



**Nonprofit Security Grant Program  
Threat Compendium: January 2019 to Present  
April 30, 2019**

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## I. Recent Incidents of Worldwide & National Significance

### **Chabad of Poway Mass Attack:**

On Saturday, sixth months to the day of the Tree of Life synagogue massacre in Pittsburgh, PA, a white supremacist opened fire the Chabad synagogue in Poway, CA. Using a semi-automatic rifle, the alleged 19-year old gunman, John Earnest, reportedly stormed into the High Holiday (Passover) service and began yelling anti-Semitic slurs. There were about 100 people inside at the time of the shooting, including many children. Earnest allegedly killed a 60-year old woman and injured 3 others, including the rabbi, and an 8-year-old girl who was hit with shrapnel in the face and leg. Earnest was taken in to custody shortly after fleeing the synagogue. On Sunday, Earnest was charged with one count of murder in the first degree and three counts of attempted murder in the first degree, according to the San Diego County Sheriff's Department. A manifesto posted on 8Chan, a conspiracy theory message board has been attributed to Earnest, although authorities have yet to verify the posting's authenticity. In it, the writer says that he was inspired by the Tree of Life synagogue gunman in Pittsburgh along with the New Zealand mosque shooter. Authorities are working to determine whether state hate crimes laws can be applied and if he violated federal civil rights laws. (Sources: New York Times, April 29, 2019; LA Times, April 28, 2019; JTA, April 29, 2019.)

### **Sri Lanka Churches Massacre:**

**The Islamic State claimed responsibility for the Easter Sunday bombings at churches and hotels in Sri Lanka that killed more than 320 people and injured more than 500 wounded.** The group's Amaq news agency called the bombers "Islamic State fighters." The Sri Lankan government said the bombings might have been in retaliation for the killing of 50 people last month at mosques in New Zealand, and that two Islamist extremist groups might have been involved, although the sources for these linkages have not been disclosed. The F.B.I. has reportedly joined the investigation. The investigation will likely look into the Sri Lanka government's apparent failure to act on warnings that terrorists were planning to attack churches just days prior to the attacks.

**Eight apparently coordinated explosions targeted Easter worshipers and high end hotels popular with international guests.** Sri Lanka has a small Christian minority, comprising just six percent of the country's 21 million citizens. The churches targeted included the historic St Anthony's Shrine in Colombo, where the blast blew out much of the roof. A second blast hit St Sebastian's Church during

Easter Mass. A second blast hit St Sebastian's Church during Easter Mass. Later in the afternoon, two people died in a strike at a hotel in the south of Colombo, and a suicide bomber killed three police officers as they raided a house in a northern suburb of the city.

(Sources: New York Times, April 23, 2019; Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/23/world/asia/sri-lanka-bombing.html>; Times of Israel, April 22, 2019; Link: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/sri-lanka-easter-bombing-attacks-toll-hits-290-with-500-wounded/>)

#### **Christchurch, New Zealand Mosques Massacre:**

The Australian charged with participating in the March 15, 2019 killing of 49 worshippers at two New Zealand mosques said **his main inspiration was Oswald Mosley, the British fascist anti-Semite who was close to the Nazis**. Brenton Tarrant, 28, posted a 73-page manifesto on social media before the attacks in Christchurch. His overriding motive in carrying out the massacre is to remove non-Europeans from European lands. "I mostly agree with Sir Oswald Mosley's views and consider myself an Eco-fascist by nature," he wrote. Mosley was an anti-Semite who led a fascist movement and who sought to reconcile Britain and Nazi Germany before the war. Tarrant, an Australian, denies being an anti-Semite so long as Jews live in Israel. "A Jew living in Israel is no enemy of mine, so long as they do not seek to subvert or harm my people," he wrote. A similar view of Jews was held by Anders Behring Breivik, the white supremacist who killed 77 young people in Norway in 2011 and whom Tarrant names as a role model. Jewish groups, including the Anti-Defamation League and the Simon Wiesenthal Center, identified the attack as part of a growing threat from white supremacists. The ADL said that the attack underscores that **modern white supremacy is an international threat that knows no borders**.

(Source: JTA, March 15, 2019; Link: <https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/new-zealand-killer-says-his-model-was-oswald-mosley-nazi-allied-british-fascist>.)

#### **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Synagogues Massacre:**

On October 27, 2018, a gunman opened fire in a Pittsburgh synagogue. The Tree of Life Synagogue was full of people attending a number of worship services. The suspect, identified as Robert D. Bowers, allegedly killed 11 people and wounded six others, including four police officers. He was heavily armed. He shouted anti-Semitic slurs as he rampaged through the building for approximately 20 minutes. Social media accounts believed to belong to Bowers were filled with anti-Jewish slurs and references to anti-Jewish conspiracy theories. According to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Pennsylvania, **Bowers drove to the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, where members of 3 congregations were holding Sabbath services, including the Tree of Life, Dor Hadash, and New Light Jewish congregations. Bowers entered the synagogue armed with multiple firearms, including three Glock .357 handguns and a Colt AR-15 rifle. While inside the synagogue, Bowers opened fire, killing and injuring members of the three congregations, as well as injuring multiple responding police officers as they attempted to rescue surviving victims.**

(Sources: CNN, October 28, 2018; Link: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/10/27/us/synagogue-attack-suspect-robert-bowers-profile/index.html>; DOJ, January 29, 2019; Link: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdpa/pr/additional-charges-filed-tree-life-synagogue-shooting-0>)

## **II. Recent Reports of National Significance**

**ADL Annual Audit on Anti-Semitism:** Last year saw the third-highest number of anti-Semitic incidents since 1979, according to a new report by the Anti-Defamation League. According to the ADL's annual survey of incidents, 1,879 incidents were reported in 2018. Among the alarming trends reported:

- A dramatic increase in physical assaults, including the deadliest attack on Jews in US history.
- A wave of robocalls targeting Jewish schools, JCCs and synagogues.
- A significant number of incidents at K-12 schools and college campuses.

Of the reported incidents, 249 (13 percent) were attributable to known extremist groups or individuals inspired by extremist ideology.

(Sources: ADL, April 30, 2019; Link: <https://www.adl.org/news/press-releases/anti-semitic-incidents-remained-at-near-historic-levels-in-2018-assaults>; JTA, April 30, 2019.)

**PEW Research Center Study:** The public sees widespread discrimination against several racial, ethnic and religious groups in the U.S. And while most of these views are little changed over the last several years, the share of Americans saying Jews face discrimination in the U.S. has increased substantially since late 2016. Today, 64% of Americans say Jews face at least some discrimination – a 20-percentage-point increase from 2016; the share saying Jews face “a lot” of discrimination has nearly doubled, from 13% to 24%. The survey by Pew Research Center, conducted March 20-25 among 1,503 adults. (Source: PEW Research Center, April 15, 2019; Link: <https://www.people-press.org/2019/04/15/sharp-rise-in-the-share-of-americans-saying-jews-face-discrimination/>)

**FBI Director Wray Testimony:** “The FBI assesses HVEs are the greatest terrorism threat to the homeland. These individuals are global jihad-inspired individuals who are in the U.S., have been radicalized primarily in the U.S., and are not receiving individualized direction from FTOs. We, along with our law enforcement partners, face significant challenges in identifying and disrupting HVEs.” Domestic extremist movements collectively pose a steady threat of violence ... to the United States. The FBI is most concerned about lone offender attacks, primarily shootings, as they have served as the dominant mode for lethal domestic extremist violence. We anticipate law enforcement, racial minorities, and the U.S. government will continue to be significant targets for many domestic extremist movements.” (Source: FBI, April 4, 2019; Link: [https://www.fbi.gov/news/testimony/fbi-budget-request-for-fiscal-year-2020?utm\\_campaign=email-immediate&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=congressional-testimony&utm\\_content=%5B723117%5D-%2Fnews%2Ftestimony%2Ffbi-budget-request-for-fiscal-year-2020](https://www.fbi.gov/news/testimony/fbi-budget-request-for-fiscal-year-2020?utm_campaign=email-immediate&utm_medium=email&utm_source=congressional-testimony&utm_content=%5B723117%5D-%2Fnews%2Ftestimony%2Ffbi-budget-request-for-fiscal-year-2020))

**Situational Awareness Bulletin:** According to a situational awareness bulletin prepared by Colorado Information Analysis Center (CIAC), Jihadists are threatening retaliation for the recent attacks at two mosques in New Zealand. Among the threats, on 15 March 2019, an ISIS spokesman called for retaliation over the mosque attacks in New Zealand. In a 44-minute audio recording, he stated, “The scenes of the massacres in the two mosques should wake up those who were fooled, and should incite the supporters of the caliphate to avenge their religion.” Foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs) are known to encourage followers to carry out attacks in America and against Jewish and Israeli interests. ISIS, in particular, encourages sympathizers to carry out simple attacks in their own communities using weapons, such as knives and vehicles, which are easy to acquire and require little to no specialized training. (Source: Secure Community Network Bulletin No. 23, March 22, 2019.)

**Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen Statement:** According to Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, the primary terrorist threat to the United States continues to be from Islamist militants and those they inspire, and that threats posed by domestic terrorists are also real and serious dangers that cannot be ignored. Secretary Nielsen noted that **domestic terrorists “are using the same do-it-yourself, mass-murder tactics” that were implemented earlier this month in New Zealand against Muslim worshippers.** The Secretary referred to similar attacks that occurred in October at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, and in June 2015 against the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston. In the wake of the New Zealand tragedy, Secretary Nielsen went on to say that **“we will**

**NOT permit such hate in our homeland. There is no room in this great nation for violent groups who intimidate and coerce Americans because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, or creed.”**

(Source: Secretary Nielsen Remarks on the State of Homeland Security, March 18, 2019; Link: <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2019/03/18/secretary-nielsen-remarks-state-homeland-security-prepared-delivery>)

**Joint Intelligence Bulletin:** The FBI, DHS, and NCTC conclude that domestic actors will continue to pose a lethal threat to faith-based communities in the Homeland and they remain concerned about the difficulty of detecting US-based threat actors and HVEs. Specific to the Jewish community, the FBI, DHS, and NCTC assess that the Islamic Republic of Iran and Hizballah have both demonstrated intent to target Jewish persons and Jewish interests in the Homeland, referencing Iranian-orchestrated surveillance of a synagogue in Chicago, IL. According to the JIB, recent HVE threats and attacks against Jewish communal institutions have occurred in Pittsburgh, PA, Toledo, OH, and Washington, DC. In light of this threat, they advise government counterterrorism and law enforcement officials and private sector security partners responsible for securing faith-based communities to remain vigilant.

(Source: Joint Intelligence Bulletin (IA-32337-19), February 22, 2019.)

**Worldwide Threat Assessment of the US Intelligence Community:** The report includes a number of assessments that relate to Nonprofit Security. First, global jihadist in dozens of groups and countries threaten local and regional US interests, and some of these groups will remain intent on striking the US homeland. Prominent jihadist ideologues and media platforms continue to call for and justify efforts to attack the US homeland. Second, homegrown violent extremists (HVEs) are likely to present the most acute Sunni terrorist threat to the United States, and HVE activity almost certainly will have societal effects disproportionate to the casualties and damage it causes. Third, ISIS’s past actions and propaganda probably will inspire future HVE attacks, similar to the enduring influence of deceased al-Qa’ida ideologues, especially if ISIS continues to promote its violent message via social and mainstream media. *Note: Jewish communal institutions are often targets of these violent incitements.*

(Source: Director Daniel Coats, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, January 29, 2019;

Link: <https://www.intelligence.senate.gov/sites/default/files/documents/os-dcoats-012919.pdf>.)

**Homeland Security Operational Analysis Center Report:** The report, released on February 14, 2019 and commissioned by DHS, assesses current terrorism prevention efforts by DHS and its interagency partners. The report makes three points that pertain to Nonprofit Security. First, terrorism is a low-probability, but potentially high-impact event in the United States. Although terrorist attacks in the United States are rare, the consequences of even one attack conducted by a perpetrator that “slipped through the cracks” can be severe, as terrorist attacks have an outsized impact compared with other forms of violence. Second, terrorist incidents associated with both domestic and international terrorism have occurred in nearly every state. There does not seem to be a clear pattern for targets of terrorist attacks apart from clustering in large cities. Third, although attacks linked to right-wing extremism have been on the rise and have reportedly been more frequent than other forms of ideologically based violence in the years since 2016, data show that jihadist-inspired terrorist attacks in the United States have been more lethal than any other form of violent extremism. **(HSOAC, Practical Terrorism Prevention, 02/14/19; Link: [file:///C:/Users/GOLDRO1D/Downloads/RAND\\_RR2647%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/GOLDRO1D/Downloads/RAND_RR2647%20(1).pdf).)**

*Note: The expansion of NSGP to comprise NSGP-UA and NSGP-S appropriately recognizes the broad geographical scope of threats to the Nonprofit Sector (see below incident reports in Section IV).*

### III. Recent Department of Justice Cases

**Lehighton, Pennsylvania, April 11, 2019 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney's Office, Middle District of Pennsylvania):** Corbin Kauffman, age 30, was charged with interstate transmission of threats to injure the person of another. According to the criminal complaint, Kauffman posted threatening images and messages on a website called Minds.com on March 7, 2019. It further alleges that Kauffman used various aliases online to post hundreds of anti-Semitic, anti-black, and anti-Muslim messages, images, and videos. Several of these posts included threats to various religious and racial groups, and one included a **digitally created image of Kauffman aiming an AR-15 rifle at a congregation of praying Jewish men**. Other posts allegedly expressed a desire to commit genocide and "hate crimes," and called for or depicted images of the killing of Jewish people, black people, and Muslim people. **Kauffman also posted pictures of acts of vandalism he committed, including anti-Semitic graffiti at a public park, and the defacement of a display case at the Chabad Jewish Center in Ocean City, Maryland with white supremacist and anti-Semitic stickers**. Pennsylvanians know all too well how dangerous these kinds of white supremacist threats can be," said United States Attorney David J. Freed,. "The last thing we want is to see another tragedy like we saw at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, or at Al Noor Mosque in Christchurch, or at Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston. The maximum penalty under federal law for this offense is five years of imprisonment for each violation

**Missoula, Montana, April 4, 2019 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Montana/NBC Montana):** Fabjan Alameti, 21, was arrested at a Bozeman shooting range after having recently traveled to Montana from New York. He was charged with making false statements involving international terrorism and possession of a firearm by unlawful user of a controlled substance. **According to the Criminal Complaint, Alameti stated that he was planning to travel to Syria to fight with ISIS. He also stated, according to the Complaint, that he had been considering conducting an attack on a US government building, "Jewish temple," and US Army recruiting center.**

(Link to Criminal Complaint: [https://www.scribd.com/document/404979690/Fabjan-Alameti-charging-documents#from\\_embed](https://www.scribd.com/document/404979690/Fabjan-Alameti-charging-documents#from_embed).)

**New York, New York, March 12, 2019 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York):** Kim Anh Vo was arrested in Hephzibah, Georgia, and charged with conspiring to provide material support to ISIS, a designated foreign terrorist organization. In April 2016, VO joined the United Cyber Caliphate (the "UCC"), an online group that pledged allegiance to ISIS and committed to carrying out online attacks and cyber intrusions against Americans. Since that time, the UCC and its sub-groups have disseminated ISIS propaganda online, including "kill lists," which listed the names of individuals whom the group instructed their followers to kill. Between April 2016 and May 2017, VO worked on behalf of the UCC to recruit others to join the group including a recruit in Norway, who created a video **threatening a non-profit organization based in New York City**, which was formed to find and combat the online promotion of extremist ideologies. The video contained messages such as, "You messed with the Islamic State, SO EXPECT US SOON," followed by a scene displaying a photograph of the organization's chief executive officer and former U.S. Ambassador (the "CEO"), along with the words: "[CEO], we will get you."

**Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin, March 1, 2019 (DoJ):** Chadwick Grubbs, 33, was sentenced to 36 months in prison for charges related to **threatening letters he wrote on three separate dates to the Harry and Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center (JCC)** in Whitefish Bay. Grubbs pleaded guilty to two counts of mailing threatening communications and one count of threatening to injure and destroy property by fire and an explosive. Information presented during the plea hearing established that Grubbs sent three letters to the JCC in which **he threatened to use firearms to cause "maximum**

**carnage” and explosives to destroy the JCC. Grubbs used numbers and symbols associated with white supremacist ideology in the letters.**

**Pembroke Pine, Florida, February 28, 2019 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office, Southern District of Florida):** Tayyab Tahir Ismail, 33, of Pembroke Pines, Florida, pled guilty to distributing information on the Internet on at least four occasions containing step-by-step instructions on how to construct a bomb and other explosives, with the intent that the information be used for and in furtherance of an activity that constitutes a federal crime of violence. During that time, Ismail was a member of various rooms within the platform and each of these rooms contained members who support violent jihad. **According to the FBI affidavit, Ismail was an associate of James Medina, who is serving a 25-year prison sentence for plotting to blow up a South Florida synagogue and Jewish school.**

**Cleveland, Ohio, February 13, 2019 (DoJ/US Attorney’s Office, Northern District of Ohio):** A Maple Heights man was charged with attempting to provide material support to al Qaeda, as well as making threats against the President, the family of the President and false statements to law enforcement. Demetrius Nathaniel Pitts, aka Abdur Raheem Rafeeq, aka Salah ad-Deen Osama Waleed, 49, was arrested after allegedly planning a terrorist attack in Cleveland. According to an affidavit filed in the case, Pitts expressed anti-American sentiments and expressed a desire to recruit people to kill Americans. **Pitts did reconnaissance of possible targets in Cleveland, including a federal building, the Coast Guard station and St. John’s Cathedral.**

**Nationwide, February 12, 2019 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office, Central District of California):** Federal authorities arrested one of two defendants charged in a federal indictment with making false threats of violent attacks at many locations, including schools. The two defendants allegedly are members of the Apophis Squad, a worldwide collective of computer hackers and swatters intent on using the internet to cause chaos. The collective caused disruptions by **making threatening phone calls, sending bogus reports of violent school attacks** via email, and launching distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks on websites. One of the defendants, Timothy Dalton Vaughn, 20, of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, bragged in an online forum that Apophis Squad had targeted over 2,000 schools in the United States.

**Eugene, Oregon, February 12, 2019 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Oregon):** Benjamin Jaramillo Hernandez, 69, of Eugene, pleaded guilty today to a federal hate crime and illegal possession of ammunition charge arising from a series of progressively more **threatening and violent actions targeting St. Mary Catholic Church in Eugene** in September 2018. A Eugene police officer and FBI agent identified Hernandez in church surveillance footage as the person responsible for the threats.

**Fort Worth, Texas, February 8, 2019 (DoJ/ U.S. Attorney’s Office, Northern District of Texas):** Michael Kyle Sewell, 18, was charged with conspiring to provide material support and resources to Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), a Pakistani-based foreign terrorist organization. “Sewell allegedly recruited an individual to join Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), a designated foreign terrorist organization. **LeT is a Pakistan-based designated foreign terrorist organization responsible for multiple high-profile attacks, including the infamous Mumbai attacks in November 2008. In that attack LeT chose as a high-value target Mumbai’s Jewish community center, where its members tortured and executed the Center’s directors Rabbi Gavriel and Rivka Holtzberg and four other Israeli and American visitors.**

**New York, New York, February 8, 2019 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office, Southern District of New York):** Jesus Wilfredo Encarnacion was arrested at John F. Kennedy International Airport While Allegedly Attempting to Travel Overseas to Join Lashkar eTayyiba (LeT). LeT is a Pakistan-based designated

foreign terrorist organization responsible for multiple high-profile attacks, including the infamous Mumbai attacks in November 2008. **In that attack LeT chose as a high-value target Mumbai's Jewish community center, where its members tortured and executed the Center's directors Rabbi Gavriel and Rivka Holtzberg and four other Israeli and American visitors.** FBI Assistant Director William F. Sweeney Jr. said: Organizations such as LeT "are using the internet and social media to appeal to the most barbaric impulses in people, and train them to kill." NYPD Police Commissioner James P. O'Neill said: "As alleged, Jesus Encarnacion had expressed his desire to commit a terrorist attack while living in New York City and never abandoned those plans. Allegedly, one of his stated motives for traveling overseas was to get the training and experience **he believed he needed to someday return to the United States and carry out attacks.**

**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, January 29, 2019 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Pennsylvania):** A federal grand jury sitting in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania charged a Pennsylvania man with additional federal hate crimes and firearms offenses for his conduct during the October 27, 2018 shootings at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. According to the Superseding Indictment, on October 27, 2018, Bowers drove to the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, where members of the Tree of Life, Dor Hadash, and New Light Jewish congregations gathered to engage in religious worship. **Bowers entered the synagogue armed with multiple firearms, including three Glock .357 handguns and a Colt AR-15 rifle. While inside the Tree of Life Synagogue, Bowers opened fire, killing and injuring members of the three congregations,** as well as injuring multiple responding police officers as they attempted to rescue surviving victims.

**Garden City, Kansas, January 25, 2019 (DoJ, Office of Public Affairs):** Three men who were convicted of **plotting to set off bombs in a Somali refugee community** were sentenced to at least 25 years in prison. Evidence presented at trial revealed that the defendants plotted, over the course of several months, to **attack an apartment complex that contained a mosque in Garden City, Kansas, where Muslim immigrants from Somalia lived and worshipped.** Evidence during trial established that the defendants held numerous meetings to plan the attack and took significant steps – including making and testing explosives – toward implementing their plan. "These defendants planned to ruthlessly bomb an apartment complex and kill innocent people, simply because of who they are and how they worship," said FBI Director Wray. "Today, together with our law enforcement partners, we reaffirm our commitment to protecting all people in our communities from those who seek to terrorize and do harm."

**Bloomington, Minnesota, January 24, 2019 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota):** Michael McWhorter, 29, and Joe Morris, 23, both of Clarence, Illinois, pleaded guilty to charges stemming from a violent **multi-state crime spree that terrorized communities, including members of the Dar al-Farooq Islamic Center** in Minnesota. McWhorter, Morris, and co-defendant Michael Hari, 47, were federally indicted on **possession of a machine gun; conspiracy to interfere with commerce by threats and violence (the Hobbs Act); and attempted arson.** "Every individual has the fundamental right to live life free from the threat of violence and discrimination, no matter who they are, what they believe, or where they worship," said United States Attorney Erica H. MacDonald.

**Nationwide, January 23, 2019 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office, Central District of California):** Three men are charged with making false reports of explosives and armed individuals to generate a law enforcement response that was intended to harass and intimidate their targets and to evacuate public buildings. **False bomb threats were made at a high school in Gurnee, Illinois and a high school in Lee's Summit, Missouri.**

**Washington, DC, January 16, 2019 (JTA/SCN/; DoJ, US Attorney's Office of the Northern District of Georgia):** The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Atlanta Joint Terrorism Task Force (working closely with the US Secret Service) arrested Hasher Jallal Taheb for attempting to destroy the White House with an explosive and for targeting other Washington sites, **including blowing up a specific (unnamed) synagogue.** According to the complaint, Taheb planned to use semi-automatic rifles, explosives, and an AT-4 — a shoulder-fired anti-armor weapon, to carry out his attack/s. The investigation was initiated after law enforcement receives a tip from the community. The alleged activities of Taheb underscore the continued interest and willingness of U.S.-based violent extremists to conduct attacks in the Homeland on U.S. Government facilities as well as faith-based community targets.

#### **IV. Chronology of Recent Threat Incidents Reported**

**(Includes a representation of international incidents reported)**

**Los Angeles, California, April 30, 2019 (JTA):** A U.S. Army veteran was arrested for planning terror attacks in the Los Angeles area, including against Jews. Mark Domingo was arrested after he received what he thought was a bomb from an undercover federal officer. Officials from the U.S. Attorney's Office, FBI and Los Angeles Police Department reported that **Domingo discussed several types of attacks with an informant, including targeting Jews, churches and police officers, and that he wanted to kill Jews as they walked to synagogue.** Domingo, 26, who served in Afghanistan and converted to Islam, reportedly was driven by the desire to avenge the murders by a white supremacist gunman of Muslims while they prayed at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand. **He had purchased several hundred nails to be used as shrapnel inside the bomb.**

**Canada, April 29, 2019 (JTA):** Anti-Semitic incidents in Canada rose to a record high for the third consecutive year, according to a newly released annual audit by B'nai Brith Canada. The audit showed 2,041 anti-Semitic incidents recorded last year in Canada – 16.5 percent more than the 1,752 incidents in 2017. “To put that in stark perspective, this represents the third straight record-breaking year for anti-Semitism in Canada, reflecting a ‘new normal’ regarding the landscape of anti-Semitism here,” said Ran Ukashi, director of B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights. The group said the surge was fueled by social media and was a worldwide trend.

**East Lansing, Michigan, April 26, 2019 (Detroit Jewish News/Lansing State Journal):** A Jewish student intern at the Lester and Jewell Morris Hillel Jewish Student Center at Michigan State University reported **receiving anti-Semitic death threats via Facebook messages.** J East Lansing Police Department charged Jack Hurlbut, 19, of Eaton Rapids with ethnic intimidation, a felony punishable by up to two years in prison, and malicious use of telecommunications services. Since 2014, 160 people have been charged with ethnic intimidation in Michigan, according to the State Court Administrative Office.

**Dormont, Pennsylvania, April 22, 2019 (Pittsburgh Gazette):** White supremacist Hardy Lloyd, 41, of Dormont, a borough in the Pittsburgh Metro Area, is returning to prison for violating probation terms that he could not access social media or communicate with anyone to promote terrorism. He was caught agitating in online posts for the murder of assault weapon ban supporters and **asking “lone wolves” to attack “Jewhill.” The reference appears to be to Squirrel Hill, the Pittsburgh neighborhood that is home to the Tree of Life synagogue, site of the massacre of 11 worshippers on Oct. 27.**

**Washington State, April 22, 2019 (JTA/Herals.net):** — A Washington state man out on bail after being charged with two felonies for posting plans on Facebook to commit a mass shooting against Jewish

targets has posted more violent messages and threats against Jews. Dakota Reed, 20, had been out of jail on bond since December. But in the wake of the new social media posts he was jailed again. His new posts referred to killing the “ZOG,” or Zionist Occupied Government, a far-right conspiracy theory that Jews control the U.S. government. In November, he threatened to shoot 30 Jews. Other posts referenced a plot to shoot up a synagogue in 2025.

**Moscow, Russia, April 22, 2019 (JTA/AP):** A fire broke out in a yeshiva in Moscow during the Passover seder (a holiday to celebrate and remember the historical exodus of Jewish slaves from Egypt). **The fire at the Torat Chaim yeshiva is believed to have been arson, since swastikas also were found drawn on the entrance to the yeshiva building.** About 60 students, rabbis and guests reportedly were in the building at the time of the fire to celebrate the seder.

**Toulouse, France, April 21, 2019 (JTA):** The **brother of the gunman who killed four (a teacher and three children) at a Jewish school in France in 2012 will spend 30 years in jail after being found guilty of being an accomplice** in the murders. Abdelkader Merah, 36, received the three-decade jail term from a Paris appeals court after being found guilty of complicity in the slayings by Mohammed Merah at the Toulouse school, as well as three soldiers.

**Nashville, Tennessee, April 18, 2019 (JTA):** A **swastika and anti-Semitic comments were drawn in the main library at Vanderbilt University.** A student discovered the graffiti on a study carrel and reported it to the campus police. The campus police have opened an investigation and said they will share information with the Metro Nashville Police Department, as well as the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the FBI. “We wholeheartedly reject anti-Semitism and its symbols, and the abhorrent ideology associated with this act of vandalism has no place on our campus,” the university said in a statement. “Vanderbilt does not tolerate language or actions that are bigoted or intended to intimidate anyone in our community. We remain deeply committed to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.”

**Berlin, Germany, April 17, 2019 (algemeiner):** **Violent anti-Semitic incidents in Berlin more than doubled during the last year, against the background of an overall increase in the number acts of Jew-hatred in the German capital,** a report by a leading monitoring group. The report — published by Berlin’s Research and Information Center on Anti-Semitism (RIAS) — recorded a total of 1,083 anti-Semitic incidents during 2018, compared to 951 the previous year

**Nationwide, April 15, 2019 (PEW Research Center):** A new PEW study reports that while the public’s views on discrimination against several racial, ethnic and religious groups in the U.S have changed little over the last several years, **the share of Americans saying Jews face discrimination in the U.S. has increased substantially since late 2016. Today, 64% of Americans say Jews face at least some discrimination.**

**Bourdon, France April 15, 2019 (JTA/French-language 20 Minutes news website):** **A 58-year-old man was stabbed 15 times in his stomach and face by an 18 year old attacker who told witnesses that he “wanted to kill a Jew.”** The victim was saved by a friend, who was with him at the time of the assault, who came between the victim and the attacker. The National Bureau for Vigilance Against Anti-Semitism said in a statement that the crime is reminiscent of the attack on Sarah Halimi, a 66-year-old Jewish teacher and physician whom prosecutors say was murdered by her Muslim neighbor in April 2017 partly because she was Jewish and the death of Mireille K., a Jewish woman whose body was found burnt and stabbed in her Paris apartment and whose neighbor had threatened to burn her.

**Garden City, Kansas, April 12, 2019 (FBI):** The FBI reported on recent convictions of Patrick Eugene Stein, Curtis Allen and Gavin Wright for conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction and conspiring to violate the housing rights of their intended victims. According to the report, the Bureau was able to gather a trove of information showing the men weren't just "spewing hate speech", but had made concrete plans to put their words into action. It is reported that they carried out surveillance on potential targets and **decided on a specific apartment complex because they liked the fact that the complex housed a small mosque.** (Link: [https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/three-sentenced-in-plot-to-bomb-somali-immigrants-041219?utm\\_campaign=email-Immediate&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=fbi-top-stories&utm\\_content=%5B724536%5D-%2Fnews%2Fstories%2Fthree-sentenced-in-plot-to-bomb-somali-immigrants-041219](https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/three-sentenced-in-plot-to-bomb-somali-immigrants-041219?utm_campaign=email-Immediate&utm_medium=email&utm_source=fbi-top-stories&utm_content=%5B724536%5D-%2Fnews%2Fstories%2Fthree-sentenced-in-plot-to-bomb-somali-immigrants-041219))

**San Diego, California, April 11, 2019 (FBI):** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); and the Escondido Police Department (EPD) announced that a \$10,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of the individual(s) responsible for the **arson and vandalism, which occurred at an Escondido mosque.** On March 24<sup>th</sup>, an individual(s) set fire and vandalized the Dar-ul-Arqam Mosque, also known as Islamic Center of Escondido. Several people were inside at the time of the fire (Link: [https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/sandiego/news/press-releases/atf-and-fbi-offering-10000-reward-for-information-relating-to-arson-at-escondido-mosque?utm\\_campaign=email-Immediate&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=fbi-in-the-news&utm\\_content=%5B724339%5D-%2Fcontact-us%2Ffield-offices%2Fsandiego%2Fnews%2Fpress-releases%2Fatf-and-fbi-offering-10000-reward-for-information-relating-to-arson-at-escondido-mosque](https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/sandiego/news/press-releases/atf-and-fbi-offering-10000-reward-for-information-relating-to-arson-at-escondido-mosque?utm_campaign=email-Immediate&utm_medium=email&utm_source=fbi-in-the-news&utm_content=%5B724339%5D-%2Fcontact-us%2Ffield-offices%2Fsandiego%2Fnews%2Fpress-releases%2Fatf-and-fbi-offering-10000-reward-for-information-relating-to-arson-at-escondido-mosque))

**Chapel Hill, North Carolina, April 11, 2019 (JTA/ Daily Tar Heel):** Several anti-Semitic fliers were found on bookshelves and tables in the library at the University of North Carolina. **The fliers include references to "an evil Jewish plot" and said "do everything you can to fight the silent covert Jewish attempt to enslave and kill good Americans,"** according to the UNC Hillel.

**Denver, Colorado, April 11, 2019 (JTA/Denver Post):** A swastika was burned into the asphalt near the playground of a Denver public elementary school. Gasoline was used to burn the anti-Semitic symbol at Ellis Elementary School. The vandalism is being investigated as a bias incident.

**Nationwide, April 9, 2019 (CNN):** YouTube was forced to disable comments on a livestream of a House Judiciary hearing on hate crimes and white nationalism on social media after it was flooded with racist and anti-Semitic comments. The comments were an illustration of one of the issues at hand: Silicon Valley's ongoing struggle to stop the spread of hate across its platforms. Among the witnesses was Anti-Defamation League senior vice president of policy Eileen Hershenov, who talked about the dangers of smaller platforms, which white supremacists have also been known to use. "These platforms are like round-the-clock digital white supremacist rallies, creating online communities that amplify their vitriolic fantasies," Hershenov said.

**Nationwide, April 9, 2019 (Washington Post/JFNA):** Dozens of law enforcement and security officials and representatives of Jewish groups who gathered in Washington for a planning exercise detailing how they would respond to future attacks on Jewish facilities. The event comes at a fraught moment, with the specter of recent bloodshed — including the massacre in Pittsburgh and the attacks last month on New Zealand mosques, among many others — looming large. In both incidents, authorities have said the suspected attackers espoused white-supremacist ideology. Among those involved in the exercise were officials with DHS, the FBI and local police departments, along with representatives of numerous Jewish organizations nationwide. Brad Orsini, director of community security for the Jewish Federation of

Greater Pittsburgh and a former FBI agent, discussed the active-shooter training done at Tree of Life and other places, saying: “The only thing we can really do is prepare.”

**Note: Orsini conveyed that the only control we have is preparedness: assessing, planning, training and hardening. He acknowledged that at the time of the massacre, the synagogue did not have panic buttons or an alert system, but that Pittsburgh community is now addressing target hardening the best they can with the money they have.**

**Monroe, Washington, April 8, 2019 (HeraldNet):** Dakota Reed, 20, has been charged with two felonies for allegedly posting mass shooting. He wrote about a mass shooting plan to kill 30 Jews. He also wrote about “pulling a Dylann Roof,” referring to the white supremacist who killed nine people in a South Carolina church. Prosecutors believe Reed made a video introducing himself as Active Shooter 327. He showed off new sights on an AR-15 rifle, in a room full of white supremacist propaganda. He yelled, “(I’m) fixing to shoot up a (expletive) school,” charging papers say. **In other posts he asked himself why he needed guns. His reply was a cartoon of a Jewish man being executed with a bullet. He wrote he was saving up to buy guns and ammo to kill “(((rats)))”.** Among anti-Semites, the echo symbol is a reference to Jews. He was arrested at his mother’s home, where twelve guns were recovered.

**Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 7, 2019 (Jerusalem Post):** Two people physically attacked worshipers leaving a Jewish center and synagogue and made anti-Semitic comments during their attack. Rabbi Uriel Husni, the head of the Mikdash Yosef Jewish center reported that the attack was staged by a man and a woman against worshipers leaving the center in the Palermo neighborhood of the city, as people were leaving following the end of the Friday night Shabbat service.

**Worldwide, April 4, 2019 (New York Times):** Swastikas daubed on a Jewish cemetery in France. An anti-Semitic political campaign by Hungary’s far-right government. Labour lawmakers in Britain quitting their party and citing ingrained anti-Semitism. A Belgian carnival float caricaturing Orthodox Jews sitting on bags of money. And that was just the past few months. **The accumulated incidents in Europe and the United States have highlighted how an ancient prejudice is surging in the 21st century** in both familiar and mutant ways, fusing ideologies that otherwise would have little overlap.

**Izmir, Turkey, April 4, 2019 (JTA):** A man threw a firebomb at the Beth Israel Synagogue. The unidentified attacker reportedly told police that he attacked the synagogue in order to protest Israel. Mustafa Yeneroğlu, the Istanbul lawmaker for the ruling Justice and Development Party, or AKP, condemned the attack on social media, saying, “There is no difference between attacks targeting synagogues, churches and mosques; they all target social peace with their hate.”

**United States, April 3, 2019 (New York Times):** There were at least 38 attacks that targeted places of worship, like churches, synagogues and mosques across North America. Until last year, the deadliest of these attacks in the United States were a shooting at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin in 2012 (6 dead) and a shooting at a black church in South Carolina in 2015 (9 dead). **On October 27, 2018, 46-year-old Robert Gregory Bowers,[7][8] was arrested and charged with 63 federal crimes, for the mass shooting at the Tree of Life – Or L’Simcha Congregation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where eleven people were killed and seven were injured.** It was the deadliest attack on the Jewish community in the United States.

**New York, New York, April 2, 2019 (JTA):** Polish nationalists protested in New York City against a bill designed to help Holocaust survivors and their descendants reclaim lost property in Poland. Hundreds of people participated in the protest in Foley Square **and some employed anti-Semitic rhetoric.**

**Paris, April 2, 2019 (The Aegmeiner/BFM TV):** French media outlets revealed that a man who described himself as the “heir of Mohamed Merah” — **the Islamist terrorist who murdered three young children and a rabbi at a Jewish school in Toulouse in March 2012** — was arrested by security agents on suspicion of plotting his own terrorist attack against a school. The man was seized after trying to buy weapons. According to police, the man had been **planning an attack on children at a nursery school.**The Mohamed Merah attack: On March 19, 2012, Merah launched a gun attack on the Ozar Hatorah Jewish school in Toulouse, **murdering Rabbi Jonathan Sandler, who taught at the school, together with his two sons, six-year-old Aryeh and three-year-old Gabriel. Merah then grabbed another child, eight-year-old Miriam Monsonego, and shot her through the head before escaping.**

**Australia, April 2, 2019 (Australian Jewish News):** There were **343 recorded anti-Semitic incidents in Australia over the course of the past year, including one act of extreme violence, a stabbing in Melbourne during the Jewish holiday of Shavuot.** There were also seven assaults reported, 290 incidents of abusive behavior, 21 cases of damage and desecration, 14 threats, and 10 instances of anti-Semitic literature being distributed. **Of the assaults, 4 targeted Jewish people walking to or from their synagogue.**

**Nationwide, April 1, 2019 (The New Yorker):** A category of emergency known as an Intentional Mass Casualty Event is now considered a public-health crisis. **In recent years, deadly attacks have occurred at schools, houses of worship and other public places and events.** They have involved guns, knives, trucks, and improvised explosive devices. According to the article, **“Much attention has been given to the rising frequency of mass shootings in the United States, but equally alarming is their worsening severity.”**

**Las Vegas, April 1, 2019 (New York Post):** The Los Angeles Jr. Kings suspended 15 players and three coaches following an incident in which a player on the 14U Bantam AAA team was captured on video appearing to do a Nazi salute while individuals laughed and could be heard making disparaging remarks toward Jews. **According to The Athletic, the 9-second clip includes what sounds like, “Are you a Nazi?” “F–k the Jews” and “F–king Jews.”** Team officials became aware of the video before the final game of a Las Vegas tournament in March and decided to suspend all those who attended and coached while the incident is investigated.

**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, April 1, 2019 (JTA/NBC News):** White supremacist, racist and anti-Semitic graffiti was spray-painted on the outside of the Oklahoma Democratic Party headquarters. The messages were spray-painted in blue. **Among the messages were “Welcome to Germany” and “Gas the Jews,” as well as the number sequence 1488, which is a reference to Adolf Hitler. Other state agencies and non-profit groups are located in the building.**

**Nationwide, March 28, 2019 (Secure Community Network):** Former DHS Secretaries Michael Chertoff and Jeh Johnson will co-chair a new **Community Safety and Security Task Force** convened by ADL (the AntiDefamation League), a leading anti-hate organization, and the Secure Community Network (SCN), the homeland security and safety initiative of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. The task force will work to enhance the safety, security and resiliency of religious communities. **Following the October 27th attack on the Jewish community in Pittsburgh, the ADL and SCN came together to address hate, anti-Semitism and threats as well as violence targeted at the Jewish community in the United States.** Given that many threats impact all faith-based institutions regardless of affiliation, and as seen in the tragic attack on the

Muslim community in New Zealand, the Task Force will develop best practices that can enhance the safety, security, and resilience of all faith-based communities.

**Williamson County, Texas, March 26, 2019 (KXAN NBC affiliate):** The Williamson County Sheriff's Office announced it would be stepping up patrols around all synagogues after an area **Jewish synagogue reported that a white supremacist/Neo-Nazi group glued a propaganda poster to its main building.** According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, **Texas has the third-most hate groups in the country.**

**New Zealand, March 27, 2019 (JTA):** The chairman of the New Zealand's biggest mosque accused Israel's Mossad intelligence agency and "Zionist business houses" of being behind the terror attack on two mosques in Christchurch. He made these comments in a speech in Auckland that was livestreamed on Facebook. Bhamji was one of about 30 speakers at a rally for the victims of the mosque attacks that left 50 worshippers dead. The rally was sponsored by a group called Love Aotearoa Hate Racism. **New Zealand's Human Rights Commission tweeted: "Prejudice against Jewish people has no place in New Zealand. We must condemn racism, hate and anti-Semitism whenever we see it."** The New Zealand Jewish Community's spokeswoman, Juliet Moses, told the local news website Newshub: "These conspiracy theories are dangerous lies. They put the Jewish community at risk, at a time of heightened security concerns. Conspiracy theories – particularly the idea that Jews (whether through the Jewish state or otherwise) are a malevolent controlling force in the world – are at the very core of anti-Semitism."

**Flagstaff, Arizona, March 26, 2019 (3TV/CBS 5):** The Flagstaff Police Department is investigating a possible hate crime after the Chabad of Flagstaff was burglarized and damaged. Police say there was damage to multiple rooms within the building and several damaged power tools. **Vandals carved swastikas in the walls, smashed and dumped paint cans on the floors. The vandals also painted a swastika pattern in black on the windows of the synagogue, police said.**

**Wisconsin, March 26, 2019 (The Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle):** Wisconsin is experiencing an "alarming" rise in anti-Semitic incidents, announced the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, as it released its 2018 Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents in March of 2019. Mirroring the rise of white supremacy, racism and anti-Semitism in the U.S. and across the globe, new data shows an unprecedented number of local anti-Semitic incidents, according to the JCRC. It is the fifth consecutive year of increased incidents, with a 20 percent increase from 2017. "What's most alarming is the change in tenor and tone," said JCRC Chair Ann Jacobs. "The anti-Semitic incidents of 2018 were meaner, scarier, more personal and unsettling." The JCRC audit showed not only a 21 percent increase in overall anti-Semitic incidents, but a shocking 166 percent in incidence of vandalism, according to a press release.

**San Diego, California, March 25, 2019 (San Diego Union-Tribune/KTLA 5 News):** A recent leak of more than 200,000 online chat logs from a white supremacist group reveals how local members are targeting students on San Diego college campuses and trying to project a respectable image even as **the group's members privately espouse Islamophobic, anti-Semitic and racist views.** The group, called Identity Evropa, is nationally known for helping organize the "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Va.,

**Birmingham, England, March 22, 2019 (The Times):** Counterterrorism police are investigating overnight attacks on **five mosques in Birmingham, which were targeted with sledgehammers.** The attackers struck at the mosques in the space of a few hours. Forensic officers were scouring the scenes for clues and examining CCTV for possible suspects. The incidents came days after police assured local Muslims

that there was "no increased threat to the people of the West Midlands" and vowed to step up security around places of worship in the wake of the terror attack in New Zealand.

**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 20, 2019 (JTA):** The Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh has raised more than \$40,000 to support the victims and their families of the mosque shootings in Christchurch, New Zealand. The funds will be transferred to an organization authorized to provide support to the Christchurch families and community, according to the synagogue. **Fifty Muslim worshipers were killed and at least 20 injured following shootings at the Al Noor and Linwood mosques. In October, 11 worshippers were killed in the attack on the Tree of Life synagogue building, home to three congregations, by a lone gunman. It was the deadliest attack on Jews in the United States.**

**Worldwide, March 20, 2019 (FactCheck.org):** According to a number of indicators, **white nationalism and white supremacy — and violence inspired by them — are on the rise, in the U.S. and around the world.** The Southern Poverty Law Center reports a dramatic increase in the number of white nationalist groups in the U.S., from 100 chapters in 2017 to 148 in 2018. The Anti-Defamation League reports a 182 percent increase in incidents of the distribution of white supremacist propaganda, and an increase in the number of rallies and demonstrations by white supremacy groups, from 76 in 2017 to 91 in 2018. A study by the Center for Strategic and International Studies found the number of terrorist attacks by far-right perpetrators quadrupled in the U.S. between 2016 and 2017, and that far-right attacks in Europe rose 43 percent over the same period.

**Los Angeles, California, March 20, 2019 (The Algemeiner/Jerusalem Post):** Anti-Semitic fliers were hung in several locations across Los Angeles, according to reports. "What is the difference between Crackheads and Jews?" read one flier. Another flier said, "The murder of innocent women and children by a Rothschild led Jewish Zionist armed militia to forcibly confiscate the Land of Palestine now known as Israel." Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the LA-based Simon Wiesenthal Center told the online news site that the language used on the fliers "indicate someone who has been absorbing new/old anti-Semitic tropes on social media." Earlier this month, swastikas and other symbols were drawn in blood near the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust.

**Fall River, Massachusetts, March 20, 2019 (ABC News):** A hate crime investigation is underway after **59 headstones were defaced and two were knocked over at a Jewish cemetery**, according to local police. A maintenance worker discovered gravestones damaged with swastikas and anti-Semitic messages, including "expel the Jew" and "Hitler was right," according to police.

**Canada, March 20, 2019 ( ):** With the wounds of the New Zealand mosque massacre and the Pittsburgh synagogue shootings still raw, Canada has doubled funding to a program that defrays security costs for houses of worship, schools, and community buildings. The program began as a pilot project by the previous government. The program has helped synagogues, schools and other Jewish facilities pay for lighting, alarm systems, closed-circuit cameras, motion sensors and other security measures.

**France, March 19, 2019 (JTA):** **Nearly 90 percent of French Jewish students said they have experienced anti-Semitic abuse on campus, a poll found.** Nearly 20 percent of the 405 respondents in the Ifop survey said they have suffered an anti-Semitic physical assault at least once on campus. Of those, more than half reported suffering violence more than once.

**Christchurch, New Zealand, March 15, 2019 (AP/Bloomberg News):** The presumed New Zealand shooter was inspired by Norwegian mass murderer Anders Breivik, according to Magnus Ranstorp, a

Swedish terror expert at the Swedish National Defense College. This is the second incident over the past month believed to be inspired by Breivik. As I alerted you last month, the first incident occurred within miles of Capitol Hill. Christopher Paul Hasson, the 49-year-old Coast Guard lieutenant from Silver Springs, Maryland, was charged on February 15, 2019, as a "domestic terrorist" for stockpiling weapons and planning "to murder innocent civilians on a scale rarely seen in this country," according to charging documents filed in U.S. District Court in Maryland. Also, according to the charging documents, Hasson was inspired by the "Crusader Nationalism" aligned with that of Anders Breivik. Breivik's views of the "Crusader Nationalism" ideology is set forth in a 1,500-page manifesto he produced. The Breivik manifesto calls for targeting vulnerable "soft targets" including leaders of nonprofit institutions. According to excerpts included in the charging documents, the manifesto instructs: Targeting "traitors that are vulnerable to a "single source" blast or assault;" Focusing "on individuals who do not have armed body guards;" and are not "overwhelmingly protected" and Selecting "lesser targets," including "NGO leaders." (Link: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-15/nz-manifesto-resembles-norway-mass-murderer-s-text>.)

**Merlo, Argentina, March 14, 2019 (JTA):** Argentina's federal police found **guns, ammunition, Nazi-themed books, Nazi propaganda and Nazi memorabilia including uniforms, as well as Italian fascist flags and Nazi brochures in the home of a father and son who allegedly threatened a Jewish umbrella group** on social media. DAIA (Delegación de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas) is the umbrella organization of Argentina's Jewish community. DAIA has been strongly involved in fighting antisemitism in Argentina, and claiming for justice in the 1994 AMIA Jewish Community Center bombing.

**The Netherlands, March 11, 2019 (JTA):** The Netherlands in 2018 saw a **19 percent increase in recorded anti-Semitic incidents** in 2018 to a record 230 cases, according to the Center for Information and Documentation.

**Brussels, Belgium, March 7, 2019 (Wall Street Journal):** **A French-Algerian man and his accomplice were found guilty of shooting four people in the Jewish Museum of Brussels five years ago, the first verdict against a European who joined Islamic State in Syria and returned to stage terrorist attacks.** A Belgian jury said Mehdi Nemmouche, a 33-year-old French national of Algerian descent, had shot and killed two Israeli tourists, an employee and a museum volunteer in fewer than two minutes in the May 2014 attack. Nemmouche's co-defendant, Nacer Bendrer, a 30-year-old Frenchman of Algerian descent, was convicted of supplying weapons to and helping Nemmouche carry out the attack. Both could be sentenced to life in prison. The two men met in prison in southern France in 2008.

**Nationwide, March 5, 2019 (AP/Fox News):** **White supremacist groups in the U.S. tried to spread their propaganda at a record-setting rate last year, increasingly picking targets beyond college campuses, according to the Anti-Defamation League.** ADL counted a 182 percent increase in propaganda incidents by white supremacists, from 421 such cases in 2017 to 1,187 in 2018. College campuses remained a primary target for hateful flyers, but the New York-based ADL said the number of off-campus propaganda incidents soared from 129 in 2017 to 868 last year.

**Nassau County, New York, March 4, 2018 (ABC 7 local):** **Anti-Semitic graffiti has been found at a Jewish center on Long Island.** A swastika and anti-Semitic words were scrawled on a painting inside a stairwell at the Shelter Rock Jewish Center in Seasingtown.

**Point Pleasant, New Jersey, March 2, 2019 (News 12 - New York tri-state area/United States District Court, District of New Jersey Criminal Complaint Magistrate. No. 17-807 1 (LDW) (May 4, 2017)):**

Gregory Lepsky, 22, of Point Pleasant, New Jersey, was **sentenced to 16 years in federal prison for plotting to use a pressure cooker to commit terrorism in New York City on behalf of ISIS**. During searches of computers and other digital evidence linked to Lepsky, law enforcement officers found evidence of Lepsky's plan to build and detonate a bomb as part of his support for ISIS. In addition to the various photographs and messages recovered from Lepsky's cell phone, the FBI reviewed the Internet search history from the phone. It revealed that Lepsky conducted internet searches, including many searches relating to ISIS propaganda, terrorist attacks, and Beheadings. Among them, **he searched "jews do control everything;" "anti semitic pictures;" "isis attack Israel;" and "books spreading hate against nonbelievers."**

**Pembroke Pines, Florida, February 28, 2019 (CBS Miami):** A Pembroke Pines man pleaded guilty Thursday to charges of posting detailed bomb-making instructions to online sites frequented by extremists who support violent jihad. **According to the FBI affidavit, Ismail was an associate of James Medina, who is serving a 25-year prison sentence for plotting to blow up a South Florida synagogue and Jewish school.** According to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Tayyab Tahir Ismail, 33, pleaded guilty to Count 2 of an indictment that charged him with distributing information pertaining to explosives, destructive devices and weapons of mass destruction.

**Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin, February 28, 2019 (Milwaukee Journal Sentinel):** An avowed white supremacist who **tried to mail threatening letters to the Jewish Community Center** in Whitefish Bay from an Oshkosh jail was sentenced to three years in federal prison. In the letters, Grubbs asserts that he is a violent white supremacist and brags that he's already been convicted of a hate crime. He says he has an associate and access to weaponry and "dirty bombs" and promises "maximum carnage."

**Buenos Aires, Argentina, February 26, 2019 (JTA):** **The chief rabbi of Argentina was brutally assaulted by a gang who broke into his apartment.** Rabbi Gabriel Davidovich was hospitalized with serious injuries, including nine broken ribs, according to reports. "We know that you are the AMIA (Jewish center) rabbi," the assailants shouted before beating Davidovich. At the same time of this incident, it was also reported that **nine gravestones were vandalized** in a Jewish cemetery in San Luis city, in northwest Argentina.

**Sammamish, Washington, February 24, 2019 (AP/Seattle Times):** **Sammamish police are investigating racist and anti-Semitic graffiti found in the community in more than a dozen places in recent days.** According to FBI data, hate crimes in Washington state increased by 32 percent in 2017. That's nearly double the national rate. In 2017, hate crimes in Seattle nearly doubled, with 234 reported incidents, compared to 118 reported incidents in 2016.

**New York, New York, February 24, 2019 (JTA):** **Dozens of swastikas and anti-Semitic messages, including "Heil Hitler" and "No Jews Allowed," were drawn on a school playground in New York City.** The NYPD's Hate Crimes Unit is investigating the incident.

**Silver spring, Maryland, February 21, 2019 (CBS News):** Christopher Paul Hasson, a 49-year-old Coast Guard lieutenant and self-professed white supremacist, was arrested as a domestic terrorist. According to reports, he was stockpiling weapons and ammunition in a plan to "murder innocent civilians on a scale rarely seen in this country," according to prosecutors. In early 2017, Hasson began studying a 1,500 manifesto written by white nationalist extremist and mass murderer Anders Breivik. **The manifesto instructs would-be terrorists to attack soft targets such as nonprofit organizations. Prosecutors have said Hasson consulted the manifesto regularly.**

**Chicago, Illinois, February 19, 2019 (JTA): Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan blamed “the wicked Jews” for the crisis over anti-Semitism and the Women’s March.** “The wicked Jews want to use me to break up the women’s movement,” Farrakhan stated during his address at the Nation of Islam’s Savior’s Day conference in Chicago. During his address, Farrakhan returned to anti-Semitic tropes and bashed Israel. There were several thousand people in attendance at the speech, which also was livestreamed. **Farrakhan was preceded by a known Holocaust denier Michael A. Hoffman II, who suggested that ancient Jewish texts are equivalent to teachings “from the church of Satan,” according to the ADL.** **Quatzenheim, France, February 19, 2019 (JTA/Associated Press): Almost 100 gravestones at a Jewish cemetery in France were discovered vandalized with swastikas hours before the start of marches against the recent rise in anti-Semitic attacks in the country.** French police reported last week that anti-Semitic acts in France rose by 74 percent in 2018 over the previous year.

**Missoula, Montana, February 19, 2019 (JTA/ NBC Montana): Anti-Semitic fliers appeared around the University of Montana campus for the fourth time since November.** The fliers included an image of a disfigured member of the military with a quote from the late Sephardi Rabbi Ovadia Yosef that read “Goyim were born only to serve us,” NBC Montana reported. In January, white nationalist fliers were left on doorsteps in Missoula and surrounding areas. In November, white nationalist recruitment fliers were posted around the University of Montana campus.

**Paris, France, February 19, 2019 (JTA/AFP news agency/Le Parisien newspaper): French police arrested two teenagers in a suburb of Paris on suspicion that they wounded a person while firing an air rifle at a synagogue on Shabbat.** The two teenagers, who were being investigated as suspects in an anti-Semitic hate crime for the incident, wounded a passerby near the synagogue by shooting a lead projectile into his calf. They had staked out the synagogue from a balcony overlooking the building on Friday night, as worshipers began to gather there.

**New York, New York, February 18, 2019 (The New York Jewish Week/NBC New York): New York City will bolster security at Brooklyn synagogues after an attack on a Chabad synagogue on Friday night.** The large plate glass window in the Chabad building was smashed by vandals as Rabbi Menachem Heller, his wife, and nine children sat around the Shabbat table on Friday night. In recent weeks there have been several attacks on identifiably Jewish men in Brooklyn. The New York Police Department investigated 42 hate crimes through Feb. 4, compared with 19 at the same date last year. Most of those were anti-Semitic hate crimes.

**Germany, February 13, 2019 (JTA/Tagesspiegel newspaper): Anti-Semitic crimes rose by 10 percent in Germany in 2018,** with a 60 percent increase in violent crimes, according to a report released by the German parliament, the Bundestag. The latest numbers are not yet official but they reflect a trend, and that’s alarming,” the council’s president, Josef Schuster, said in a statement. “What Jews had already felt subjectively has been confirmed by the statistics.” **Nationwide, there were 1,646 anti-Semitic crimes registered in 2018, up from 1,504 the previous year. Of these, 62 were violent attacks, up from 37 in 2017.**

**Lima, Ohio, February 11, 2019 (JTA): A synagogue was shot up with what police describe as a BB or pellet gun.** At least two dozen holes were discovered in the windows of Temple Beth Israel-Shaare Zedek on Shabbat (the Jewish Sabbath).

**France, February 12, 2019 (JTA): Anti-Semitic acts in France rose by 74 percent last year. According to Interior Minister Christophe Castaner, the total of reported acts of anti-Semitism was 541 in 2018, up**

from 311 in 2017. Castaner on Monday night in Sainte-Genevieve-du-Bois near the memorial to Halimi, said that “anti-Semitism is spreading like poison,” and that the government will fight it.

**Great Britain, February 7, 2019 (JTA):** The number of anti-Semitic incidents recorded in the United Kingdom rose to 1,652 in 2018, marking a 16% increase and a new record for the third straight year. The cases were recorded in the annual report of the Community Security Trust, or CST, which is British Jewry’s largest watchdog on anti-Semitism. The number of incidents since 2013 has more than tripled from the 535 recorded that year.

**White Sulphur Springs, New York, February 7, 2019 (JTA Rockland/Westchester Journal News):** A yeshiva (school) in upstate New York was set on fire and swastikas were spray painted on the building. The incident occurred at the Yeshiva Yoreh Deah, located on a former. Two barns on the property of the yeshiva, which combines education and farming, were damaged and numerous swastikas were painted on the walls. The incident is being treated as a hate crime, according to state police spokesman Steven Nevel.

**Roswell, Georgia, February 7, 2019 (JTA/Atlanta Jewish Times):** Swastikas were spray-painted on the inside and outside of Central High, a suburban Atlanta public high school. Swastikas were found on a bus, the main building and entrance, a trailer for the band, signs, the weight room and the stadium areas.

**Burlington, Vermont, February 6, 2019 (VTDigger):** Three organizations, including the Ohavi Zedek synagogue, in Burlington were targeted by a white supremacist group which hung stickers and posters outside of those organizations. Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, the Pride Center of Vermont and a third organization which asked the Burlington Police Department not to be named publicly reported finding the stickers and posters at their sites. The stickers included statements reading “Better Dead Than Red” and “America First” and listed the name of “Patriot Front,” a white supremacist group.

**New York, New York, February 3, 2019 (JTA/the Post/Fox5 New York):** Three men were charged with hate crimes for attacks on identifiably Jewish men in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. On one captured by a surveillance camera, three assailants knocked over a Hasidic Jewish man before punching and kicking him. The victim, 51, required hospitalization for his injuries. The NYPD told local media that anti-Semitic hate crimes in the city are rising. Last year at this time, 13 people were attacked. This year, the number increased to 20.

**Los Angeles, California, February 1, 2019 (JTA/KCAL 9):** Police are investigating who painted “f\*\*king Jews” on the facade of a Los Angeles synagogue. Hate crimes against Jews in America rose by more than a third in 2017 and accounted for 58 percent of all religion-based hate crimes, according to data released in November by the FBI. The report noted a 23 percent increase in religion-based hate crimes in 2017 to 1,564, representing about 20 percent of all hate crimes.

**Toledo, Ohio, January 31, 2019 (JTA/Associated Press/Cleveland Plain Dealer):** The Ohio man arrested for planning an attack on a Toledo-area synagogue was indicted on a federal hate crimes charge. Damon Joseph, 21, of Holland, was indicted in U.S. District Court in Toledo with attempting to provide material support to ISIS. He told an undercover FBI agent that he was inspired by the gunman who shot up a synagogue building in Pittsburgh, killing 11. Joseph faces life in prison. Joseph spent months talking about and planning a mass shooting of a Toledo-area synagogue and said he wanted to kill as

many people as possible, including a rabbi. The FBI said Joseph was radicalized and went by the name Abdullah Ali Yusef.

**Tarzana, California, January 31, 2019 (the Patch/KCAL9):** Police were investigating an **act of anti-Semitic vandalism** at the Mishkan Torah synagogue. Hateful, profane graffiti was scrawled on the building.

**New Jersey, January 29, 2019 (NorthJersey.com):** The past year has seen a spate of attacks by domestic extremists acting on political or racial biases without influence from abroad, such as the deadly synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh. But Americans shouldn't forget about the threat from homegrown extremists inspired by foreign terror groups like Islamic State, who remain the top threat to New Jersey, according to the State's newly released 2019 Terror Threat Assessment. "In the year ahead, homegrown violent extremists [inspired by foreign terror groups] will remain our most persistent adversary," said Jared Maples, according to the director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, which released the annual report. That's because these kinds of attacks are challenging "to detect and deter," Maples said in a statement. (Source: 2019 Terror Threat Assessment; Link: [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54d79f88e4b0db3478a04405/t/5c4f011df950b77130e3fab5/1548681505075/Threat Assessment-Booklet-2019\\_Final.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54d79f88e4b0db3478a04405/t/5c4f011df950b77130e3fab5/1548681505075/Threat+Assessment-Booklet-2019_Final.pdf).)

**Salinas, California, January 28, 2019 (JTA/KSBW local):** A driver yelled obscenities and anti-Semitic remarks as about 100 members of the Church of Jesus Christ Temple Philadelphia walked to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day. A man in a black SUV drove by and yelled obscenities and insults against the Jewish people, and then circled back to yell at the marchers again, according to reports.

**Worldwide, January 27, 2019 (Times of Israel):** According to a newly released report from Israel's Diaspora Affairs Ministry, **2018 was deadliest year for anti-Semitic violence since 1994**. From the Pittsburgh massacre to killings of a French Holocaust survivor and a US student, last year saw highest rates of lethal violence against Jews since the AMIA bombing. In 1994, a terrorist attack (allegedly carried out by Hezbollah and sponsored by Iran) on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina killed 85 people and injured hundreds.

**Philippines, January 27, 2019 (New York Times):** Two bombs exploded at a cathedral in the southern Philippines on Sunday, killing 20 people and wounding scores of others, officials said. The blasts occurred in the morning as people were gathered for Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Jolo, the capital of Sulu Province, said Col. Gerry Besana, a spokesman for the military. The bombs were believed to be homemade. In a series of bulletins shared in chat rooms on the app Telegram, **the Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack**.

**Islamberg, New York, January 23, 2019 (ABC News):** Four suspects are under arrest in upstate New York and charged with an alleged conspiracy to use improvised explosive devices and guns to attack an Islamic community. Authorities said that the suspects were engaged in a plot to attack Islamberg, New York — a Muslim enclave 50 miles northwest of Binghamton. The tiny town of about 200 people has long been the subject of unsupported claims of terrorist activity by right-wing media outlets and commentators.

**Europe, January 22, 2019 (Times of Israel):** European states must ensure Jewish people have a future on the continent, a senior EU official warned at the site of a notorious anti-Semitic attack. Justice

Commissioner Vera Jourova appeared at the Jewish Museum in Brussels, where four people were shot dead in May 2014, to demand a bloc-wide action plan. In support of her argument, she cited figures showing that **90 percent of European Jews feel that anti-Semitism is rising**. As she was speaking, across the city in Brussels' main criminal court, alleged French jihadist Mehdi Nemmouche was on trial accused of the museum murders, which is **considered to be Europe's first attack carried out by an ISIS associated terrorist returning from the war in Syria**

**Charleston, South Carolina, January 22, 2019 (JTA): Ten members of a Pittsburgh congregation who survived the October attack on their building, along with their rabbi, traveled to Charleston, South Carolina, to worship with the members of a church that suffered a similar shooting in June 2015.** Eleven worshippers were killed in October in the Pittsburgh attack on the Tree of Life synagogue building, the deadliest on Jews in the United States. The New Light Congregation congregants came to Charleston to meet members of the Emanuel AME Church, where nine African-American worshippers were killed in an attack by a white supremacist gunman. The Rev. Eric S.C. Manning of the Emanuel Church -- the oldest African Methodist Episcopal church in the Southern United States -- had flown to Pittsburgh shortly after the shooting there to comfort synagogue members and the Jewish community. On Monday, the synagogue members walked in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Parade in downtown Charleston.

**Washington, DC, January 18, 2019 (ABC7):** DC Police are investigating multiple anti-Semitic messages found spray painted at locations around the city as possible hate crimes. The messages **read "I Want Jexit" which Jewish organizations say is an anti-Semitic term** that is a play on "Brexit" to mean Jews must leave. Brexit is the abbreviation for Britain exiting the European Union. A police officer at the scene of the incident told ABC7 the message is "hateful."

**Minnetonka, Minnesota, January 18, 2019 (NBC News):** School administrators in a town outside Minneapolis are condemning as "anti-Semitic" and "outrageous" a social media post showing **two students giving a Nazi salute in front of a poster that appears to make light of Hitler and Nazis**. The two students from Minnetonka High School are pictured giving the Nazi salute while in front of an invitation to a dance that reads: "Sweethearts would be a Hit(ler) w/ you, and I could Nazi myself going w/ anyone else. Be Mein? Yes or Nein?." **It was widely reposted on Facebook**. The high school principal, Jeff Erickson, wrote in a statement to the school community that the "anti-Semitic media post...in no way aligns with our school's core values." The **Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas released a statement saying they are "deeply disturbed by the egregious anti-Semitic image circulating on social media."** The post by the Minnesota teens comes only **two months after a group of students in Wisconsin appeared to give a Nazi salute in a viral prom photo**.

**Arnold, Maryland, January 17, 2019 (Capital Gazette):** Severn River Middle School officials are investigating anti-Semitic and violent statements that were found written inside a boys' bathroom, according to a letter the school's principal sent families. School officials are reviewing hallway video camera footage in an attempt to identify potential suspects. This is the second bias-related incident at the Arnold school in just two months.

**Workington, England, January 16, 2019 (BBC News):** A white supremacist who **blamed Jews and non-white people for his failure to get a job planned a "murderous mass attack" in his home town**, according to prosecutors. Prosecutors told the court that Shane Fletcher, 21, wanted to emulate the Columbine School shooting and "take revenge on those he blamed for his unhappy life." He wanted to achieve notoriety by going on a killing spree before killing himself," according to prosecutors.

**Canada, January 16, 2019 (The Globe and Mail):** Canada’s minister for public safety says right-wing, white supremacists and neo-Nazi groups are an increasing concern and threat to Canadians. **Ralph Goodale said the groups promote hate, which manifests itself in violent anti-Semitism or in other crimes.**

**Newton, Massachusetts, January 13, 2019 (7 News Boston):** Newton police are investigating after **messages of hate were found across the city. The flyers, which included racist caricatures and connected Jewish people to pedophilia,** were found at 4 locations around the city. The flyers left neighbors shocked and disgusted. In a statement, Anti-Defamation League New England Director Robert Trestan said, “It’s a pretty vile image and description of the most classic anti-Semitic stereotypes, demonizing Jews and the Jewish religion.”

**France, January 10, 2019 (JTA):** **Anti-Semitic incidents during protests by Yellow Vests have included signs and slogans describing French President Emmanuel Macron as a “whore of the Jews” and their “puppet.”** The Yellow Vests protests began in reaction to a proposed green tax on fuel. There have been many cases of protesters performing the quasi-Nazi quenelle salute, which was created by the French comic Dieudonne M’bala M’bala. Dieudonne, a Holocaust denier who has been convicted of hate speech against Jews and others, now delivers his weekly hate sermons online on video platforms while wearing a yellow vest. These cases, as well as anti-Semitic graffiti and chants have been a feature of this movement since its inception, according to the National Bureau for Vigilance Against Anti-Semitism.

**Nashville, Tennessee, January 8, 2018 (Vanderbilt News):** Vanderbilt University Police responded to a report of **anti-Semitic vandalism in a classroom – a swastika carved into the back of a classroom chair.** In a statement on the issue, Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos said, “We wholeheartedly reject anti-Semitism and its symbols, such as the example found on Vanderbilt’s campus today. The abhorrent ideology associated with this act of vandalism has no place here. We are investigating the incident and remain committed to building a safe and inclusive environment for all.”

**Berkeley, California, January 7, 2019 (JTA/Berkleyside):** **A man brought a fake bomb with “anti-Jewish writings” on the package into the University of California, Berkeley, Police Department.** According to reports, during his arrest Michael Fleming, 48, made “racial slurs towards the Jewish Culture” and yelled anti-Jewish statements “consistent” with the wording on the package. A Nazi symbol also was drawn on the box, which included anti-Semitic statements and said “bomb inside.” Fleming was charged with sending a false bomb designed to cause fear for one’s safety.

**Battle Creek, Michigan, January 7, 2019 (JTA):** **Temple Bath-El was vandalized for the second time in two months.** A concrete carving of a menorah on the front of Temple was damaged with graffiti. A menorah is a widely used Jewish symbol that stands for light, wisdom, and Divine inspiration. In late November 2018, an unknown vandal took a hammer and chisel to the same concrete menorah, damaging the carving.

**Melbourne, Australia, January 6, 2019 (JTA):** A neo-Nazi group hung large stickers depicting swastikas at the entrance to a Jewish old-age home. The neo-Nazi Antipodan Resistance organization **posted the stickers of their logo, which bears a large swastika, at the entrance of the Emmy Monash Aged Care in Melbourne, home to elderly Jewish community members including Holocaust survivors,** in the heartland of the Victorian Jewish community.

**Lake Havasu City, Arizona, January 4, 2019 (JTA/Havasu News):** According to the police at Lake Havasu City, which is located 180 miles northeast of Phoenix, **eight exterior light fixtures, a large sign and other fixtures surrounding the Temple Beth Shalom synagogue were damaged.** Police have no suspects at his time.

**Ventura County, California, January 4, 2019 (Ventura County Star):** A Ventura synagogue is the most recent local target of anti-Semitic vandalism. Ventura police are working to track down whoever **spray-painted swastika graffiti on the signboard in front of Temple Beth Torah.** Police are investigating the incident as a hate crime.

**Cleveland, Ohio, January 2, 2019 (Fox News/Canary Mission/Cleveland.com):** The **Cleveland Clinic hospital has fired a resident after anti-Semitic comments and threats to give the Jewish people "the wrong meds" surfaced on social media.** Lara Kollab was identified as the fired employee behind the comments. Kollab's anti-Semitic comments were first documented by Canary Mission, a group that examines social media accounts to find anti-Semitic and anti-Israel remarks. Her comments **also called for violence against Jews, spread anti-Semitism, trivialized the Holocaust, defended the terror organization Hamas and expressed support for terrorists on Twitter.**