



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY



POLITICAL VIOLENCE
AGAINST AMERICANS
2011



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LISTING OF ACRONYMS IN THIS REPORT

| | |
|-------|--|
| DS | Bureau of Diplomatic Security |
| EFP | Explosive Formed Penetrators |
| IDF | Indirect Fire |
| IED | Improvised Explosive Device |
| LGF | Local Guard Force |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| VBIED | Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device |



A TEAM MEMBER OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY'S OFFICE OF MOBILE SECURITY DEPLOYMENTS KEEPS WATCH FROM HIS PERCH IN A HELICOPTER. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)

THE BUREAU OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY (DS) IS THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY ARM OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, providing a secure environment for the conduct of American diplomacy. To advance American interests and foreign policy, DS protects people, property, and information at more than 280 State Department missions worldwide. As 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.

INTRODUCTION

THE GLOBAL THREAT ENVIRONMENT REMAINS DANGEROUS AND UNPREDICTABLE. In an effort to advance political and ideological causes, and to disrupt status quo interests and institutions, extremist groups and individuals of every stripe utilize a broad array of methods and venues to terrorize, injure, and kill priority targets, while seeking to foment disturbances and chaos within society more generally.

Political Violence Against Americans is a report to the American people that focuses on major incidents of anti-U.S. violence and terrorism, with apparent political motivations, that occurred worldwide during 2011. The U.S. Department of State closely monitors and maintains information on threats to Americans overseas – from terrorism and organized violence, to street crimes and health hazards – and makes this information freely available. It is the policy of the U.S. Government that no double standard shall exist regarding the dissemination of threat information that affects U.S. citizens. Government employees may not benefit unfairly by access to, or possession of, privileged information that applies equally to all Americans.

In view of the enormous number of hostile incidents that occur universally in the course of a year, the particular events cited in *Political Violence Against Americans* were selected based upon certain specific criteria in addition to their political nature, including one or more of the following: the presence of casualties, substantial property damage, or the use of unusual tactics and weapons, together with a perception of the targets as intentionally

those of the United States or representative of U.S. interests. The incidents included here were reported to Department of State Diplomatic Security personnel posted at U.S. missions worldwide, and comprise the best information (sometimes incomplete) that is available. Some incidents are never reported to U.S. officials, of course. A few unique incidents have been omitted due to their sensitive nature, as have the names of American citizens for privacy purposes.

A SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ

Compiling a comprehensive chronology of anti-American violence in the war zone environments of Afghanistan and Iraq presents unique challenges. Given the complex security context within both countries, it is understandably difficult to obtain detailed, reliable information on every incident involving Americans and sometimes nearly impossible to distinguish acts of targeted political violence and terrorism from general war zone hazards. Recognizing this, we have limited our reports of incidents in Afghanistan and Iraq to those involving targets under U.S. Chief of Mission authority. In addition, instances of rocket and mortar attacks against U.S. diplomatic facilities are included only when they resulted in casualties or property damage. This criteria provides a practical standard for listing assaults most relevant to this report.

A STATISTICAL OVERVIEW OF 2011

Of the 79 incidents that involved U.S. citizens and interests, 78 are believed to have resulted from intentional targeting of Americans. The one incident where Americans or American interests apparently were not involved due to nationality is indicated with an asterisk (right) and in the East Asia and the Pacific section.

| AREAS OF INCIDENTS INVOLVING AMERICANS | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 2 | Western Hemisphere |
| 4 | Europe |
| 0 | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| 43 | Near East |
| 9 | South and Central Asia |
| 14* | East Asia and the Pacific |

| WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS (WHA) | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2 | U.S. Government |

| EUROPE (EUR) | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1 | U.S. Business |
| 2 | U.S. Government |
| 1 | U.S. Military |

| NEAR EAST ASIA (NEA) | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 50 | U.S. Government |

| SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA (SCA) | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | U.S. Business |
| 7 | U.S. Government |
| 1 | U.S. Military |

| EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (EAP) | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 11 | U.S. Business |
| 2 | U.S. Government |
| 1 | Other |

AMERICANS KILLED OR INJURED IN TERRORIST/POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENCE*

January 25 – Manila, Philippines: A bomb exploded aboard a local bus. Five persons were killed in the explosion. Among the injured was a dual-nationality Philippines-U.S. citizen.

February 27 – Baghdad, Iraq: While stopped in traffic a member of the U.S. Protective Security Detail was struck with a projectile in his hand and required surgery in the U.S.

March 2 – Frankfurt, Germany: A lone gunman approached a U.S. Air Force bus parked at Frankfurt International Airport and opened fire on the passengers. Two U.S. servicemen were killed and two more were injured. The assailant was immediately subdued and turned over to German authorities.

March 26 – Caracas, Venezuela: During a violent demonstration at the U.S. Embassy, two Embassy officers were physically attacked while trying to move the Embassy guards away from the protesters and Embassy wall. One of the officers was slightly injured.

May 20 – Peshawar, Pakistan: Two U.S. Consulate General officers suffered minor injuries when their vehicle sustained heavy damage from a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) parked along their route.

June 6 – Helmand Province, Afghanistan: A helicopter transporting Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) personnel was hit with approximately six rounds of small arms fire. One DEA agent was wounded and transferred to a nearby International Security Assistance Force facility and was treated for his injuries.

June 23 – Baghdad, Iraq: An explosively formed projectile targeted a Protective Security Detail as it was en route from the University of Baghdad. One American was killed and another suffered injury to the neck.

August 3 – Baghdad, Iraq: A Protective Security Detail team supporting the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs was attacked by an IED at a venue. Two U.S. advisors were injured, one seriously. One interpreter was killed, and two others were injured.

September 25 – Kabul, Afghanistan: An Afghan employee opened fire inside a U.S. Embassy Annex compound. The gunman killed one American assigned to the Embassy and wounded three others before being shot and killed.

December 2 – Mohammad Agha District, Logar Province, Afghanistan: At least one VBIED exploded at the entry point of Combat Outpost McClain. One American was slightly injured in the attack.

December 16 – Kabul, Afghanistan: Two U.S. contractors with the DEA were fixing a flat tire alongside the road when the driver of a passing truck threw a hand grenade at the contractors. One sustained shrapnel wounds and was treated for his injuries at a hospital and released. The other contractor was not injured. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

AMERICANS IN CAPTIVITY

August 13 – Lahore, Pakistan: Armed militants kidnapped a U.S. citizen from his home. The victim is a consultant with the Pakistani office of an American firm, J.E. Austin Associates. Al-Qaida later released a video claiming to be holding the hostage. As of this report, the U.S. citizen remains missing.

* Excepting those involved in the January 25, March 2, and December 16 incidents, victims are U.S. government employees functioning under authority of an embassy's Chief of Mission.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Countries with Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1 | Chile |
| 1 | Venezuela |

Targets of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|------------|
| 2 | Government |
|---|------------|

Types of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | Bomb |
| 1 | Violent demonstration |

March 21 – Vina Del Mar, Chile

A small explosive device detonated outside the U.S. Binational Center. The explosion caused minor damage but no one was injured in the attack. The bombing occurred hours prior to U.S. President Barack Obama’s arrival. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack.

March 26 – Caracas, Venezuela

At approximately 12 p.m., a group of 15 to 20 demonstrators gathered across the street from the U.S. Embassy to protest U.S. involvement in Libya. By 1 p.m., the group had grown to more than 100 persons, many equipped with spray paint, megaphones, placards, and projectiles that included eggs and rock-filled shoes. By 1:45 p.m., protesters were spray-painting graffiti on the principal Embassy wall. Two Embassy officers were physically attacked while trying to move the Embassy guards away from the protesters and Embassy wall. One of the officers was slightly injured. During the demonstration protesters also burned an American flag, spray-painted the street and sidewalk with anti-American slogans, and threw eggs

and rock-filled shoes at the Mission. At approximately 2:15 p.m., the demonstrators began dispersing and departed the area. At 2:30 p.m., all local police personnel also departed the area of the Embassy.



MARCH 21 – VINA DEL MAR, CHILE: A GROUP OF ABOUT 100 PROTESTORS BURN A U.S. FLAG OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT PALACE LA MONEDA IN SANTIAGO, WHERE PRESIDENT OBAMA WAS BEING HONORED WITH AN OFFICIAL STATE DINNER. OBAMA WAS IN CHILE AS PART OF A THREE-COUNTRY, FIVE-DAY TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA. (AP/WIDE WORLD)

MARCH 26 – CARACAS, VENEZUELA: FOR TWO HOURS, DEMONSTRATORS IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA, POUNDED THE WALL OF THE U.S. EMBASSY WITH FISTS AND IMPLEMENTS, THEN LEFT IT SPATTERED WITH SPRAY-PAINTED SLOGANS. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTOS)



EUROPE

INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE EUROPE

Countries with Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Germany |
| 1 | Bosnia-Herzegovia |
| 1 | Estonia |
| 1 | Slovakia |

Targets of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|------------|
| 1 | Business |
| 2 | Government |
| 1 | Military |

Types of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 | Armed assault |
| 1 | Bomb |
| 1 | Molotov cocktail |
| 1 | Murder |

March 2 – Frankfurt, Germany

At approximately 3:22 p.m., a suspicious individual approached a U.S. Air Force (USAF) enlisted man who was in civilian attire and asked for a light for his cigarette. The U.S. Airman was one of 15 who had arrived at Frankfurt International Airport from London, U.K., and was loading onto a marked USAF bus. The subject then moved to a position behind the bus and loitered for a few minutes. He then returned to where the U.S. Airman was standing, walked behind him, pulled a 9mm pistol, and shot him point-blank in the back of his head. The subject then quickly moved to the door of the bus, boarded, and shot the driver -- who was in USAF uniform -- point-blank in his temple. The shooter then fired at two other USAF personnel, critically wounding them, and was attempting to fire on another airman when his gun jammed. After several unsuccessful attempts to clear the weapon, the subject fled the bus and ran inside the terminal with his intended fifth victim in hot pursuit. The shooter was eventually confronted by German Bundespolizei (Federal Police) and taken into custody. He was later identified as a Kosovar Albanian and tried for murder in a proceeding that began on August 31, 2011. The German federal prosecutor demanded life in prison for the suspect during the January 9, 2012, session of the trial. On February 10, 2012, the Frankfurt Higher Regional Court sentenced the shooter to life in prison (the most severe punishment available under the German Criminal Code) after finding him "gravely guilty" of two murders and three attempted murders during his assault on USAF personnel transiting Frankfurt. Under German law, most life sentences allow for the possibility of parole and re-socialization after 15 years. Due to the finding of "particularly grave guilt," however, parole will not be available at the usual 15-year mark. The judge in the case stated that "any reduction of prison time seems inappropriate."



MARCH 2 – FRANKFURT, GERMANY: IN THIS MARCH 2, 2011, PHOTO, POLICE INVESTIGATE THE SCENE AFTER A GUNMAN FIRED SHOTS AT U.S. AIRMEN ON THE BUS OUTSIDE FRANKFURT AIRPORT, GERMANY. (AP/WIDE WORLD)



MARCH 2 – FRANKFURT, GERMANY: BULLET HOLES ARE SEEN IN THE DRIVER'S WINDOWS AS THE BUS IS TOWED AWAY AFTER A GUNMAN FIRED SHOTS ON THE BUS OUTSIDE FRANKFURT AIRPORT, GERMANY, MARCH 2, 2011, KILLING TWO AIRMEN AND WOUNDING TWO BEFORE BEING TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. (AP/WIDE WORLD)



OCTOBER 28 – SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA:
GLASS AT THE FRONT OF EMBASSY SARAJEVO WAS
CRACKED BUT NOT PENETRATED WHEN A GUNMAN
ATTACKED THE BUILDING. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
STATE PHOTO)

*“A man with a Kalashnikov rifle
opened fire on the U.S. Embassy
compound from Zmaja od
Bosne, the main road.”*

October 28 – Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina

At approximately 3:45 p.m., a man with a Kalashnikov rifle opened fire on the U.S. Embassy compound from Zmaja od Bosne, the main road in front of the new Embassy. Multiple rounds impacted against the ballistic-resistant windows and walls of the Embassy. An eyewitness later stated that the gunman shouted anti-American and pro-Chechen statements. The responding local SWAT unit engaged and wounded the gunman. A policeman also was injured in the attack. At 4:15 p.m., local police apprehended the gunman and discovered two grenades on his person. Police also arrested two individuals believed to be accomplices in the attack and discovered three additional grenades in a bag near a red Opel Kadett automobile associated with the suspects.

November 30 – Tallinn, Estonia

At approximately 5:52 p.m., a 19-year-old Estonian man threw a Molotov cocktail at the front of the U.S. Embassy. The fire was immediately extinguished and the suspect was apprehended and turned over to the police. There were no injuries to U.S. personnel and no damage to the Mission. According to the police, the suspect was angry with America and thought if he threw the homemade firebomb the Americans would leave Estonia.

December 28 – Kosice, eastern Slovakia

At approximately 5:30 p.m., a small improvised explosive device (IED) detonated outside a McDonald's restaurant. The explosion resulted in no deaths or injuries though minor property damage was reported. Through their investigation the Slovak police identified and subsequently arrested one suspect who remains in detention.



OCTOBER 28 – SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA: A MAN WITH AN ASSAULT RIFLE FIRES ROUNDS TOWARD THE U.S. EMBASSY IN SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA. BOTH THE GUNMAN AND A POLICE OFFICER WERE WOUNDED. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTOS)

NEAR EAST

INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE NEAR EAST

Countries with Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|----|-------|
| 42 | Iraq |
| 2 | Yemen |
| 3 | Egypt |
| 1 | Libya |
| 2 | Syria |

Targets of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|----|------------|
| 50 | Government |
|----|------------|

Types of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|----|------------------------|
| 1 | Ambush |
| 1 | Attempted armed attack |
| 1 | Attempted grenade |
| 35 | Indirect fire |
| 3 | Violent demonstration |
| 4 | Small arms fire |
| 4 | Bombs |
| 1 | Embassy destruction |

JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31—IRAQ

Threats of attack against U.S. citizens throughout Iraq continued in 2011, including in the International Zone of Baghdad. Chief of Mission personnel in Iraq faced numerous threats including attacks that employed improvised explosive devices, explosively formed penetrators, and indirect fire. All U.S. Government employees under the authority of the U.S. Ambassador continue to follow strict safety procedures when traveling outside the Embassy.

There were 35 reported incidents of indirect fire targeting the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad as well as a number of additional indirect-fire incidents targeting U.S. interests in other areas of Iraq. Casualties and destruction of property are often the result of these attacks and, in many instances, the munitions impact outside the security zones into surrounding neighborhoods.

January 4 – Baghdad, Iraq

As members of the Chief of Mission’s protective security detail advance team were at the Ministry of Justice, they came under small arms fire. The team returned safely to the U.S. Embassy. No one was hurt in the attack, and there was no damage to Embassy property.

January 11 – Sanaa, Yemen

At approximately 8:46 p.m., as the U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission was returning from the airport after the departure of the Secretary of State, an unknown person crouching on the side of the road near a pedestrian bridge threw a large rock or brick at her SUV. There were no injuries to Embassy personnel or the local police escort. There was superficial damage to the right front quarter panel of the SUV where the object impacted.

February 3 – Cairo, Egypt

At approximately 4:23 p.m., a U.S. Embassy shuttle van encountered angry mobs of 30 to 40 protesters. As the vehicle slowly proceeded southbound on the Corniche El Nil, protesters attempted to block it, demanded that the passengers get out, and attempted to pry open the doors and armored glass of the armored vehicle. They also punctured the tires of the vehicle, but it was still operable.

Negotiations by the driver were unsuccessful. The van continued southbound, where it encountered a second crowd, this one more agitated than the previous, and whose members struck the van repeatedly. After passing through, the van reached a third mob in the gauntlet. This time protesters, frustrated by their lack of success in extracting the passengers, started to hit the bullet-resistant windows with long knives, sticks, and rocks. Some of the protesters even brandished firearms and climbed atop the vehicle. The gangs seemed to focus exclusively on this vehicle, ignoring most others around it. Each time, however, the driver pressed ahead successfully. By the time the van arrived at its destination, it had sustained damage to two windows, but none of its passengers were injured.

February 3 – Cairo, Egypt

At 4:45 p.m., four or five shots were fired from a northerly direction, one of which impacted the north wall of the U.S. Embassy. It is not known whether the Embassy was the intended target or hit by random fire.

February 20 – Baghdad, Iraq

A Protective Security Detail advance team conducting a mission to the Ministry of Health received small arms fire that wounded an Iraqi police officer riding in the Chief of Mission motorcade. The officer was seated in the well of the last vehicle – an armored Chevrolet Suburban – at the time.

February 27 – Baghdad, Iraq

At approximately 11:57 a.m., a Protective Security Detail was conducting an advance mission at the Ministry of Science and Technology when, while stopped in traffic, the well gunner was struck with a projectile in his hand and required surgery in the U.S.



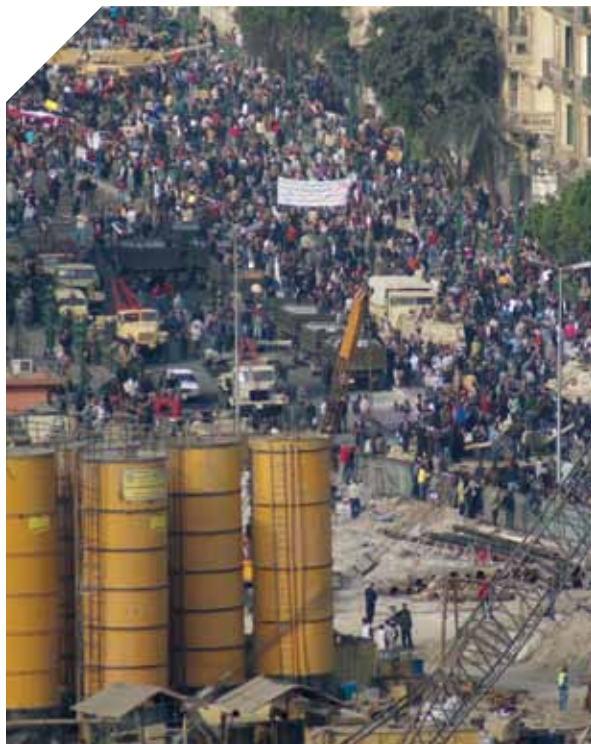
BAGHDAD, IRAQ: U.S. EMBASSY BAGHDAD—INSIDE THE INTERNATIONAL ZONE BUT STILL FORTIFIED AGAINST THE PERSISTENT THREAT OF INCOMING FIRE. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)



CAIRO, EGYPT: A DS DEPUTY REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER MONITORS DISTURBANCES IN THE STREETS BELOW FROM ATOP THE U.S. EMBASSY ALONG WITH A U.S. MARINE, FEBRUARY 2011. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)

FEBRUARY 3 – CAIRO, EGYPT:

THE DS DEPUTY REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER (SEEN THROUGH THE WINDOW) AND ASSISTANT REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER (RIGHT) CHECK THE VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON AN ARMORED PASSENGER VAN STOLEN FROM A U.S. EMBASSY PARKING LOT AND SET ON FIRE DURING MASSIVE CIVIL UNREST IN THE CITY. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)



CAIRO, EGYPT: FROM THE ROOF OF THE U.S. EMBASSY, DS AND OTHER EMBASSY PERSONNEL COULD VIEW THE MASSIVE STREET PROTESTS IN TAHIR SQUARE, AS IN THIS PHOTO TAKEN ON FEBRUARY 2, 2011. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)

March 28 – Baghdad, Iraq

At approximately 8:43 a.m., an IED exploded at the intersection of Buzz and Caranac near the Al-Shaab (Olympic) Stadium. At the time of the incident, an International Narcotics and Law Enforcement DynCorp International Protective Security Detail was passing through the intersection. The lead motor vehicle suffered minor damage as a result of the detonation. No detail members were injured. A total of five IEDs detonated in that area between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 a.m.

May 1 – Tripoli, Libya

At approximately 2:45 a.m., uniformed members of the Libyan military scaled the Embassy compound's perimeter walls. The individuals, armed with automatic weapons, began shooting at doors, windows, security cameras and alarms during their efforts to breach the compound's interior buildings. Several of the buildings were set on fire by the intruders. Five Embassy guards on duty were forced to evacuate the compound. A review of the Embassy's security camera footage revealed that forces utilized various weapons, as well as industrial tools, to include cutting torches, to gain access to all of the Embassy buildings. At approximately 10 a.m., several hundred demonstrators stormed the Embassy, looting and destroying the remaining U.S. Government property. The mob opened the vehicle gates of the compound, drove tow trucks onto the grounds and removed all Embassy vehicles, both official and personal, from the compound. A green Libyan flag was raised over the U.S. Embassy.



TRIPOLI, LIBYA: NEARLY FOUR AND A HALF MONTHS AFTER THE U.S. EMBASSY IN TRIPOLI WAS RANSACKED AND SET AFIRE BY A MOB, NEWS CREWS WERE ALLOWED INSIDE TO SEE THE DAMAGE. THE U.S. EMBASSY WAS ONE OF SEVERAL WESTERN DIPLOMATIC POSTS THAT WERE ATTACKED BY ANGRY LIBYANS ON MAY 1, 2011. THE VANDALIZED BUILDINGS WERE EMPTY AT THE TIME OF THE ASSAULTS AND NO INJURIES WERE REPORTED. (AP/WIDE WORLD)

May 1 – Tripoli, Libya

Libyan military personnel stormed the General Service Office (GSO) warehouse and drove trucks onto the warehouse compound and stole U.S. Government property. Members of the U.S. Embassy's local guard force were forced to evacuate to adjacent properties. When the Libyan forces departed the GSO warehouse, other Libyans followed in their wake and looted the warehouse. The Ambassador's and Deputy Chief of Mission's residences were also stormed, damaged, and looted by members of the Libyan Revolutionary Guards.

May 2 – Cairo, Egypt

A man approached a local police officer standing outside the U.S. Embassy and attempted to steal his weapon. The man's stated intention was to take revenge for the death of Osama bin Laden by attacking a foreign mission.

June 6 – Baghdad, Iraq

At approximately 8 a.m., a Protective Security Detail was traveling in Baghdad and had just passed Gray 146 en route to a venue (Al Elwiyah Club) when approximately 200 meters northeast, the motorcade was hit by an IED. The motorcade consisted of four vehicles. The lead vehicle received extensive damage as a direct result of the explosion. As an indirect result of the explosion, the K-9 vehicle and the Emergency React Vehicle received extensive damage caused by a collision between the two vehicles. The fourth motor vehicle in the motorcade received no damage. No injuries were reported as a result of this incident.



MAY 1 – TRIPOLI, LIBYA: THE BALLISTICS-RESISTANT GLASS INSTALLED IN THE DOORWAYS AT EMBASSY TRIPOLI'S CONSULAR OFFICES WITHSTOOD THE FURY OF AN ENRAGED LIBYAN MOB BEFORE FINALLY GIVING WAY TO INVADERS WHO TRASHED AND BURNT THIS AND OTHER BUILDINGS IN THE COMPOUND. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)



June 23 – Baghdad, Iraq

A Sallyport Protective Security Detail supporting a USAID implementing partner was en route from the University of Baghdad when it was struck by an explosively formed projectile. One American was killed and another suffered an injury to the neck.

July 8 to July 11 – Damascus, Syria

Following the highly publicized trip of U.S. Ambassador Robert Ford to meet with opposition figures in Hama, Syria, on July 7, 2011, pro-government supporters began to gather in front of the U.S. Embassy on July 8, 2011, at 4 p.m. to demonstrate their opposition to the visit. Roughly 150 demonstrators carrying signs and shouting anti-U.S. slogans congregated outside the U.S. Embassy. By 5:40 p.m., the number had increased to approximately 300 persons. Although initially peaceful, the situation turned volatile as the crowd began throwing eggs, tomatoes, bottles containing red paint, and rocks at the Main Compound Access Control facility and the perimeter wall of the Embassy. Demonstrations continued for three days, climaxing on July 11, 2011, when buses arrived with more than 500 additional demonstrators. Syrian security forces were outnumbered and ill-prepared to prevent the growing mob from reaching the primary entrance and perimeter wall of the U.S. Embassy. Armed with sticks, rocks, and other makeshift weapons, the mob began to break ballistic glass and climb over the exterior fence. Once atop the main entrance, intruders smashed security cameras and attempted to set fire to the roof. As the mob roared approval from below, evidently skilled climbers scaled the Chancery walls and then climbed the flagpole where they removed the American flag and replaced it with the Syrian flag.

Not only did this mob attack the U.S. Embassy, but also the Chief of Mission residence, where they destroyed two armored vehicles and an unarmored box truck. After several hours, Syrian security forces that were responsible for protecting the embassy removed the intruders and pushed back the crowds, but the damage left behind was extensive. Despite the mayhem, no staff members were injured.

August 3 – Baghdad, Iraq

At 9:10 a.m., a DynCorp International Personal Security Detail team supporting the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs was hit by an IED at a venue. Five injuries were reported as a result of this incident and one DynCorp International vehicle was damaged.

JULY 8 TO JULY 11 – DAMASCUS, SYRIA: U.S. EMBASSY DAMASCUS VEHICLES WERE DAMAGED WHEN A PRO-GOVERNMENT MOB ATTACKED. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTOS)



JULY 8 TO JULY 11 – DAMASCUS, SYRIA: ON JULY 11, PRO-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATORS CLIMB THE WALL AND THE FLAGPOLE OF THE U.S. EMBASSY COMPOUND IN DAMASCUS, SYRIA, REPLACING THE U.S. FLAG WITH THEIR OWN AND DAMAGING EMBASSY PROPERTY. THEY ALSO ATTACKED THE U.S. AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, TWO BLOCKS AWAY. THE MOBS WERE LATER DISPERSED. (PRIVATE COLLECTION)



JULY 8 TO JULY 11 – DAMASCUS, SYRIA: PROTESTERS HANG A HUGE SYRIAN FLAG AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE U.S. EMBASSY COMPOUND AS THEY PROTEST AGAINST U.S. AMBASSADOR ROBERT FORD AFTER HIS VISIT TO THE SYRIAN CITY OF HAMA ON JULY 11, 2011. (AP/WIDE WORLD)

**JULY 8 TO JULY 11 –
DAMASCUS, SYRIA:** ABOVE,
THE FAÇADE OF THE U.S.
EMBASSY REFLECTS DAMAGE
INFLECTED BY DEMONSTRATORS
WHO TORE AWAY MUCH OF THE
SIGNAGE WHILE ASSAULTING
THE BUILDING ON JULY 11, 2011.
BELOW, A MAN CHECKS THE
DAMAGED EXTERIOR OF THE
COMPOUND. (AP/WIDE WORLD)



September 29 – Damascus, Syria

At approximately 11 a.m., the U.S. Ambassador, accompanied by an Assistant Regional Security Officer (ARSO) and the Political Chief, were assaulted by 10 to 20 persons as they arrived at a scheduled meeting near the Al Hijaz train station. The assailants, who appeared to be lying in wait for the Ambassador's arrival, began shouting and throwing tomatoes and eggs at the diplomats. The Ambassador was hit in the back with one object, but the ARSO sustained the brunt of the attack as he provided body cover for the Ambassador. The ARSO then directed the group into the building to an interior office space. The assailants pursued the Americans into the building and began pounding on the door to the room where the Americans had taken refuge. At 11:10 a.m., the Ambassador's protective detail responded to the scene in an unarmored vehicle. Upon arrival, the retrieval team found that the crowd was much larger than anticipated, numbering 80 to 100 persons. Almost instantly, the attention of the crowd turned on the retrieval team. Many people in the crowd began attacking the vehicle by kicking it and throwing eggs and large rocks at the windows and occupants. The team withdrew in order to renew the mission in an armored vehicle. When the armored vehicle arrived at the scene, it, too, was attacked and forced back. The retrieval team re-deployed a second time in a second armored car, but in the meantime Syrian police officers had arrived in numbers sufficient to restore order. By 1:15 p.m., it was deemed possible to evacuate the barricaded Americans. The entire American team departed the area under heavy Syrian government security escort to the Embassy. Along the route additional protestors shouted insults, held signs, and threw tomatoes and eggs at the embassy vehicle. No member of the American team was seriously injured. One unarmored embassy vehicle and two armored vehicles sustained significant damage during the attacks.



SEPTEMBER 29 – DAMASCUS, SYRIA: SYRIAN POLICEMEN GUARD THE ENTRANCE TO A DAMASCUS OFFICE AFTER SUPPORTERS OF SYRIAN PRESIDENT BASHAR ASSAD PELTED U.S. AMBASSADOR ROBERT FORD WITH EGGS AND TOMATOES AS HE WAS ENTERING FOR A MEETING. U.S. DIPLOMATS WERE TRAPPED IN THE OFFICE UNTIL SYRIAN SECURITY FORCES SHOWED UP. (AP/WIDE WORLD)

October 25 – Sanaa, Yemen

At approximately 8:30 a.m., a man threw a hand grenade at a Yemeni soldier guarding the U.S. Embassy. The grenade did not detonate and the man was immediately apprehended. The subject said that he came to Sanaa to attack the U.S. Embassy. He said he was angry over U.S. involvement in the Middle East and upset over the death of the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia. He stated that he acted alone.



OCTOBER 25 – SANAA, YEMEN: A SUSPECT IS HELD AFTER A DUD GRENADE WAS TOSSED AT U.S. EMBASSY SANAA. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)

SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

Countries with Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|-------------|
| 7 | Afghanistan |
| 2 | Pakistan |

Targets of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|------------|
| 1 | Business |
| 7 | Government |
| 1 | Military |

Types of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1 | Armed assault |
| 2 | Car bomb |
| 1 | Grenade |
| 1 | Kidnapping |
| 1 | Murder |
| 1 | Rocket |
| 2 | Small arms fire |

January 12 – Talah wa Barfek District, Baghlan Province, Afghanistan

At approximately 12:20 p.m., an armored vehicle driven by Locally Employed Staff with two Americans representing USAID on board was struck by a rocket propelled grenade (RPG). The RPG passed through the driver's and passenger's windows without exploding. The driver was struck in the back of his neck, but was able to maintain control of the vehicle and drive out of the attack zone. All personnel returned to the Provincial Reconstruction Team base. No other injuries were reported.



REMNANTS OF A ROCKET PROPELLED
GRENADE ATTACK IN AFGHANISTAN. (U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)

May 20 – Peshawar, Pakistan

At approximately 8:28 a.m., a two-vehicle motorcade transporting six U.S. Consulate General officers from the University Town housing area to the Mission was the target of a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED). As the lead car made a right turn onto Abdara Road, a VBIED detonated on the left side of the roadway. The lead Consulate vehicle was heavily damaged and rendered inoperable. The two officers inside the vehicle sustained minor injuries. The two occupants in the lead vehicle were evacuated to the second, undamaged Consulate vehicle, which then returned to the housing cluster. A post-blast investigation revealed that a motorcyclist was killed during the explosion and 11 other passersby were injured, including one who died later. The group Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan claimed responsibility for the attack and said it was perpetrated in revenge for the killing of Osama bin Laden.



June 6 – Helmand Province, Afghanistan

At approximately 10:50 a.m., a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) team was departing the area by helicopter after conducting operations. During departure one of the helicopters was hit with five or six rounds of small arms fire. Secondary fragmentation from the small arms fire hit one DEA Special Agent in the lower body. He was transferred to a nearby International Security Assistance Force facility and was treated. His injuries were not life-threatening.



July 9 – Kabul, Afghanistan

At approximately 10 a.m., as a vehicle was returning to the U.S. Embassy, it was struck by a round of small arms fire. The round hit the passenger-side window. No further damage was reported. All personnel returned safely to the Embassy.



August 13 – Lahore, Pakistan

At approximately 3:15 a.m., armed militants kidnapped a U.S. citizen from his residence. The victim is a consultant with the Pakistani office of an American firm, J.E. Austin Associates. On December 1, 2012, the leader of al-Qaida in a video message claimed to be holding the hostage. As of this report, the U.S. citizen remains missing.

MAY 20 – PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN: A SEVERELY DAMAGED VEHICLE FROM U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL PESHAWAR PROTECTED ITS TWO OCCUPANTS, WHO WERE RESCUED UNINJURED FROM IT AFTER AN EXPLOSION ON THE ROAD. A PAKISTANI TALIBAN GROUP CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTOS)



SEPTEMBER 13 TO 14 – KABUL, AFGHANISTAN: SMOKE RISES FROM THE SITE OF AN ASSAULT AND COUNTER-ASSAULT IN KABUL, AFGHANISTAN, THAT BEGAN ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2011, WHEN SIX GUNMEN SEIZED CONTROL OF A BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND BEGAN FIRING ON THE U.S. EMBASSY. (AP/WIDE WORLD)



SEPTEMBER 13 TO 14 – KABUL, AFGHANISTAN: A MILITARY HELICOPTER BELONGING TO COALITION FORCES FLIES AROUND A BUILDING DURING A GUN BATTLE WITH MILITANTS IN KABUL, AFGHANISTAN. THE 20-HOUR SIEGE ENDED AT 8:30 AM ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2011. (AP/WIDE WORLD)

September 13 to 14 – Kabul, Afghanistan

At approximately 1:15 p.m., six heavily armed militants traveling in a minivan approached a construction site located near Abdul Haq Circle approximately one kilometer from the U.S. Embassy. When they reached the construction site, the gunmen got out of the minivan and killed two security guards. They then ran into the 14-story private building under construction and made their way to the upper floors. From these floors the insurgents fired on the U.S. Embassy and the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) compound with a machine gun, assault rifles, and recoilless rifles. An hour into the attack, a series of three suicide attacks took place in other parts of the capital, resulting in the deaths of three terrorists and one police officer. The assault on the building lasted 20 hours. At 8:30 a.m. on September 14, Afghan authorities confirmed that all the insurgents were dead. The attack killed 16 Afghans, including the nine insurgents, and wounded more than 30 others. Additionally, two American servicemen attached to ISAF were injured when their vehicle was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade. It is believed that the Taliban and Haqqani Network were responsible for the attack.

September 25 – Kabul, Afghanistan

At approximately 8:10 p.m., an Afghan employee opened fire inside a U.S. Embassy Annex compound. The gunman killed one American assigned to the Embassy and wounded three others before being shot and killed.

December 2 – Mohammad Agha District, Logar Province, Afghanistan

At approximately 7:55 a.m., at least one vehicle-borne improvised explosive device exploded at the entry point of Combat Outpost McClain, killing one Afghan and wounding 18 others. There were two Embassy personnel in the compound at the time of the attack, one of whom was wounded and medically evacuated.

December 16 – Kabul, Afghanistan

At approximately 6:30 p.m., two American contractors with the Drug Enforcement Administration were stopped alongside the road, one fixing a flat tire and the other providing security. At 7:06 p.m., an individual in a passing vehicle described as a white panel construction truck threw a grenade at the contractors. One sustained shrapnel wounds but was treated for his injuries at a hospital and released. The other contractor was not injured. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.



SEPTEMBER 13 TO 14 – KABUL, AFGHANISTAN: BODY ARMOR AND A HELMET ARE ISSUED TO EVERYONE WORKING AT U.S. EMBASSY KABUL. (AP/WIDE WORLD)

SEPTEMBER 13 TO 14 – KABUL, AFGHANISTAN:

RYAN CROCKER, THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO AFGHANISTAN, SPEAKS AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN KABUL, SEPTEMBER 14, 2011. (AP/WIDE WORLD)



EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Countries with Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|----|-------------|
| 2* | Philippines |
| 1 | Japan |
| 11 | Indonesia |

Targets of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|----|------------|
| 11 | Business |
| 2 | Government |
| 1 | Other |

Types of Anti-American Incidents

| | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Bomb |
| 1 | Hoax bomb |
| 11 | Shooting incidents |
| 1 | Violent demonstration |

**NOTE: Incidents where Americans or American interests apparently were not targeted due to nationality are indicated with asterisks.*

January 25 – Manila, Philippines

At approximately 2 p.m., a bomb exploded aboard a local transit bus on the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue, the main north-south artery through greater metropolitan area of Manila, at the Buendia intersection in Makati City. Five people were killed in the explosion. Among the injured was one individual holding dual Philippines-U.S. citizenship.

February 22 – Nagoya, Japan

Between 2 a.m. and 9 a.m., a window of a minivan belonging to the U.S. Consulate’s Principal Officer was broken. A small, black plastic box containing buttons was found by the owner on the back seat of the vehicle. Police searched the vehicle and believe the item was thrown through the passenger window. They indicated that the box appeared to be a fake improvised explosive device. No one was hurt in the incident nor was anything stolen from the vehicle.

April 7 – Papua province, Indonesia

Unidentified gunmen fatally shot two workers of PT Freeport Indonesia, a U.S. mining company with facilities located near Timika, the closest town to Freeport’s Grasberg mine. The gunmen also set fire to the workers’ van with the victims inside. The incident was one of 11 shooting incidents in 2011 targeting PT Freeport Indonesia and one of three that caused Indonesian fatalities.

October 14 – Papua province, Indonesia

Unidentified gunmen killed three Indonesian contractors of PT Freeport Indonesia and wounded a fourth. The assailants also wounded an Indonesian security contractor and Indonesian soldier who subsequently arrived on the scene. The incident occurred during a labor strike against the company.

October 21 – Papua province, Indonesia

Unidentified gunmen fatally shot one Indonesian contractor of PT Freeport Indonesia, then went on to shoot two Indonesians panning for gold before wounding another civilian panning for gold. This and the October 14 shooting were two of the three shooting incidents during October that targeted contractors and personnel of PT Freeport Indonesia and caused a number of deaths and injuries. All these incidents occurred during a strike against the company.

November 16 – Manila, Philippines

At approximately 2:40 p.m., the motorcade transporting the U.S. Secretary of State encountered a group of 40 to 50 student protesters belonging to the League of Filipino Students who successfully blocked part of the planned travel route. The lead vehicle in the motorcade was damaged by paint, rocks, and kicks to the side panels. Other vehicles also sustained light damage. The main convoy was approximately 20 meters away. They were able to stop and maneuver away from the area. The demonstrators were protesting the Visiting Forces Agreement. No U.S. personnel were injured.

November 18 – Papua province, Indonesia

Unidentified gunmen killed one Indonesian employee of PT Freeport Indonesia. This was one of six shooting incidents in November and December that targeted contractors and employees of PT Freeport Indonesia and caused a number of injuries. All of these incidents occurred during a labor strike against the company.

December 17 – Papua province, Indonesia

Unidentified gunmen fired at and hit a PT Freeport Indonesia helicopter near Tembagapura that was carrying 29 persons, including Americans. The helicopter landed safely, although two passengers were injured by flying glass.



JANUARY 25 – MANILA, PHILIPPINES: RESCUERS REMOVE THE VICTIM FROM THE WRECKAGE OF A PASSENGER BUS FOLLOWING AN EXPLOSION ON JANUARY 25, 2011, AT THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT OF MAKATI CITY, EAST OF MANILA, PHILIPPINES. THE POWERFUL EXPLOSION RIPPED THROUGH THE AIR-CONDITIONED BUS, KILLING AT LEAST FIVE PERSONS. (AP/WIDE WORLD)



JANUARY 25 – MANILA, PHILIPPINES: PHILIPPINES NATIONAL INVESTIGATORS EXAMINE THE DAMAGE TO THE PASSENGER BUS ON JANUARY 26, 2011. (AP/WIDE WORLD)

CONCLUSION

Evidence indicates that the overseas security environment generally remains hazardous, with many extremist groups and individuals intent on promoting political and ideological causes through violence and social disruptions. In many instances, Americans and U.S. interests appear to be targeted intentionally, while in other cases Americans are victimized randomly along with other nationalities. In any case, the need for constant vigilance, awareness of surroundings, and avoidance of potentially dangerous situations should be obvious.

Reasonable precautions can significantly minimize vulnerability. Information regarding the incidence of violence and the nature of assaults can be useful for this purpose. Towards this end, it is hoped that *Political Violence Against Americans* will prove to be a valuable resource.

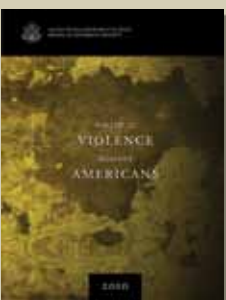
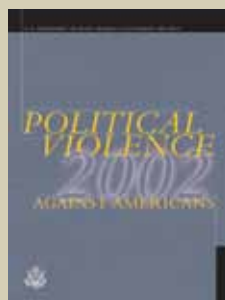
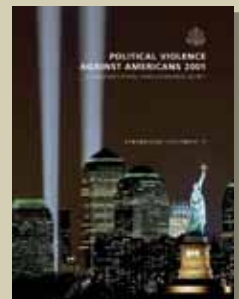
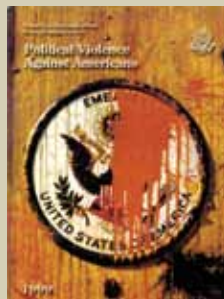
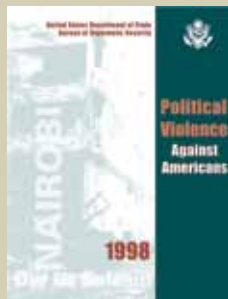
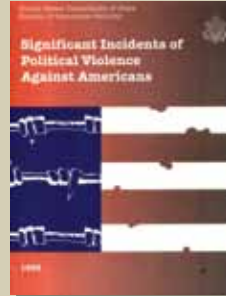
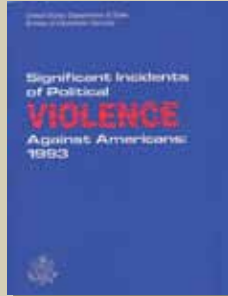
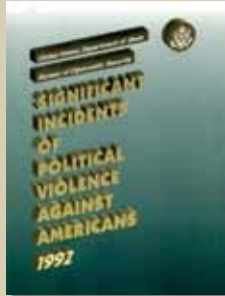
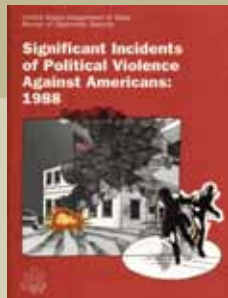
THE POLITICAL VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICANS PUBLICATION SERIES

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 have encountered abroad on an annual basis.

These reports are available in PDF format at the Internet address below. To view the PDF, you may need to download and install the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

<http://www.state.gov/m/ds/rls/rpt/19691.htm>

CORRECTION: In the 2010 edition of Political Violence we reported that on October 18, a man threw a Molotov cocktail at U.S. Consulate General Guangzhou (page 19). The attack actually took place at U.S. Consulate General Chengdu.





“We live in a dangerous world where the threats against the United States and its citizens are constant. There are those who are determined to strike out at us, and they will stop at little. But the future does not belong to them—it belongs to the peacemakers.”

ERIC J. BOSWELL
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DIPLOMATIC SECURITY
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
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