DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND LAWMAKERS’ REACTIONS TO LONE WOLF TERRORISM

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ABSTRACT

In the years following the horrors of 9/11, radical Islamists have been singled out as the only perpetrators of terrorism in the world. While it is true that the current threat to U.S. national security largely comes from Muslim extremists, this has not always been the case, and it will likely change as the nature of terrorism evolves. Throughout its history, the U.S. has had scores of terrorist attacks on its soil, from far-left groups, white supremacists, and anarchists. What is seemingly a new phenomenon is the incidence of lone wolf attacks. While the actual number of organized terror attacks in the U.S. has gone down significantly, there is a rise in the number of high-fatality attacks committed by independent actors – Ft. Hood, Chattanooga, San Bernardino, Orlando, etc. This suggests that although counter-terrorism strategies in the U.S. have become highly effective at combatting organized terrorists and their affiliates, it is extremely difficult to pin-point lone wolf terrorists and stop them before they attack.

The focus of this paper is to examine commonalities between lone wolf attacks and how law enforcement and lawmakers reacted to them, looking specifically at seven infamous cases in the United States, in order to determine why they are so difficult for law enforcement to prevent. This case study uses a variety of primary, secondary, and government sources as well as databases compiled by independent research groups. The ability for lone wolves to skirt law enforcement and “work the system” are also primary reasons for the increase in lone wolf terrorism, a constantly evolving dance between terrorists and law enforcement. In addition, this paper also offers some suggestions as to how law enforcement agencies and lawmakers can better detect and prevent lone wolf terrorism.
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ACRONYMS

9/11 – the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks in the U.S.
AQAP – Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula
ATF – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
CCTV – closed-circuit television
CDC – Center for Disease Control
CIA – Central Intelligence Agency
DEA – Drug Enforcement Agency
DoD – Department of Defense
DOJ – Department of Justice
EOD – Explosive Ordnance Disposal
FAA – Federal Aviation Administration
FBI – Federal Bureau of Investigation
FDA – Food and Drug Administration
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
HHS – Department of Health and Human Services
HUD – Department of Housing and Urban Development
ICE – Immigration and Customs Enforcement
IED – improvised explosive device
ISC – Interagency Security Committee
ISIL – Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant; aka ISIS – Islamic State in Iraq and Syria
LWP – lone wolf pack
NCIC – National Crime Information Center
NOSC – Navy Operational Support Center
NSCITF – National Security Critical Issue Task Force
OHP – Oklahoma Highway Patrol
START – Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism
SWAT – Special Weapons and Tactics
TSA – Transportation Security Administration
UCMJ – Uniform Code of Military Justice
USAMRIID – United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture
USPS – United States Postal Service
WMD – weapon of mass destruction
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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION


The quote above serves to represent the “new brand” of terrorist: the quiet, unassuming neighbor, who perhaps was a bit peculiar, but never seemed capable of violence, now suddenly a part of a terrorist plot. A single individual can immobilize an entire city, an entire country, with fear. One person can disrupt the postal service, force restrictive security, influence legislation, create public health scares, and divide a nation. The homegrown, self-radicalized individual is someone that even the hyper-secure, post-9/11 counter-terrorism experts have not figured out how to stop. Law enforcement is constantly playing cat-and-mouse with lone wolf terrorists. Following the 2016 Orlando shooting, FBI Director James Comey stated in a press conference that, “Our work is very challenging. We are looking for needles in a nation-wide haystack, but we’re also called upon to figure out which pieces of hay might someday become needles.”

The research conducted in this paper does not focus on the psychological aspects of lone wolf terrorism, but rather analyzes several infamous lone wolf terrorist attacks and examines law enforcement and lawmakers’ reactions to those attacks, specifically looking at initial responses, precedents set by

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each attack, failures, and overreactions. In the closing chapter the next wave of terrorism is discussed, followed by suggestions on how to deal with future lone wolf terrorists.
CHAPTER 2

DEFINING LONE WOLF TERRORISM

The Language Surrounding Lone Wolf Terrorism

Perhaps the easiest first step in defining lone wolf terrorism is to define terrorism itself. The definition of terrorism has shifted over the centuries. Every state and federal agency has its own definitions of terrorism. A common definition of terrorism contains these three criteria: 1) the terrorists have a political agenda, 2) the target of their violence, or the threat of violence, must be against civilians or non-combatants, and 3) the terrorists must be non-state actors. Immediately after 9/11, the government eagerly, and sometimes prematurely, used the word terrorism to describe many attacks, but now there is great hesitation in using the word terrorism; “mass shooting” is the safer word to use until a full investigation can be completed. It is an especially sensitive word when talking about lone wolf terrorism.

Lone wolf terrorism is described by the National Security Critical Issue Task Force as “the deliberate creation and exploitation of fear through violence or threat of violence committed by a single actor who pursues political change linked to a formulated ideology, whether his own or that of a larger organization, and who does not receive orders, direction, or material support from outside sources.” By this definition, this would exclude terrorist attacks like 9/11, the

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Madrid subway bombing, or the coordinated car bombings in Iraq in 2013. This also excludes school shootings, hate-motivated killings, and psychotic killing sprees. A key aspect of the difference between a mass shooting and lone wolf terrorism is in the motive: was the violent act committed as a symbolic, politically-motivated act? The word terrorism itself carries a major stigma, and it typically has been used to describe Islamic extremism since 9/11. Often times, the difference between calling something a psychotic shooting rampage, hate crime, or act of terror lies in the political agenda surrounding the event. A suspect may be considered a terrorist politically, well before being defined legally as a terrorist. Also, even when an act is considered politically-motivated, it can be challenging for prosecutors to make the case. Calling something a lone wolf act of terrorism as opposed to another type of violent crime is certainly subjective. Nonetheless, for the purpose of this study, the NSCITF definition will be used.

**Gray (Area) Wolves**

What makes defining lone wolf terrorism even more difficult are attacks like San Bernardino in 2015. There are a number of attacks that are, as Jeffery Connor, professor of Security Studies at Georgetown University, calls “lone wolf pack” (LWP) attacks.\(^5\) These attacks involve a pair or a very small group of lone wolves, often family members, who do not formally belong to any terror group. They function as a group but lack structure and chain-of-command. The attacks can range from ultra-sophistication, such as Anders Breivik of Norway, who acted alone to detonate a car bomb and then subsequently shot dead nearly 70 people – mostly children.

\(^5\) Ibid., 26.
at a Norwegian youth summer camp – to almost no planning whatsoever, such as the ax attack on a subway in Germany in 2016. Breivik is also indicative of the fact that these attacks are not always religiously motivated. LWP’s also do not receive outside material support from any terrorist organization. The attack in San Bernardino, a husband and wife duo, is the perfect example of an LWP. Others disagree with this terminology, including terrorism researchers Ramón Spaaij and Mark Hamm. They argue that conflating lone wolves and LWPs confuses rather than supports law enforcement and policymakers in coming up with a definition. “[I]t is no longer a ‘lone’ act of violence committed by ‘unaffiliated’ individuals since there were multiple perpetrators who were at least affiliated with one another. Such a methodology can potentially inflate the incidence of lone wolf terrorism.”

Counter-terrorism researcher at the International Center for the Study of Radicalisation (sic) at King’s College, London, Raffaello Pantucci, argues in the other direction. Citing the 2007 Fort Dix plotters, three of whom were brothers, Pantucci asserts that at no point were any of the members of the small group directed by outside forces; their attack was planned in their own minds. A lone wolf who includes another person, or even a few people, does not constitute an affiliation with any outside terror groups; it merely means that a radicalization process took place amongst like-minded individuals, who ultimately agreed to commit acts of terror in the name of their common ideology. Also, communication with organized terrorist cells, whether successful

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8 Ibid., 25.
or not, does not necessarily indicate a directive from that group. For the purpose of this study, LWP attacks will be included.

The 7 July 2016 shooting of five Dallas police officers will not be included in the case study due to the ongoing investigation. There is much debate about whether to consider this an act of terrorism, a hate crime, or a revenge killing. The argument for calling it terrorism stems from the fact that Micah Xavier Johnson targeted law enforcement officers, specifically white officers, expressed a hatred for white people, and sympathized with black nationalists and the Black Lives Matter movement. One explanation for the political motive was that Johnson wanted to influence government policy by intimidating law enforcement. Conversely, others argue that Johnson’s spree is similar to Dylan Roof’s July 2015 attack on the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, where nine African Americans were targeted while attending a church service. Roof’s massacre similarly was not called an act of terrorism, but unlike Johnson, he was arrested, tried, found guilty, and sentenced to death. While both attacks are racially-motivated, not to mention heinous, neither will be used in this case study.

U.S. Context vs Global Context

While the United States has been virtually safeguarded from organized terror plots since 9/11, the number of lone wolf attacks within the U.S. has steadily grown. START, an independent database created by the University of Maryland, is dedicated to collecting data on

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terrorist attacks. START’s primary source for terrorist activities is the Global Terrorism Database, which boasts information on over 150,000 terrorist attacks. According to START, less than 1% of terrorist attacks in the 1970s were from “unaffiliated individuals.” In the 1980s, 5% of attacks were from unaffiliated individuals. In the 1990s, the trend began to shift towards lone wolf attacks (now 17%), which also resulted in higher causality attacks – i.e. the Oklahoma City bombing. From 2000 to 2014, lone wolf attacks became the number one source of terrorist attacks in the U.S., at 36%. Also indicative of the growing lethality of lone wolf attacks, the number of fatalities has been steadily increasing since 2009, from 18 in 2009 to 44 in 2015. The 2016 Orlando attack alone claimed 49 lives. The ideologies of the lone wolves in the U.S. vary greatly, from far-left to far-right extremism, anti-abortion to green terrorism, and radical Islamic terror to white supremacy.

This is in contrast to the rest of the world, where 74% of "all deaths from terrorism" in 2015 came from four groups - ISIL, Boko Haram, the Taliban and Al-Qaeda. Organized terrorism poses a much greater threat to the rest of the world, especially in the Middle East. In recent years, western Europe – France, Belgium, and Germany – have seen an increased number of attacks from lone wolves and LWPs. The Paris attacks, for instance, have been claimed by ISIL, but it could also be argued that a group of self-radicalized individuals, inspired but not directed by ISIL, planned and perpetrated those deadly attacks in France.

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CHAPTER 3

THE CASE STUDY

Formatting the Study

In order to better understand why law enforcement struggles with preempting, much less preventing lone wolf terrorism, it is important to do a comparison of some of the worst lone wolf attacks in U.S. history in order to find any commonalities amongst the cases. The following seven cases will be presented in chronological order, with the intent of demonstrating the evolving nature of lone wolf terrorism. Each will be examined with the same set of analytical questions. The case study will look at 1) the background of the terrorist(s), including occupation, education, and demographic information, 2) their political ideology and radicalization, 3) their tactics, including whether it was a lone wolf or an LWP attack, and 4) their goals. After all seven cases have been examined, the final two chapters will analyze law enforcement and lawmakers’ reactions to these attacks and offer suggestions to prevent future attacks from occurring.

Figure 1: Oklahoma City Bombing. This image captures the aftermath of the lone wolf terrorist attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995. Timothy McVeigh detonated a truck laden with explosives at the base of the building, killing 169 people and injuring over 500. It remains the deadliest domestic terrorist attack on U.S. soil. Image from Encyclopedia Britannica provided by David Glass.
April 19, 1995: Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing in Oklahoma City

Immediately after a Ryder rental truck carrying 4,800 pounds of explosives severed the Murrah Federal Building in half, the media, and many Americans, likened the attack to car bombings seen on TV in places like Israel, Lebanon, and Jordan. On April 19, 1995, 168 Americans were killed in the blast, making it the worst terrorist attack on American soil, until 9/11. In addition, the bombing caused an unprecedented amount of economic devastation. When factoring in the cost of the investigation, trial, memorial, the cost to rebuild the federal building, and the sheer amount of damage, the total cost is over $600 million – which does not include medical bills or financial costs to families. However, it was not a Middle-Eastern terrorist as pundits initially reported, but rather a clean-cut, white, middle-class, Catholic, U.S. Army veteran named Timothy McVeigh. An Oklahoma Highway Patrolman, Charlie Hanger, pulled over McVeigh’s 1977 Mercury Marquis for a minor violation just eight minutes after the bomb exploded. The officer found traces of ammonium nitrate, anti-government literature, bomb materials, and a firearm inside the car, which led to his arrest.

Perhaps considered the most infamous of lone wolf terrorists, McVeigh, however, did not act entirely alone. He enlisted the help of two former Army buddies: Terry Nichols, 41 of Michigan, and Michael Fortier, 26 of Arizona. These men conspired alone: Nichols assisting in

\[\text{13} \text{ 163 people died in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building; in addition, one person in the nearby Athenian Building, one woman in the parking lot across the street, and two in the Oklahoma Water Resources building died, and one aid worker was killed during the search efforts. 19 children died, and three of the women were pregnant.}
\text{Mallonee, Sue; Sheryll Shariat; Gail Stennies; Rick Waxweiler; David Hogan; Fred Jordan (1996). “Physical Injuries and Fatalities Resulting From the Oklahoma City Bombing.” Journal of the American Medical Association. 276 (5): 382–387.}
\text{14 Hewitt, Christopher. Understanding Terrorism in America: From the Klan to al Qaeda. Routledge, 2003, 106.}
\text{15 Mickolus, Edward F., and Susan Simmons. The 50 worst terrorist attacks. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger, 2014, 100.}\]
the bombmaking phase and Fortier aiding in the reconnaissance of the Murrah Federal Building, as well as possibly financing the attack by selling a gun he had apparently stolen in November 1994. The men were more like two lost pups who bought into the conspiracies of a mangy lone wolf. McVeigh was indeed the mastermind, the espouser of extremist doctrine, and even the driver of the Ford carrying the deadly payload. While McVeigh did have help, the aid was limited to a very small group of individuals, and this case fits within the definition of an LWP.

McVeigh’s background is the antithesis of what is considered a terrorist’s profile, both then and now. Born to a middle-class family in Lockport, New York on April 23, 1968, Timothy McVeigh grew up like many other boys of his day: a wild imagination, mischievous behavior, a love for kittens, an all-around happy kid. At age 11, his parents divorced, and coupled with being bullied, McVeigh retreated inside himself, developing a narcissistic and isolated personality. After the divorce, he quickly became attached to his grandfather, a gun collector, outdoorsman, and survivalist who also stockpiled food, water, weapons, and camping equipment in case of national disaster or foreign invasion. McVeigh followed in his grandfather’s footsteps, collecting guns and adopting a survivalist mentality. Although he was a bright kid, he never tried hard in school, earning mostly A’s and B’s. He attended a junior college for business, but dropped out after a few months, working various odd jobs in order to support his

16 Ibid., 101.
17 Ibid.
19 Ibid.
20 Ibid., 127
21 Ibid.
collection of guns, survival equipment, and government conspiracy books, an obsession that took root during his high school years and quickly escalated when he began working security for an armored car company.\textsuperscript{22} He despised driving the truck through impoverished neighborhoods, where he witnessed countless people living off of welfare, doing nothing, while he worked hard.

McVeigh joined the Army in May of 1988, where he met Terry Nichols and Michael Fortier at Fort Benning, Georgia during Basic Training. He was an excellent soldier, scoring perfectly twice on Bradley gunnery table 8, and was quickly promoted to Sergeant.\textsuperscript{23} In January 1991, McVeigh’s unit was deployed to Iraq, where he served as a Bradley tank gunner and earned several awards, including the Army Commendation Medal. After the Gulf War, McVeigh attempted to complete Ranger School, but washed out and returned home to find nothing had changed. No one appreciated his service, and he could not find a job. This sparked in him a rage towards the system; he felt like he had simply been used by the U.S. government and began to develop paranoia towards the government. He continued to read conspiracy books and often wrote angry letters to congressmen and anti-government op-eds in the Lockport \textit{Union-Sun and Journal}, like this one from February 11, 1992:

"What is it going to take to open up the eyes of our elected officials? America is in serious decline. We have no proverbial tea to dump; should we instead sink a ship full of Japanese imports? Is civil war imminent? Do we have to shed blood to reform the current system?" \textsuperscript{24}

\textsuperscript{22} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{23} Ibid., 128
\textsuperscript{24} Ibid., 130
McVeigh eventually found solace in attending gun shows around the country, where he met extreme right-wing citizens who shared his anti-government sentiment. He began to make money from the gun shows, and met often with his Army buddies, Nichols and Fortier, to discuss Second Amendment rights and share their anti-government views. Though he attended many right-wing militia group meetings, he never found himself officially joining any group. McVeigh’s radical ideology grew out of his fascination with anti-government literature, especially the novel *The Turner Diaries* by William L. Pierce. In the book, the protagonist blows up a federal building in Washington at 9:00 a.m. with approximately 5,000 pounds of explosives hidden in a truck. What finally pushed McVeigh into radicalization, however, were two controversial government actions.

In McVeigh’s mind, paranoia became reality when in 1992 FBI agents and U.S. Marshals surrounded the home of Randy Weaver in Naples, Idaho. Weaver was accused of possessing illegal firearms, but refused to show up to court. He also had ties to a militia group. In a series of miscommunications between agencies and the excessive use of force, U.S. Marshalls killed Weaver’s wife and son. Even more convincing to McVeigh that the government was attempting to create a police state and take guns away from its citizens was the 1993 Waco Seize in central Texas. A standoff with FBI and ATF agents against Branch Davidian cult leader David Koresh culminated in the deaths of 76 Davidians – including 19 children – and 4 ATF agents.

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25 Ibid.  
McVeigh was even reportedly photographed at the Waco siege protesting the government’s involvement there. To top it all off, the federal government passed a law in 1994 banning assault weapons. These events finally pushed McVeigh over the edge: “The only way they’re going to feel something, the only way they’re going to get the message is quote, with a body count.”

McVeigh’s attack on the federal building was a strategic choice for him and his co-conspirators, Nichols and Fortier, to communicate a political message to the U.S. government. Nichols helped McVeigh first choose a target, deciding upon the Oklahoma City Federal Building for several reasons. First of all, it housed multiple government agencies, including a regional office for the ATF, an agency that was involved in both the Ruby Ridge and Waco operations. Secondly, it was far enough away from other buildings to minimize the collateral damage to those outside of the building, and thirdly, the blast would shatter the scores of glass windows and cause the building to fall in a dramatic fashion for his audience.

McVeigh, Nichols, and Fortier gathered the necessary components over the course of about a year and half, both by buying and stealing the materials necessary to make a bomb. The acquisition of ammonium nitrate, one of the main ingredients used to make Improvised Explosive Devices...

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30 No agents from the ATF were killed, however, eight law enforcement agents were killed from the Secret Service, DEA, US Customs Service (now ICE), and US HUD. "Victims of the Oklahoma City bombing". USA Today. Associated Press. June 20, 2001. https://oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org/people/. (28 January 2017).
32 Ibid.
(IED), was made with relative ease. At the time, there were little restrictions on purchasing the common agricultural fertilizer. While living in Nichols’ Michigan farmhouse after the Waco siege, the two began purchasing the ammonium nitrate. McVeigh and Nichols, using the alias Mike Havens, amassed over 4,000 pounds in a matter of 19 days.\(^{33}\) The materials were stored in Herrington, Kansas, where the duo would assemble the bombs and where McVeigh would initiate his plan on 13 April 1995. On 15 April, McVeigh purchased the Ryder truck. On 18 April, the two placed the bombs in the back of the truck, and McVeigh headed for Oklahoma. He spent the night in the Dreamland Hotel just off of I-70. The next day, on the second anniversary of the Waco siege and the 220\(^{th}\) anniversary of the Battle of Lexington and Concord’s “shot heard ‘round the world,” McVeigh carried out his terroristic plot.\(^{34}\)

Timothy McVeigh’s goal was simple. He felt personally wronged by the government and that the government was waging an all-out war against the peoples’ constitutional liberties. At first, McVeigh considered assassinating political figures, such as Attorney General Janet Reno or FBI sharpshooter Lon Horiuchi, who shot Randy Weaver’s wife Vicki, but the logistics of assassinating a single, specific target proved difficult.\(^{35}\) He wanted the message of his cause to become a part of the history books, to be on the front page of every newspaper; only a high body count, he believed, would send the type of message he wanted. He never expressed any remorse during his six years in federal prison. In a letter sent to Fox News on 26 April 2001, just months before his execution date, McVeigh wrote:

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\(^{35}\) Ibid., 291.
Foremost, the bombing was a retaliatory strike; a counter attack, for the raids… that federal agents had participated in over the preceding years… [T]his bombing was also meant as a pre-emptive strike against these forces and their command and control centers within the federal building… I decided to send a message to a government that was becoming increasingly hostile, by bombing a government building… From this perspective, what occurred in Oklahoma City was no different than what Americans rain on the heads of others all the time.36

With that, he stated his only regret was not destroying the entire building; to him, the children were merely unfortunate collateral damage. McVeigh was executed on 11 June 2001.

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36 Ibid., 306.

Theodore John "Ted" Kaczynski was born on 22 May 1942, a son of blue-collar, second-generation Polish-American immigrants Theodore "Turk" and Wanda (Dombek) Kaczynski. Kaczynski is a part of the case study because he not only used a sophisticated method of terrorism, but also made a career out being a lone wolf terrorist. The family of four lived in the Chicago suburb of Evergreen Park, where Turk worked in the family sausage business. Ted Kaczynski was a gifted student who earned a score of 167 on an IQ test, which lead to his parents skipping him into the seventh grade. Despite not fitting in well with his peers, he continued to excel in school, particularly in advanced mathematics. At only age 16, Kaczynski entered Harvard. The freshman performed as a typical first-year Harvard undergrad, getting mostly B’s and C’s. Perhaps what was one of the most defining moments of his life came during his sophomore year.

Ted volunteered to participate in a somewhat unethical psychological experiment conducted by Henry Murray, a Harvard professor of psychology and former officer in the Army Office of Strategic Services (precursor to the CIA). Participants were told to write down their closely-held personal convictions, which were then brutally insulted by the test-givers, who then recorded the expressions of anger by the participants. Kaczynski was traumatized by this experience. He became instilled with the fear of societal mind control and harbored a hatred

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37 Alston Chase, A mind for murder: The education of the Unabomber and the origins of modern terrorism, (New York, Norton, 2003), 156.
38 Ibid.
39 Ibid., 181-184.
40 Ibid., 241.
towards “the system.” He began to develop an anti-technology philosophy and concluded that morality had “no logical justification.”

During graduate school at the University of Michigan, Kaczynski hammered down on his studies. To his peers and professors, he was a mathematical genius, bound for success. Inwardly, however, Ted was exasperated with industrial society and began to find solitude and comfort in nature. He fostered an intense hatred for technology, government, academia, industrialization, and even his own field of mathematics. Still, his doctoral dissertation entitled “Boundary Functions” solidified to academia his extraordinary intelligence. Despite earning his PhD at only age 25, Ted seemed unmoved by his own success. Instead, he furthered his loner mentality and his hatred towards everyone around him, and he became increasingly interested in escaping to the wilderness, primitivism, and the radical leftist movements of the 1960s. Later that year, he half-heartedly decided to take a job as an assistant professor at the University of California, Berkeley in order to save up enough money to buy an isolated plot of land. It was also at this point that his frustration with “the system” peaked. He vowed that he would get revenge on society.

Kaczynski left Berkley in 1969, and in 1971 he purchased a piece of land in Lincoln, Montana. This small town was ideal for two reasons. First, he knew he would not be totally isolated, because “the location virtually guaranteed noisy neighbors who would keep him perpetually agitated, pick at the scabs of his emotional wounds and keep them fresh, open, and

41 Ibid., 292-294.
42 Ibid., 299-300.
Industrial society itself was also not far off, as companies searched the pristine landscape for oil and resources and cut roads through his favorite stretches of wilderness. This infuriated Ted to no end. Secondly, Lincoln’s bus station offered the ability to travel if necessary, which of course is necessary for one to export terrorism. Kaczynski spent the next few years plotting his reign of terror and developing ideas for what would later be called his manifesto, “Industrial Society and Its Future”, which outlined his anarcho-primitivist views and blamed technology for society’s woes.  

Kaczynski’s targets, methods, and bombmaking evolved over his 17-year terror campaign. Overall, he killed three people and injured 23 in 16 separate bombings. The first bomb was detonated on 25 May 1978. A Northwestern University police officer, Terry Maker, was injured when he attempted to open a suspicious package, which was addressed to engineering professor Buckley Crist. The amateur device only caused minor injuries, and when the ATF first investigated the bomb debris, it was tagged and bagged as an isolated incident. Almost a year later, a second bomb exploded in the commons area of NU’s Technological Institute, injuring a graduate student, though not severely. 15 November 1979 marked the third attack, this time against the airline industry, where a bomb placed in the cargo hold onboard American Airlines flight 444 failed to detonate. The FBI took ahold of the case when Special Agent James Ronay, an explosives expert highly impressed by the inventiveness of the bomber, noticed strikingly similar characteristics with evidence recovered by local law enforcement after the two NU

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43 Ibid., 330.
44 Ibid., 84.
bombings. The Bureau labeled the case UNABOM (UNiversity and Airport BOMbings). Nine more attacks would occur between 1980 and 1987, five targeting universities (including two bombs at his former place of employment, UC Berkley, in 1982 and 1985), two targeting the airline industry, and two targeting computer store owners (Hugh Scrutton becoming the first fatality in 1985), all symbols of his disdain for technological society.45

Kaczynski, who had been very meticulous not to leave any traces of evidence behind for law enforcement had a minor slip up in Salt Lake City in 1987, where someone witnessed his suspicious behavior and reported to police what they had seen, allowing police to come up with a now infamous a sketch of Kaczynski wearing dark sunglasses and a hood.46 For six years, the Unabomber went dark. This hiatus led law enforcement to believe that he had either died or moved on. Then on 23 June 1993, Kaczynski sent a parcel to the home of a well-known UC San Francisco geneticist, Dr. Charles Epstein, who upon opening it was severely injured, losing three fingers and blowing up both eardrums. Two days later on the other side of the country, Yale computer science professor Dr. David Gelernter also received a package from the Unabomber, which nearly claimed his life. Both men had one thing in common: they had both been in the news that week. Epstein was a leading researcher in combatting Alzheimer’s disease and Down’s syndrome, and Gelernter had recently helped to develop a computer networking software nicknamed “Linda.”47 The final two bombings resulted in fatalities, demonstrating the improvements Kaczynski had made to his bombs since 1987. The final two killings were

46 Ibid., 250.
47 Ibid., 252-53.
inspired by an article in *Earth First! Journal* and by a radical environmentalist group’s hitlist. Native Forest Network’s list pointed fingers at Exxon Corporation and the California Forestry Association (CFA) for destroying the environment. Thomas Mosser, fatality number two, was chosen because he was a part of the public relations firm Burson Marsteller that helped Exxon clean-up its image after the Prince William Sound Oil Spill in 1989. The final victim, Gilbert Murray, was a timber lobbyist in Sacramento for the CFA. He was killed on 24 April 1995, just five days after the Oklahoma City bombing.  

Kaczynski was only caught after he contacted writers at the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* vowing to end his reign of terror in exchange for the publication of his manifesto, “Industrial Society and its Future.” The *Post* published it on 19 September 1995. His own brother, David, who had grown suspicious of Ted’s interest in the Unabomber case, recognized the written language of the manifesto to be Ted’s and contacted the FBI in January 1996. Ted was arrested on 3 April of that year. He was sentenced to life in prison at the Florence, Colorado Supermax prison, without the possibility of parole, where he is still incarcerated today.

The Unabomber lead the FBI on one of the longest, most expensive manhunts in U.S. history. His superior intellect helped him to outsmart law enforcement for nearly 18 years. During those years, he perfected the art of bombmaking in his isolated Lincoln, Montana shack. He led the FBI on multiple wild-goose chases and employed sophisticated counter-forensic measures in order to remove any trace of his whereabouts. The serial bomber developed signature features in his work including Eugene O’Neil stamps, unique triggering systems,

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48 Ibid., 254-56.
homemade wooden boxes, and the distinct initials “FC” (which stood for Freedom Club, a fabricated terrorist group that furthered Kaczynski’s elaborate ruse). His ability to stay off the grid for so long, i.e. not communicate with anyone, allowed him to evade law enforcement for years. Kaczynski is the archetype for lone wolves everywhere. His IQ gave him the ability to create the bombs, and his narcissism allowed him to justify any of his acts since morality did not exist in his mind anyway. His personal vendettas became a struggle against the “system.” The industrial system was usurping the earth, and only he had the answer.

Rebellion against technology and civilization is real rebellion, a real attack on the values of the existing system. But the green anarchists, anarcho-primitivists, and so forth (The "GA Movement") have fallen under such heavy influence from the left that their rebellion against civilization has to great extent been neutralized. Instead of rebelling against the values of civilization, they have adopted many civilized values themselves and have constructed an imaginary picture of primitive societies that embodies these civilized values.50

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49 Ibid., 250
September 18 – October 9, 2001: Anthrax attacks

As if the horrors of 9/11 had not caused enough panic, one week later, approximately five letters were mailed out to major U.S. news outlets ABC News, NBC News, CBS News, and the New York Post, all located in New York City, and to the National Enquirer, located at the American Media Inc (AMI) headquarters in Boca Raton, Florida, each laced with an unidentified white powder, later revealed to be the deadly, infectious bacteria Bacillus anthracis - anthrax. Of the two letters recovered, one was addressed to NBC News anchor Tom Brokaw and the other to the editor of the New York Post, Col Allan. The virus never reached either man, but did come in contact with Brokaw’s assistant, Erin O’Connor, who developed a rash, indicative of cutaneous anthrax. She later recovered, but 63-year old AMI photo editor Robert Stevens, was not so fortunate. He contracted inhalation anthrax on 2 October and died 3 days later. Anthrax spores were found on his keyboard and in the mailroom of AMI, which closed its office 2 days later. CBS News anchor Dan Rather’s assistant also tested positive for anthrax on 18 October, as the spores were found to be present in Rather’s office.

The media was not the only target of the unknown assailant. Politicians, too, received envelopes laced with the deadly substance. On 9 October, South Dakota Senator Tom Daschle’s Washington D.C. office received a particularly lethal strain of anthrax, a highly-concentrated

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51 Only two letters addressed to media members were recovered by the FBI during the investigations; however, because the symptoms of anthrax exposure and traces of anthrax spores were present at all five media headquarters, law enforcement concluded that at least five letters were mailed out targeting members of the media. In addition, both letters sent to Senators Tom Daschle and Patrick Leahy were recovered. Hasan, Tahara. Anthrax attacks around the world. New York: Rosen Pub. Group, 2003, 54.
52 Ibid., 49-51.
form of anthrax, the purity of which could only be produced in a select number of labs in the world. Some members of the Bush administration circulated the idea that the highly-refined anthrax may have been weaponized in Iraq and then utilized by Al Qaeda, though this was based purely on speculation. A similar letter was sent to Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy on 16 November. Traces of anthrax were also discovered at the U.S. Supreme Court, the State Department, in a Health and Human Services building, and in an office of the USDA. FBI and law enforcement were baffled and had very few leads. The four letters recovered were all postmarked from Trenton, New Jersey, they all had the same handwriting, and they all bore a similar message: “Death to America… Death to Israel… Allah is great” (see Figure 3). This led investigators to pursue Islamic terror suspects, especially in the aftermath of 9/11. Trenton, NJ was also a focus of investigators because of the postmarks on the envelopes. At thirteen different locations in Trenton and one mail processing facility in Washington D.C., the FBI discovered anthrax spores, and several workers contracted anthrax. The USPS advised all postal employees to wear

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53 Ibid., 55-56.
54 Ibid., 51-52.
protective gloves and masks and trained employees to spot suspicious envelopes. All told, between 18 September and 21 November 2001, five people died as a result of exposure to inhalation anthrax, and at least 17 others, mostly postal workers, were infected with either cutaneous or inhalation anthrax.\textsuperscript{55} The newest threat to national security became lone wolf bioterrorism.

Unlike the Unabomber’s hiatus between bombings, anthrax never resurfaced after 2001, but the FBI tirelessly pursued thousands of leads, mostly to no avail. They titled the case “Amerithrax,” and over the years, there were several suspects at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) located in Fort Detrick, Maryland. The reason for suspicion at USAMRIID was because the particular type of anthrax, the particularly deadly Ames strain, was only known to be isolated for research at a few facilities. The DNA profile of the spores found in the letters matched a particular batch labeled “RMR-1029.”\textsuperscript{56} It was also later believed that silicon was added to the batch, indicative of anthrax weaponization, but there was also some doubt to this claim.\textsuperscript{57}

The first suspect was an Egyptian-American named Ayaad Assaad who had worked for USAMRIID in previous years, but following an interview, the FBI determined that he was not the perpetrator. An anonymous letter had even been sent to the FBI, casting blame on Assaad, but it turned out to be either a hoax or someone trying to throw the FBI off of their trail. A working profile emerged from FBI behavioral analysts that suggested the person behind the

\textsuperscript{55} Ibid., 56
\textsuperscript{56} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{57} Ibid., 345.
attacks was a white male, middle-aged, with ties to the military or the Defense Department, and was of extremely high intelligence, possibly having a doctoral degree in biology.\textsuperscript{58}

Steven J. Hatfill became the next person of interest in the case. Hatfill had worked at USAMRIID from 1997 to 1999 as a virologist using a fake Ph. D. in microbiology. On 25 June 2002, Hatfill consented to an FBI search of his home, in which no anthrax was found.\textsuperscript{59} A colleague of Hatfill’s, Dr. Barbara Rosenberg, had painted a suspicious narrative of him to the FBI. Coupled with his odd behaviors at work, his habitual lying, and the huge media presence during the search, suggesting a leak within the FBI, all signs pointed towards Hatfill. For years, Hatfill suffered from depression, media ambushes, and constant legal battles, all the while maintaining his innocence. Following an internal FBI investigation, Director Robert Mueller III restructured the Amerithrax case because it was going nowhere. Agents Edward Montooth and Vince Lisi replaced the former lead-investigator, Agent Richard Lambery Jr., and refocused the investigation on USAMRIID scientists who had access to the lab containing the RMR-1029 strain anthrax. Because Hatfill did not have access or the means to manufacture the anthrax outside of the lab, he was no longer a person of interest. In fall of 2006, investigators were becoming increasingly interested in one microbiologist in particular: Bruce Edward Ivins.\textsuperscript{60}

Ivins was born on 22 April 1946 in Lebanon, Ohio, a quaint “middle-America” town, and was the youngest of the three sons of Thomas and Mary Ivins (Knight). The well-off family managed a drug store in town. Mrs. Ivins was the head of the family and was harsh, even

\textsuperscript{58} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{59} Willman, David. \textit{The Mirage Man: Bruce Ivins, the Anthrax Attacks, and America’s Rush to War}. New York, Bantam, 2011, 161-73.
\textsuperscript{60} Ibid., 236-240.
abusive, with all four of the men in the household. Bruce, though a socially awkward child, excelled at many things in life, such as piano, writing for the school newspaper, and even theater, but his true talent was in biology. After graduating high school, he attended the University of Cincinnati, where he constantly studied and improved his social skills. He also became infatuated with a Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority member who rejected him. His fixation on her and the sorority would play a key part during the investigation. 61

Ivins graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor of Science (1968), Master of Science (1971), and a Ph. D. (1976), all in microbiology. 62 He converted from Presbyterianism to Catholicism after befriending a fellow microbiology student. He was quite involved with the local parish, and during a church retreat, he met Mary Diane Betsch, a young nursing student from Cincinnati. The two married on 22 August 1975. The couple gave birth to twins, Amanda and Andrew. After his postdoctoral research at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Ivins and his wife moved to Bethesda, Maryland in 1978 so that Bruce could take a research position at the DoD’s health sciences university. 63 In the wake of the Soviet Union’s anthrax disaster in Sverdlovsk, which killed at least 64 people, the DoD sought to improve its defenses against bioterrorism by employing a superior microbiologist to do research with anthrax. Ivins, a published scientist whose research at the DoD health sciences university involved researching infectious diseases such as chlamydia, diphtheria, and cholera, made for an

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61 Ibid., 5-14.
62 Ibid., 18.
63 Ibid., 19-22.
excellent candidate. The Army hired him on 2 December 1980 as a civilian microbiologist, and he worked there until his death in 2007, a result of the FBI investigation into his background.\textsuperscript{64}

Bruce Ivins’ inconsistent statements to law enforcement, his odd emails to co-workers, and his access to the lab containing the RMR-1029 strain piqued the FBI’s interest. He had also failed to report to his superiors instances of contamination breeches, choosing instead to clean the spores of anthrax with bleach on his own, which was unauthorized.\textsuperscript{65} When the spotlight shifted from Hatfill to Ivins in mid-2006, Ivins became increasingly stressed. In November 2007, the FBI searched his home, and although no anthrax spores turned up, they continued to pressure Ivins into talking. Always proclaiming his innocence, Ivins agreed to continually talk to the FBI. The increased stress developed into anxiety, paranoia, alcoholism, and depression. He was also relieved of several duties at his job.\textsuperscript{66} Ivins was involuntarily admitted to a psychiatric facility and attempted to follow an alcohol abuse rehab program. His lawyers had told him to prepare for an indictment and that he should be prepared to face the death penalty.\textsuperscript{67} On 26 July 2008, Ivins intentionally overdosed on Tylenol. At 10:47 A.M. the next day, at age 62, Dr. Bruce Edwards Ivins was dead.\textsuperscript{68}

On 7 August 2008, the FBI concluded their investigation and stated that Ivins had worked alone, despite conflicting theories of whether Ivins would have even been able to act alone, without the aid of lab assistants to create the pure form of anthrax used in the letter attacks. Some

\textsuperscript{64} Ibid., 28-30.
\textsuperscript{65} Ibid., 319.
\textsuperscript{66} Ibid., 285.
\textsuperscript{67} Ibid., 296.
\textsuperscript{68} Ibid., 319.
fellow scientists also concluded that he lacked the resources and the means to hide the evidence that he was weaponizing anthrax.\textsuperscript{69} As for his motive, Ivins was on the verge of developing a “next-generation anthrax vaccine,” both a deeply personal goal and a scientific achievement, when the Army decided to pull the plug on his research. This devastated the microbiologist. Though it will never be fully known, the FBI’s running theory is that he sought to recreate the panic that was caused from the anthrax outbreak in Sverdlovsk in 1979 that prompted the Army to hire him in the first place. That is why he targeted media outlets and politicians. In this way, he could either get a new chance at restarting his vaccine research or, at minimum, expose the inadequate bioterrorism defenses of the DoD. He maintained his innocence until the very end.\textsuperscript{70} Ivins also carried a grudge against the sorority Kappa Kappa Gamma, which would have probably been a strong piece of circumstantial evidence against him, considering that the anthrax-laced letters were dropped in the mailbox adjacent to the KKG chapter at Princeton.\textsuperscript{71} Ironically, Ivins terrorist attacks through the mail may actually have accomplished his “Plan B.” The DoD, USPS, and other federal agencies invested hundreds of millions of dollars into bioterrorism defense and the development of a new anthrax vaccine. The cost to clean up of the postal facilities and government buildings alone cost between $320 million and $600 million.\textsuperscript{72}

\textsuperscript{69} Ibid., 339.
\textsuperscript{70} Ibid., 357.
\textsuperscript{71} Ibid., 358.
November 5, 2009: Fort Hood shooting

Part of the traditional definition of terrorism states that for an attack to be defined as terrorism, the target must be the civilian population. This excludes attacks on military personnel. For example, a Humvee full of U.S. soldiers patrolling the streets of Baghdad that gets hit by an ISIL-made IED is considered an insurgent attack. In no way does this lessen the tragedy of the attack, but for the purpose of this study, insurgency-related attacks are not considered acts of terrorism. However, this brings into question whether or not attacks on off-duty or home-stationed military personnel are considered acts of terrorism. Following the deadly 1983 Beirut Marine Corps barracks bombings, which killed 258 U.S. service members, the government began to include attacks on designated non-combatants as terrorist attacks. That is why the Fort Hood shooting is included in this case study.

Nadal Malik Hasan was born on 8 September 1970 to Palestinian immigrant parents from the West Bank. His parents made sure that he had an all-American upbringing in suburban Arlington County, Virginia. He was the oldest of three boys, and they all worked at the family restaurant, which moved with them to Roanoke, Virginia. The Muslim family was not overly-religious, except for Hasan’s mother, who desired her children to known God. Hasan was an honors student in high school and graduated from Virginia Tech in 1995 with a degree in biochemistry. After college, Hasan decided to join the Army, and after completing Basic Officer Leaders Course in Fort Sam Houston, Texas, he was commissioned in 1997. He completed

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medical school at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (UHUHS) in 2003 in Bethesda, Maryland and did his residency in psychiatry at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, providing counseling for soldiers returning from combat who were experiencing PTSD. He also earned a Master of Public Health, which had a two-year fellowship in Disaster and Preventive Psychiatry at the USUHS. He finished his residency in 2009 and was promoted from Captain to Major in May. In July 2009, Major Hasan was transferred to Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center at Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas to perform pre-deployment psychiatric evaluations of soldiers headed to the Middle East.74

Hasan’s religious interests emerged following the death of his parents: his father in 1998 and his mother in 2001. In an interview with his cousin, Nader Hasan, Nidal Hasan was never described as a devout Muslim growing up, aside from his family fasting during Ramadan (Sawm). Major Hasan’s mother’s dying wish was that he would “know God.” At that point in his life, Hasan began attending regular prayer service at the mosque in Silver Springs, Maryland and took on a more pious attitude. He intended to marry but never did. He believed his first major test as a Muslim was to remain faithful to Islam after 9/11 and the swath of anti-Islamic sentiment that followed. At Walter Reed, Major Hasan began to experience discrimination because of his faith, and he began more and more to disagree with the War on Terror.75 In a presentation that he delivered to colleagues at Walter Reed on 20 June 2007 titled “The Koranic World View as it Relates to Muslims in the U.S. Military” he expressed his dissatisfaction. “It’s

getting harder and harder for Muslims in the service to morally justify being in a military that seems constantly engaged against fellow Muslims.” He also recommended that the “Department of Defense should allow Muslim soldiers the option of being released as ‘conscientious objectors’ to increase morale and decrease adverse events.” Increasingly, Major Hasan found it difficult to be both a Muslim and an American soldier. By order of his superiors, he went to personal counseling while at Walter Reed, but nothing suggested that he was any threat to himself or others. He repeatedly looked into being released from his commission, but career counselors told Hasan it was impossible to secure his release from active service because of his contractual obligation to the military, which payed for his medical training.

He saw the War on Terror to be more of a war on Islam. Hasan began listening to radical sermons online and became progressively more interested in jihad. In particular, Hasan prescribed to the teachings of the radical Islamic cleric, Anwar al-Awlaki – the notorious American-born imam who had ties to Al Qaeda and inspired numerous terrorist attacks. Hasan attempted to contact al-Awlaki via email numerous times, asking al-Awlaki if he remembered meeting him at the Dar al-Hijrah mosque near Falls Church, Virginia, where al-Awlaki served as an imam. According to Abdulelah Hider Shaea, a Yemeni journalist and terrorism expert, al-Awlaki responded to only a few of Hasan’s twenty or so emails, never outright answering Hasan’s questions about when jihad was appropriate. Major Hasan’s superiors were aware

76 Ibid.
78 In a literalist interpretation of the Quran, jihad is an Islamic holy war against unbelievers.
79 Raghavan, Sudarsan. “Cleric says he was confidant to Hasan.” Washington Post. 16 Nov. 2009.
of the emails and internet searches that he conducted, but because the content was related to his research, no red flags were raised.\textsuperscript{80}

Upon moving to Killeen, Major Hasan became severely distraught over his imminent deployment to Afghanistan. Just a few days after moving in, he purchased an FN Herstal 5.7-millimeter pistol at nearby Guns Galore and began practicing at a firing range. He attended a local mosque and was friendly to his neighbors at the apartment complex. No one suspected any ill of the Army major.\textsuperscript{81}

On 5 November 2009, at approximately 1:20 p.m., Major Hasan entered the Soldier Readiness Processing Center at Fort Hood, bowed as if to pray, and shouted “Allahu akbar.” He then opened fire with his FN, firing over 100 rounds, killing 13 people and injuring 32. He was discriminate with his targets. He wanted to kill military personnel in uniform only.\textsuperscript{82} He would make eye contact with several civilian employees and pass by them, except for one man, Michael Cahill (a retired Army Chief Warrant Officer serving as a physician’s assistant), who attempted to subdue Major Hasan.\textsuperscript{83} A responding civilian base police officer, Sgt. Kimberly D. Munley, exchanged fire with Major Hasan. She was wounded, but hit Hasan three times in the chest, which permanently paralyzed him from the chest down.

\textsuperscript{81} McKinley and Dao. “Fort Hood Gunman Gave Signals Before His Rampage.”
\textsuperscript{82} Ibid.
In the aftermath, several questions needed to be answered. A fierce debate about whether or not to even call the event an act of terrorism versus “workplace violence” incited anger from victims and their family members. Top Army officials and President Barack Obama avoided using the word “terrorism.” An added layer of confusion in the phraseology came from the fact that Hasan’s trial took place in the military court system, not the civilian courts. Being tried under the UCMJ, Hasan was not charged with terrorism, but rather premeditated murder and attempted murder. He was found guilty on all counts and sentenced to death by a general court-martial on 23 August 2013, pending any appeals.\footnote{Fernandez, Manny and Alan Blinder. “At Fort Hood, Wrestling with Label of Terrorism.” \textit{New York Times}. 8 Apr., 2014.} The denial of the act being terrorism or related to the War on Terror also prevented victims from receiving certain benefits normally available to wounded soldiers and to family members of fallen soldiers. In 2015, the Army finally awarded all benefits and the Purple Heart medal to all survivors and rendered death benefits to the families of those killed. This was due to the new provision of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015, which stated that lone acts of terrorism can be considered attacks by foreign terrorist organization if the perpetrator “was in communication with the foreign terrorist organization before the attack” and “the attack was inspired or motivated by the foreign terrorist organization.”\footnote{Department of Defense. Department of the Army. “Army Approves Awards for Victims of 2009 Fort Hood Attack.” News release, February 6, 2015. (February 21, 2017). Release No: NR-040-15.} Although this helped to determine eligibility for the receipt of the Purple Heart and defined the act as terrorism, the attack is still considered an act of lone wolf terrorism because it was Major Hasan who acted
alone, independent of any outside planning, funding, or training. His self-radicalization was based on the teachings and ideology of al-Awlaki, but he never conspired with anyone. He finally declared his motive in 2013, after waiving his right to an attorney, instead choosing to defend himself. Hasan told judge Colonel Tara Osborn he was defending “the leadership of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, the Taliban,” and when he was asked why he chose to attack the people at Fort Hood, he said “They're part of the United States military.”

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April 15, 2013: Boston Marathon bombing

As seen in the Oklahoma City bombing, an LWP can be responsible for a terrorist attack. In the case of the Boston Marathon bombing, two brothers were involved. Tamerlan and Dzhokhar “Jahar” Tsarnaev were both born in Tokmok, Kyrgyzstan to an ethnically Chechen family that left war-torn Chechnya for a better life. Tamerlan was born on 21 October 1986, and Dzhokar was born on 22 July 1993. The family briefly moved to Makhachkala, Dagestan (Russia) in 2001, but, unable to return to Chechnya amidst the guerilla warfare, parents Anzor and Zubeidat Tsarnaeva, along with Dzhokhar, moved to Somerville, Massachusetts as asylees. Tamerlan arrived in 2002 with his two sisters. Anzor worked as mechanic, and Zubeidat as a cosmetologist. The brothers grew up pretty stereotypical of American boys. Tamerlan achieved permanent U.S. residency in 2007.

Figure 3: Boston Marathon Bombing of 2013. Two brothers, Tamerlan and Dzhokar Tsarnaev, placed a pair of homemade bombs near the finish line of the Boston Marathon on 15 April 2013. Three people were killed and over 260 were injured. An MIT campus police officer was also killed by the brothers three days later. Tamerlan was later killed in a shootout with police, and Dzhokar was sentenced to death on 15 May 2015. Image from Encyclopedia Britannica provided by David L. Ryan.

Tamerlan attended Bunker Hill Community College part-time between 2006 and 2008. Almost immediately upon entering the U.S., he registered with USA boxing and rose to prominence as a boxer. His fighter mentality also caused him some problems; he was arrested in 2009 for the assault and battery of his girlfriend. He eventually married a young woman, Katherine Russell, whom he fathered a daughter with. Dzhokhar graduated from Cambridge Ringe and Latin School in 2011. He performed fairly well in school, receiving a $2,500 scholarship from the city, and was the captain of the wrestling team. He attended the University of Massachusetts with aspirations of becoming a dentist. He also enjoyed rap music and skateboarding.

The apparent motivation behind the bombings stems from the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, which they perceived as a war on Muslims. It is not exactly clear where or when Tamerlan became radicalized, but his mother noticed in 2008 that he “got involved in religion… Started following his own religion, never told me he could be on (the) side of jihad.” He began praying five times a day, and his wife also started wearing a hijab and stopped leaving the home without her husband. His uncle, Ruslan Tsarni, told CNN that he believed radicalization did not take place in Chechnya but actually at a mosque in Cambridge. In fact, he radicalized so quickly and drastically, that in 2011 Russian authorities asked the FBI to look into his activities because they believed he had ties to Chechen extremists. After questioning him, the FBI did not find any

89 Peter, Finn, Carol D. Leonigg, and Will Englund. "Tsarnaev brothers' homeland was war-torn Chechnya." Washington Post, April 19, 2013. (February 23, 2017).
90 Abad-Santos, Alexander. Who Is Dzhokhar…”
92 “Timeline: A look at Tamerlan…”
evidence to connect him to terrorists. Tamerlan traveled back to Dagestan in January 2012, but his activities there are not quite certain. His father, who returned to Russia years earlier, told authorities that he was with him the whole time. He returned to the U.S. on 17 July 2012, but possibly made other trips to the region during the next year. Tamerlan’s YouTube account began to be populated by videos of radical Islamic sermons, including some by al-Awlaki. Members of the Islamic Society of Boston Cambridge mosque where Tamerlan attended noted that he began to challenge the imams there on matters of faith. The FBI continued to monitor him, but never had enough to make a move. It is further unclear how Tamerlan’s younger brother became radicalized, but it is believed that Dzhokhar simply followed in his brother’s footsteps because he really looked up to his brother.

The brothers took the advice of AQAP’s magazine, *Inspire*, and decided to commit lone wolf terrorism in order to force the West to change its policies in the Middle East. In the article “Make a bomb in the kitchen of your Mom,” Tamerlan and Dzhokhar learned how to make pressure cooker bombs, and it is believed that Tamerlan may have received further instruction during one of his visits to Russia. The brothers never communicated with Al Qaeda, however, they aligned with their ideology and admired al-Awlaki. Following the attack, *Inspire* applauded the brothers for choosing Boston as a soft target, as opposed to New York City or

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93 Ibid.
94 Peter, Finn, Carol D. Leonigg, and Will Englund. "Tsarnaev brothers’ homeland…”
Washington D.C. The magazine also praised them for “expos[ing] many hidden shortcomings of the American security and intelligence system.”96

On 15 April 2013, at approximately 2:49 p.m., two explosions, twelve seconds apart, rocked the north side of Boylston Street near the finish line of the Boston Marathon, just shy of four hours and ten minutes into the race. The first explosion occurred at 671 Boylston St. and the second at 755 Boylston St. Security. Cell phone video captured Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev at multiple points leading up to the explosions and also as they fled the scene. Three people died in the initial blast: 29-year old Krystle Marie Campbell, 23-year old Lu Lingzi, and 8-year old Martin Richard. 264 people were injured.97 At one point, the men dropped off two black backpacks, which contained the pressure cooker bombs, along the barricades. The bombs contained metal pellets and BB’s which created deadly shrapnel. After the explosions, law enforcement conducted a massive manhunt for the two suspects, whom were identified from security videos. The men laid low for three days, and then on 18 April, they struck out from their hiding. While crossing the campus of MIT, the brothers spotted a campus police officer, Sean Collier, 27, in his squad car, and decided to take his gun. They shot Officer Collier multiple times in the head, making him a fourth casualty, but they could not get the gun out of his holster.98 Next, they carjacked a man in Cambridge at gunpoint.99 The man managed to escape and call the police, who then located the vehicle in Watertown and engaged the suspects. In the

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96 Ibid., 13.
99 U.S. v. Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts April 21, 2013).
ensuing gun fight, two IED’s were thrown from the car, fatally injuring Officer Dennis Simmonds, 28, who succumbed to his wound on 10 April 2014.\textsuperscript{100} Tamerlan was taken down by officers after he ran out of ammunition, however, as police tried unsuccessfully to move Tamerlan out of the way, his fleeing brother drove over him and dragged his body underneath the car. Tamerlan was pronounced dead at Beth Israel Hospital shortly after. Dzhokhar escaped on foot after the gunfight, and the manhunt continued into the evening of 19 April. He was found inside a dry-docked boat in Watertown, where he exchanged more gunfire with police, until eventually he was critically wounded and taken into custody.\textsuperscript{101} He recovered, was tried, and found guilty of using a weapon of mass destruction resulting in death. After apologizing to victims in his sentencing hearing, he was sentenced to death on 15 May 2015. He is currently on death row at ADX Florence, a federal supermax prison in Colorado.\textsuperscript{102}


\textsuperscript{101} Johnson, Kevin. "As manhunt ends, new questions emerge in Boston bombings". \textit{USA Today}. April 20, 2013.

December 2, 2015: San Bernardino attack

Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, like Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaeva, symbolize the lone wolf terrorist movement within radical Islam. Unlike the Tsarnaeva brothers, however, Tashfeen breaks the stereotype of the male terrorist by committing jihad alongside her husband. The coupled married in 2014 after Farook sought Malik out on a Muslim dating site. During the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca in 2013, the two met in person. In July of 2014, Farook, an American citizen, brought Malik to the United States on a K-1 fiancée visa. They were married on 16 August 2014, and she became a lawful green card holder in September. The couple also had a six-month old daughter at the time of the shooting.\(^{103}\) To obtain permanent residency in the U.S., Malik underwent numerous interviews with Pakistani and ICE officials, and no red flags were raised during the vetting process, though her social media posts, which did reflect radical Islamic tendencies, were not screened, which will be discussed further in Chapter Five.\(^{104}\)

Farook was born on 14 June 1987 in Chicago to immigrant parents from Pakistan and was raised in Southern California. Not much is known about his childhood other than that his parents’ marriage was rocky (they eventually split in 2006) and that his father was “abusive” towards him, but he did graduate from La Sierra High School (Riverside, CA) in 2004, where he belonged to the Muslim club. He graduated from California State University, San Bernardino in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health. He began a master’s program in

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environmental engineering at the Fullerton campus of Cal State, but only finished one semester. In 2010, he started working for San Bernardino County Department of Public Health as a seasonal employee and eventually was hired on full-time, first as a trainee in 2012, and then he was promoted to health inspector on 8 February 2014. He was a quiet man who kept to himself and never raised the suspicion of his fellow mosque-goers. He frequently attended the Islamic Center of Riverside and was a devout Muslim. He also frequented the shooting range. After his marriage to Malik, however, he gradually stopped attending the mosque.105

Born on 13 July 1986, Malik was the daughter of wealthy landowners in Pakistan, but she was mostly raised in Saudi Arabia. Between 2007 and 2012, Malik returned to Pakistan to study pharmacy at Bahauddin Zakariya University in Multan. During those years, her friends and professors noted that she did not seem overly zealous about Islam, although she did wear the niqab, which is common of the region. A former classmate said that she neither prayed five times a day, nor did she act any different from other girls at the school, talking about boys and using social media. That changed sometime after she attended an all-women’s seminary school in Multan between 2013 and 2014 – the puritanical Al-Huda Institute. It is believed that here she became a more conservative, literalist Muslim, but she never earned the diploma, instead choosing to marry Farook and move to the United States.106 It is not clear who radicalized who, or even when either of the individuals were radicalized, but both became supporters of ISIL at some point between 2013 and the day of the shooting.

By late 2015, ISIL (or ISIS, or Daesh) was practically on everyone’s mind. In 2015 alone, ISIL committed attacks on the Charlie Hebdo office in France (11 dead, 7 Jan.), beheaded 21 Egyptian Christians (15-16 Feb.), bombed two mosques in Yemen (137 dead, 20 Mar.), seized Ramadi (17 May) and Palmyra (20 May), massacred civilians in Kobani (145 dead, 26 Jun.), attacked a resort in Sousse (38 dead, 27 Jun.), and terrorized the city of Paris (130 dead, Nov. 13), not to mention the Internet-broadcast beheadings of American, French, and British citizens and the military takeover of Raqqa, Mosul, and Tikrit the year before. Indeed, the day before the shooting took place, Defense Secretary Ashton Carter announced that U.S. special operations forces would be deployed to Syria to support Iraqi and Kurdish troops against ISIL.  

This is potentially the straw that broke the camel’s back, what forced the couple into action the very next day. Direct private messages between the married couple revealed talks of jihad and martyrdom. FBI Director James Comey said in a news conference in New York after the attack that the couple was “consuming poison on the Internet” and that it was clear that they had gradually radicalized before they married and before the rise of ISIL. “Twitter works as a way to sell books, as a way to promote movies, and it works as a way to crowdsourse terrorism — to sell murder,” Comey said, but nothing has connected them directly with any foreign terrorist organizations. They had simply fallen prey to radical Islamic propaganda. Aside from the declaration by Secretary Carter and the ISIS propaganda, the couple may also have been upset at

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109 Ibid.
the fact that there was to be an office Christmas party that day, which Malik felt was absurd for her husband to have to attend.\footnote{Christie, Megan, Rhonda Schwartz, Josh Margolin, and Brian Ross. "Christmas Party May Have Triggered San Bernardino Terror Attack: Police." ABC News. Dec. 1, 2016. (28 February 2017).}

In late 2011 or early 2012, a friend of Farook’s, Enrique Marquez Jr., purchased two AR-15 style assault rifles for Farook, because he believed that Marquez would have a better chance at passing a background check than he would. This, of course, is illegal. Farook befriended Marquez in 2005 after the two became neighbors and attended the same mosque in Riverside. Marquez, who is the only person to be charged in the 2015 shooting, stated in a plea deal that he and Farook had planned an attack in 2011 on the 91 Freeway in Corona and in 2012 at Riverside City College, but both plots fell through.\footnote{Esquivel, Paloma. “Father of San Bernardino terror victim condemns plea agreement for gunman’s friend.” The Los Angeles Times. Feb. 16, 2017. (Feb 28, 2017).}

Days prior to the attacks, neighbors noted “suspicious activity,” but told an ABC News affiliate that they did not want to “profile” the Muslim family. A neighbor of Syed Farook’s mother noticed “quite a few packages” being delivered “within a short amount of time” to her home and that the occupants of the home – supposedly Farook and Malik – were “doing a lot of work out in the garage.”\footnote{Fox News. “Neighbor to family of San Bernardino terrorist couple purportedly saw but didn’t report ‘suspicious activity.’” Dec. 5, 2015. http://www.foxnews.com/us/2015/12/05/neighbor-to-family-san-bernardino-terrorist-couple-purportedly-saw-but-didnt.html (Feb. 28, 2017).} The extent of the planning phase has still not been released to the public, partially due to the fact that the FBI and Apple Inc have been fighting a legal battle over the constitutionality of the government forcing Apple to give them access to Farook’s iPhone (this will also be discussed later in Chapter 4), but it is known that Farook and Malik left their
infant daughter at Farook’s mothers house on the day of the attack.\textsuperscript{113} Leading up to the attack, they stockpiled ammunition and prepared remote-detonating IED’s, most likely taking the idea from the AQAP magazine, \textit{Inspire}. The day of the attack, Malik pledged allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of ISIL.\textsuperscript{114} They then headed for the Inland Regional Center, where Farook’s fellow coworkers would be having a Christmas party.

Farook had entered the building at his usual time around 8:00 a.m., while Malik waited outside, and was seen leaving around 10:30. Wearing black tactical gear and ski masks and armed with two assault rifles and two semi-automatic pistols, Farook and Malik opened fire outside of the office building at approximately 10:58 a.m. killing three workers outside of the building.\textsuperscript{115} Bursting inside, they sprayed over 100 .223 rounds in just a few short minutes. In the carnage, 14 people were killed and 22 were wounded. After placing their IED’s in hopes of causing more damage, the couple fled the scene. Thankfully, EOD officers safely disposed of them before they caused any harm. In three minutes and 32 seconds, police responded to the computer-aided dispatch (CAD), but the suspects were gone.\textsuperscript{116} More than 175 law enforcement officials responded to the scene.\textsuperscript{117} Four hours after the attack, their rental vehicle was spotted by two plainclothes officers, and a car chase ensued. The couple eventually stopped the SUV they were driving at 3:09 p.m. and engaged in a gun battle with police. Both Farook and Malik were

\textsuperscript{116} Ibid., 1.
\textsuperscript{117} Ibid., 40.
shot and killed, and two officers were wounded. Altogether, 24 officers engaged in the firefight with the suspects, and 440 shots were fired. The lone wolf terrorists were inspired by ISIL propaganda, but they acted completely independent of the Islamic State. The ISIL magazine Dabiq praised the married couple, especially Malik, because she, as a woman, is not required to engage in jihad as her husband is called to do. They “aid[ed] each other in righteousness” and martyrdom, the magazine boasts. Invoking their 6-month old daughter, the magazine also promised that Allah would take care of the families of martyrs, and citing the Quran, encouraged others to commit similar attacks in America, Europe, and Australia.  

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118 Ibid.
June 12, 2016: Orlando nightclub shooting

The Orlando shooting was chosen for this study because it is a clear, sobering reminder of the destruction that one person with misguided intentions can cause. Though his motive(s) may never be known, the incident also suggests that lone wolf terrorists can have personal motives as well as ideological ones. Omar Mir Seddique Mateen was born 16 November 1986 in Queens, New York, but his family soon moved to Port Saint Lucie, Florida. As a chubby teen who loved McDonald’s and played football, he was often bullied in his coastal Florida high school and sometimes got into fights. He had an explosive temper. He expressed multiple behavioral issues, including negative comments towards women, African-Americans, and homosexuals. He also reportedly praised the 9/11 terrorist attacks, according to a classmate at Spectrum alternative school, a high school for children with behavioral issues.120 His parents, immigrants from Afghanistan, were very moderate Muslims, well-liked in the community, and happy to be living in America. Omar himself was not very religious in his youth, nor was his family, but his father, Seddique, was an outspoken, somewhat eccentric political ranter in the community.121

Mateen once dreamed of becoming a police officer. Upon graduation from high school in 2003, he lost his childhood weight, a result of a new interest in bodybuilding, and enrolled at Indian River Community College (now Indian River State College) earning an associate’s degree in criminal-justice technology in 2006. He then began working at Martin Correctional Institution

and was also enrolled in a program to become a certified corrections officer for the state, but he was dismissed from the program due to conduct reasons – he threatened to bring a gun to class in the wake of the Virginia Tech shooting. He eventually found himself a job as a security guard for G4S and was licensed to carry a firearm – close enough to being a police officer. He met a fellow Muslim from New Jersey on an online dating service, Sitora Yusifiy, and they married in April 2009. The marriage did not work out as they had hoped, so they divorced after only 9 months. He was reportedly abusive. 122

Omar remarried another Muslim woman, Noor Zahi Salman, three months after the divorce was final in September 2011. The couple moved to Fort Pierce, FL where Mateen and Salman had a son the following year. They lived a quiet, blue-collar life and continued to practice Islam at the local Islamic center. Rumors of suppressed homosexual behaviors by Mateen emerged from former acquaintances and alleged men whom either met up with him or exchanged messages with him via gay dating apps, such as Grindr and Jack’d, though FBI investigators never confirmed these claims. 123 Whether or not the claims are true, Mateen openly spoke out violently against homosexuals, while also admiring the Boston bombers and expressing a desire to die a martyr’s death, according to one coworker at G4S. He also told his coworkers that he was a member of Hezbollah. These claims by coworkers, coupled with his two pilgrimages to Saudi Arabia, led the FBI to open a preliminary investigation into Mateen’s background, but the FBI concluded he was not a threat. Then again in 2014, Mateen came under

122 Ibid.
123 Ibid.
FBI investigation for suspected ties to American suicide bomber Moner Mohammad Abusalha, who killed several Syrian troops for the al-Nusra Front. The two attended the same mosque in Fort Pierce, but the contact was of no significance. He was entered into a terrorist watch list, but was soon left on the backburner. Mateen, however, was self-radicalizing all along.

Aljazeera reported that Mateen had been visiting ISIL websites and watching videos of beheadings. Salman knew he had been researching the Islamic State, but she was “unaware of everything” relating to his planning of the shooting. On 17 January 2017, Salman was charged with aiding and abetting Mateen to commit terrorism, but the investigation is still ongoing, and it is unclear whether she was involved. Many, including his father, attest that Mateen acted not out of a commitment to his faith, but out of his hatred towards homosexuals. Fellow G4S security guard, Daniel Gilroy, told Florida Today that Mateen frequently made violent comments towards homosexuals. “I quit because everything he said was toxic, and the company wouldn't do anything. This guy was unhinged and unstable. He talked of killing people.”

On the other hand, ISIL social media accounts disseminated messages to followers to attack infidels during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, and Mateen’s Internet activity suggested that he had a great deal of interest in ISIL. Another possible motive is a combination of the two: ISIL’s rhetoric being the spark and justification for his actions against the gay community. ISIL did claim responsibility for the act of terror, but there was never any direct communication between

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Mateen and ISIL. National-security analyst Juliette Kayyem makes one thing clear: "There is a big difference between ISIS-directed and ISIS-inspired." Concurrently, Mia Bloom, ISIL expert and former fellow at Penn State’s International Center for the Study of Terrorism asserts that:

Calling 9-1-1 minutes before to pledge allegiance is like what happened in San Bernardino…This was an act of terror and an act of hate of the LGBT community. ISIS is well known for despising and hunting down gay people, throwing them off the tallest buildings in Raqqa, etc. But we need more information to know whether there was anything more than a superficial (and last-minute) connection to ISIS.  

The exact motive may never be known, but the details of 12 June and the days leading up to it are well documented.

Mateen legally purchased a Sig Sauer MCX .223-caliber semi-automatic rifle with a magazine capacity of 30 rounds and a Glock 17 9mm semi-automatic pistol with a magazine capacity of 17 rounds just days before the attack. As mentioned before, Mateen was a security guard with a license to carry a firearm. Weeks earlier, Mateen attempted to purchase bulk ammunition and body armor from a separate gun dealer, who turned him down and immediately called the FBI, but Mateen could not be identified since there was no sale and only grainy security images. Salman accompanied him on trips to buy ammunition, but warned him not to

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127 Bertrand. “ISIS-linked news agency claims…”  
128 Ibid.  
plan anything, and she also drove him to the gay nightclub, Pulse, in order to scope it out as a target. It was also reported that Mateen and Salman scouted out Disney Springs shopping area because of its low security and for the upcoming gay pride parade. Ultimately, Mateen decided on the Pulse nightclub.

On Saturday, 11 June, Mateen posted on his Facebook wall ““I pledge my alliance [sic] to [A]bu [B]akr al Baghdadi.. [M]ay Allah accept me.” On Sunday, 12 June at 1:58 A.M., Mateen opened fire inside the club with the semi-automatic rifle. Within 3 minutes, a uniformed police officer at the club responded to the shots, exchanging fire with Mateen, but he had to retreat due to Mateen’s superior firepower. Nearly 100 police officers and SWAT team members respond within the first 45 minutes. Mateen barricaded himself in a bathroom, where he shot multiple people who were hiding inside. At 2:09 A.M., Mateen called 9-1-1, pledging his allegiance to ISIL and praising the Boston Marathon bombers and American suicide bomber Moner Mohammad Abusalha. He then called News 13 Orlando and told producer Matt Gentili that he did this for ISIS. He also periodically searched Google for news about himself and posted to Facebook: “The real muslims [sic] will never accept the filthy ways of the west” … “You kill innocent women and children by doing us airstrikes.. now taste the Islamic state vengeance.” At approximately 5:00 A.M., SWAT teams blasted a partial hole in the wall of

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134 Zimmerman, Malia. “Orlando terrorist's chilling Facebook posts…”
the nightclub and then drove an armored vehicle through the hole in order to breech the building. They ended up in the hallway, not the bathroom, but while they were preparing to ram the bathroom wall, Mateen emerged, exchanged fire with law enforcement, and was killed by the SWAT team. By the end of the night, Mateen had killed 49 people and injured 53. It remains the largest mass shooting in U.S. history.

Figure 4: One day after the Pulse nightclub shooting on 12 June 2016. Mourners gather at a candlelight vigil held in honor of the 49 people killed in the worst mass shooting in United States history. Image courtesy of Reuters taken by Carlo Allegri.

135 Stapleton, Anne Claire and Ralph Ellis. “Timeline…”
CHAPTER 4

THE RESPONSES BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND LAWMAKERS

This section now compares and contrasts the various responses by law enforcement and lawmakers to the specific attacks mentioned in the case study. These various responses include the immediate responses by law enforcement at the scene, investigations during and after the attacks, and legislative and policy reactions. Some of these responses include the securing of government buildings, psychological profiling, bio-terrorism preparedness, the increased monitoring of Internet communication, militarized policing, and immigration restrictions. Likewise, the shortcomings of law enforcement and policymakers leading up to and following the attacks are analyzed, which involves examining information that was missed by law enforcement investigators, looking at the failure to act upon prior knowledge of an attack, and potential overreactions to the attacks.

Law Enforcement’s Shifting Roles

The primary shift of law enforcement’s attitude towards terrorism dramatically shifted in the aftermath of 9/11. Before Osama bin Laden, the FBI and other law enforcement agencies largely focused on post-incident investigation and the apprehension of terrorists after attacks had already occurred. Following 9/11, law enforcement reorganized into a preemptive force, rethinking tactics in order to stop terrorists before they had a chance to act. For this reason, the federal government greatly expanded its efforts to combat terrorism. Many policies and government agencies were created as a result of lone wolf terrorism, some of which might be
considered overreactions. One primary example of the preemptive nature of law enforcement was the creation of the DHS – established in the aftermath of 9/11 for the specific task of combatting terrorism (among other functions) within the U.S. and along its coast and borders. The idea was to prevent a second 9/11-like event, and it has transformed American society in multiple areas. Under President George W. Bush, the 2001 USA PATRIOT Act also greatly expanded law enforcement capabilities through the allowance of phone tapping and the seizure of records and property of suspected terrorists. This is also considered an overreaction by many critics of President Bush. In 2004, President Bush signed the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, which made provisions to expand parts of the PATRIOT Act to include suspected lone wolf terrorists. Many of the controversial elements of the PATRIOT Act expired in 2006, but President Barack Obama signed a bill to extend parts of the PATRIOT Act, including allowing lone wolf terror suspects to be surveilled.136 Looking first at the pre-9/11 attacks in the case study, the Oklahoma City bombing and the Unabomber, law enforcement clearly took a reactive approach to terrorism, as opposed to a proactive or preemptive approach thereafter.

Case 1 Reactions: Oklahoma City Bombing

Perhaps one of the biggest lessons that local, state, and federal authorities learned from McVeigh’s bombing was the importance of immediate response-time by law enforcement and first-responders, and the need for inter-agency communication. It was pure luck that McVeigh was immediately apprehended, but had it not been for a vigilant OHP officer, the Oklahoma City

bombing investigation would be a whole different story. While the FBI pursued the “usual suspects,” i.e. Islamic fundamentalists, McVeigh sat in a Noble County jail cell. It should be noted here that by assuming attacks are carried out by only certain types of people, it not only undermines the investigative process, but also alienates an entire group of people. Thankfully, the fixation on Islamic terrorists lasted for only a few hours.

If not for another pure stroke of luck, McVeigh would have had his arraignment hearing for the weapons possession and for driving an unregistered vehicle, and he could have walked out of the courthouse the afternoon of 20 April. Thankfully, the hearing was postponed to the following day – due to a lengthy divorce case that the judge was hearing – giving the FBI enough time to follow the numerous tips, including the positive identification of McVeigh by the Dreamland Hotel owner, Lea McGown, which lead them to the Noble County Jail. What the FBI could have done differently, argues criminology professor at Indiana State University Dr. Mark S. Hamm, was to immediately follow the initial lead by entering McVeigh’s vital statistics into the NCIC’s database, which would have located McVeigh in Noble County. The FBI then could have waited to apprehend him and instead could have surveilled him in jail, tapped his jailhouse phone calls, and gathered information from an undercover FBI agent planted in the same cell. The technology was there, but law enforcement failed to capitalize on it immediately, which could have implicated Terry Nichols, and perhaps other unnamed accomplices, much sooner.

138 Ibid., 85-87.
The general response to the Oklahoma City bombing, however, should be commended. Although a terrorist attack of such a high casualty rate had never occurred on American soil before, procedures put in place by city, state, and federal authorities were well-executed. The organization of aid workers, volunteers, federal agencies, law enforcement, and military personnel at the site of the bombing was conducted in a timely manner. Even though federal investigators were unaware that McVeigh was already in custody, there was not a militarized police manhunt or a “shelter-in-place” (lockdown) directive, such as was the case during the Boston Marathon bombing (see page 66).  

Aside from inter-agency cooperation, city preparedness is essential to responding to lone wolf terrorism, and terrorism in general. Two year prior to the attack, Oklahoma City Police organized an Emergency Response Team, which prepared local law enforcement for disaster scenarios. After the bombing, Incident Commands were immediately established, as well as triages for the wounded. National Guard units mobilized in response, and FEMA units from Phoenix and Sacramento deployed by 10:55 AM. In the Oklahoma Department of Civil Emergency Management’s “After Action Report” several takeaways from the Oklahoma City bombing are outlined. To summarize, the report called for the city’s response plan to align with the response plan of the federal government and that integrated training programs should be created between federal, state, and local emergency management, fire, and law enforcement services. Following Oklahoma’s lead, practically every state law enforcement agency in the

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139 Rawlings, Nate. "Was Boston Actually on Lockdown?" Time, April 19, 2013. (March 26, 2017).
141 Oklahoma. Department of Civil Emergency Management. After Action Report...
country adopted a domestic terrorism unit. The response on the federal level was much more intense.

The FBI quickly hired over 500 agents, specializing in domestic terrorism investigation. The DOJ report *Vulnerability Assessment of Federal Facilities* examined risk factors and set standards for improving the security of all federal buildings in the U.S. Every federal building was given a classification number (I-V) based on its level of risk, mission criticalness, and number of employees, V being the highest and reserved for buildings such as the Pentagon. This led President Bill Clinton to sign Executive Order 12977, which established an Interagency Security Committee (ISC) to write security standards for all federally owned and leased buildings. Aside from magnetometers, x-ray machines, ID checkpoints, and armed security guards at federal buildings, the ISC established specific security measures for the buildings themselves. These measures included “100′ standoff distances, secured perimeters, including vehicle-resistant fencing or other protective barriers, filmed or laminated window glazing to withstand substantial blast pressures and [a] structural design to prevent progressive collapse of the building,” and many of these policies are still in place today.

On the one year anniversary of the attack, President Clinton also signed the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, which limited the number of death penalty appeals for convicted terrorists, restricted habeus corpus, authorized the deportation of non-citizens

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145 Ibid.
convicted of terrorism, allocated funds to beef-up law enforcement, and called for the “marking, rendering inert, and licensing of explosive materials.”\textsuperscript{146} The last two items are of particular interest to this study. First, the allocation of funds for law enforcement was massive. The FBI alone was appropriated $114 million for fiscal year 1997. Second, the “marking, rendering inert, and licensing of explosive materials” essentially allowed the government to begin studying materials that could be used to make bombs in order to determine whether or not a certain material could be regulated and/or restricted. In the case of Oklahoma City, the FBI was interested in restricting the purchase of ammonium-nitrate and dynamite. McVeigh and Nichols made eight purchases of ammonium-nitrate, totaling 4,800 pounds. They were only required to show a valid driver’s license (they used fake ID’s) at the time of purchase and did not raise any suspicion from the FBI.\textsuperscript{147} With the FBI now able to monitor and restrict the purchasing of suspicious materials, especially in bulk, there is a reduction in the availability of bomb-making materials available to terrorists, but as seen in the Boston Marathon bombing, and more prominently in the case of the Unabomber, terrorists are able to make their own bombs out of simple, around-the-home materials, and the step-by-step process is easily available online.

\textbf{Case 2 Reactions: Unabomber}

The Unabomber case proved to be an extremely difficult case for law enforcement. Not only were the bombings (for the most part) committed in the pre-Internet age, but Kaczynski was also a neo-Luddite, one who abhors technology. For this reason, Kaczynski left almost no trails

\textsuperscript{146} Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996.
for law enforcement to follow, except for the wild notes, “clues” that he placed in his mail bombs, which sent the FBI down countless dead-ends, and an infamous police sketch from one eye-witness in Salt Lake City. Psychological profiling, which came to prominence in the 1970s as a technique used by the FBI’s Behavioral Science Unit to identify serial killers, was also employed in the case of the Unabomber with mixed results. “A classic loner who probably lacks social skills and is obsessively compulsive” – that’s what the FBI profilers initially came up with during the investigation, and it proved to be eerily similar to Kaczynski.\textsuperscript{148} In contrast, the FBI completely missed the fact that Kaczynski was a mathematical genius with an extensive academic background – Harvard, University of Michigan, and UC Berkley. They pegged him as a college drop-out, in his late 30s, early 40s. Kaczynski was 53. They also could not locate him in rural Montana; however, they did correctly judge that he was from the Chicago area and had moved from Salt Lake City to the San Francisco Bay area, primarily based on the location and timeline of the attacks.

Kaczynski eluded capture for nearly 18 years. He was only caught when he contacted the media, asking them to publish his manifesto in exchange for an end to the bombing campaign. When the FBI learned that he contacted the media, they worked directly with the various media agencies in hopes of sparking a lead. The \textit{New York Times} and the \textit{Washington Post} both agreed to publish his manifesto, and this cooperation led to his brother, David, recognizing the apocalyptic text and contacting authorities. The Unabomber case proves that it is extremely

difficult, if not impossible, for law enforcement to preempt a terrorist attack without the lone wolf making communicating or using the Internet. Cooperating with the media (and in today’s world, that also means social media) and encouraging terrorists to make contact with the media are essential techniques.

One other important reaction involved the USPS and the FAA. While the investigation continued alongside Kaczynski’s resurging bombing campaign, the USPS established new protocols for identifying and handling suspicious pieces of mail. Then Postmaster General Marvin T. Runyon issued new guidelines, in cooperation with the FAA, for the Post Office to handle suspicious mail separately. “Priority mail using stamps instead of postage meters, and priority parcels dropped into boxes instead of handed over the counter” would be marked separately with bright red and pink labels and then transported by all-cargo planes, as opposed to commercial airlines, which carried most mail.\textsuperscript{149} In July 1995, the Unabomber threatened to detonate a bomb onboard an airplane departing the Los Angeles International Airport over the July 4th weekend. In response to the threat, the USPS issued an order that “no parcels weighing 12 ounces or more originating in California from individuals, as opposed to businesses or banks, would be accepted.”\textsuperscript{150} The ban was lifted soon after, but this signaled a new shift in mailing security screening in the U.S.


Case 3 Reactions: AMERITHRAX

In contrast to the good example of interagency communication in the Oklahoma City bombing case, the Amerithrax case demonstrated the lack of coordination between government agencies, which only impeded the investigation process. Tom Ridge, the first Secretary of Homeland Security and former Governor of Pennsylvania, comments in his book *The Test of Our Times*, on the initial lack of interagency coordination during the Amerithrax investigation. Officials within HHS were frustrated that the FBI had not communicated the fact that the strand of anthrax sent to Tom Daschle’s was potentially the deadly Ames strain of anthrax. “That the government agency most responsible for public health was kept in the dark, intentionally or not, demonstrated precisely what I faced in my new office (DHS).”¹⁵¹ This prompted the White House to hold a meeting in the Roosevelt room, demanding interagency cooperation. Afterwards, communication between the FBI, HHS, and other agencies improved, and suspect Bruce Ivins surfaced as a result. After “one of our own” was determined to be the likely perpetrator, this raised serious concerns about the threat level of biochemical-terrorism and the amount of preparedness by the U.S. government.

Almost immediately, the U.S. government began revamping its biochemical terrorism defenses. For starters, anthrax greatly threatened the USPS. Unlike the Unabomber case which required bombs to be sent in packages, anthrax spores were put in regular mailing envelopes. Not only were these spores hazardous to the recipients, but they were also putting postal workers at risk because the spores themselves could “leak” out of the envelopes. For this reason, the USPS

was allocated $500 million in the 2002 Defense budget. A large portion of the money was used for cleanup purposes. For example, $40 million was spent on sterilization machines from the Titan Corporation, and medical costs for affected workers, along with testing and cleaning post offices, costs approximately $60 million.\footnote{Gottron, Frank. 2002. *The U.S. Postal Service Response to the Threat of Bioterrorism Through the Mail*. CRS Report No. RL31280. Washington, DC: CRS. http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/intel/RL33539.pdf.} Initially, the Post Office installed “high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters in all of their heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to minimize the spread of bioterror agents and recommend[ed] that postal workers use antimicrobial wipes.”\footnote{Ibid.} With 35,000 postal facilities nationwide, it is difficult – not to mention expensive – to enact long-term structural changes. Some suggestions following the attack included changes to the anonymity policy (similar to a precaution enacted during the Unabomber’s campaign), systematic sterilization, and irradiating mail – the last one being a complete overreaction, which would cause more health risks than it would prevent. Most of the policy suggestions above could not be enacted on a wide-scale basis or fell-through entirely, but some changes, such as interagency cooperation between the USPS, FBI, DHS, and CDC during a terrorist event and guidelines for emergency medical service personnel to treat patients affected by anthrax, were established.\footnote{Goldstein, Mark. 2004. *U. S. Postal Service: Better Guidance Is Needed to Ensure an Appropriate Response to Anthrax*. GAO-04-239. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Accountability Office.}

In addition, two important pieces of legislation came out of the anthrax attacks. One was the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness Response Act (PHSBPRA), signed by President George W. Bush on 12 June 2002. The act outlined procedures for multiple agencies
including the FDA, USDA, HHS, state and local law enforcement agencies, and hospitals. Some of the measures taken in the act direct the FDA to establish new protocols for the protection of the food, water, and drug supply lines, HHS to stockpile medical supplies and vaccinations, and the USDA to provide a list of potential toxins that could contaminate the food and water supplies. In addition, hospitals were instructed in how to react in the event of a biological or chemical terrorism incident.\textsuperscript{155} In 2004, President Bush also signed the Project Bioshield Act, which authorized $5.6 billion to increase the Strategic National Stockpile's number of anthrax, smallpox, and botulinum toxin vaccines, fund medical research for medicine to counter bioterrorism, and develop guidelines for the way the federal government distributes medicine and mobilizes response teams in the event of a bioterror crisis.\textsuperscript{156} In addition, one reaction or overreaction – depending on one’s political preferences – not directly caused by anthrax, but certainly a contributing factor, was the invasion of Iraq in 2003. At the time, the FBI and Defense Intelligence believed that the anthrax attacks were related to al Qaeda. Obviously, this proved to be false.

**Case 4 Reactions: Fort Hood**

One important note to begin this analysis is the danger of political correctness. When it comes to investigating and prosecuting suspected acts of lone wolf terrorism, there is a delicate balance between security and liberty. With that being said, counterterrorism should not play the “p.c. game,” which was done with Nidal Hasan. To being with, the Fort Hood shooting was not

even called an act of terrorism officially until 2015. Until that point, it was considered an act of “workplace violence” because the White House placed priority on personal sensitivity rather than on combatting extremism. In fact, the measure to which the White House and the Pentagon took extreme care not to mention the words “radical Islam” was almost comical – had it not been such a serious incident. While it is never wise to single out any particular group of people, be it based on religion, race, national origin, sexual orientation, or any other flavor, it is also important to recognize the threat that radical Islam plays in today’s society. As with any religious extremist group, understanding the ideology and motivations behind the group can help infiltrate, preempt, and ultimately defeat acts of terrorism. The fact that Nidal Hasan’s extreme religious views, inflammatory comments, and even his known attempts at communicating with Anwar al-Awlaki were ignored, speaks to the deadly consequences of political correctness when it comes to dealing with lone wolf terrorists. Former Senator and Chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) says:

“I am disappointed, however, that the report does not adequately recognize the specific threat posed by violent Islamist extremism to our military, a threat directly addressed by Senator [Susan] Collins (R-ME) and me in a January 13 letter to Secretary Gates. I believe firmly that if DoD educates its personnel about violent Islamist extremism - and how terrorists distort the Islamic faith to promote violence - we will increase trust between the thousands of Muslim-Americans serving honorably in the military and their colleagues.”

Likewise, Congressman John Carter (R-TX), whose district includes Ft. Hood, calls out the Pentagon for not addressing the “elephant in the room – radical Islamic terrorism.” He goes on, “‘We should be able to speak honestly about good and bad without feeling like you’ve done something offensive to society.’\textsuperscript{158} This fear of being ostracized for offending others extends far past the White House and the Pentagon. As a consequence of this mentality, the general public is afraid to speak up for fear of being labeled bigots.

Shifting gears to policy reactions, the incident itself certainly contributed to the current era of “active shooter drills,” reminiscent of the days of “duck-and-cover” drills during the Cold War. Not only do active shooter drills take place on military bases, but they also have unfortunately found their way into k-12 schools, college campuses, office buildings, churches, and airports. While not the straw that broke the camel’s back (which is more likely the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre), the Fort Hood shooting certainly had an impact within the military. Military installations in the U.S. and abroad conduct active shooter training annually to comply with DoD regulations. Coupled with the shootings at a Little Rock military recruitment station on 1 June 2009 and a shooting at a NOSC in Chattanooga on 16 July 2015, another policy changed occurred within the U.S. military. Before Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez, the lone wolf who killed four marines and a sailor in Chattanooga, most Navy Reserve Centers throughout the country – otherwise known as NOSC’s – were virtually unguarded, creating a prime “soft target” for an opportunistic lone wolf terrorist. At most, these reserve centers were guarded by Jersey barriers and barbed-wire fencing. Immediately following the incident, the Commander of

\textsuperscript{158} Ibid.
Navy Reserve Forces, Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun, issued a call for Masters-at-Arms (Navy police) to fill billets as armed security watch-standers at 70 NOSC’s by 1 October 2015.\textsuperscript{159} Pressure after Fort Hood, Chattanooga, and Little Rock\textsuperscript{160} also led to the DoD initiating a new directive titled "Arming and the Use of Force," which created guidelines for “permitting the carrying of privately owned firearms on DoD property by DoD personnel for personal protection purposes.”\textsuperscript{161} This directive has yet to be implemented.

**Case 5 Reactions: Boston Marathon**

In the two decades between the Oklahoma City bombing and the Boston Marathon Bombing, police responses to terrorist attacks have shifted from federally-assisted, respond-and-coordinate missions to federal, military-style, command-and-occupy missions. The militarization of police forces and the federal government’s overriding of local and state authorities as seen in the Boston Marathon bombing may be considered overreactions. While some proponents of militarizing police denied that the police overstepped their role during the search for the Tsarnaev brothers, others see the response as preparing the American public for future implementation of martial law. Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick asked Boston residents to “shelter in place.” As SWAT teams went door-to-door in Watertown during the manhunt, residents wondered how long the voluntary directive to “shelter in place” would be effective.\textsuperscript{162}

\textsuperscript{159} Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command. "Master-at-Arms (MA) VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!" E-mail message to author. July 28, 2015.

\textsuperscript{160} Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad, an American-born lone wolf terrorist, killed one solider and wounded another at a military recruiting station in Little Rock, Arkansas on 1 June 2009.


\textsuperscript{162} Rawlings, Nate. "Was Boston Actually on Lockdown…"
While the directive was by no means a law or an enforced curfew, the question must be asked as to what would it take for actual martial law to be enacted in the United States. Scenes of armored vehicles, heavy machine guns, house-to-house searches, and deserted streets in Boston were reminiscent of military actions in third-world countries. To be fair, the chance for follow-up attacks was extremely high, especially immediately following the first two bombs, but it could be argued that if such police actions were taken in the future, for extended periods of time, the American public might not be as supportive.

Case 6 Reactions: San Bernardino

Simon asserts that terrorists and the Internet have a “one-sided relationship: terrorists need the Internet more than the Internet needs them.”\textsuperscript{163} Before this, as in Kaczynski’s day, terrorists and the media fed off of each other: the media providing a platform for the terrorist’s message and the terrorists providing ratings and viewers to the media networks. Today, not only are there infinite supplies of radical literature, propaganda videos, and bombmaking manuals on the Internet, terrorists also have the ability to talk with like-minded individuals through e-mail, Facebook, and extremist chatrooms and forums. Terrorists no longer need traditional media to propagate their ideologies. They can do it from their homes on social media.

Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, the married couple who killed their coworkers in San Bernardino, met each other through an online dating service. The two exchanged messages on various social media platforms, and during the investigation, it was revealed that Malik used Facebook Messenger to communicate with her husband about committing jihad, but

\textsuperscript{163} Simon, Jeffrey D. \textit{Lone Wolf Terrorism: Understanding the Growing Threat}, 207.
this was not posted on her “wall.” It was a private message conversation, which the FBI cannot monitor, yet. Some terrorists feel inclined to indirectly hint at their intentions online, while some outright proclaim that they are about to commit terrorism, such as Omar Mateen before the Orlando shooting. Lone wolf terrorists are also able to purchase necessary supplies from the Internet, from guns to bombmaking materials. While terrorists may think that they are safe behind a computer screen, law enforcement can see just about everything that they do online. Working in cooperation with Facebook, Twitter, and other social media companies, the FBI is able to monitor accounts of suspected terrorists, where they can allow the terrorists to continue their online activity in hopes of finding connections to other terrorists. Rather than take down radical websites or videos, it is more beneficial for the FBI to quietly monitor those sites for IP addresses and account information. Visiting a site alone does not constitute criminal activity, but when stacked with suspicious purchases and attempts at communicating with known extremists, the FBI can build a case against someone and move-in when the time is right. Ultimately, the Internet is a powerful tool for terrorists, but it is more often than not their undoing. However, for various reasons, Internet activity is sometimes ignored by law enforcement, even when it seems obvious that a person is planning something. One reason could be that the technology to monitor the vast amount of Internet traffic does not yet exist. A system with a certain algorithm for detecting repeated patterns of suspicious Internet use, such as communication with known extremists, frequenting radical forums, and social media postings, could be a tool in the future. Technology, especially the Internet, has been one of the FBI’s greatest allies in fighting

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terrorism, but the debate over security goes hand-in-hand with citizens’ privacy. In the case of San Bernardino, the FBI was unable to detect any radical online behavior from Malik, who immigrated to the U.S. on a fiancée visa, because her conversations about jihad were communicated via private messaging.

On this technological note, one of the biggest debates about combatting lone wolf terrorism came in the wake of the San Bernardino shooting. During the investigation, the FBI recovered the iPhone of Syed Farook, which he used as a work phone. The phone still worked, but it was locked with a 4-digit code, which would delete all data on the phone after ten incorrect attempts. The FBI reached out to Apple and asked them to create a backdoor device which would allow them to unlock the phone. Apple refused the FBI’s request, stating that giving the government backdoor access to cell phones could set a harmful precedent and allow hackers to access that same technology, thus compromising the privacy and identity of individual American citizens. The FBI took Apple to court and ordered Apple to create a special, backdoor IOS operating system that would “bypass or disable the auto-erase function,” allow the FBI to “submit passcodes to the Subject Device for testing electronically via the physical device port, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, or other protocol[s],” and “ensure that when the FBI submits passcodes to the Subject Device, software running on the device will not purposefully introduce any additional delay between passcode attempts beyond what is incurred by Apple hardware.”

The FBI cited the All Writs Act, written in its original form in 1789 and amended in 1911, which authorizes

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courts to issues writs (court orders) which, among other statutes, legally compels companies to assist with federal investigations, but Apple continued to appeal the court order. The order was eventually dismissed after the FBI hired an undisclosed, third-party ethical hacker to unlock the phone. Though the case was dismissed, the issue remains, and San Bernardino brought to attention the controversial debate between liberty and security when it comes to law enforcement investigations.

As in the Fort Hood case, the same argument against political correctness exists. Neighbors of Farook and Malik were afraid to contact law enforcement about the suspicious activity going on in Farook’s mother’s garage. Aaron Elswick, a neighbor of Farook, recalled to ABC 7 Los Angeles News that another neighbor (not willing to be identified) noticed an odd number of packages being delivered to the house of Farook’s mother, as well as a lot of work going on in the garage. The neighbor wanted to report it, but said she “didn’t want to profile.”166

As will be discussed in the conclusion, an informed and vigilant public is perhaps the best defense against lone wolf terrorism, but if citizens fear being labeled a bigot, then there is less of a willingness to come forward and contact law enforcement. Unfortunately, law enforcement cannot follow every lead, and many leads are often dead ends.

On a final note about the San Bernardino case, one often-cited overreaction to lone wolf terrorism is the call for a “Muslim ban” in the U.S. On 7 December, 2015, five days after the San Bernardino shooting, then-presidential candidate Donald Trump’s campaign website released

this statement: “Donald J. Trump is calling for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on.”

When candidate Trump read the statement at a campaign rally, the room was filled with cheers. One unfortunate reaction to lone wolf terrorism is the anti-Muslim sentiment that has surfaced in the U.S. When Donald Trump was elected as President of the United States, one of his first orders of business was to sign an executive order preventing the “issuance of visas and other immigration benefits to nationals of countries of particular concern” and suspending the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) for 120 days.

The executive order, wrought with ambiguity and a multitude of case-by-case exceptions, first singled-out seven predominantly Muslim countries: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. Amidst an onslaught of condemnation from federal judges and public outrage, the executive order was effectively revoked. A new order was reissued on 6 March 2017, which cleared up some of the vague wording and removed Iraq from the list of suspended countries. Still, President Trump’s executive order is facing a lot of flak from several states, including Hawai and Washington, which are filing lawsuits against President Trump because federal judges from those states see the executive order as a pseudo-Muslim ban, which violates the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

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slow-down of Iraqi refugee admittance, the major differences between the two is that in
President Obama’s order immigration was never fully banned, and the slow-down was based on
a specific threat, not a blanket ban. The key take-away from this is that the fear caused by
terrorism can cause law enforcement and policymakers to overreact to lone wolf terrorism. This
case resulted in harming of relations between Muslim and non-Muslim Americans. Whether
President Trump’s true intentions are to protect America from terrorism or simply to perpetuate
the stereotype of Muslims lying in wait to commit jihad, Americans are divided on the issue.
With executive order like this, law enforcement officers struggle to maintain the balance between
liberty and security.

Case 7 Reactions: Orlando

The key concept in the Orlando case is that law enforcement officers and policymakers
cannot prevent every incident of lone wolf terrorism. Mateen, although living a typical American
life, was twice investigated by the FBI before the Pulse Nightclub shooting on 12 June 2016. The
first time was in 2013 after co-workers complained about his inflammatory comments and claims
that he was a member of Hezbollah and wanted to commit jihad. The FBI sent in an undercover
agent to make contact with him, monitored his financial transactions, and even wiretapped his
phone. They also contacted Saudi intelligence officials to inquire about his trips to Saudi Arabia
– which turned out to be pilgrimages to Mecca. Nothing suspicious turned up during the
investigation, and he was dropped from a terrorist watch list after being on it for nearly a year.
His case was reopened after only two months, when the FBI discovered that he had been
acquainted with Moner Mohammad Abusalha, an American turned suicide bomber who killed
Syrian troops in July 2014. After the FBI had multiple interviews with Mateen, he was again cleared of any suspicion, since the relationship was deemed casual.\textsuperscript{171} Mateen’s case might be an unfortunate example of the price Americans must pay for living in a free, democratic society.

As in the case of most mass shootings, terrorism-related or not, the gun debate has circulated once again. While a ban on assault rifles does not seem to be producing much fruit or enthusiasm, one potential step towards curving lone wolf terrorism, if not gun violence in general, would be to enact new background check measures that prevent someone who has been on a terrorist watch list or a no-fly list from purchasing a weapon. In addition, this would also trigger a counter-terrorism investigation.\textsuperscript{172} This was proposed by the Justice Department and supported by Democrats. President Trump even expressed his approval in a Tweet: “I will be meeting with the NRA, who has endorsed me, about not allowing people on the terrorist watch list, or the no fly list, to buy guns.”\textsuperscript{173}

\textsuperscript{172} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{173} Trump, Donald (@realDonaldTrump). “I will be meeting with the NRA, who has endorsed me, about not allowing people on the terrorist watch list, or the no fly list, to buy guns.” June 15, 2016. 9:50 AM. Tweet.
CHAPTER 5
LOOKING FORWARD: WHAT WILL FUTURE ATTACKS LOOK LIKE AND HOW WILL THEY BE PREVENTED?

This brief section surmises what lone wolf attacks will look like in the future and offers some suggestions on the best courses of action to take to prevent future attacks. By examining the evolutionary nature of lone wolf terrorism and counter-terrorism tactics, there are a number of steps that can be taken to minimize and deter the use of future terrorist attacks. The first subtitle examines the probable next wave of terrorist attacks, what they will look like, and who the perpetrators may be. The second section gives a brief comparison between the seven cases in the study and other failed terrorist plots, in order to shed light on both the positives and negatives of law enforcement reactions to lone wolf terrorism. The third section begs the question of whether or not it is necessary to “defeat” lone wolf terrorism. The fourth and final subtitle is the climax of the paper, offering suggestions on how to best combat lone wolf terrorism in the future.

The Future of Lone Wolf Terrorism

Dr. Bakker, director of the Centre for Terrorism and Counterterrorism of Leiden University Campus The Hague, suggests that there have been four main waves of terrorism, each succeeding the other. In chronological order, the four waves of modern terrorism are the Anarchist Wave (1880s-1920s), the Anti-Colonial Wave (1920s-1960s), the “New Left” Wave (1960s-1979), and the Religious Wave (1979-today). Some scholars, such as Dr. Simon, also

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assert that the Fifth Wave is on the rise, and that the Religious Wave may die off by 2020-25.

Simon calls the impending Fifth Wave the Technological Wave. That is not to say that groups like al Qaeda or ISIL will dropout suddenly, and they may continue to have a stronghold in the region for years to come, but it will more likely be drowned out as other groups rise to prominence, and as the attention of the West shifts out of the Middle-East. And this Technological Wave will have a wide umbrella of causes, most of them not united at all. From environmentalists to neo-Luddites, ethnic-nationalists to separatists, and right-wing to left wing, there will be a new surge in terrorism, in large part due to the Internet. The Fifth Wave will also likely encourage more lone-wolf style attacks, as opposed to organized group attacks, terrorists with minds like Kaczynski, McVeigh, and Ivins.

Another potential form of future terrorism is a version of lone wolf terrorist, what Brian Michael Jenkins, Senior Adviser to the President of the RAND Corporation (government and privately-funded global think-tank), might call “stray dog” terrorism. If and when ISIL is finally defeated – or dissolved – either by force or internal collapse, hundreds of foreign fighters, if not more, will have no choice left but to return to their homes, some of whom will return to the United States. The remnants of ISIL, the stray dogs, will be well-trained in bomb-making, combat, avoiding detection, and terrorism tactics. These terrorists will have their dreams of glory and jihad shattered, and there will seemingly be nothing else satisfying in life. Feeling desperate and eager to utilize their training, stray dogs may feel the urge to commit one last act of

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175 Ibid., 244.
176 Ibid., 249.
terrorism, in hopes of achieving what they sought out to do in the Middle-East. Absent any rehabilitation or de-radicalization programs, this could cause a serious problem in the U.S. and elsewhere (see “Suggestions on how to Combat Future Lone Wolf Terrorism” for insight into terrorist rehabilitation).

Terrorists will also exploit perceived weaknesses in the U.S. (and elsewhere), targeting food and water supplies, power grids, and agriculture. Bio-chemical weapons, only notably seen in the Amerithrax case, are perhaps the greatest threat when it comes to lone wolf terrorism. However, these would require terrorists who have access to resources, considerable bio-chemical knowledge, and probably at least one or two accomplices – a small wolf pack. Dr. George Michael, PhD in public policy and professor at Westfield State University in Massachusetts, states that bioweapons are easier to obtain and cheaper than WMD’s, that pathogens can be dispersed with relative ease in a target community, and that a delay-effect of the onset of a disease would add to public hysteria and pandemonium.\(^\text{178}\) An alternative method would be urban terrorism. One example of urban terrorism could be to sabotage one of the 15,000 hazardous materials facilities in the U.S. by detonating explosives at a facility in order to cause a leak of deadly chemicals.\(^\text{179}\) One other nuanced method of terrorism, cyberterrorism, could really hurt the U.S. According to Dr. Jeffery D. Simon, president of Political Risk Assessment Company Inc. and visiting professor at UCLA, defines cyberterrorism as “using Internet and other communication and information systems that are linked by computers to cause disruptions


\(^{179}\) Ibid., 111.
and chaos in government, businesses, and everyday life.” Extreme examples of cyberterrorism could include disrupting air traffic control systems, hacking electrical power grids, and spreading computer viruses to institutions such as the DOD or Walls Street. What makes this threat even more likely to be a tool used by lone wolves is the fact that any terrorist with the proper knowledge of computer systems can spread fear and panic from the comfort of their own home – taking “working from home” to a whole new level.

**Lessons from Failed Lone Wolf Attacks**

While this case study focused on seven of the most infamous acts of lone wolf terrorism in the U.S., it is also important to note the number of failed attacks in the U.S. since 9/11. A case study titled *Terrorism Since 9/11: The American Cases* was conducted at Ohio State University by political scientist Dr. John Mueller. In the 974-page study, Dr. Mueller examined 99 cases of terrorism, four of which were covered in this case study. Many of the cases he examined were failed plots by individuals. A few of those cases present relative information to this study, and thus will be briefly examined as well.

In both the Shoe Bomber (2001) and Underwear Bomber (2009) cases, there are several important conclusions. When each bomber attempted to ignite their fuse, each was subdued by passengers on the planes. This reveals a shift in Americans’ awareness towards terrorism, a willingness to act. Civilians, American citizens, are usually the first line of defense when it comes to stopping terrorism as it is occurring, though it is not always advised to fight first.

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Second, both terrorists demonstrated their level of incompetence when they each failed to detonate the bomb, although they did manage to get past airport security. Thirdly, the result of each failed lone wolf attack resulted in major transportation policy changes. TSA guidelines mandate that passengers remove their shoes before going through security and require that each person pass through a whole-body scanner. The impact, even of failed terrorist attacks, is significant.

With the failed plot at Fort Dix (2007), FBI informants and anonymous tips from an American citizen were vital in stopping the potential attack. The fact that the Fort Dix plotters operated as a six-man wolf pack made it difficult to keep their operations secret. The Fort Dix plotters blew their cover when they went to a Circuit City electronics store to make a copy of a VHS tape, which the store owner viewed. The tape showed the men running around with assault weapons, as if training to commit jihad. The store owner notified police, which began the investigation.182 The remarkable power that ordinary civilians have to stop acts of terrorism is astounding. In an attempted attack on Fort Hood in 2011, two years after Nidal Hasan’s shooting spree, a civilian gun store clerk informed police that Army Private First Class Naser Jason Abdo had acted extremely suspicious when attempting to buy weapons from his store, and he refused to sell him anything. The gun store clerk’s vigilance stopped the attack from ever happening, reinforcing the importance of “see-something-say-something.”183

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182 Ibid., 355-64.
183 Ibid., 659.
Lastly, the failed Times Square car bombing in 2010 gives two important lessons as well. One, lone wolf terrorists, though often incompetent, are becoming increasingly more creative, and with the right amount of knowledge and luck, there is a potential for a particularly devastating attack. Second, financing the attack was relatively easy, as was acquiring the car and bombmaking materials. The attack is somewhat comparable to the Oklahoma City bombing, but Faisal Shahzad lacked the training that McVeigh possessed. Had Shahzad known what he was doing, the attack may have resembled McVeigh’s in both the planning phase and scale.\textsuperscript{184}

The failed cases mentioned above show that law enforcement tactics do work in many cases and that lessons learned from the seven studied cases have sharpened law enforcement’s abilities to preempt lone wolf terrorists. There are four major lessons from these cases. 1) Lone wolf terrorists who attempt to communicate with each other online, or who attempt to communicate with other known terrorists or terrorist organizations, are very susceptible to getting intercepted by law enforcement, which is why most of the successful lone wolves in the case studies did not contact any outside persons. 2) American citizens are often the first line of defense against lone wolf terrorism and can be one of the greatest investigatory tools for law enforcement. 3) Lone wolf terrorists often thwart themselves due to lack of training, insufficient funds, overly-suspicious behavior, and plain stupidity. And 4) Even failed lone wolf attacks can cause panic and drastic policy changes. With all of the good work that law enforcement officers do, there are times when they over-step their boundaries, and there are some cases that are just impossible for them to prevent.

\textsuperscript{184} Ibid., 515-526.
Is it Worth It?

With that being said, it is also worth asking the question: is it necessary to defeat terrorism? Dr. Edwin Bakker argues that “Terrorism is not a war. It is a phenomenon that perhaps cannot be defeated, but could be contained. Possibly, the terrorists might defeat themselves.”\(^\text{185}\) If terrorists are not given the appropriate means to get their message out, if the effects of their attacks are downplayed, if Americans’ attitudes can shift away from the mindset of fear, if terrorists continue to harm innocent civilian populations thus discouraging fence-sitting lone wolves, then perhaps terrorism and its effects can be greatly diminished. One of the most important takeaways from this entire case study is to remember that it is impossible for law enforcement and lawmakers to stop every act of terrorism. As in the case of the Orlando shooting, even after being questioned by the FBI on two separate accounts, Mateen was never suspected of being anything aside from weird. Even more so, lone wolves who do not make contact with anyone or use the Internet, are even harder to stop.

Suggestions on how to Combat Future Lone Wolf Terrorism

With the seemingly impending wave of lone wolves preparing to strike the U.S., there are several tactics that law enforcement can adopt or further expand in order to preempt and prevent new lone wolf terrorist attacks. The number of terrorist attacks in the U.S. has gone down substantially since the turbulent 1970s. At its heigh, the New Left Wave of terrorism averaged about 60-70 terrorist attacks – mostly bombings – per year, but since then, the number has

significantly dwindled in terms of the number of attacks.\footnote{Jenkins, Brian Michael. Would-Be Warriors: Incidents of Jihadist Terrorist Radicalization in the United States Since September 11, 2001. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2010, 8.} In the U.S., current terrorists simply do not have the know-how, discipline, inconspicuousness, or self-sufficiency to carry out attacks on the scale seen in the 1970s. With that being said, the problem of lone wolf terrorism still exists and will continue to grow if left unchecked.

One method of stopping the spread of lone wolf terrorism, and terrorism in general, is policy change. One suggestion that President Donald Trump has presented, building a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, is being done in the name of national security, in order to stop the flow of illegal immigrants into the country, as well as potential terrorists taking advantage of lax border control. While illegal immigration is a separate issue, there is not much evidence to suggest that terrorists enter the country through the U.S.-Mexico border. In fact, in four of the seven case studies (five if you count Ted Kaczynski), the terrorists were children of immigrants, which would suggest that second-generation immigrants, not their parents, are inclined to commit terrorism. While this paper is not about the psychology behind lone wolf terrorism, perhaps there is a link between the alienation of second-generation immigrant children and incidents of terrorism – not at all a suggestion that all immigrant children are terrorists. Instead, this is to suggest that perhaps improving assimilation of second-generation immigrants into American society would positively affect the outlook that many immigrant children face when caught between American culture and the culture of their parents. There is also an argument in the Ohio State case study mentioned previously that the FBI is guilty of baiting some “Muslim hotheads” into attempting to commit terrorism, when they otherwise would not have gone to
such lengths. While the FBI does prevent several dangerous terrorist acts every year, both known and unknown to the public, some sting operations act as a “psychological accelerants,” prompting some would-be terrorists to act prematurely.\textsuperscript{187}

This then leads to the second suggestion of how to prevent lone wolf terrorists, at least in this current wave of radical Islamic terrorism: improve relations between Muslim and non-Muslim Americans. This can be accomplished on an individual basis by treating Muslim families in local communities with respect, dignity, and tolerance. On a national level, this can be done by not alienating the entire Muslim population by singling them out as terrorists or by banning Muslims from entering the country. The overwhelming majority of Muslims are not violent jihadists, nor do they support ISIL.

As mentioned previously, however, for those who are radicalized, there is not an effective means of de-radicalization and rehabilitation in the U.S. Singapore, for instance, takes several preventative steps towards combatting extremism. One approach is an academic approach, which focuses not only on delegitimizing extremist views by pointing out contradictions within radical Islam, but also on fighting against negative attitudes towards Muslims. Singapore also focuses largely on the youth and migrant worker population, which are more susceptible to radicalization. This is done through community engagement, providing resources to present moderate and counter-ideological Islamic viewpoints, and by targeting terrorists already in custody.\textsuperscript{188}

That last approach, targeting radical Muslims already in prison, is something of particular interest to counter-terrorism experts. One of the first steps in developing a prison-centered program would be to allow psychologists to assess each individual in order to come up with an individualized plan of rehabilitation. Allowing Muslim scholars and religious experts, prominent Muslim community organizers, and former radicalized Muslims to assist in the process would be helpful as well. In addition, states should provide incentives to inmates such as family care, vocational programs, continued education, and job placement. Lastly, a probation-type method of monitoring the individuals after their release would help foster accountability and promote security.189

Perhaps one of the most useful tools against lone wolf terrorism is the American citizen. “See something, say something,” an expression coined by the American advertising executive Allen Kay, was designed for use by the New York City Metropolitan Transportation Authority in the wake of 9/11. The phrase was meant to prompt citizens to contact law enforcement if they noticed suspicious behavior, generating both important leads in many cases, and dead ends in many others.190 In order to continue to utilize civilian input, educating the public on current terrorism strategies – what to look for, what to ignore, who to contact – should be paramount, perhaps starting as early as high school. It should be considered a civic duty.

189 Ibid., 239-246.
Another useful tool for law enforcement is the Internet. Dr. Marc Sageman, counter-terrorism consultant and former CIA operative who worked closely with the mujahedeen in Afghanistan writes:

The Interactivity is what is important… Since the physical militant sites, like radical mosques, are closely monitored by law enforcement authorities, militants have moved online. The new forums have the same influences that these radical mosques played in the previous generation of terrorists… [T]he forums are engine of transformation… virtual places where active participants post and consume ideas about their goals, perspectives, and hopes. It is where terrorism “cool” is discussed. Debates over the relative merits of various strategies and tactics are held. The resulting collective discourse becomes the ideology, the vision, and the guidance of the participants.\(^\text{191}\)

Instead of shutting down websites that are frequented by extremists, the FBI should continue to monitor them. In addition, the FBI and other agencies should work together with social media companies, such as Facebook and Twitter, in order to flag, but not permanently delete, individuals posting suspicious, potentially inflammatory status updates, frequenting suspicious links, liking radical posts, watching certain videos, following propaganda-style pages, and befriending known terrorists. If an algorithm could be developed to immediately alert authorities

of threatening online activity, this would also be a useful tool, since Omar Mateen posted updates on Facebook before and after the Orlando nightclub shooting.

On the same thread of social media posts, it could also be beneficial for customs officials to screen the social media postings of new immigrants and refugees. While this may bridge into the security vs. liberty debate, postings that are made public are subject to review by employers, law enforcement, and university admissions staff. Customs officials should also be allowed to screen social media postings, not to exclude people from entering the country, but to be able to flag individuals as soon as they enter the country, giving law enforcement one more preemptive tool to utilize. For example, after the San Bernardino attack, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, which oversees the visa and green card application processes, has considered allowing immigration interviewing officers to gather material from social media in order to assess the credibility or potential security risk of a foreigner.192

Intelligence sharing between states is yet another method of fighting terrorism. However, this is a very touchy subject. On the one hand, sharing intelligence can generate international red flag databases, such as terrorist watch lists and no-fly lists. If one government, say Turkey for example, were monitoring a suspected terrorist, and he or she decided to travel to the U.S., an international alert could be forwarded from the Turkish intelligence agency to U.S. intelligence, and vice versa. Tracking terrorists beyond U.S. soil allows for more preventative types of measures to be taken. On the other hand, things can become problematic when tensions rise

between two states – as is common in the great spy game. Even allies can become weary of each other at times. Dr. Nora Bensahel, a prominent political science professor at American University specializing on U.S. defense policy and coalition and alliance operations, says that “the intelligence coalition is… hard to form and hard to sustain… [states] must be constantly reaffirmed with exchanges of useful information. Foreign intelligence agencies and sources can easily stop sharing information… if they grow frustrated with the quality of information they are receiving or feel as though they are getting the worse end of the deal.” While this approach seems beneficial, it is unlikely that there will be any mass-intelligence sharing between two or more states in the near future.

Technological advancements, however, are the future of counter-terrorism. Technology, and its proper use, have greatly enhanced law enforcement techniques. Take for instance the widespread use of CCTV cameras. In contrast to Timothy McVeigh, the Boston Marathon bombers, although able to escape law enforcement initially, were easily identified by surveillance footage that was released to the public within three days, which prevented them from fleeing the city, much less the country. Had McVeigh not been caught immediately by an OHP officer after the attack, he may have been able to flee the country or commit another attack. Since Oklahoma City, CCTV surveillance cameras have become one of law enforcement’s greatest tools for catching criminals and terrorists alike, after an incident has already occurred. But there still remains the problem of identifying suspicious behavior before an attack. Jeffery D.

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Simon has suggested a form of “smart-CCTV cameras” which can detect suspicious behavioral patterns in public places and alert security monitors. These cameras would be able to recognize when passers-by set down a backpack and walk away, have bulky clothing, or stand for long periods of time in unusual places. One problem that this presents, however, is differentiating between naturally odd human behavior and truly suspicious, malicious behavior.\(^{194}\)

Another important topic on the ability of law enforcement and lawmakers to prevent future lone wolf attacks is gun control. While the right to bear arms is a fundamental and guaranteed constitutional right, some preventative, minimally-restrictive gun laws could help prevent attacks such as the Orlando night club shooting. A gun store clerk can only do so much to detect suspicious behavior. One suggestion is to treat obtaining assault weapons – not hand guns – like obtaining a top-secret clearance with the U.S. government. In order to legally own an assault weapon, individuals should go through a more intense criminal background check, have their foreign affiliations examined, and do some sort of psychological evaluation, be it on paper or via an interview. In addition, family members and neighbors should be interviewed, and the applicant should have personal character references. This would help gun store clerks recognize potentially suspicious customers, so that they could then notify authorities. Another measure that could help prevent lone wolves from purchasing guns would be to follow the suggestion by the Justice Department to deny those who are or who previously were on no-fly lists and/or terrorist watch lists the ability to purchase a firearm. This would have of course stopped Omar Mateen, who was twice on a terrorism watch list before purchasing his guns. In contrast to stricter gun

laws surrounding assault weapons, it would also be beneficial for members of the military, with proper clearances and training, to be able to carry weapons on military installations. This could have perhaps prevented or minimized the number of casualties during the Fort Hood shooting, the Chattanooga NOSC shooting, and the Little Rock recruiting station shooting.

Finally, one last suggestion to help law enforcement combat lone wolf terrorism is to prevent the terrorist from having a huge platform in the media. While a free press is essential to a functional democracy, a responsible media should also consider the amount of air time given to the coverage of terrorism. The constant barrage of terrorism on the news not only gives terrorists a platform for their message, but it also arouses sympathy for their cause, gives the terrorist legitimacy, and creates unnecessary fear in the public. This does not mean that the media should not cover terrorist attacks, in fact, it definitely should; however, the media should reevaluate how it covers terrorism: focus on how the public responds and not on ratings. Bakker suggests that in order to counter the long-term costs of the fear of terrorism, the media could help the public focus on “positive, meaningful events, such as gatherings, ceremonies and (religious) service… [These] so-called ‘social sharings’ can reaffirm one’s values and help to focus on those values while coping with a stressful event.” Active defiance to terrorism in the form of positive coping mechanisms can help overcome the feeling of becoming a victim, reducing the effect of terrorism on society.

CHAPTER 6
CONCLUSION

Understanding lone wolf terrorism allows law enforcement and policymakers to better prevent future acts of terrorism from occurring. Lone wolf terrorism is an entirely different beast than organized terrorist networks. This case study demonstrates the varying degrees of sophistication, capability, and destructiveness of lone wolf terrorism, as well as the intricacies of self-radicalization and the ideological movements that influence their decision to commit terrorism. Through various successes and failures, law enforcement officers worked each case differently, while building off of older cases, and set precedents for future cases. The lone wolves in the case studies were successful in carrying out their attacks by being able to avoid law enforcement detection. Even when suspicions were aroused in some cases, such as in the Fort Hood and Orlando examples, law enforcement overlooked key signals which clearly indicated that the individuals were down the path of radicalization and destruction.

The research shows clearly that one of the biggest factors which allowed these lone wolves to carry out their attacks was the absence of communication, especially the lack of Internet communication. When attempts at communication were made, it was to the detriment of at least two of the subjects studied. Ted Kaczynski and Bruce Ivins were finally caught when they communicated to outside sources: Kaczynski when he contacted the media and Ivins, at least in part, from his emails to coworkers. Another conclusion from the study showed that the non-religious terrorists tended to use bombs and other unconventional weapons to carry out their attacks, while the radical Islamic terrorists in the U.S. tended to have the most success with guns.
Additionally, two key aspects of counter-terrorism were identified. The first was the importance of “see something, say something.” Well-informed, ordinary citizens can make a huge impact on preventing terrorism by being vigilant and alerting authorities to suspicious behavior. The second counter-terrorism measure is monitoring Internet use, especially social media accounts. By monitoring Internet activity on certain extremist websites and by keeping tabs on suspected terrorists via social media, law enforcement can strike when the time is right. A next step in that monitoring process may be to screen the public social media postings of potential immigrants and refugees – not to bar them from entering the country, but to immediately flag suspected terrorists for further investigation. Advances in technology, such as “smart” CCTV cameras, can greatly assist law enforcement. Gun control laws, and other legislative measures, could also change in order to combat lone wolf terrorism. Researching de-radicalization and rehabilitative methods can help stop the spread of radicalism. Legislation to treat assault weapon applications like obtaining a top-secret security clearance would help limit who could obtain them. Also, allowing qualified military personnel to carry weapons on base would allow service members to defend themselves in the case of an active shooter event. Lastly, one major overreaction that needs to be addressed is the idea of banning all Muslims from entry into the U.S. Whether or not that was the intention of President Trump’s executive order, the attitudes generated by that order were not productive. Not only did it anger many Muslims world-wide, potentially giving fuel to terrorist recruiters, but it also pitted Americans against each other. While political correctness is not the answer either, it is important to make educated, tactical, effective, and humanitarian decisions before acting to combat lone wolf terrorism.
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**Education**
The Pennsylvania State University, Behrend College, Erie, PA
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
Communications Arts and Mass Media Minor
Schreyer Honors Scholar
National Society of Leadership and Success

**Leadership Experience**

**Resident Assistant**
Fall 2016 – Current
- Responsible for 32 residents; creating an inclusive, educational, and enjoyable college experience
- Developed programs for residents requiring advertising, budgeting, organization, and people skills
- Promoted a safe environment through sexual assault awareness, bystander intervention, & fire safety

**Worship team and Sunday School teacher at Bright Hope Church, Butler, PA**
Spring 2013 – Current
- Played the drum kit and percussion instruments for the Sunday morning worship services and concerts
- Taught Sunday School for children ages 4-10

**Concert Committee Security Chairperson**
Fall 2015 – Spring 2017
- Responsible for planning an $80,000 concert; brought Panic! At the Disco and Ludacris to campus
- In charge of security for the Junker Center; recruited, lead, and organized team of 30-35 members

**Teaching Experience**

**Tutor for Penn State New Kensington Men’s Soccer Team**
Spring 2015
- Assisted soccer players with low GPA’s in order to become academically eligible to play
- Taught various subjects including English, economics, and history
- Mainly focused on essay writing, studying skills, and test-taking strategies
- Aided two international students from Ghana in developing English writing and grammar
- Meet twice weekly for the semester; all players were eligible to play the following season

**Research Experience**

**Law Enforcement Reactions to Lone Wolf Terrorism: A Case Study on Seven Infamous Attacks**
Schreyer Honors Thesis
Fall 2013 – Spring 2015
- Worked one-on-one with professor to enhance research skills
- Developed research-oriented writing skills

**Work Experience/Community Service**

**Petty Officer Third Class United States Navy – Navy Reserve Pittsburgh, PA**
AUG 2012-Present
- Assisted in the inspection and handling of all types of weapon systems on naval aircraft
- Performed annual training on financial management, career building, and leadership development
- Volunteered for Navy Funeral Honor Guard for 25 veteran funerals and one fallen active duty sailor

**Government Service Intern PA Department of Transportation – Kittanning, PA**
MAY 2013-AUG 2015
- Teamed with highway construction crews to perform community road maintenance
**Study Abroad Experience**

**Cuban Art and Cultural Studies, Havana, Cuba**  
Spring 2016  
- With 3 semesters of Spanish language study, visited multiple Cuban cultural and historical heritage sites

**IES Study Abroad, Berlin, Germany**  
Summer 2016  
- Lived with a German family for two months and immersed myself in German culture
- Traveled extensively throughout Germany and Europe to gain new perspectives and learn self-discovery
- Studied the Politics of the European Union and took an intro German language course

**Scholarships and Awards**

Armstrong County Sports Hall of Fame Student-Athlete Scholarship  
Summer 2012

Woodmen of the World Scholarship  
Fall 2014

Moonlight Credit Union William C. Lane Scholarship  
Fall 2014

Lake Erie Trustee Scholarship (2x)  
Fall 2015 – Fall 2016

U.S. Department of State Gilman Study Abroad Scholarship  
Summer 2016

Armstrong Community Foundation’s Zane McMillen Memorial Scholarship  
Fall 2016

Dean's List x6  
Spring 2014 – Fall 2016

Standout Senior at Penn State Behrend  
Spring 2017