POLITICAL VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICANS

2012

To advance American interests and foreign policy, DS protects people, property, and information at more than 275 State Department posts worldwide. A leader in international investigations, threat analysis, cyber security, counterterrorism, dignitary protection, and security technology, DS is the most widely represented U.S. security and law enforcement organization in the world.

**Political Violence Against Americans** is produced by the Bureau’s Directorate of Threat Investigations and Analysis (DS/TIA) to provide readers with a comprehensive picture of the spectrum of politically motivated threats and violence that American citizens and interests encounter worldwide on an annual basis. Created in May 2008, the Directorate of Threat Investigations and Analysis strives to improve Diplomatic Security’s ability to detect and counter threats, and to upgrade the Bureau’s capacity to rapidly disseminate threat and security information to our embassies, consulates, and the U.S. private sector.
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25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

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This year, *Political Violence Against Americans* observes its 25th anniversary. Since its inception in 1987, the publication's goal has been to document political terrorist activity and violence (including protests) directed against official and non-official U.S. personnel and interests overseas on an annual basis. This includes (whenever possible) the goal(s) and ideology of those responsible. One unique feature of the report is tactical reconstruction of certain attacks. These schematics, when used, are designed to identify lessons learned, techniques, and innovations.

We hope this year's publication will, once again, provide the reader with a better understanding and awareness of the many threats that U.S. citizens and diplomatic personnel face abroad.

A SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ

In this, as in previous editions of *Political Violence Against Americans*, our reports of incidents in Afghanistan and Iraq are limited to those involving targets under U.S. Chief of Mission authority — that is, those U.S. personnel whose safety and well-being are the immediate concern and responsibility of the U.S. Ambassador or his/her surrogate at post. Additionally, instances of rocket and mortar attacks against U.S. diplomatic facilities are included only when they resulted in casualties or property damage.

Active conflict zones like those in Afghanistan and high-risk countries like Iraq involve special circumstances. Given the complex security context within these countries, it is understandably difficult to obtain detailed, reliable information on every single incident involving citizens of the United States. Moreover, often it is virtually impossible to distinguish acts of targeted political violence and terrorism from general hazards. The criteria established above provide a certain practical, albeit imperfect, standard for determining those assaults most relevant to this report.
### A Statistical Overview of 2012

Of the 98 incidents that involved U.S. citizens and interests, 91 are believed to have resulted from intentional targeting of Americans. The seven incidents where Americans or American interests apparently were not targeted due to nationality are indicated with asterisks within the text.

#### Near East: 61 Incidents

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Targets of Anti-American Incidents</th>
<th>Types of Anti-American Incidents</th>
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<tr>
<td>4 U.S. Business</td>
<td>3 Armed attack</td>
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<tr>
<td>53 U.S. Government</td>
<td>2 Assassination</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Private</td>
<td>1 Assault</td>
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<td>1 Bomb</td>
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<td>1 Firebomb</td>
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<td>1 Grenade</td>
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<td>2 Harassment</td>
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<td>41 IDF (indirect fire)</td>
<td>2 Kidnapping</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Shelling</td>
<td>1 Small-arms fire</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Violent demonstration</td>
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#### South and Central Asia: 14 Incidents

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<td>2 Armed attack</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 U.S. Government</td>
<td>1 IDF</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 NGO (nongovernmental organization)</td>
<td>1 Mortar</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Small-arms fire</td>
<td>2 Suicide bombers</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 SVBIED (suicide vehicle-borne improvised explosive device)</td>
<td>6 Violent demonstration</td>
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#### East Asia and the Pacific: 13 Incidents

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<td>1 Assault</td>
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<td>4 U.S. Government</td>
<td>8 Shooting</td>
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<td>1 Private</td>
<td>4 Violent demonstration</td>
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#### Sub-Saharan Africa: 7 Incidents

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<tr>
<td>1 NGO (nongovernmental organization)</td>
<td>1 Attempted kidnapping</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Beating</td>
<td>1 Violent demonstration</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Small-arms fire</td>
<td>1 Kidnapping</td>
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<td>1 Shelling</td>
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<td>1 U.S. Government</td>
<td>1 Violent demonstration</td>
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#### Western Hemisphere: 1 Incident

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<td>1 U.S. Government</td>
<td>1 Small-arms fire</td>
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</table>
2012: AMERICANS KILLED OR INJURED IN TERRORIST OR POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

February 22 – Homs, Syria
A U.S. journalist and her French colleague were killed when their makeshift press center was hit by Syrian regime shelling. The incident took place during a nearly month-long siege of the city by Syrian regime forces.

March 18 – Taiz City, Yemen
A U.S. citizen working for an NGO was shot and killed while driving to work by two men on a motorcycle. Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) claimed responsibility for the attack.

June 18 – Bor, Jonglei State, South Sudan
A South Sudanese-American citizen died during an inter-communal dispute after the June 17 contested election of a village chief. The victim was hiding in his house during the fighting and was fatally wounded when he refused an attempted arrest by Sudan People’s Liberation Army (SPLA) troops.

August 8 – Asadabad City, Kunar Province, Afghanistan
Two suicide bombers targeted U.S. Provisional Reconstruction Team members walking near Forward Operating Base Fiaz. Four U.S. personnel were killed in the attack, including three service members and one individual working for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) under Chief of Mission authority. Nine U.S. soldiers, one U.S. diplomat, four local nationals, and one Afghan soldier were injured. The two bombers were killed.

September 3 – Peshawar, Pakistan
A U.S. Consulate motorcade was targeted by a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED). Two U.S. Consulate employees were wounded, as well as two Locally Employed Staff drivers. Several local policemen also were injured.

September 11 to 12 – Benghazi, Libya
Four U.S. government personnel, including the U.S. Ambassador to Libya, were killed during a series of attacks focused on the U.S. Special Mission Compound and Annex, as well as on U.S. personnel en route to both facilities. In addition, the attacks severely injured two U.S. personnel and three Libyan contract guards.

October 13 – Maruf District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan
As a delegation of U.S. and Afghan officials arrived for a meeting, a suicide bomber detonated his explosive vest. The explosion killed two U.S. citizens and five Afghan officials. One of the U.S. citizens killed was under Chief of Mission authority.
AMERICANS IN CAPTIVITY

August 13, 2011 – Lahore, Pakistan
A U.S. citizen working for a USAID-affiliated NGO was kidnapped. Al-Qaida claimed responsibility. The victim remained in captivity at year’s end.

August 13, 2012 – Greater Damascus, Syria
A U.S. freelance journalist was reported kidnapped. The victim remained missing at year’s end.

November 22, 2012 – Idlib Province, Northwest Syria
A U.S. freelance journalist was kidnapped. The victim remained in captivity at year’s end.

December 13, 2012 – Northwest Syria
A U.S. citizen, who is the chief foreign news correspondent for NBC, and members of his team were kidnapped shortly after crossing into northwest Syria from Turkey. Five days later, as the kidnap victims were being moved to another location by their pro-regime captors, they encountered a checkpoint manned by the Syrian rebel group Ahrar al-Sham brigade. A firefight ensued, and the U.S. citizen and his team were released unharmed.
### COUNTRIES WITH ANTI-AMERICAN INCIDENTS

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<td>Israel/Palestinian Territories</td>
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<td>Lebanon</td>
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<td>Libya</td>
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<td>Syria</td>
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<td>Tunisia</td>
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<td>Yemen</td>
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### TARGETS OF ANTI-AMERICAN INCIDENTS

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### TYPES OF ANTI-AMERICAN INCIDENTS

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<td>Firebomb</td>
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<td>Grenade</td>
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<td>Harassment</td>
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<td>Kidnapping</td>
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<td>Shelling</td>
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<td>Small-arms fire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Violent demonstration</td>
<td>5</td>
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* Incidents where Americans or American interests apparently were not targeted due to nationality are indicated with asterisks.
January 1 to December 31 – Iraq
There were 41 confirmed incidents of IDF targeting the U.S. Consulate in Kirkuk as well as a number of additional indirect fire attacks targeting U.S. interests in other areas of Iraq.

*February 22 – Homs, Syria
A U.S. journalist and her French colleague were killed when their makeshift press center was hit by Syrian regime shelling. At least three non-U.S. journalists were injured during the incident, which took place during a nearly month-long siege of the city by Syrian regime forces.

March 2 – Aden, Yemen
A man fired three rounds into the side window of a U.S. Embassy vehicle. No one was hurt in the attack. AQAP claimed responsibility for the attack.

March 18 – Taiz City, Yemen
Between 8 and 8:30 a.m., a U.S. citizen employed at the International Training and Development Center was driving to work. Two men on a motorcycle drove up alongside his vehicle, and the passenger fired a number of shots into the car with an assault rifle. The U.S. citizen was struck in the head and killed. The gunmen escaped. AQAP claimed responsibility for the attack.

May 20 – Hodeida, Yemen
A vehicle transporting two U.S. citizens and a British citizen came under gunfire. No one was hurt in the attack, although at least one of the passengers may have been hit by glass from the car windows. They managed to drive to the nearby Yemeni Coast Guard base. The British national was providing security. An AQAP affiliate claimed responsibility for the attack.

June 6 – Benghazi, Libya
At 3:25 a.m., a man placed a suspicious device against the ledge of the perimeter wall of the U.S. Special Mission. A few minutes later the device exploded, creating a large hole in the perimeter wall. No one was hurt in the explosion. The Omar Abdurrahman group made an unsubstantiated claim of responsibility.

July 9 – Utica, Tunisia
At 2:30 p.m., a mob assaulted a U.S.-citizen family in the town of Utica, approximately 20 miles north of Tunis, damaging their car. The reason for the assault was unclear.

“It is time to think long, hard, and seriously about more active means of defense – defense through appropriate preventative or pre-emptive actions against terrorists before they strike... intelligence will be particularly important, since our societies demand that we know with reasonable clarity just what we are doing and against whom we are acting.”

—George P. Shultz (1986)
Former U.S. Secretary of State
**September 10 – Baghdad, Iraq**

At 9:10 p.m., Medical Evacuation Embassy aircraft reported seeing seven to 10 tracer rounds of unknown caliber fired behind the aircraft. There were no injuries or property damage.

**September 11 – Israel/Palestinian Territories**

At approximately midnight, a “flash-bang” type distraction device was thrown at the front door of an official U.S. Consulate General residence in Jerusalem. The detonation caused damage to an exterior door, but did not breach the door. No one was hurt in the attack and no group claimed responsibility.

**September 11 to 12 – Benghazi, Libya**

A series of attacks involving arson, small-arms and machine-gun fire, rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs), grenades, and mortars were directed at the U.S. Special Mission compound and Annex, as well as at U.S. personnel en route between both facilities. Four U.S. government personnel, including the U.S. Ambassador to Libya, were killed. In addition, the attacks severely wounded two U.S. personnel and three Libyan contract guards, and resulted in the destruction and abandonment of both facilities.

**September 11 to 15 - Cairo, Egypt**

Just after 4 p.m., hundreds of mostly Salafi protesters gathered outside the U.S. Embassy, apparently to condemn inflammatory material posted on the internet. The Salafis were joined by Ultras, hardcore soccer fans with no clear political agenda, but a penchant for violent confrontations with police. The crowd converged on the consular section of the U.S. Embassy, chanting anti-U.S. slogans and waving black flags and banners. Demonstrators began to climb over the Embassy perimeter and proceeded to the interior lawn area of the Embassy compound. There, a U.S. flag was shredded and burned by the demonstrators. The number of demonstrators in the compound never exceeded 25 persons. Control of the interior Embassy courtyard was regained at 10:25 p.m. when Egyptian police arrested four Egyptian males. Battles continued between police and rock throwers until the morning of September 15, when Central Security Forces cleared the area of protesters. No Americans were injured in the violent demonstrations.

**September 12 – Tunis, Tunisia**

Approximately 200 demonstrators gathered at the U.S. Embassy to protest inflammatory material posted on the internet. At one point, demonstrators tried to get to the gate or wall of the Embassy compound and threw stones at the fence. The police responded immediately and secured the area. No U.S. citizens were injured.
GLASS, DEBRIS, AND OVERTURNED FURNITURE ARE STREWN INSIDE A ROOM IN THE GUTTED U.S. SPECIAL MISSION IN BENGHAZI, LIBYA, AFTER AN ATTACK THAT KILLED FOUR UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, INCLUDING U.S. AMBASSADOR J. CHRISTOPHER STEVENS, ON SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2012. THE FOUR AMERICANS WERE KILLED AFTER A TERRORIST MOB PENETRATED THE MISSION AND SET IT ON FIRE. (AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS)

PROTESTERS OUTSIDE THE U.S. EMBASSY IN CAIRO, EGYPT, ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2012. EGYPTIAN PROTESTERS CLIMBED THE WALLS OF THE EMBASSY, TOOK DOWN THE UNITED STATES FLAG, AND REPLACED IT WITH A BLACK FLAG WITH AN ISLAMIC INSCRIPTION. (AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS)
September 13 – Sana’a, Yemen

At 10:30 a.m., approximately 500 protesters arrived at the U.S. Embassy. The crowd pushed past security forces and accessed the U.S. Embassy compound, where they caused extensive damage by looting and setting several fires. Protesters fled when host country security reinforcements arrived. No U.S. citizens were injured in the attack. Throughout the day, groups of protesters continued to harass the U.S. Embassy and the Sheraton Hotel where a number of U.S. personnel were sheltered. Security forces were able to keep protesters away from both sites. By 7 p.m., the situation was under control.

September 14 – Tripoli, Lebanon

Protesters, angered by inflammatory material posted on the internet, set fire to a Kentucky Fried Chicken and a Hardee’s restaurant.

September 14 – Tunis, Tunisia

Thousands of protesters, some of whom were thought to be demonstrating against inflammatory material posted on the internet, gathered outside the U.S. Embassy. Several hundred protesters breached the compound wall and caused significant damage to the motor pool, outlying buildings, and the Chancery. Separately, unknown assailants destroyed the interior of the American Cooperative School in Tunis. No U.S. citizens were injured in either attack.

October 11 – Sana’a, Yemen

The U.S. Embassy’s senior foreign service national investigator was shot and killed in his vehicle by gunmen on a motorcycle. The terrorist group Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula claimed responsibility for the attack.
October 29 – Tunis, Tunisia

A U.S. military officer assigned to the U.S. Embassy was verbally harassed by two men in a car while he was stopped at a traffic light. One of the men threw a can at the officer’s car. The officer’s vehicle bore diplomatic license plates. He was not hurt in the incident.

November 22 – Idlib Province, Syria

A U.S. citizen freelance journalist was kidnapped when his vehicle was intercepted by another vehicle with armed gunmen. The U.S. citizen remained in captivity at year’s end.

November 24 – Cairo, Egypt

Following Friday prayers, clashes between police and Molotov cocktail-throwing protesters took place on the U.S. Embassy’s perimeter throughout the afternoon and night, ending on Saturday morning, November 25. More than a dozen Molotov cocktails and hundreds of projectiles were thrown, targeting police — not U.S. personnel or facilities — on the Embassy’s northeast perimeter. One Molotov cocktail came over the Embassy wall and landed on a tennis court; another landed on top of a concrete guard house outside the north employee entrance. No U.S. citizens were injured and there were no reports of damage to U.S. government property.

December 13 – Northwest Syria

The chief foreign news correspondent for NBC, who is a U.S. citizen, was kidnapped along with members of his team after crossing into northwest Syria from Turkey. Five days later, as the kidnap victims were being moved to another location, their pro-regime captors encountered a checkpoint manned by the Syrian rebel group Ahrar al-Sham Brigade. A firefight ensued between the captors and the rebels, and the U.S. citizen and his team were freed unharmed.

December 22 – Tunis, Tunisia

While U.S. government investigators were visiting the Tunisian Ministry of Justice, protesters forced their way into the building to confront the team. No one was hurt. Photos of the team, taken while they were inside the Ministry of Justice, were later posted on multiple social media and other internet sites.
## SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

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<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES WITH ANTI-AMERICAN INCIDENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>5  Afghanistan</td>
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<tr>
<td>1* Bangladesh</td>
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<td>2  India</td>
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<td>6  Pakistan</td>
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<td>6  Violent demonstration</td>
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* Incidents where Americans or American interests apparently were not targeted due to nationality are indicated with asterisks.
February 20 – Kandahar Province, Afghanistan
At 4:15 p.m., a U.S. Army convoy carrying one U.S. employee received direct fire near the Spin Boldak area of Kandahar Province. One Army soldier was killed and two others were wounded.

April 15 to 16 – Kabul, Afghanistan
Militants conducted a coordinated series of attacks in Kabul and the eastern Afghan provinces of Logar, Nangarhar, and Paktiya. In Kabul, three groups of insurgents at three different locations targeted various Afghan and foreign sites. One of the targeted facilities was the U.S. Embassy. It received minor damage, but no U.S. citizens were injured. The 17-hour siege in Kabul resulted in the deaths of all the insurgents.

June 16 – Paktika Province, Afghanistan
Shortly after take-off from Forward Operating Base Orgun en route to PRT Sharana, a U.S. Embassy helicopter was struck by eight to 10 rounds of small-arms fire, including one that ruptured the fuel tank. The aircraft landed, and there were no injuries.

August 8 – Asadabad City, Kunar Province, Afghanistan
At 10:05 a.m., two suicide bombers targeted U.S. PRT members walking near Forward Operating Base Fiaz. The targeted group, consisting of U.S. and Afghan troops along with U.S. diplomats, was heading to a meeting with Afghan government officials at the Governor’s Compound located nearby. Four U.S. personnel, including three service members and one individual working for the U.S. Agency for International Development, were killed in the assault. Nine U.S. soldiers, one U.S. diplomat, four local nationals, and one Afghan National Army member were injured. The two attackers died in the assault.

September 3 – Peshawar, Pakistan
At 9:03 a.m., a U.S. Consulate three-vehicle motorcade was attacked and severely damaged by an explosive-laden SVBIED in the vicinity of the U.S. Consulate General’s University Town housing complex. Two U.S. Consulate employees were wounded, as were two Locally Employed Staff drivers, a local police bodyguard assigned to the Consulate General, and several other policemen providing security for the motorcade. There was no claim of responsibility for the attack.

“MORE THAN AT ANY POINT IN OUR HISTORY, EVENTS OVERSEAS DETERMINE WHAT HAPPENS HERE AT HOME, INDEED WHO WE ARE HERE AT HOME. WE NEED TO GET A BETTER FIX ON THE WAYS IN WHICH THE WORLD IS IMPACTING OUR POLITY, OUR SOCIETY, OUR CULTURE, AND, ABOVE ALL, OUR VALUES.”

Former U.S. Secretary of State
September 14 – Chennai, India
At 4 p.m., several hundred protesters began throwing rocks and other material from beneath the adjacent overpass near the U.S. Consulate General, to protest inflammatory material posted on the internet. At one point, a Molotov cocktail was thrown over the compound wall. The Consulate General suffered damage, but no U.S. citizens were injured.

September 16 – Karachi, Pakistan
Two hundred protesters affiliated with a Shi’a religious group named Majilis-e-wahdat-ul-Muslimeen broke through police lines and threw rocks into the U.S. Consulate perimeter, causing damage to the Consular Access Control windows. No U.S. personnel were injured, but two protesters were killed and several more were injured as security forces responded.

September 18 – Peshawar, Pakistan
At 4:30 p.m., the student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, which grew to a crowd of 1,500, staged a demonstration at the U.S. Consulate. The crowd became violent, throwing rocks and Molotov cocktails at the U.S. Consulate. Protesters pulled down a billboard showing an American flag, and the remains of the billboard were burned. Police eventually dispersed the crowd.

September 21 – Karachi, Pakistan
Four anti-American demonstrations took place, the largest numbering over 80,000 demonstrators. Although security forces successfully prevented protesters from reaching the U.S. Consulate perimeter, demonstrators associated with the Sunni religious group Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat caused significant damage to private and public property by looting and setting ablaze cinemas, banks, and restaurants, including a McDonald’s and a Kentucky Fried Chicken. More than 20 injuries were reported among the demonstrators and security forces.
September 27 – Kolkata, India
At 2:45 p.m., a crowd of 15,000 to 20,000 protesters marched toward the American Center. When they reached an area about 100 yards from the Center, some 200 to 300 protesters rushed the gates and became violent, throwing sticks, stones, and other debris at the facility. Police eventually were able to gain control of the situation. The building was closed prior to the march, and no Americans were hurt. There was minor damage to a window located at the CAC entrance.

October 13 – Maruf District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan
As a delegation of U.S. and Afghan officials arrived for a meeting in Maruf District, a suicide bomber detonated a suicide vest. The explosion killed two U.S. citizens and five Afghan officials.

November 18 – Peshawar, Pakistan
At 6:05 p.m., two mortars impacted in the vicinity of a U.S. Consulate housing cluster. One round impacted directly on the property of a non-governmental organization. A U.S. diplomatic residence in the area sustained shrapnel damage. One local guard was slightly injured; he was treated and released from a local hospital. A second round impacted near the nearby village of Pawaka. No U.S. personnel were injured in the attack.

November 23 – Peshawar, Pakistan
At 10:51 a.m., a single round of indirect fire impacted a non-U.S. government private residence adjacent to a U.S. Consulate residence. The device did not detonate and was removed by explosive ordnance disposal personnel. No U.S. personnel were injured in the attack. There were no reports of damage to U.S. housing facilities.

*December 4 – Dhaka, Bangladesh
At 8:45 a.m., while returning from the Dhaka International Airport, a U.S. Embassy vehicle with diplomatic license plates encountered a group of 100 to 150 demonstrators on Airport Road. Inside the vehicle were a Locally Employed Staff driver and four police officers assigned to the Embassy. The demonstrators — all members of, or affiliated with, the Jamaat-e-Islami political party — had been participating in violent demonstrations over the past weeks and were supporting the countrywide strike announced on December 4 to protest the ongoing criminal war tribunal taking place in Dhaka.

At the onset of the incident, the U.S. Embassy vehicle slowed down in front of a mass of protesters who began throwing rocks and bricks at the Embassy vehicle, shattering several windows, injuring the driver, and forcing him off the road into a large pile of sand. The demonstrators surrounded the vehicle and attempted to set it on fire. At that point, the driver and four policemen exited the burning vehicle and were immediately assaulted by the crowd with sticks and rocks. While being assaulted, the policemen were able to put out the fire. The policemen then brandished their weapons. Demonstrators were not injured and soon fled the scene. The driver and four policemen were slightly injured in the incident.

It is not believed the vehicle was targeted because it was a U.S. Embassy vehicle. More likely, it was a target of opportunity since there were four uniformed police officers inside. Throughout the day of the attack, demonstrators had been indiscriminately vandalizing and destroying vehicles and buses around the capital city. Police officers often were targeted for violence. Following the attack, leaders of the Jamaat-e-Islami party released a statement taking responsibility for the incident, condemning the violence displayed by the demonstrators and promising compensation for damages, which they subsequently provided.
# EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES WITH ANTI-AMERICAN INCIDENTS</th>
<th>TARGETS OF ANTI-AMERICAN INCIDENTS</th>
<th>TYPES OF ANTI-AMERICAN INCIDENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Australia</td>
<td>8 U.S. Business</td>
<td>1 Assault</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Indonesia</td>
<td>4 U.S. Government</td>
<td>8 Shooting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Philippines</td>
<td>1 Private</td>
<td>4 Violent demonstration</td>
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Papua Province, Indonesia

During 2012, there were eight incidents in which unknown gunmen targeted vehicles containing employees and contractors of PT Freeport Indonesia, a U.S. company, as well as security personnel either on the road that links the town of Timika with Freeport’s Grasberg mine, or on a remote, private Freeport service road to the east.

A January 9 shooting on Freeport’s main road killed two Freeport contractors, and their vehicle was burned with the two bodies inside. On February 7, a police patrol on Freeport’s private service road exchanged gunfire with unknown assailants, and one policeman was killed by the gunfire. In the same area on February 9, six Freeport contractors were injured when their vehicle was shot 16 times.

On April 14, August 16, September 14, September 18, and October 13, unknown attackers shot at Indonesian security forces on Freeport roads, engaging in both sustained firefights and multiple other engagements within a short time span. No serious injuries resulted from these incidents. These incidents brought the total number of shooting incidents along the company’s roads to 37 since July 2009. In addition, on September 21, a mob of approximately 300 people attacked and vandalized a PT Freeport Indonesia office in Timika, setting nearby cars on fire, but causing no injuries.

April 16 – Manila, Philippines

At 5:50 a.m., an estimated 60 to 70 members of various groups held a protest targeting the U.S. Embassy. This was a “lightning” rally in which protesters ran toward the Embassy from multiple directions. It is believed the demonstration was scheduled to coincide with the opening of the annual joint U.S. and Philippine military exercise dubbed “Balikatan 2012.” Upon reaching the Embassy, the protesters began throwing paint at the Embassy seal and spray-painting slogans opposing the Visiting Forces Agreement on the wall and ground. Several letters of the U.S. Embassy sign at the front gate were stolen. The demonstration ended at 6:07 a.m. No U.S. citizens were injured.

Terrorists and international criminals “sap the strength of industrialized societies and threaten the survival of emerging democracies.”

Former U.S. Secretary of State
September 17 – Sydney, Australia

A U.S. citizen who was locally employed by the U.S. Air Force was assaulted while waiting for a bus in the Central Business District. The employee was approached by two males who asked if he was American. When the employee responded, “Yes,” one of the men threw a cup of coffee on the employee, and both males immediately fled the scene. This incident took place on the heels of violent protests near the U.S. Consulate General in Sydney on September 15.

September 17 – Jakarta, Indonesia

A demonstration was held at the U.S. Embassy to protest inflammatory material posted on the internet. Protesters threw at least two Molotov cocktails at the Embassy perimeter, along with marbles and other objects, targeting the Embassy façade and the police officers providing protection against demonstrations. Eleven police officers were hurt. No U.S. citizens were injured, and damage to the Embassy was minor.

November 21 – Jakarta, Indonesia

A group of 150 demonstrators, protesting inflammatory material posted on the internet, staged a demonstration at the U.S. Embassy. The protest quickly grew violent when the group began throwing rocks and other items at police and the Embassy façade. Police deployed tear gas, and the demonstrators fled the area.

November 23 – Medan, Indonesia

Approximately 100 to 120 protesters from the Islamic Defender’s Front arrived at the American Presence Post to protest events in Gaza. The protesters became aggressive and damaged a vehicle gate in an attempt to gain access to the ground floor of the building. No U.S. government property was damaged and no injuries were reported.
PROTESTORS BURN A U.S. FLAG DURING AN ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE THE U.S. EMBASSY IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA, ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2012. RIOTERS WERE REACTING TO INFLAMMATORY MATERIAL POSTED ON THE INTERNET. (AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS)

FIRE ENGULFS BARBED WIRE THAT SURROUNDS U.S. EMBASSY JAKARTA DURING A PROTEST IN THE INDONESIAN CAPITAL ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2012. ANGRY DEMONSTRATORS CLASHED WITH POLICE OUTSIDE THE EMBASSY, HURLING ROCKS AND MOLOTOV COCKTAILS, AND BURNING TIRES. (AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS)
## Sub-Saharan Africa

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ethiopia (2*)</td>
<td>U.S. Government (4)</td>
<td>Attempted firebomb (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mali (2*)</td>
<td>NGO (1)</td>
<td>Attempted kidnapping (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Sudan (1*)</td>
<td>Private (1)</td>
<td>Beating (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan (2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Small-arms fire (1)</td>
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* Incidents where Americans or American interests apparently were not targeted due to nationality are indicated with asterisks.
January 11 – Southeastern Ethiopia

Between the hours of 8 and 9 a.m., a vehicle operated by the U.S.-based organization Save the Children was fired upon and hit by three to five gunmen outside of Dollo Odo, some 15 kilometers from the Somali border. The four occupants — none of them U.S. citizens — were not injured in the attack. The driver observed that the gunmen allowed local vehicles to pass before emerging from hiding and firing on the vehicle, suggesting that the gunmen intended to take Western hostages.

*January 17 – Denakil Depression, Ethiopia

Rebels from the separatist Afar Revolutionary Democratic Union Front (ARDUF) attacked a group of European tourists on the Erta Ale volcano. The attack resulted in the deaths of two Germans, two Hungarians, and an Austrian tourist. Two Germans and two Ethiopians were kidnapped. A U.S. citizen was among the group when attacked but managed to escape unharmed. The ARDUF released the two German hostages after several weeks in captivity; the whereabouts and well-being of the Ethiopian hostages remained unknown at year’s end.

*February 2 – Bamako, Mali

At 9 a.m., 1,000 demonstrators gathered to protest the government’s handling of the rebellion by armed, primarily Tuareg groups in northern Mali. During the demonstration, a U.S. Embassy vehicle driven by a U.S. Embassy officer was pelted with stones while en route to two schools to evacuate dependents. The driver was not hurt.

*February 2 – Bamako, Mali

A second U.S. Embassy vehicle, this one driven by Locally Employed Staff, also was attacked at a different location than the previously cited incident in Bamako. The driver was struck by broken glass resulting from stones thrown by protestors, but was not hurt in the attack. He returned to the Embassy safely.
June 18 – Bor, Jonglei State, South Sudan

A South Sudanese-American citizen died during violence following the June 17 contested election of the Adol village chief. The victim was reportedly hiding in his house during the fighting and refused an arrest attempt by Sudan People’s Liberation Army (SPLA) troops who suspected he might be involved in the violence. The SPLA troops forced their way into his house and knocked him unconscious with gun butts. The U.S. citizen was taken to a nearby military barracks and detained overnight. He was released the following day and died at Bor Hospital.

September 14 – Khartoum, Sudan

At 12:10 p.m., police apprehended a man attempting to throw a Molotov cocktail at the U.S. Embassy. The man had another Molotov cocktail with him. The Embassy building was not damaged and no one was injured.
**September 14 – Khartoum, Sudan**

Inflammatory material posted on the internet and a German Supreme Court ruling were used by Islamist elements in Khartoum to instigate a mob of 4,000 protesters to ransack the German Embassy and assault the neighboring British Embassy, and attempt to do the same to the U.S. Embassy. During the several-hour siege, the U.S. Embassy compound sustained extensive damage. A group of several assailants was able to scale the compound wall and plant a black al-Qaida flag on an exterior roof. Sudanese police defending the perimeter were outflanked and their positions overrun, causing the police to retreat and regroup while leaving a gap for the attackers to exploit until police reinforcements arrived to drive them back.

During this brief period, the rioters captured a police truck and set it afire, then used the vehicle as a battering ram in an unsuccessful attempt to breach one of the compound’s rear entrance doors. Police equipment, including tear gas, was seized from the truck for use against the Embassy’s defenders. Intruders gained access to the electrical grid machinery and cut the Embassy’s local power supply. Hundreds of rocks and stones, hurled by hand and sling shots, damaged more than 20 windows around the Embassy’s façade.

Assailants used long poles to smash the streetlights and surveillance cameras that monitor the compound’s exterior. The air was saturated with tear gas dispersed by local police, and its effects were felt inside the Embassy’s walls. While the mob attempted to overrun U.S. Embassy Khartoum and commit acts of violence, the security staff of U.S. Embassy Khartoum successfully defended the compound against intrusion, and all personnel remained safe.
### Europe

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<tr>
<td>1 Greece</td>
<td>1 U.S. Business</td>
<td>1 Incendiary device</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 United Kingdom</td>
<td>1 U.S. Government</td>
<td>1 Violent demonstration</td>
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“NOTHING CAN BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED IN TODAY’S WORLD IN TERMS OF SECURITY. WHILE WE THINK OF POSTS LIKE KABUL OR BAGHDAD AS PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS, TERRORISTS CAN STRIKE ANYWHERE.”

—Condoleezza Rice (2005)
Former U.S. Secretary of State

June 27 – Athens, Greece

In the early morning hours, two or three assailants subdued two security guards at the Microsoft headquarters building and drove a van loaded with incendiary devices through glass doors into the building. The assailants then triggered the incendiary devices inside the van, causing extensive fire damage to the building’s entrance. No one was hurt in the attack. A group calling itself Deviant Behavior for the Spread of Revolutionary Terrorism – International Revolutionary Front subsequently claimed responsibility for the attack.

September 23 – London, United Kingdom

During a demonstration by thousands of protesters outside the U.S. Embassy, an unknown individual threw a rock at the building, damaging a ballistic-resistant window.
## WESTERN HEMISPHERE

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1 Peru</td>
<td>1 U.S. Government</td>
<td>1 Small-arms fire</td>
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At 3:30 p.m., presumed members of the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) terrorist group fired on a U.S. government-owned helicopter managed by the U.S. Embassy Narcotics Affairs Section. No U.S. government personnel were on board, but one Peruvian police officer (co-pilot) was killed, and the Peruvian crew chief was injured. The pilot flew the helicopter away from the attack site before making an emergency landing. The helicopter was part of a mission to locate a missing Peruvian military patrol near an area where the Shining Path had kidnapped several gas pipeline workers earlier in the week.
This timeline is not meant to be all-inclusive, but is intended to provide the reader with a representative snapshot of the types of incidents that have threatened U.S. diplomatic personnel and facilities over the past 25 years. Events were selected based on the following considerations: lethality, property damage, and the uniqueness or sophistication of the operation.

**1987**

**MAY 26 – CAIRO, EGYPT:** Three U.S. embassy officers were the targets of an attempted assassination. Two of the embassy officers sustained superficial wounds. A group calling itself Egypt’s Revolution claimed responsibility.

**JUNE 9 – ROME, ITALY:** A car bomb exploded across the street from the U.S. embassy causing minor damage and slight injury to one person. Three minutes later, two homemade mortars were fired at the embassy from a nearby hotel causing slight damage. The Anti-Imperialist International Brigade claimed responsibility.

**OCTOBER 14 – BARCELONA, SPAIN:** A bomb exploded outside the back entrance of the U.S. consulate general causing extensive damage and injuring eight people, including two locally engaged staff (LES). None seriously. Two Catalan separatist groups claimed responsibility.

**1988**

**MARCH 24 – LIMA, PERU:** A U.S. embassy armored vehicle carrying a U.S. embassy officer and two U.S. marines was struck by a bullet. The bullet ricocheted off the rear window, hitting the embassy officer in the head. He was not seriously injured.

**APRIL 7 – TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS:** Between 800 and 1,000 people arrived at the U.S. embassy to protest the extradition of a known drug trafficker to the United States. The crowd became violent, inflicting extensive damage to the embassy and property. No embassy personnel were injured.

**JUNE 2 – BEIRUT, LEBANON:** The U.S. ambassador’s motorcade was ambushed by automatic weapons fire in east Beirut. No one was injured in the attack.

**AUGUST 8 – LA PAZ, BOLIVIA:** A bomb detonated 15 feet from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz’s motorcade while en route from the airport to the capital. No one was injured in the attack. However, three vehicles in the motorcade, including that of Mrs. Shultz, sustained damage. The Simon Bolivar Command claimed responsibility.

**DECEMBER 21 – LOCKERBIE, SCOTLAND:** A terrorist bomb aboard Pan American Flight 103 exploded in the air over Scotland, killing all 259 passengers on board (including 189 U.S. citizens) and 11 residents of Lockerbie on the ground. Among the passengers killed were three U.S. Department of State officers.
JANUARY 25 – TINGO MARIA, PERU: A U.S. EMBASSY OFFICER WAS SHOT AND WOUNDED WHILE MAKING A HELICOPTER INSPECTION OF A U.S. FACILITY IN THE UPPER HUALLAGA. THOSE RESPONSIBLE WERE BELIEVED TO BE EITHER DRUG TRAFFICKERS OR MEMBERS OF SENDERO LUMINOSO (SHINING PATH), A MAOIST INSURGENT GROUP. THE EMBASSY OFFICER’S INJURY WAS NOT LIFE-THREATENING.


OCTOBER 13 – SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA: RADICAL STUDENTS OVERRAN, RANSACKED, AND BRIEFLY OCCUPIED THE U.S. AMBASSADOR’S RESIDENCE. THE AMBASSADOR AND HIS WIFE ESCAPED UNHARMED.


FEBRUARY 13 – BONN, WEST GERMANY: TWO TO THREE INDIVIDUALS FIRED MORE THAN 250 ROUNDS FROM AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AT THE U.S. EMBASSY. THE GUNMEN WERE BEHIND A VACANT HOUSE ACROSS THE RHINE RIVER, A DISTANCE OF 400 TO 500 METERS. THERE WAS MINOR DAMAGE TO THE EMBASSY, BUT NO ONE WAS INJURED. THE RED ARMY FACTION CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

TIMELINE OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1992

▲ FEBRUARY 11 – LIMA, PERU: A CAR BOMB EXPLODED OUTSIDE THE U.S. AMBASSADOR’S RESIDENCE, KILLING THREE POLICEMEN AND CAUSING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO THE RESIDENCE. SENDERO LUMINOSEO (SHINING PATH) CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

APRIL 16 AND JULY 11 – ISTANBUL, TURKEY: A ROCKET-PROPELLED GRENADE-TYPE DEVICE WAS FIRED AT THE U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL FROM A SMALL PARK SOME 150 METERS FROM THE CONSULATE. SHRAPNEL FROM THE DEVICE CAUSED MINOR DAMAGE TO THE CONSULATE, BUT NO ONE WAS INJURED. ON JULY 11, ANOTHER ROCKET WAS FIRED AT THE CONSULATE FROM THE SAME LOCATION. DAMAGE WAS MINIMAL, AND NO ONE WAS HURT. A LEFTIST REVOLUTIONARY GROUP, DEVRIMCI SOL (DEV-SOL), CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOTH ATTACKS.

OCTOBER 11 – LIMA, PERU: THREE 60-MILLIMETER MORTARS WERE FIRED AT THE U.S. AMBASSADOR’S RESIDENCE. ALL THE ROUNDS FELL SHORT. A GROUP CALLING ITSELF TUPAC AMARU REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

1993

▲ JULY 27 – LIMA, PERU: SENDERO LUMINOSEO TERRORISTS DETONATED A MASSIVE CAR BOMB IN FRONT OF THE U.S. EMBASSY, CAUSING INJURIES TO A LOCAL GUARD AND EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO THE EMBASSY.

JANUARY 26 – ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA: A U.S. DIPLOMAT EMPLOYED BY THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) WAS THE TARGET OF AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT WHILE TRAVELING HOME. A VEHICLE WITH THREE MEN PULLED UP ALONGSIDE THE DIPLOMAT’S VEHICLE AND OPENED FIRE. THE DIPLOMAT WAS UNHURT.

JANUARY 31 – MOGADISHU, SOMALIA: A U.S. LIAISON OFFICE MOTORCADE WAS AMBUSHED BY ARMED GUNMEN. NO ONE WAS HURT IN THE ATTACK.

AUGUST 22 – MOGADISHU, SOMALIA: A CONVOY TRANSPORTING THE U.S. AMBASSADOR WAS ATTACKED BY ARMED SOMALI MILITIAMEN. NO AMERICANS WERE INJURED, AND THERE WAS NO DAMAGE TO THE MOTORCADE VEHICLES.

1994

JULY 8-9 AND SEPTEMBER 5 – MOGADISHU, SOMALIA: THERE WERE THREE SEPARATE AMBUSHES ON U.S. LIAISON OFFICE (USLO) MOTORCADES BY SOMALI GANGS AND MILITIAS. TWO JULY ATTACKS RESULTED IN MINOR INJURIES. ON SEPTEMBER 5, A USLO OFFICER WAS CRITICALLY WOUNDED.
MARCH 8 – KARACHI, PAKISTAN: A U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL SHUTTLE BUS WAS ATTACKED BY GUNMEN ARMED WITH AK-47 RIFLES. TWO U.S. CONSULATE EMPLOYEES WERE KILLED AND A THIRD WAS WOUNDED. THERE WAS NO CLAIM OF RESPONSIBILITY.


SEPTEMBER 13 – MOSCOW, RUSSIA: AN UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL FIRED A ROCKET-PROPELLED GRENADE (RPG) AT THE U.S. EMBASSY, CAUSING MINOR DAMAGE BUT NO INJURIES. NO ONE CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ATTACK.

FEBRUARY 15 – ATHENS, GREECE: AN RPG WAS FIRED AT THE U.S. EMBASSY. THE ROCKET DAMAGED THREE OFFICIAL VEHICLES AND CAUSED MINOR DAMAGE TO THE EMBASSY’S PARKING PERIMETER WALL. NO ONE WAS INJURED IN THE ATTACK. THE GREEK GROUP, REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION 17 NOVEMBER, CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

MARCH 22 – VUKOVAR, EASTERN SLAVONIA: WHILE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS MADELEINE ALBRIGHT AND MEMBERS OF HER DELEGATION DEPARTED A LOCAL MARKET, A GROUP OF MEN THREW ROCKS AT THE MOTORCADE. NO ONE WAS HURT, AND ONE VEHICLE SUFFERED MINOR DAMAGE.


NOVEMBER 27 – KATOWICE, POLAND: A FIREBOMB WAS THROWN THROUGH THE WINDOW OF AN OFFICE USED BY THE U.S. COMMERCIAL SERVICES. THERE WAS EXTENSIVE DAMAGE, BUT NO ONE WAS HURT.

TIMELINE OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1998


1999

THE YEAR 1999 IS BEST DESCRIBED AS THE “YEAR OF DEMONSTRATIONS.”

During that year, there were 921 demonstrations directed against U.S. interests worldwide. Approximately 97 percent of the demonstrations were directed against the U.S. government or its diplomatic facilities. Forty-four percent of the demonstrations were violent.

Anti-U.S. demonstrations were held in response to events where U.S. government involvement was perceived to be pivotal, such as NATO airstrikes on Yugoslavia (Operation Allied Force); rendition of Kurdish Worker’s Party founder and leader Abdullah Ocalan; East Timor’s referendum vote for independence; and the U.S. Supreme Court-upheld conviction of Mumia Abu-Jamal’s sentence for the murder of a Philadelphia police officer.

MARCH 28 – MOSCOW, RUSSIA: TWO MEN IN AN SUV PULLED UP TO THE U.S. EMBASSY. ONE OF THE MEN ATTEMPTED TO FIRE TWO RPGS AT THE EMBASSY; HOWEVER, BOTH ROCKETS MALFUNCTIONED. THE MEN ALSO FIRED 11 ROUNDS FROM AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AT THE EMBASSY BEFORE FLEEING THE SCENE. NO ONE WAS HURT IN THE ATTACK.

JULY 28 – JAKARTA, INDONESIA: AN ACTIVATED HAND GRENADE WAS FOUND IN THE U.S. EMBASSY COMPOUND. THE POLICE BOMB SQUAD DEACTIVATED THE DEVICE. NO ONE CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

MARCH 6 – BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC: U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE MADELINE ALBRIGHT WAS ASSAULTED AT MASYARYK UNIVERSITY BY TWO PROTESTERS THROWING EGGS. THE EGGS HIT A NUMBER OF U.S. GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL IN THE SECRETARY’S SECURITY DETAIL. THE SECRETARY WAS NOT HURT AND WAS IMMEDIATELY EVACUATED.

SEPTEMBER 15 – SURABAYA, INDONESIA: ONE HUNDRED DEMONSTRATORS ATTACKED THE U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL, CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE FRONT GATE. EIGHT PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO THE COMPOUND AND WERE ARRESTED.


OCTOBER 6 – AMMAN, JORDAN: A VEHICLE CONTAINING A UNITED STATES EMBASSY FAMILY WAS ATTACKED DURING A VIOLENT DEMONSTRATION NEAR THE U.S. EMBASSY CONSISTING OF AN ANGRY MOB OF APPROXIMATELY 15,000. THE FAMILY WAS EVACUATED TO THE HOSPITAL FOR NON-LIFE-THREATENING INJURIES.


# Timeline of Significant Events

## 2002

**January 22 - Kolkata, India:** Gunmen armed with machine guns fired on the American Center, which sustained minor damage. Five guards were killed and 17 injured in the attack. The American Center and the main consulate building were closed for the day. The group Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami claimed responsibility.

**April 5 - Manama, Bahrain:** Approximately 2,000 demonstrators gathered near the U.S. Embassy. They threw large stones at the building, resulting in some damage. Several demonstrators breached the embassy perimeter wall and set fire to official vehicles. No U.S. citizens were hurt.

**June 14 - Karachi, Pakistan:** A suicide truck bomb detonated near the U.S. Consulate General, causing extensive damage to the consulate general’s perimeter wall. A Marine security guard and five locally employed staff were slightly injured.

**October 28 - Amman, Jordan:** A gunman affiliated with Al-Qaida assassinated a U.S. embassy officer outside his home as he was leaving for work.

## 2003

**March 20 and March 29 - Athens, Greece:** During two mass demonstrations protesting the war in Iraq, rock-throwing protesters broke numerous windows at the U.S. Embassy.

**October 15 - Gaza Strip, Palestinian Territories:** A U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv motorcade was struck by a roadside bomb. The blast destroyed one car and killed three of the four non-U.S. government occupants. The fourth person sustained serious injuries.

## 2004

**July 30 - Tashkent, Uzbekistan:** Suicide bombers conducted attacks against the U.S. and Israeli embassies as well as against an Uzbek government facility. The U.S. Embassy sustained minor damage and no U.S. personnel were injured. Two Uzbek police officers assigned to the U.S. Embassy were fatall y wounded. The Islamic Jihad group claimed responsibility.

**October 24 - Baghdad, Iraq:** A U.S. Embassy officer was killed in a terrorist attack.

**December 6 - Jeddah, Saudi Arabia:** Five militants attacked the U.S. Consulate General, killing five locally employed staff and wounding nine others. Four of the assailants were killed by Saudi forces and one was captured.
2005

May 10 – Tbilisi, Georgia: A Georgian national threw a hand grenade at U.S. President George W. Bush during a public appearance in Tbilisi. The grenade failed to detonate, and the suspect was later apprehended.

August 21 – Kabul, Afghanistan: A bomb damaged a U.S. embassy vehicle, wounding two embassy employees.

September 19 – Mosul, Iraq: A U.S. embassy security advance team was attacked with a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device, killing a U.S. embassy officer and three private security contractors.

2006

March 2 – Karachi, Pakistan: A SVBIED detonated outside the U.S. consulate general as an official U.S. government vehicle passed by, killing a U.S. embassy officer and his local driver.

September 12 – Damascus, Syria: Four Syrian nationals with alleged Islamic ties — and armed with grenades, guns, and a small truck bomb — launched an attack against the U.S. embassy. All four of the assailants were killed, as was a Syrian security officer.

December 5 – Sana’a, Yemen: A young man opened fire outside the U.S. embassy perimeter wall. He was shot and wounded by host country security forces guarding the embassy.

2007

January 12 – Athens, Greece: Assailants fired an RPG at the U.S. embassy. No one was injured in the attack. A Greek leftist group, Revolutionary Struggle, claimed responsibility.


April 14 – Casablanca, Morocco: Two suicide bombers detonated their devices against the U.S. consulate general and the U.S. consulate general’s public diplomacy facility and language center. Damage to both facilities was minimal. The two bombers were killed. There were no other deaths or injuries.
### 2008

**JANUARY 1 – KHARTOUM, SUDAN:** A USAID employee (U.S. citizen) and his local driver were shot and killed while en route home.

**JANUARY 15 – BEIRUT, LEBANON:** A U.S. embassy vehicle was damaged by a VBIED parked on the side of the road. Four persons were killed and approximately 40 others were injured, including two locally employed staff and a U.S. citizen tourist.

**FEBRUARY 21 – BELGRADE, SERBIA:** Rioters broke into the U.S. embassy, setting a fire and causing extensive property damage. They were protesting U.S. recognition of Kosovo’s independence.

**MARCH 15 – ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN:** A man threw a bag containing a bomb over the wall of a restaurant. The explosion injured 12 people, including five U.S. officials. One person was killed.

**JUNE 24 – BAGHDAD, IRAQ:** An improvised explosive device (IED) exploded inside a district advisory council building. Four U.S. citizens — including one U.S. Department of State employee — and a third-country national were killed. One U.S. military officer and two Iraqis were injured.

### 2009

**JULY 8 – PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC:** Thousands of demonstrators protested a missile defense agreement with the United States during the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Her motorcade was pelted with eggs as she drove to a meeting. No one was hurt in the incident.

**AUGUST 26 – PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN:** Two gunmen attempted to assassinate the U.S. consulate’s principal officer. The driver was able to return safely to the officer’s residence without injury.

**SEPTEMBER 17 – SANAA, YEMEN:** Seven militants wearing Ministry of Interior Central Security Force uniforms and suicide vests attacked the U.S. embassy. They tried and failed to breach the embassy perimeter wall by detonating two explosives-laden vehicles. During the attack, the remaining militants detonated their suicide vests, killing themselves. The attack resulted in the deaths of 18 people, including one U.S. citizen.

**OCTOBER 25 – BAGHDAD, IRAQ:** Two SVBIEDs detonated at the Ministry of Justice and the Baghdad Provincial Council building. Ninety-three people were killed and over 641 injured. The injured included five U.S. Department of State contractors.

**OCTOBER 29 – MANAGUA, NICARAGUA:** Several hundred Sandinista National Liberation Front supporters attacked and vandalized the U.S. embassy for four hours. No U.S. citizens were hurt.

**DECEMBER 30 – FORWARD OPERATING BASE CHAPMAN, KHOWST PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN:** A suicide bomber killed seven U.S. citizens (five U.S. government employees and two contractors) and injured six more. Also killed was a Jordanian intelligence officer.
**TIMELINE OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS**

**2010**

**APRIL 5 – PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN:**
Six militants with three vehicle-borne incendiary explosive devices (VBIEDs) approached the U.S. consulate. One VBIED exploded, causing injuries among Pakistani security personnel and three members of the consulate’s local guard force. Two more VBIEDs exploded, killing the remaining five militants. No U.S. citizens were killed, but one consulate officer was injured in the attack.

**DECEMBER 15 – SANAA, YEMEN:** As four U.S. embassy officers in a pickup truck were departing a parking lot, a man placed a hand grenade in the back of the truck moments before it exploded. None of the embassy officers was hurt, and the suspect fled; he was caught a few blocks away.

**2011**

**MAY 1 – TRIPOLI, LIBYA:** Uniformed Libyan military personnel scaled the U.S. embassy compound’s perimeter walls. They ransacked and set several buildings on fire. The residences of the U.S. ambassador and chief of mission also were stormed, damaged, and looted by members of the Libyan revolutionary guard. The vandalized buildings were empty at the time of the assault, and no injuries were reported.

**MAY 20 – PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN:** A two-vehicle motorcade transporting six U.S. consulate officers was the target of a VBIED. Two officers inside one vehicle sustained minor injuries. The group Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan claimed responsibility.

**SEPTEMBER 13 TO 14 – KABUL, AFGHANISTAN:** Six armed militants occupied a building under construction. From that location they fired on the U.S. embassy and the NATO-led international security assistance force compound. The assault on the building lasted 20 hours. All the militants were killed. Two U.S. servicemen were injured in the attack. It is believed the Taliban and Haqqani network were responsible.

**SEPTEMBER 25 – KABUL, AFGHANISTAN:** An Afghan embassy employee opened fire inside a U.S. embassy annex compound. One U.S. citizen was shot and killed, and three others were wounded before the gunman was killed.

**OCTOBER 28 – SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA:** A man with a Kalashnikov rifle opened fire on the U.S. embassy compound, causing minor damage. The gunman was apprehended by police. The embassy suffered minor damage, but no U.S. citizens were injured. One local policeman was injured.

**NOVEMBER 16 – MANILA, PHILIPPINES:** While it was en route to the presidential palace, a mob ran toward U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton’s motorcade. The mob attacked the lead vehicle, hurling paint, rocks, and eggs. The motorcade evacuated the area without further incident.
Historically, overseas environments have presented potential hazards to citizens and diplomats of the United States. As our nation’s diplomatic presence and its commercial tourist trade broadened considerably throughout the twentieth century, potential dangers and vulnerability increased as well. Over the past quarter-century in particular, the rise of international terrorism and criminal activity has contributed to a numerical increase in incidents of violence against individuals, organizations, and facilities of the United States, worldwide. In some cases, U.S. citizens have been victimized randomly; in other cases, assaults appear to have been intentional.

This anniversary edition of Political Violence Against Americans summarizing major acts of violence during the past 25 years serves both as a record and a reminder that vigilance, preparation, and sensible discretion are valuable safeguards. Reasonable precautions can significantly minimize opportunities for those who would do harm to the people of the United States and their interests.
“...WE MUST BE PREPARED TO DEFEND OUR CAUSE AND DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO STAND UP TO EXTREMISM, TERRORISM, CHAOS AND EVIL, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO.”

—John F. Kerry (2013)
U.S. Secretary of State
IN MEMORIAM

THIS PUBLICATION IS DEDICATED TO ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES, AS WELL AS LOCALLY EMPLOYED STAFF, LOCAL GUARD FORCE PERSONNEL, LOCAL POLICE, AND OTHERS WHO DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO ENSURING THAT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS ABLE TO CARRY OUT ITS DIPLOMATIC WORK OVERSEAS IN A SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT.
THE POLITICAL VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICANS
PUBLICATION SERIES

Political Violence Against Americans, formerly Significant Incidents of Political Violence Against Americans, is produced by the Bureau of Diplomatic Security’s Directorate of Threat Investigations and Analysis and the Office of Public Affairs to provide readers with a comprehensive picture of the broad spectrum of political violence that American citizens and interests encounter abroad on an annual basis.

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