov might not be too far off. Many analysts say educators are still using the same teaching methods as during Soviet times when the Kremlin dictated how history was to be interpreted.

Fifteen-year-old John Rose, whose father is American, couldn't agree more. He says when the country's largest airport, Domodedovo, located just outside of Moscow, was the target of a suicide bombing in January, he was told to suit up and get ready to fight.



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"They took us to this subbasement at school. It was probably a bunker at some point. They had us assembling and disassembling Kalashnikov rifles. So apparently Russian junior high school students are the last line of defense against a terrorist threat," said Rose.

That's right, a "teachable moment" tossed aside and in its place students learned how to fight back.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has made it no secret that Russian education is the pits. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, teaching standards have fallen due to corruption, a lack of funding, outdated textbooks and an often-uneducated workforce.

Until changes are made, many of the country's children are left to learn the way their Soviet-era parents did; just do what you're told and don't ask too many questions.

Student John Rose says at least he has a good sense of humor about it. When he told his mother about his shooting adventures, his mom said it could have been worse. She explained what she'd been taught as a young girl.

"In the event of an atomic explosion, the first thing you should do is hold rifle away from you so that it doesn't melt on your government issued boots. If you're not going to live, at least make sure your boots do," said Rose.

'Boy bomber plots school massacre': Brit teen accused of terrorist plan after FBI tip-off UK cops

13 Dec 2012

Source: <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/boy-bomber-plots-school-massacre-1487471>

Police are investigating claims a boy of 16 planned to massacre pupils at his school and then commit suicide.

The British teenager is believed to have been arrested after showing off homemade bombs online and America's FBI told police here.

Officers are said to have found explosives at his home and a notebook with a list of pupils' names under the heading Must Die.

Police are investigating the claim the teenager, who cannot be named for legal reasons, also produced detailed seating plans of classrooms at his school.

Each pupil's name was reportedly listed next to their desk with the letter X, S or N – for Kill, Save or Neutral.

Other notebooks are said to reveal plans to kill himself, with one entry reading: "It's time to start planning my suicide."

It is said that his home was raided in February after the FBI was made aware he had posed with firearms photos in internet video chat room Omegle.

They traced his IP address – the computer equivalent of a fingerprint – to the property.

The boy is said to have built a homemade pipe bomb and bought explosive ingredients off the internet using his father's cash and PayPal account.

It is said that investigating police found amounts of sulphur and potassium nitrate which are some of the main ingredients needed to make gunpowder.

It is believed the schoolboy, who suffers from an acute form of the autism disorder Asperger syndrome, was interested in "lone wolf" serial killers.

He is said to have written to Muswell Hill murderer Dennis Nilsen, 67, who is in jail for killing and dismembering 15 young men in London between 1978 and 1983.

Police who swooped on the boy's home after the FBI tip-off seized computers believed to have contained 20 extremist e-books, including The Terrorist Handbook, Recipes for Disaster: An Anarchist Cookbook and instruction manuals on bomb-making and weapons.

Officers are probing claims the hard drives also held al-Qaeda propaganda and Manga-style cartoons depicting images of child abuse.

A 16-year-old boy appeared in court yesterday charged with possessing explosives, indecent images and terrorism offences.

He was arrested at his family home in Bugbrooke, Northants, in February this year and has since been detained under the Mental Health Act.

Appearing at Westminster magistrates court in London, he was bailed on condition he remains in a medium secure unit in the Midlands until his next court hearing next month.



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ACTIVE SHOOTER: HANDBOOK ON PREVENTION

Joshua Sinai, Ph.D.

This handbook is intended to provide all those involved in public safety a comprehensive understanding of this threat and how to respond, manage and, if possible, prevent it. Included is a self-assessment checklist tool for public safety personnel to ensure they are prepared to respond in terms of protective procedures, systems, and training.



105 pp., 2012, SCVR

Item No. 2040

\$49

\$34 members

Also available on Kindle from *Amazon.com*.

PROTECTING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES FROM TERRORISM

Lt. Colonel Jeffrey A. Adams (US Army, Ret.)
and Dr. Joshua Sinai

This guide will provide administrators and teachers with the security framework to ensure that their facilities and students are properly protected against a terrorist attack; whether biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear, explosive devices, or by other means. University administrators and teachers will learn the necessary preventative measures to ensure that their campuses and students are properly protected.



120 pp., 2003, SCVR

Item No. 1546

\$43

\$30 members

This item is also available on Kindle from *Amazon.com*.

www.asisonline.org/asis-store

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THE HANDBOOK FOR CAMPUS THREAT ASSESSMENT & MANAGEMENT TEAMS

Gene Deisinger, Ph.D., Marisa Randazzo, Ph.D., Daniel O'Neill, and Jenna Savage

This book provides a straight-forward, research-supported approach to helping universities and colleges understand and develop threat assessment and management teams. It contains useful checklists, a quick reference guide, sample policies and procedures, and additional violence prevention resources. It is a must-read for college leaders and personnel responsible for mitigating behavioral challenges.



170 pp., 2009, SCVR Item No. 1910 \$53 \$48 members

MANAGING SPONTANEOUS COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS IN DISASTERS: A FIELD MANUAL

Lisa Orloff

Combining research and field experience, this book makes a strong case as to why community involvement in disaster response has a positive impact on a community's resilient recovery. It explains how to engage, train, and utilize spontaneous unaffiliated community volunteers. Protocols and flexible management solutions are outlined to ensure safe and effective planning and execution.



323 pp., 2011, SCVR Item No. 1979 \$87 \$79 members

www.asisonline.org/asis-store

Bullied schoolboy, 16, 'plotted British Columbine-style massacre targeting schools, mosques, cinemas and 19 teachers and pupils'

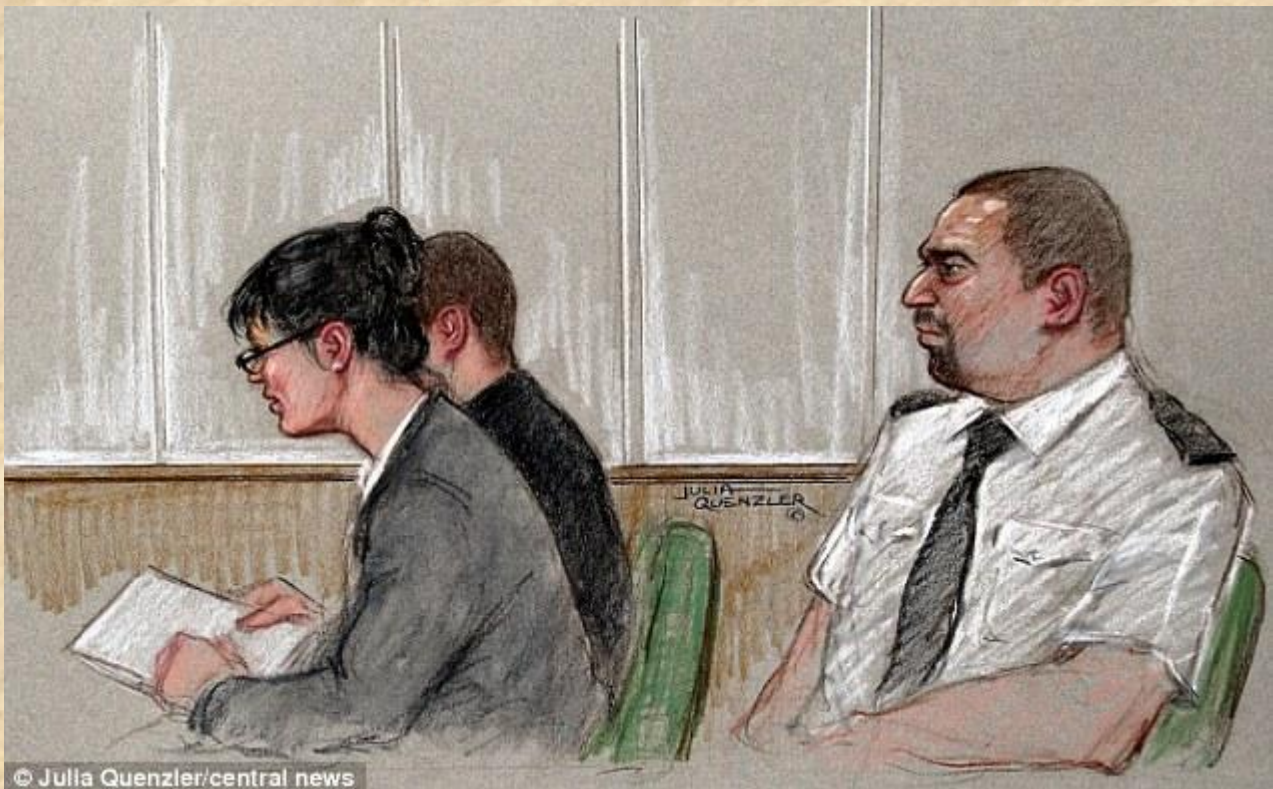
2 October 2013

Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2441583/Bullied-schoolboy-16-plotted-Columbine-style-massacre-Loughborough.html>

A schoolboy plotted to carry out a 'new Columbine massacre' – bombing schools, a university, mosque and cinema, a court has heard.

The neo-Nazi fanatic stockpiled an arsenal of weapons at his home in Loughborough, including pipe bombs, petrol bombs, air rifles and a crossbow in preparation for a wave of atrocities, the Old Bailey heard.

The boy, who was 16 when he was arrested, is accused of planning to unleash terror at a sixth-form college where he was studying A-levels and a former school where he had been bullied.



Terror trial: The suspect, who cannot be named so his face is hidden, is accused of stockpiling weapons to Columbine-style massacre in Loughborough

Other targets were said to have included Loughborough University, a mosque, a cinema and council offices.

In a notebook covered with swastikas, the boy, who suffers from Asperger's syndrome, allegedly wrote how he would 'enter each classroom taking out the teachers; use explosives to eliminate most of the students'.

Inspired by the mass shooting at Columbine High School in 1999 in which two teenagers murdered 13 classmates in Colorado, the boy is said to have compiled a 'hitlist' of 19 teachers and pupils in his notebook under the heading 'Plans and Tactics for Operation the New Columbine'.

And giving evidence today, the boy's former science teacher told the court he would look at weapons on the internet while at school, and even asked which weapon he would like to be shot with.



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The teacher, who cannot be named for legal reasons, said: 'He was encouraging me to look at the guns and make some sort of judgment about whether it was a good gun.

'He asked me which gun I would prefer to be shot with. The message - which I took to as an empty threat at the time - was he was considering a shooting.'

The teacher claimed that the student would launch 'tirades' against particular religions, aiming his abuse mainly at the Muslim and Jewish faiths, as well as targeting a pupil with German grandparents.

He said: 'Instances of racism, tirades - long, drawn out - which were frankly painful to listen to. He seemed to believe that people of the Muslim religion did not have a place in this country.'

'He said, 'I f*****g hate Muslims' and expressed a desire to blow up a mosque.'

The teacher added: 'He was aware I'm a chemistry teacher. He also liked to ask about explosives which I did not get involved with because I do not want to be the one to teach someone how to commit an atrocity.'

The teenager also claimed to have gone to an English Defence League (EDL) march and asked the teacher if he had attended, the court heard.

'I can only guess that he takes pleasure in humiliating and trying to intimidate with such a remark,' said the teacher.

When police raided the accused's home in February this year they were shocked to find terrorist manuals and an astonishing array of weapons in the bedroom of 'an average young man in an average house'.

They found partially assembled petrol bombs, pipe bombs and other explosive devices, pyrotechnic fuse cords, a stab proof vest, a gas mask, three .22 rifles, two .22 blank firing pistols, three ball-bearing guns, a crossbow and a military belt.

The teenager, who is now 17, cannot be named for legal reasons, had a giant swastika flag above his bed and was a member of the extremist English Defence League.

Jurors heard yesterday how he fantasised about mass killings in disturbing recordings and a notebook covered with swastikas, alongside the words 'EDL no surrender British and proud' and the mantra: 'When order fails, violence prevails'.

Jurors were shown extracts said to outline his plans. The boy allegedly wrote: 'Before we go into school gates, enter K block and chain both exits shut.

'Enter each classroom taking out the teachers. Use explosives to eliminate most of the students.'

The defendant also drew a stick figure with arrows showing where weapons and explosives would be concealed inside a trench coat for his 'operation', the court heard.

On other pages he described filling a can of fuel with nails, screws and ball bearings before lighting it with a rag or an electrical connection wired to a phone.

On a Dictaphone he allegedly recorded himself saying: 'I think soon I'm going to be doing some tests. Test some explosive maybe.

'So I know what is easiest to make, most effective and reliable. I think I'm going to make a pipe bomb cause they sound pretty easy and testing these things will tell me the amount of stuff I need to carry out the operation.'

On a later recording he said: "How the **** could anyone treat a fellow person like people's treated me. That's a

question you want to be asking, that's what drives people to do this. Look at all the ***** things in the past ... Columbine, Virginia Tech, numbers of others. All because of bullying and how people are treated.'



Plan: Targets were alleged to include Loughborough University and five other sites in the area

The notebook contained essays on his apparent hatred of Muslims.



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He allegedly wrote: 'There's too many Muslims in the UK and Europe, so we must stop them coming over here and send the ones already over here back home before they take over European governments and put Sharia Law in place.'

Jurors were shown videos of the then 16-year-old and two friends, who dubbed themselves the United Revolutionary Army, making bombs out of white spirit and bottles.

The balaclava-dad gang throw them at a wall at the back of the property, causing a short burst of flames.

Max Hill QC, prosecuting, said: 'He is talking about British people rising up and fighting Islamic fascism that is sweeping the world.'

'He is a member of the EDL Leicester division and a supporter of the Knights Templar, which we suggest are far-right wing British National movements.'

The defendant, dressed in a black T-shirt, sat slumped in the dock yesterday with his head bowed.

He is said to have targeted the Reel Cinema in Loughborough because of 'the attitude of the staff and the prices', the court heard.

He listed Loughborough council offices because of an apparent grievance with a Pakistani member of staff.

Mr Hill said: 'For an average young man in an average house, the list [of weapons] you may think is startling. Child's play?'

'You will be considering whether he is just a misfit, or whether he is something altogether more sinister.'

The boy denies possessing items for terrorism and possessing a terror manual, the 'Mujahideen Poisons Handbook'.

He has admitted possession of petrol bombs and pipe bombs but denies having parts for making improvised explosive devices.

The trial continues.



CHURCH EXTREME VIOLENCE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND PREPAREDNESS

By The Editor-in-Chief

INTRODUCTION

There are over 300,000 churches in the U.S. today with an average of 1,500 mega churches with an attendance of 2,000.00 or more; non-Christian religious congregations are estimated at about 12,000.

It is common to classify churches according to the size of people attending services to:

- Mega churches (MCs) – Average weekend attendance more than 2,000 people (Houston: 25 MCs)
- Large churches (LCs) – Average weekend attendance between 301 and 2,000 people (Houston: 13 LCs)
- Medium churches (MdCs) – Average weekend attendance between 51 and 300 people (Houston: 44 MdCs)
- Small churches (SCs) – Average weekend attendance fewer than 50 people (Houston: 30 SCs)

(Source: <http://www.usachurches.org>)

Approximate distribution of U.S. Protestant and other Christian churches by size based on National Congregations Study (excluding Catholic/Orthodox)

ATTENDANCE	# OF CHURCHES	WEEKLY WORSHIPERS	PERCENT
7-99	177,000	9 million	59%
100-499	105,000	25 million	35%
500-999	12,000	9 million	4%
1,000-1,999	6,000	8 million	2%
2,000-9,999	1,170	4 million	.4%
10,000-plus	40	.7 million	.01%
TOTALS	approx. 300,000	approx. 56 million	100%

Source: http://hrr.hartsem.edu/research/fastfacts/fast_facts.html



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

Major US Church violence incidents

June 22, 1980**First Baptist Church
Daingerfield, Texas****Death toll: 5**

A gunman attacked the Sunday morning service, coming through the sanctuary doors, yelling “this is war,” and firing into the congregation. He killed a seven-year-old girl, an adult woman, and three adult men in the shooting, which lasted barely one minute.

March 10, 1999**New St. John Baptist Church
Gonzales, Louisiana****Death toll: 4**

On a Wednesday an estranged husband with a gun killed his wife’s mother at her home then drove to the church, where he walked into the evening service. When the gunman’s two-year-old son said, “Daddy,” the gunman said, “Boy, don’t call me daddy now,” and killed him. He then killed his wife and a young man sitting nearby.

September 15, 1999**Wedgwood Baptist Church
Fort Worth, Texas****Death toll: 9**

A man, distraught over his father’s death, drove to what appeared to be a random location choice where a See You at the Pole celebration rally was being held. He shot his first victim while walking in the lobby doors, asking, “Is this where that (expletive deleted) prayer meeting is going on?” He killed two seminary students, a member of the church staff, and four teenagers before taking his own life.

March 12, 2005**Living Church of God
Brookfield, Wisconsin****Death toll: 8**

Angry at his pastor’s sermon, a man left the Sunday morning service and came back in shooting. He killed the pastor and six others before killing himself.

August 28, 2005**Sash Assembly of God Church
Sash, Texas****Death toll: 4**

A neighbor of the church walked up to a deacon in the parking lot, whom he shot and killed. He then shot and killed the pastor who was standing nearby. As he fled the scene, he shot and killed two women who had stopped on a road to check their horse trailer.

May 21, 2006**Ministry of Jesus Christ Church
Baton Rouge, Louisiana****Death toll: 5; 1 injured**

An estranged husband attacked his wife in church, killing four others as he stormed into the service. He kidnapped his wife out of the church and killed her at another location. He also shot and critically wounded the pastor.

December 9, 2007**YWAM (Arvada) and New Life Church (Colorado Springs)
Arvada and Colorado Springs, Colorado****Death toll: 4 + 6**

In the early morning hours, 24-year-old Matthew J. Murray opened fire at the Youth With A Mission training center in Arvada, Colorado, with a pistol, killing two and wounding two others before escaping. Later that afternoon, he attacked the New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado,



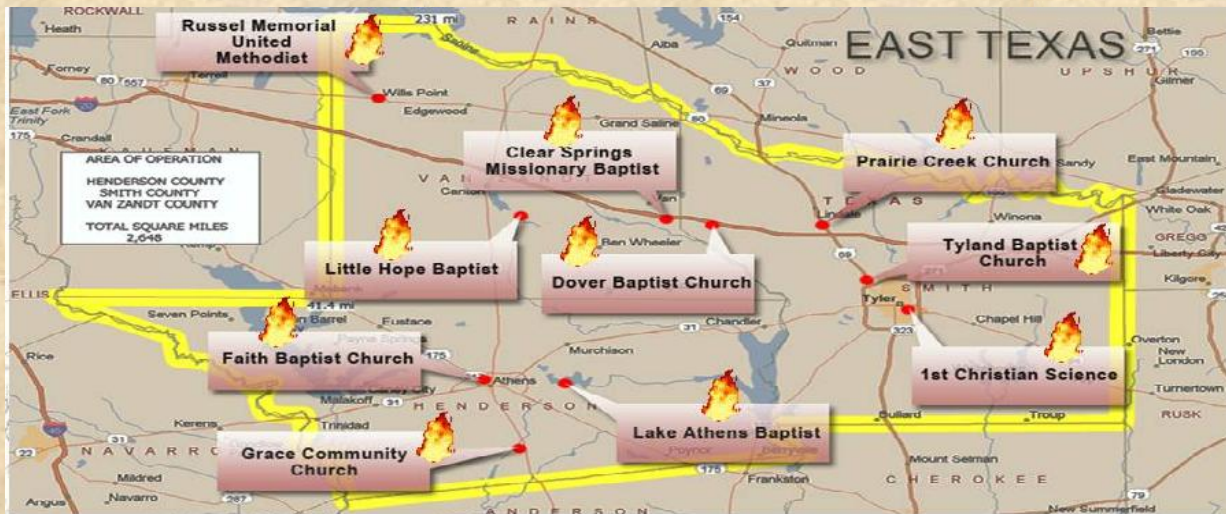
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with a number of firearms, killing two more people and injuring three before being shot and wounded by a former Minneapolis police officer; he then committed suicide.

April 13, 2010

East Texas

No more church arsons have been reported since the arrest of Jason Robert Bourque and Daniel McAllister who are charged with the East Texas fires. String of attacks caused many religious leaders to rethink the security of their church facilities



Source: <http://thebells.umhb.edu/2010/04/13/church-security-evaluated/>

March 31, 2013

Hiawatha Church of God

Death toll: 1

Ashtabula, Ohio

25 year old Reshad Riddle fatally shoots his father, 52 year old Richard Riddle, with a single shot from a handgun.

Deadly Force Incidents (DFI's) at Faith-Based Organizations in the United States (includes abductions, attacks, suspicious deaths, suicides and deadly force intervention / protection)		
DATA CURRENT for time period 1/1/1999 through 6/23/13	NUM	%
TOTAL DFI's (Deadly Force Incidents)	679	
NUMBER OF DFI's WHERE THE "ATTACK RESULTED IN DEATH OF OTHERS" (ARDO)	265	39.03%

Source: http://www.carlchinn.com/Church_Security_Concepts.html

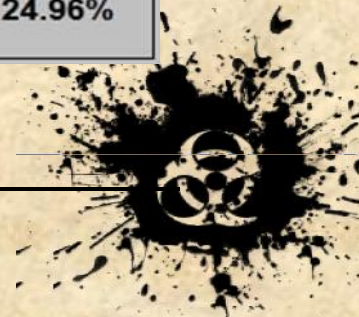


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Total known (generally accepted as known) attack triggers		535
Domestic Spillover (Domestic relationship violence that found it's way onto ministry property and resulted in a DFI)	88	16.45%
Personal Conflict (disagreement between 2 or more un-domestic-related people that erupted into a deadly force incident)	81	15.14%
Robbery	122	22.80%
Gang related (Gang or potential gang related that included drugs are in drugs category)	60	11.21%
Confirmed drug related	11	2.06%
Confirmed mental illness	49	9.16%
Religious Bias (against any form of religion)	39	7.29%
Random and other (including rare triggers)	85	15.89%
Number of DFI's occurring based upon the TOP 3 known single issue triggers -- (Domestic Violence, Personal conflict and robbery)	291	54.39%

Total incident weapons known (some attacks had more than one weapon)	706	%
Gun	416	58.92%
Knife (or other stabbing weapon)	121	17.14%
Auto	25	3.54%
Explosives (includes Molotov Cocktails)	42	5.95%
Other (poison, beating, hanging, fire, various objects)	102	14.45%

Aggressor Statistics		
Total known (even if known only by description) aggressors	677	
Male	624	92.17%
Female	53	7.83%
Affiliated (member, past member, employee, volunteer) with ministry	169	24.96%



Victim Statistics (not including suicide)		
Total killed and injured	807	
Killed	347	43.00%
Injured	460	57.00%
Male victims (killed)	216	62.25%
Female victims (killed)	131	37.75%
Affiliated (employee or volunteer) with ministry (killed)	104	29.97%
Victims who were participants at the ministry (killed)	196	56.48%

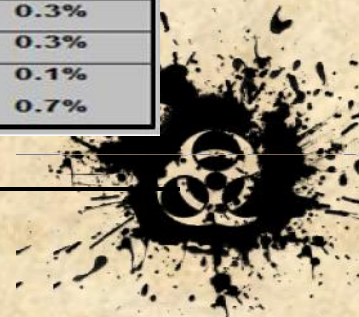
Total aggressors (including those without even a description) and their status	806	
Suicide	68	8.44%
KIA	25	3.10%
Arrested	428	53.10%
Unknown or at-large	285	35.36%

Incident Statistics		
Occurred inside the building	224	33.43%
Occurred outside on ministry property or activity location	446	66.57%
Occurred during event	274	40.96%
Occurred in off hours	395	59.04%
Single attacker	393	71.98%
Multiple attackers	153	28.02%

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Total deadly force incident stats by year		
Year	Total deaths (Homicide, suicide, unsolved suspicious and aggressors killed in action)	Total Incidents
1999	22	10
2000	9	6
2001	4	6
2002	12	10
2003	10	8
2004	3	4
2005	19	10
2006	30	27
2007	39	41
2008	50	64
2009	54	108
2010	52	102
2011	48	107
2012	75	135
2013	13	41
TOTAL DEADLY FORCE DEATHS and INCIDENTS SINCE 1/01/1999	440	679

Where attacks occurred by denomination	Number of incidents	Percentage
Baptist	151	21.9%
Non-denominational	137	19.9%
Catholic	105	15.2%
Methodist	45	6.5%
Parachurch organizations	30	4.4%
Lutheran	27	3.9%
Presbyterian	24	3.5%
Church of Christ	19	2.8%
Mormon (LDS)	19	2.8%
Episcopal	18	2.6%
Church of God / COGIC	17	2.5%
Jewish	13	1.9%
Christian Church (the denomination)	13	1.9%
Pentecostal	10	1.5%
Assembly of God	9	1.3%
Islamic	9	1.3%
Christian Orthodox (Including Greek and others)	8	1.2%
Foreign Ethnic houses of Worship in U.S.	6	0.9%
Unitarian	4	0.6%
Evangelical Free	3	0.4%
Jehovah's Witness	4	0.6%
Nazarene	3	0.4%
7th Day Adventist	2	0.3%
Buddhist	2	0.3%
Foursquare	2	0.3%
Scientology	1	0.1%
Other	5	0.7%



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Church security concerns

- Violent incidents
- Disruptive incidents
- Missing children
- Domestic violence on church premises
- Medical emergencies
- Weather emergencies
- Lockdowns and evacuations

Security strategies

- **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design**
 - ↳ manipulating the built environment such as landscape designs,
 - ↳ natural surveillance, and using structures to divert or influence flow;
- **Physical security monitoring**
 - ↳ alarms, cameras, access control;
- **Security/terrorism awareness training** for faith leaders;
- **Establish a security committee** that produces preparedness plans; and
- **Foster positive relationships with local law enforcement**

Critical security tips overview

1. **Background Checks (volunteers) – complete background checks through experienced firms**
 - ↳ Searches don't look beyond national databases into county criminal records, social security records or maiden name records
 - 9% of church volunteers and staff has a flagged profile; 4% have criminal histories;
 - Child abuse in churches: 90% of sexual predators not being in any criminal database
2. **Check-in System – a secure check in system for children & events**
 - ↳ Computer check-in system; name tags; children delivery protocol; medical info
3. **Aggressive Friendliness – training to intervene with difficult people politely**
 - ↳ A de-escalation technique aimed at gently confronting the individual in a non-threatening way.
4. **Emergency Action Plan – steps to identify, evaluate and respond to an emergency**
 - Medical Emergencies
 - Power Outages
 - Evacuation Plans
 - Bomb Threats
 - Fire Drills
 - Lock Down Procedures
 - Security
 - Coordination Training
5. **Triage Teams – recruit paramedics, doctors & nurses for medical situations**
 - ↳ Small volunteer teams of doctors, nurses and paramedics (local response or dial 9-1-1)
6. **ERT kits – Emergency Response Team kits to be used in case of emergency**
 - ↳ ERT kits should include large, reflective vests, powerful flashlights, additional emergency radios, and building maps;
 - By placing emergency response team kits at strategic locations around the campus, distribution is made easier in the midst of an emergency
 - ↳ Is your First Aid Kit a modern one? – new materials can save lives before paramedics arrive!
7. **Communications – command and control for instant communications and coordination**
 - ↳ Two-way radio systems over cell phones because the radios are not dependent upon cell



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towers or keeping an up-to-date list of cell phone numbers;
Do not have one in place? Provide bullhorns to key security team leaders

CHURCH “X” (randomly selected from the Internet – somewhere in the world)

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT



External description of the church :

Borders



Front side :



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Left side :
 Right and back sides :
 Access :

Risk assessment

Both “Entrance” and “Exit” roads are free open access roads without any barrier or chain during non working hours – especially during the night. Church is surrounded by trees and bushes neighboring houses. Opposite the main road there is non inhabited area and behind that there is a public road.



“Entrance” Road



“Exit” Road

Proposal

Install fencing around the church (in the parts not secured by neighboring houses that are fenced) with two gates with locks (entrance and exit). This will define borders, make access more difficult (but not impossible), create a more safe overall environment for children that might escape attention of parents or staff and might attract attention of passing by cars if an intruder attempts to override them.

Alternative proposals

- Install a chain and a locker on poles in both roads.

Buildings/structures within premises

Inside church’s premises there is a orthogonal structure (could be a storage facility) and a “gamma-shaped” parking lot.

Risk assessment

Proposals

External area lighting/AC units

On the building :
 Parking lot : not visible

Risk assessment

Is existing lighting adequate? (night visibility study required to reveal gaps and additions needed)
 External lighting is operated: manually or via photocell/timer (?); the latter is suggested in order to avoid human negligence.



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Are parking lots safe after dawn?
Is there an external emergency power generator?

Proposals

- Install additional external lighting – preferably big halogen lights – in the areas described above; motion/night activated lights are proposed;
- Connect external lights with a timer or a photo-cell to eliminate the human factor
- Cage all external AC units properly



Emergency power generator

Availability:

Risk assessment

Certain security measures require continuous electric power (alarm system, CCTV, external lighting; same applies for internal security lighting (during the night), refrigerators and computing systems.

Proposal

An adequate external power generator (preferably petrol operated) is highly recommended. Generator should be in protected spot and securely caged.

BUILDING ASSESSMENT

Floors

- Ground floor : (description)
- First floor : is there an indoor balcony overlooking church's indoor area (under the dome)?

Entrances

Number:

Windows

Number:

Risk assessment

Description and quality of doors and windows.

Proposals

Implementing security films on all ground windows and door parts will harden these structures to a certain point enough to confront breaking threats. Windows covered with anti-vandalism films can still be broken from the inside in case of an internal fire and need to escape through windows. Apart from breaking, specially trimmed windows protect also against natural phenomena and even secondary effects of blasts or explosions close to the premises of the church. Remove all outdoor items that can be used to break a window – i.e. rocks, poles, bricks etc. Breaking film windows can be done either with special small hammers or with a small axe or other sharp pole.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)**Alarm and CCTV systems**

Availability and function.

Risk assessment

Both systems are commonly used to notify and alarm. In certain occasions might give enough time to notify police are take some preventive measures – i.e. lock doors or move to safer rooms. They also notify intruders that they might face other security barriers or resistance. For the non dedicated, non-professional they are a good reason to reschedule or abort.

Proposal

A perimeter alarm system (intrusion, volumetric) is highly recommended. Same for a CCTV network with ability to record continuously for at least 48hrs. Alarm system should be connected with local police and fire department (non-working hours) and have a “panic” button (working hours). Warning signs need to be placed on windows, doors and around the church informing people that these systems are “on” and operable.

**Alternative proposal**

Since intrusion and robbery is a “mind game”, fake external cameras (photo) with flashing red light, alarm boxes and related stickers might create the impression that these systems are real and for a small fraction of overall cost. This might be a good solution



for the occasional amateur intruder but will not work out for the experienced “professional” one. High quality fake cameras can be quite confusing while real alarm boxes add truth to the misleading security environment. It is highly probably that those bearing intrusion thoughts might reconsider and look for an alternative target.

INDOORS ASSESSMENT

(need personal inspection of premises)

Chapel is divided into the following sections/areas:

- Most probably, during Sunday ceremony many people are moving in the premises of the church. There should be a reception area leading to the main church room. It would be a good idea to inform visitors that they have to leave big bags or backpacks at the reception – to be delivered upon departure.
- You must also update or reconsider your “gun policy”. Unfortunately you cannot make an omelet without breaking the eggs. Depending on your decision a related sign should be placed in various areas of your premises with high visibility. (See also Appendix D)



APPENDIX A

FIRST AID KIT

First Aid Kit

Content sufficient for minor injuries

Existing First Aid Kit is sufficient to address only usual minor injuries that happen to daily life such as superficial lacerations, abrasions, bruises, etc. In that respect the following items will help you deal with these emergencies:

- Pairs of latex or other sterile gloves (vinyl) if you are allergic to latex (different sizes 7-8);
- Sterile dressings to stop bleeding;
- Cleansing agent/soap and antibiotic towelettes;
- Antibiotic ointment;
- Burn ointment;
- Adhesive bandages in a variety of sizes;
- Triangle bandages for upper extremities injuries;
- Eye wash solution to flush the eyes or as general decontaminant;
- Thermometer – preferably electronic (plus batteries);
- Prescription medications (for staff only) such as insulin, heart medicine and asthma inhalers. You should periodically rotate medicines to account for expiration dates.
- Prescribed medical supplies such as glucose and blood pressure monitoring equipment and supplies

Non-prescription drugs:

- Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever;
- Anti-diarrhea medication;
- Antacid
- Laxative

Other first aid supplies:

- Scissors;
- Tweezers;
- Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant

Content sufficient for major injuries

The ordinary first aid kit is not suitable for life threatening conditions such as extremities' bleeding, pneumothorax or open wounds resulted from gun shots or stabbing etc. For using this material training by medical staff is necessary in order intervention to be effective.

Lack of proper first aid equipment might cost lives in a case of a severe violence incident within church's premises while waiting local ambulance service. In case of a big scale event or in a nature provoked catastrophe usual response times might not be able to follow and this might put lives into danger. It is well known that through war injuries/wounds' history approximately 95% of deaths are attributed to extremities' bleeding and thorax trauma (i.e. pneumothorax).

Proposal

With the aid of volunteer medical/nursing professionals you can create a modern first aid kit by using equipment successfully tested in military operations.

Three key components should be included: (1) haemostatic gauges (i.e. QuikClot or Celox); (2) haemostatic tourniquet (i.e. (i.e. Combat Application Tourniquet – CAT) and (3) chest seals (i.e. Asherman Chest Seals). These products together with usual first aid kit content might proved valuable in case of severe wounding and might buy you time until the more organized ambulance service arrive on the spot.





QuikClot



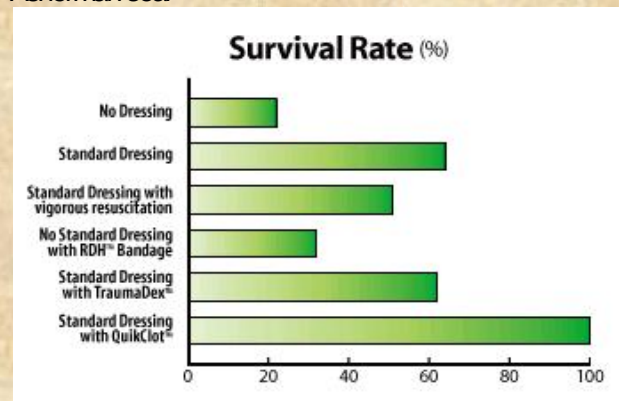
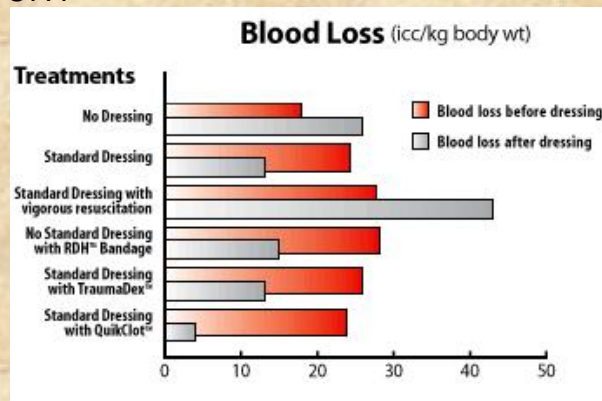
Celox



G-A-T



Asherman seal



Blood loss and survival rate following application of QuikClot dressings



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More information about these products:

QuikClot

<http://www.z-medica.com/>

Celox

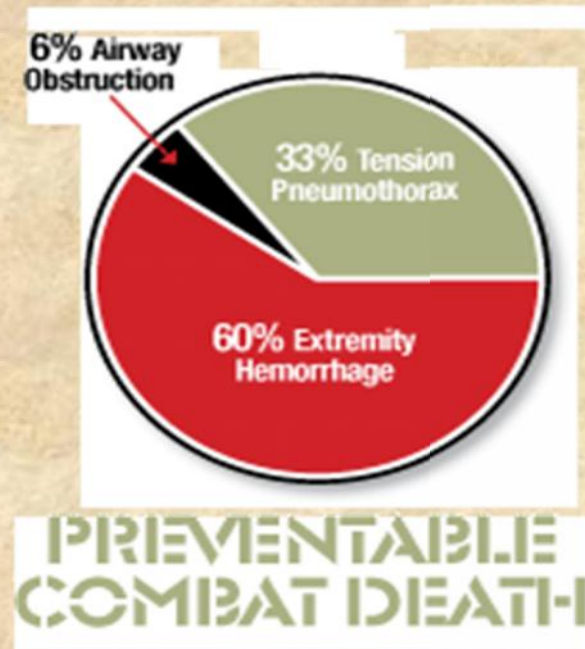
<http://www.celoxmedical.com/>

Combat Application *Tourniquet* (C-A-T)

<http://combattourniquet.com/>

Asherman Chest Seals

<http://www.ashermanchestseal.com/>

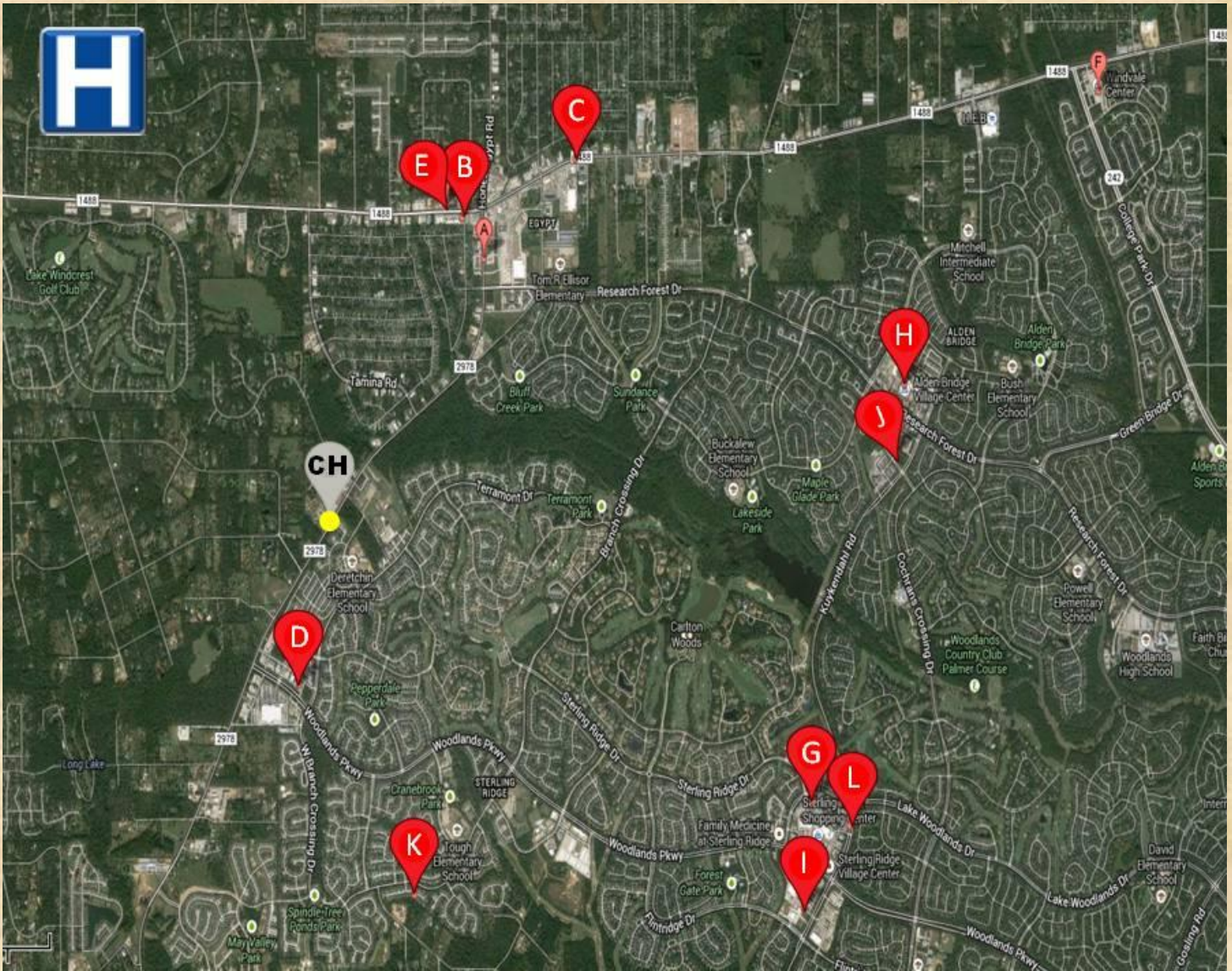


In addition to the above products an **Automatic External Defibrillator** (AED) should be placed either in the church vestibule or the main church area. Although automatic in function and usage guidelines are written on the box, acclimatization with the procedures and regular exercising is mandatory for the critical moment that AED will be used in a real life threatening incident.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

HOSPITALS' NEIGHBORING CHURCH (CH)



(Letters refer to locations on the table below)

TIP: This catalogue should be placed in areas of high visibility. It is advised to contact each and every hospital and verify telephones and doctors in charge on regular basis.



APPENDIX B

FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT

For a fire to start, three things are needed:

A source of ignition e.g.:

- cooking equipment, hot ducting, flues and filters;
- smokers' material, e.g. cigarettes, matches and lighters;
- electrical, gas or oil-fired heaters (fixed or portable), room heaters;
- hot processes, e.g. welding by contractors;
- faulty or misused electrical equipment;
- light fittings and lighting equipment, e.g. halogen lamps or display lighting;
- hot surfaces and obstruction of equipment ventilation;
- central heating boilers;
- naked flames, e.g. candles or gas or liquid-fuelled open-flame equipment;
- flares, fireworks and pyrotechnics; and
- arson.



Fuel e.g.:

- flammable liquid-based products, such as paints, varnishes, thinners and adhesives;
- flammable liquids and solvents, such as alcohol (spirits), white spirit, methylated spirit, cooking oils and disposable cigarette lighters;
- flammable chemicals, such as certain cleaning products and photocopier chemicals;
- flammable gases such as liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and acetylene;
- displays and stands;
- costumes, drapes and hangings, scenery and banners;
- packaged foodstuffs;
- packaging materials, stationery, advertising material and decorations;
- plastics and rubber, such as video tapes, polyurethane foam-filled furniture and polystyrene-based display materials and rubber or foam exercise mats;
- upholstered seating and cushions, textiles and soft furnishings and clothing displays;
- litter and waste products, particularly finely divided items such as shredded paper and wood shavings, off-cuts, and dust accumulation amongst lubricated areas; and
- fireworks and pyrotechnics.

Oxygen

The main source of oxygen for a fire is in the air. In an enclosed building this is provided by the ventilation system in use. This generally falls into one of two categories: natural airflow through doors, windows and other openings; or mechanical air conditioning systems and air handling systems. In many buildings there will be a combination of systems, which will be capable of introducing/extracting air to and from the building. Additional sources of oxygen can sometimes be found in materials used or stored at premises.

Consider who would be especially at risk:

- employees who work alone and/or in isolated areas, e.g. cleaners and security staff;
- unaccompanied children;
- people who are unfamiliar with the premises, e.g. visitors and customers;
- people with disabilities (including mobility impairment, or hearing or vision impairment);



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- people who may have some reason for not being able to leave the premises quickly;
- other people in the immediate vicinity of the premises.

Get rid of or reduce risks from fire as far as is reasonably possible***Remove or reduce sources of ignition e.g.:***

- Wherever possible replace a potential source by a safer alternative.
- Restrict and control the use of naked flames, e.g. candles.
- Ensure that sources of heat are kept away from flammable materials such as curtains, scenery and displays.
- Ensure electrical, mechanical and gas equipment is installed, used, maintained and protected in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Ensure cooking and catering equipment is installed, used, maintained and protected in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Take precautions to avoid arson.

Remove or reduce sources of fuel e.g.:

- Ensure that all upholstered furniture, curtains, drapes, other soft furnishings, display materials (including artificial and dried foliage), scenery and stands are fire-retardant, or have been treated with a proprietary fire-retardant treatment designed to enhance their fire performance.
- Ensure flammable materials, liquids and gases, are kept to a minimum, and are stored properly with adequate separation distances between them.
- Remove, cover or treat large areas of highly combustible wall and ceiling linings, e.g. polystyrene or carpet tiles, to reduce the rate of flame spread across the surface.

Remove or reduce sources of oxygen e.g.:

- Closing all doors, windows and other openings not required for ventilation, particularly out of working hours;
- Not storing oxidizing materials (including pyrotechnics and fireworks) near or with any heat source or flammable materials.

Provide fire precautions where there are still risks

The minimum you should consider will include the following:

A fire-detection and warning system

You must have a suitable fire-detection and warning system. This can range from a shouted warning to an electrical detection and warning system. Whatever system you have, it must be able to warn people in all circumstances.

A way of fighting a small fire

It may be acceptable to have multi-purpose fire extinguishers with a guaranteed shelf life. As a rule of thumb you should have one extinguisher for every 2152.8ft² of floor space with at least one on each floor.

Safe routes for people to leave the premises

The ideal situation is when there is more than one escape route from all parts of the premises, although this is not always possible. If only one route is available, you may need to make it fire resisting (protected) or install an automatic fire-detection system. The distance people need to go to escape (the travel distance) should be as short as possible. The travel distance should be measured from the farthest point in a room to the door to a protected stairway or, if there is no protected stairway, to the final exit from the building. If there is only one escape route, the travel distance should not normally be more than 59ft. This distance should be shorter (40ft or less) in any parts of the premises where there is a high chance of a fire starting or spreading quickly. The distance can be longer (up to about 82ft) where the chance of a



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fire starting or spreading quickly is very low. If there is more than one escape route, the travel distance should not normally be more than 148ft. (This can be areas around 82ft in and are as where the risk of fire is high, about 196ft in areas where the risk of fire is very low).

Stairways, corridors and areas near the fire exits should be kept clear of obstructions and material which can catch fire. The escape route should lead to a final exit and a safe place. If the stairway is not protected, the travel distance should be in line with those suggested above for single escape routes and the final exit should be easy to see and get to from the stairway at ground-floor level. High-risk rooms should not generally open directly into a fire-protected stairway.

Suitable fire exit doors

You should be able to use fire exit doors and any doors on the escape routes without a key and without any specialist knowledge. In premises used by the public or large numbers of people, you may need push (panic) bars or push pads.

Other things to consider

- Whether you need emergency lighting.
- Suitable fire-safety signs in all but the smallest premises.
- Training for your staff or anyone else you may reasonably expect to help in a fire.
- A management system to make sure that you maintain your fire safety systems.
- Some very small and simple premises may be able to satisfy all these steps without difficulty. However, you should still be able to show that you have carried out all the steps.

Take other measures to make sure there is protection if flammable or explosive materials are used or stored

Produce a plan to deal with any emergencies



APPENDIX C

ONGOING RISK ASSESSMENT PROCESS

There are no official standards or recommended best practice procedures in this area of church management, so it was thought that it would be helpful to develop a model or template that will help your church to perform an ongoing risk assessment regularly – i.e. twice a year or more often depending on the circumstances.

It is not the intention, indeed it is not possible, to eliminate all risks but rather to recognize where they might occur, assess their potential impact and take action to reduce their likelihood or put in place contingency plans.

It is helpful to record all identified risks, even where they are fairly small, as it may be that small risks in a specific area could together generate a more significant overall hazard.

It is important that an assessment has input from a number of people rather than to relying on one person who may inadvertently assess risks from a particular point of view – a very common attitude to highly specialized experts.

The risks should be considered from the point of view of the church, its members and congregation and of visitors of all ages and abilities. The risks should be assessed bearing in mind also the buildings, activities and environment in which it serves. Not all churches are alike!

For risks which are manageable by the church, the aim of any control should be to reduce the likelihood of the risk. However, where the risk is largely unmanageable, the control will normally be more about reducing the significance [potential damage] of the risk.

In some cases there will be a cost associated with putting the identified control/s in place. Where the cost is high in proportion to the risk, it may be more appropriate to establish a contingency plan rather than try to adopt finance risk mitigation. Care must be taken to strike the right balance.

The assessment should be a LIVE document, in that once completed, it should not be filed away but periodically reviewed and updated. It may be helpful if a note is kept of events that that have resulted from risks, whether anticipated or not, so that these can be considered in the reviews.

Risk assessment methodology

Practically risk assessment is a combination of events and grading and although many different models exist, it should have the following appearance:

Event	Significance : Probability	Risk rating	Controls	Controls in place	Comments	Persons responsible

The boxes in the template can be filled in as follows:

EVENT – describes the identified risk.

SIGNIFICANT: PROBABILITY – shows the significance of any consequences arising from the risk occurring alongside the probability that it might happen. This is not a scientific calculation, rather a judgment which may be based on figures or, more likely, on discussions around the issue.

The scores to be used are:

Significance

- 1 negligible
- 2 slight
- 3 noticeable
- 4 serious
- 5 very serious

Probability

- 1 very unlikely
- 2 unlikely
- 3 possible
- 4 probable
- 5 very likely

RISK RATING – Is simply = **Significance x Probability**.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

CONTROLS – describes the action(s) identified to reduce the probability or significance of the risk occurring.

CONTROLS IN PLACE – notes whether the identified control(s) have in fact been activated. This is not an exercise in criticism, therefore, care should be taken not to answer “yes” when in fact a more correct statement would be “partly or we are thinking about it” [provided that the thinking does not go on too long“!].

COMMENT – add flavor to the statement on controls, especially where controls are not easy to put in place or where a contingency plan may be the more appropriate action.

PERSON(S) – is a key item as it is important to identify who should take responsibility for action.

► **In general terms, risk ratings of 12 or over should be highlighted as requiring early action. Any risk with a significance or probability of 5 needs swift attention by the responsible person(s) and a risk rating of 20+ calls for immediate action with appropriate reports to the Trustees and church meeting.**

It is quite likely that there will be a number of risks with a rating of 12 or more and it is important that this is seen as normal. Uncovering potential problem areas early proved to be the best way to avoid future crises and ensure appropriate actions are put in place.

Example:

#	Event	Significance : Probability	Risk	Controls	Controls in place	Comments	Person(s) responsible
1	Significant failure of essential services (power, heating, water)	3 : 1	3	Cancel or transfer activities elsewhere		No procedures in place but would not be difficult in the short term. Check escape route emergency lighting	Property Manager
2	Network failure, hardware failure or loss	3 : 3	9	Ensure good backup; possibly carry spares of essential equipment; ensure competent members have full control of systems		No full backup system exists, too expensive & backup files not taken off-site. Church activities can continue without IT.	Technology Manager

(Source: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/fire/pdf/144821.pdf>)



APPENDIX D**WORST CASE SCENARIOS**

Church shooting is the worst case scenario that a church can experience. In your case a nursery shooting or stabbing I considered equally disastrous. Same applies for bombing – conventional or suicidal.

Some necessary assumptions:

- There is no discrimination between male and female attackers
- Pregnant women or women accompanying children might be suicide bombers
- There is no solid rational explaining the causes of such acts
- Definitely there will be dead and wounded
- Hands are no weapons – especially if the predator has a pistol in his/her hand
- Head is not a weapon – always watch the hands of the predator
- Unfortunately, shooting back is the only solution that might save a few lives
- In case of an explosion, always anticipate a second one aiming first responders (time delay 30-60min)

Below are some scenarios – any combinations are also possible. In your settings there are three major targets: (1) church people – especially during Sunday ceremonies; (2) nursery school; and (3) Pastor itself (or church staff)

Scenario 1

A man is entering worship area, points a pistol and starts shooting.

Scenario 2

A man is entering worship area, takes off his jacket and reveals possession of multiple guns and/or grenades

Scenario 3

A man is entering worship area, takes a knife out and threatens people

Scenario 4

A man is entering worship area, takes a knife out and without notification stubs the first person he approaches and is ready to move to the next one

Scenario 5

More than one men enter worship area, protract their guns (one each, more than one) and order all participants to lie down – hostage case

Scenario 6

More than one men enter worship area, protract their guns (one each, more than one), shoot one of the participants and order all the rest to lie down – hostage case

Scenario 7

A man is entering the church, directs himself to the Pastor's office, points a gun at him and shoot's him

Scenario 8

A man is entering the church, directs himself to the Pastor's office, takes a knife out and attacks him.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)**Scenario 9**

A man driving a truck rams church in high speed when people are exiting the building after church ceremony

Scenario 10

A woman is entering from the entrance leading to the nursery school and once inside attacks teachers and children with a knife

Scenario 11

A woman is entering from the entrance leading to the nursery school and once inside points out a gun and starts shooting both teachers and children

From the above scenarios it is obvious that the first line of church defense is the surrounding area from the road and the forest to the main building. If the intruder/predator is not identified, spotted and neutralized there, then most possibly bloodshed will follow. In that case next effort is to minimize casualties, call authorities and manage the consequences.

In that respect certain measures should be either taken or programmed to be implemented as soon as possible: Due to the location of the church it is rare for people to come on foot. So each and every car entering church's premises should be spotted immediately and a church person should go and look who is coming in. This might be an easy task during Monday to Saturday but not during Sundays when many cars arrive for the ceremony. Usually during the week people who arrive are parents having their children at the nursery school, church staff and visitors – some might have an appointment; others not. For the usual visitors license plates should be recorded and checked – this can be done during the application process.

It is also mandatory all seven doors should be locked and operated either with an "open" button from inside or with a security card (staff people moving in and out the building). Same applies with all windows of ground floor.

Above procedures could become easier if there is a CCTV system set in place but you need to hire a person or more (shifts) to keep attention on screen constantly.



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

During Sundays the above model is not valid due to traffic in the parking lot. In that respect, the first line of defense is manned with a few volunteers who are conducting behavioral screening. It is not always easy to spot the “professional” predator but it is quite easy to identify someone who is frustrated, upset, drunk, bit out of control, furious etc. Church people should approach these individuals and in a very friendly way should try to get contact with him/her – i.e. ask questions if he is new in the area, if it is the first time in the church, if he wants a glass of water or a place to relax or someone to speak with. This might disorient the disturbed predator, jam his plans or on the contrary make him more aggressive or force him to make his move. Whatever follows it is better to happen outside in the open than in the confined space of the church. Local police authorities can teach certain volunteers how to handle these situations with minimal application of force. Once more it is repeated that our target are the hands of the intruder not his head and eyes. It should be noted that people under the influence of drugs have extra powers no matter if they are short or small or both. In case of such an incident other outdoor screeners should be in a stand-by situation to assist if contact group cannot handle it. In open space incidents, non lethal weapons can be applied – i.e. pepper sprays or tasers. If the man is unarmed then he can be put down by natural force of one or more of the church screeners. If he is carrying a knife or other sharp objects the method used by security authorities in China is both clever, low cost and effective (see photo: p31). But even this simple defensive structure needs certain training and has to be available when needed.

If the predator **manages to enter the church** unnoticed it is up to indoor screeners to try to identify him or her. Inside screeners could be volunteers collecting money, church staff assisting at the entrance, volunteers with specific security background (police, military). Similar approach should be followed but now with bigger focus to his/her reactions due to the fact that there are many people sitting in very close proximity to the event.. The big question is what the proper reaction is when things get wild. There is no best answer to this question. . . A life is always a life no matter what the intentions are.

If the predator **shoots somebody** he must be shot back. There is no time for negotiations. There is no place to hide (like in school shootings). Church is an open area and the only cover provided is the chair or benches available. If he shoots once most probably he will continue to shoot until all bullets are fired. If he poses only one pistol, this is the right time to fight back physically and try to put him down before he reloads. If he poses more than one guns of any type then this advantage is lost because now casualties would be more much more. Shooting back! It sound easy but it is not. The intruder is not a sitting duck. He is moving here and there while firing at the same time. Even when concealed guns are available in the room, the possibility of shooting innocent bystanders is big. There many guns’ carriers in TX area but training – unfortunately – do not go along with possession.

If the predator targets a **specific person** (i.e. the Pastor of the church) within church’s premises then most probably will succeed. The only chance to minimize somehow the chances is to have as many obstacles as possible between him and his target. Controlled doors might slow his approach and attract attention. On the other hand he might be aggregated by them and shot them – this might give some seconds to the Pastor to respond or jump the window. Very often in case of shootings or bombing people describe the initial sound like fireworks or car exhaustion or similar familiar sounds. Church’s staff should be familiar with the sounds of their environment and respond automatically. In that respect, staff should spend a few hours in a shooting ground to familiarize with the unique sounds of pistols or bigger guns. You are in TX; you do have lots of them around. The above apply only for an incident during non ceremony working hours. If the attack happens during the ceremony then most probably the target will be shot dead or heavily injured before any counter action takes place.

If the predator **targets the nursery (if there is one)**, things are even worse. Only adults there, are teachers – mostly women, and little children. It is imperative not to allow entrance of unknown people or guests through this back door. Only authorized personnel and parents should be allowed from that door and after a surrounding inspection was taken (in case the person in front of the door window is under immediate threat. Sometimes parents sign a paper that another trusted person is allowed to



CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter – December 2013 (Special Collection)

take their child home. This might happen once or twice. You do not know this person! Let him/her come in from another entrance where you can check his/her credentials in a safer and more sealed environment.



In case of a **suicide bomber** almost nothing can be done on the prevention side. Only careful screening can provide a timely alarm and give the opportunity to people to move away from the attacker. But not all people will follow a command "Move away! He has a bomb on him!" At least few fast reacting individuals will take cover and minimize consequences.

A **metal detector** could minimize concealed weaponry inside church but I am sure no church would like that. On the other hand there is a misconception about the real function of the church itself. Of course a church is or could be the last resort of people in need, in despair, in agony, with financial problems, starving, homeless, sick etc. But only if they are people in trouble and want to save their problem without hearing others. Disturbed personalities of any age and sex do not belong in this category from a security point of view. Then what is the profit if church accepts everybody and count victims and dead. What is the gain for the overall community if its pastor is dead? Of course they will remember his sacrifice for the years to follow but is this more important than keep on assisting and guiding by being alive?



APPENDIX E

EMERGENCY SURVIVAL KIT

Emergency survival kit or kits should be design in a way to address certain catastrophes. Major assumption is that you cannot put all you need in a box and deal with all adverse events. There is a debate on whom these emergency kits are directed. Are they for the church staff only or both staff and church people either on the site or arriving after the site. It is evident that a church big or small cannot “compete” state response. The latter if well organized would or should be available in a very short period of time. Depending on the cause and the extent of the emergency certain things can be done during the first few but critical hours following the incident.

Event s that can cause discomfort with a dangerous potential are:

- Forest fire (in very close proximity with church building)
- Power shortage or blackout (local or generalized)
- Severe snow or rain fall – flooding including
- Earthquake
- Extreme heat

▶ In all these emergencies **three elements are important:** water – food – equipment

▶ **Ready.gov** is an excellent source of information on organization issues. But also remember that these directives are general and need to be tailored on your specific needs, environment and people.

Emergency Survival Kit & Stockpile

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

- Water
- Food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries; gas lights is a good alternative although camping gas cylinders storage pose certain hazards in case of a fire in the building or external fire. Head lights are particularly helpful.
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener for food
- Multipurpose tool
- Camping equipment is particularly suitable for dealing with extreme environmental conditions
- Extra set of keys
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

Once you have gathered the supplies for a basic emergency kit, you may want to consider adding the following items:

- Prescription medications (seven days' supply) and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Cash or traveler's checks and change
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container.
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or free information from this web site.



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- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – When diluted, nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant or decontaminant in case of chemical weapons/toxic industrial chemicals' release in urban environment. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. **Do not** use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- Paper and pencils
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

How Much Water Do I Need?

You should store at least one gallon of water per person per day. A normally active person needs at least one gallon of water daily just for drinking however individual needs vary, depending on age, physical condition, activity, diet and climate.

► New products such as LifeStraw can help drinking water from almost anywhere. Same applies for bigger quantities (LifeSaver)



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To determine your water needs, take the following into account:

- One gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation.
- Children, nursing mothers and sick people may need more water.
- A medical emergency might require additional water.
- If you live in a warm weather climate more water may be necessary. In very hot temperatures, water needs can double.
- Keep at least a three-day supply of water per person.

How Should I Store Water?

It is recommended you purchase commercially bottled water, in order to prepare the safest and most reliable emergency water supply. Keep bottled water in its original container and do not open until you need to use it. Observe the expiration or “use by” date. Store in cool, dark place.

Food

Consider the following things when putting together your emergency food supplies:

- Store at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food.
- Choose foods your staff will eat; or foods that are generally preferred like biscuits or cereal bars.
- Remember any special dietary needs.
- Avoid foods that will make you thirsty.
- Choose salt-free crackers, whole grain cereals and canned foods with high liquid content.

Following a disaster, there may be power outages that could last for several days. Stock canned foods, dry mixes and other staples that do not require refrigeration, cooking, water or special preparation. Be sure to include a manual can opener and eating utensils.

For all the above you will need an indoors storage room with steady temperature (preferably air conditioned). You will also need to perform periodical checks on expiration dates of the items stored and have a schedule for renewing/distributing expiring products. Put the list in a plastic file behind the door.

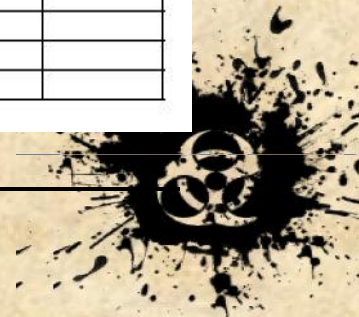
Inflatable tents might be a good alternative for a field shelter but they are expensive given all the utilities accompanying it (heat, lighting, etc).



APPENDIX F

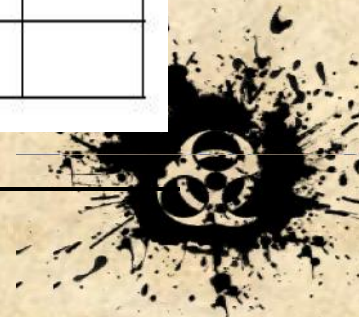
ISSUES OF ORDINARY SAFETY

	Yes	No
Risk Management Organization Within Church		
Do you have a Business Manager/Risk Manager		
Do you have someone responsible for loss control/safety		
Do you have someone responsible for claim management		
Do you complete staff / volunteer safety training		
Do you have someone responsible for loss reporting and accident investigation		
Do you have a designated person to complete physical inspections		
Do you have a safety committee		
Do you have someone in charge of disability concerns		
Risk Management Program Structure		
Do you have a written safety policy		
Is the safety policy distributed to staff / volunteers or posted		
Does your policy address workplace safety, vehicle safety, property inspections, public safety		
Is your safety policy reviewed and updated annually		
Do you have a maintenance fund? If so, how much _____ \$		
Do you schedule safety workshops		
Is there a health and sanitation program in place for food service, swimming pools and locker rooms		
Do you have a visitor control program		
Do you have provisions/accommodations meeting ADA Accessibility Standards for persons with disabilities*		
Risk Transfer Mechanisms		
Are contracts reviewed by legal counsel before they are signed		
Do contracts include hold harmless agreements		
Is the church an additional named insured on contractors/subcontractors insurance policies. If not, do contractors and subcontractors provide a certificate of insurance for coverage		
Are certificates of insurance requested as needed		
Do contractor/subcontractor/vendor policy limits meet your church limits		
Do you require sports accident insurance or signed waivers		
Are parental permission forms required for field trip authorization, release for emergency medical treatment and emergency contact information.		
Do you have a procedure in place for property use by an outside group		
Are there rules developed and communicated to students / parents defining unacceptable behaviors		
Workplace and Property		
Do you have someone responsible for property safety		
Do service/repair requests generate work orders, note corrections and track completion		
Do you have a hazard recognition program so staff / volunteers / public can report problems		
Do you conduct outside property inspections		
Do you conduct interior self inspections		
Do your inspections include corrective actions taken		
Do you have a preventative maintenance plan for mechanical systems, fire protection systems, ansul and alarm systems		
Is grounds keeping equipment in a fenced / garaged area when not in use		
Is herbicide and pesticide spraying is conducted by certified applicators; and done when there is		
Does playground equipment and surfacing meets current Consumer Product Safety Commission		



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	Yes	No
Is playground equipment and surfacing inspected weekly, maintained daily and inspections are documented		
Bleachers, whether portable or permanent, meet the fall protection criteria outlined in the CPSC Guidelines for Retrofitting Bleachers		
Portable soccer goals are secured to prevent tipping		
The swimming pool is accessible only when staff is supervising the swimming pool and water activities		
18 inch starting platforms, for competitive swimming, are mounted over a minimum water depth of 5 feet; the opposite end of the racing lane is minimally 3-1/2 feet deep unless greater depth is required by local code		
Theatres, other places of assembly, kitchens and maintenance shops are protected by fire suppression systems		
Fire detection systems report to an alarm panel in main office and to an off-site monitored location		
Do you have fire protection / fire detection systems high-hazard areas (kitchens, residential, assembly areas)		
If you provide sport protective gear, it meets national standards		
Are protective mouthpieces required for all participants		
Are life jackets provided with canoe or boat use		
Access to weight room is restricted to times when supervised; weight room protocols require "buddy" system		
Do your accessibility provisions include the following:		
Where parking is provided, an appropriate number of accessible parking spaces with appropriate signage		
Passenger loading zone access aisles		
Marked crossing - crosswalk or identified path for pedestrian use in crossing a vehicular way		
Curb ramp - short ramp cutting through a curb or building up to it		
Exterior accessible route		
In absence of level entrance to church door, there is a ramp, platform lift or elevator		
Interior accessible route		
At least one accessible entrance to worship, fellowship, Christian Education and pastoral care area		
Door openings at accessible entrance with clear width of 32 inches minimum		
Hardware at accessible entry door or gate meets ADA specifications		
Tactile signs with raised or indented characters or symbols		
Audible life-safety warning signals accompanied by simultaneous visual signals		
Accessible toilet facilities - can be single unisex toilet room		
Adequate lighting at book level provided for all pews		
Chancel and sanctuary areas accessible to mobility-impaired persons, including mobility-impaired clergy		



	Yes	No
Accident Investigation		
Do you have an accident investigation process		
Does someone investigate all accidents, identifying causes and recommending corrective action		
Are corrective actions implemented and documented		
Do you have an accident review committee/claim review committee		
Do you have someone responsible for accident investigation / reporting		
Do you document all corrective / follow-up to the accident investigation / reporting		
Hiring and Training for New Hires, Volunteers and Current Staff		
Are criminal and sexual background checks completed on current staff and volunteers on a regular basis		
Does new hire and volunteer pre-employment screening include a written application, background checks, criminal and sexual records check for positions involving children, elder care or money handling positions, and motor vehicle record check for driving positions		
Are new hires and volunteers screened for drugs and alcohol		
Do your procedures eliminate opportunities for sexual predators such as windows in doors, two persons with minors, open door teaching/counseling at all times, etc.		
Are you aware of the non-discriminatory questions to ask during an interview		
Does new staff / volunteer training include safety orientation		
Are safety workshops completed and documented		
Employee training includes first aid and CPR		
Specialized training is provided for positions involving water activities, adventure events and other high-risk activities		
Are staff / volunteers trained in blood borne pathogens		
TEXAS ONLY: Have all youth camp staff been trained in and passed the youth camp regulation passed by the State of Texas Department of State Health Services, effective June 1, 2006		
Emergency and Disaster Recovery Plan		
Do you have a written emergency and disaster recovery plan		
Does this plan include staff / volunteer safety, public safety, property safety		
Have important operational information, personnel records, documents and equipment have been identified		
Do you have facility evacuation procedures		
Do your procedures verify staff / volunteers / public have evacuated		
Does your plan address contingencies		
Do you hold documented drills/simulations to test your emergency plans/disaster recovery plans		
Do you have emergency first aid and Automatic External Defibrillators (AED)		
Is this equipment inspected on a regular basis		
Are staff / volunteers trained in use of this equipment		



	Yes	No
Vehicle Loss Control Program		
Do you have criteria establishing acceptable driver behavior		
Do you have CDL operators		
Do you administer road tests for driving positions		
Do you evaluate driver candidate's ability to handle driving		
Do you have a driver handbook		
Does this handbook include personal / take home use		
Do you have someone responsible for vehicle accident review		
Do you complete vehicle condition reports on a regular basis		
Are vehicle inspections and maintenance records documented		
Do you have a non-owned vehicle policy which includes certificates of insurance		
Do you operate 12 or 15 passenger vans? If so, how many _____?		
Is transportation limited to chartered transportation, not staff or volunteer vehicles		
Bus drivers have received training in their role for supervision of riders on the buses; videotapes of student behaviors on schools buses are reviewed and disciplinary action is taken for unacceptable behaviors		
Bus riders receive instruction on behavior, enter/exit paths and emergency bus evacuation procedures.		



Count on them and use their expertises for defending the church!

