The following is a compilation of threat assessments of national significance (Pages 1-9) and incidents (Pages 9-75) reported over the past year. The threat incidents are primarily domestic-based (but also abroad) and target faith-based and charitable organizations/communities. The reporting includes incidents of shooting/mass shooting; bombing; arson; assault/battery; threats/intimidation/hoaxes; and property damage/vandalism/graffiti. This compilation provides examples and context to assist sub-applicants in completing Part III (A) of the Risk section of the Investment Justification.

When completing Part III (A), a sub-applicant is asked to explain/substantiate why/how they are at risk of a terrorist attack. In answering this question, the sub-applicants should prioritize the answer as follows:

- **First Choice:** Describe specific terror (or violent homegrown extremist) incidents, threats, hate crimes, and/or related vandalism, trespass, intimidation, or destruction of property that have targeted its property, membership, or personnel. This may also include a specific event or circumstance that impacted an affiliate or member of the organization’s system or network.

- **Second Choice:** Report on known incidents/threats that have occurred in the community and/or State where the organization is located.

- **Third Choice:** Reference the public record regarding incidents/threats/assessments against similar or like institutions at home or abroad.

**Note:** Since there is limited working space in the IJ, the sub-applicant should be selective in choosing appropriate examples to incorporate into the response: events that are most recent, geographically proximate, and closely related to their type or circumstance of their organization or are of such magnitude or breadth that they create a significant existential threat. Sub-applicants should **expect to lose points in the scoring of this section if the examples provided are not current (proximate to today) – references to historical events, for example, will not earn points.** As this document is lengthy, it is advisable to use search terms when scanning the document for relevant information.

### I. Assessments and Reports of National Significance

**Domestic Violent Extremists Using Video Gaming-Adjacent Platforms for Nefarious Purposes:** Domestic Violent Extremists (DVEs) use some video gaming and adjacent platforms for nefarious purposes including recruitment, incitement, and organization of violence and fundraising, believing these platforms provide permissive operating environments with minimal risk of detection and removal. DVEs can use online video

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gaming-adjacent platforms to upload and/or livestream video, communicate with other domestic violent extremists using instant messaging, and share written violent extremist materials. Example: In 2019, a racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist promoting the superiority of the white race was convicted for making false statements in a military background check. He had posted threats to conduct a mass shooting at a synagogue on a gaming-adjacent platform and praised such historical incidents, according to the Department of Justice.

The Department of State has issued the 2020 Country Reports on Terrorism (CRT): Each year, the CRT provides insight on important issues in the fight against terrorism and helps the United States make informed decisions about policies, programs, and resource allocations as we seek to build counterterrorism capacity and resilience around the globe. The CRT also offers a frank assessment of the challenges we face. The rising threat from Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist (REMOVE) groups, including those promoting the superiority of the white race, is addressed in a new section of the report for the first time. According to the report, The REMOVE threat also continued to expand rapidly, including growing transnational links between REMOVE actors around the world. Related, the report found that the global COVID-19 pandemic created opportunities for terrorist groups. While the pandemic disrupted terrorist travel, financing, and operations, terrorist groups adapted their approaches and appeals, using the internet to continue radicalizing others to violence and inspiring attacks worldwide. REMOVE actors used the pandemic to incite violence, advocating for followers to actively spread the virus to members of religious or racial minority groups.

Department of Justice Nationwide Hate Crimes Study: According to a new National Institute of Justice study on understanding hate crimes perpetrators, individuals who commit hate crimes do so out of a variety of bias-based motivations. The study described as “unprecedented [in] scope on what drives people who perpetrate hate crimes,” found that those arrested or indicted for hate crimes motivated by the victims’ religious characteristics are more likely, compared to those who commit other types of hate crimes, to cause mass casualty events and that those planning mass casualty events were significantly more likely, when acting alone, to target religious victims.

Department of Homeland Security Threat Bulletin: The Secretary of Homeland Security has issued an updated National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) Bulletin regarding the current heightened threat environment across the United States. These threats include those posed by individuals and small groups engaged in violence, including domestic violent extremists (DVEs) and those inspired or motivated by foreign terrorists and other malign foreign influences. These actors continue to exploit online forums to influence and spread violent extremist narratives and promote violent activity. Further, foreign terrorist organizations and DVEs continue to attempt to inspire potential followers to conduct attacks in the United States. Among targets, historically, DVEs and individuals inspired by foreign terrorist organizations have targeted houses of worship, which have at times caused mass causalities. Mass gatherings associated with several dates of religious significance over the next few months, could provide increased targets of opportunity for violence. Foreign and domestic threat actors, to include foreign intelligence services, foreign terrorist organizations, and DVEs, continue to introduce, amplify, and disseminate narratives

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2US Department of State, Bureau of Counterterrorism: “Country Reports on Terrorism 2020,” December 2021; Link: https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2020/
online that promote violence, and have called for violence among targets that include religious communities and perceived ideological opponents. This Bulletin runs through February 8, 2022.

Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center Advisory: While faith-based communities across the United States have faced varying levels of discrimination, there is a persistent threat of violence and hate crimes against Jewish communities, primarily by domestic violent extremists. Violent extremists view religious establishments as high-value targets, especially during times of religious holidays and festivities. Several attacks, plots, and harassment-type activities targeted Jewish communities and related facilities across the United States in recent years, with some coinciding with religious observances and holidays. Illustrations:

- In January 2020, authorities in New York arrested Grafton Thomas, whom they charged with federal hate crimes. Thomas entered the home of a rabbi in Monsey, New York and used a machete to attack the rabbi and congregants, who assembled for the Jewish holiday of Chanukah. Authorities charged Thomas with five counts of willfully causing bodily injury to and attempting to kill five victims because of their religious views, as well as five counts of obstructing the free exercise of religion in an attempt to kill.
- On 9 October 2019, Stephan Balliet killed at least two people and injured several others in a shooting attack near a synagogue in Halle, Germany, during the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. After failing to break into the synagogue, Balliet shot and killed a passer-by on the street and a man at a kebab shop. Balliet livestreamed a video, lasting just under 36 minutes, which showed his movement during the attack. According to an online manifesto attributed to the assailant, his objective was to “kill as many anti-whites as possible, Jews preferred.”
- On 8 August 2019, federal authorities arrested Conor Climo on charges of compiling bomb materials found in his home. Climo allegedly used encrypted means to communicate with individuals who identified with white supremacist ideology. Authorities said Climo discussed attacking a Las Vegas synagogue and making improvised explosive devices during the encrypted communications.
- On 29 April 2019, John Earnest opened fire during a Passover service inside the Chabad of Poway Synagogue near San Diego, California. He reportedly posted an “open letter,” detailing anti-Semitic motivations and alluded to white supremacist inspiration and ideology. Authorities arrested Earnest approximately two miles away from the synagogue.
- On 27 February 2017, a Jewish community center in southern Nevada received a bomb threat, resulting in the building’s evacuation. Law enforcement did not locate any explosive devices within the building. This incident was one of several that occurred at Jewish centers and schools throughout the United States on the same day.

DHS Office of Intelligence & Analysis Overview: Racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists who believe in the superiority of the white race engage in violence primarily motivated by racist and anti-Semitic, anti-immigration, or antigovernment sentiments. Some of these violent extremists’ beliefs are rooted in conspiracy theories, such as the Zionist Occupied Government theory that the US Government is controlled by Jews seeking to “exterminate” members of the white race, and the Great Replacement theory that white European society will be replaced due to high levels of immigration from Muslim-majority and African nations. These violent extremists historically targeted institutions and minorities they perceived as enemies of the white race, such as Jewish, Muslim, and predominantly

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black Christian communities. Racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists typically have conducted mass casualty attacks against civilians, most often using firearms or edged weapons. Since 2010, these violent extremists have conducted at least 36 attacks that killed 65 people. They generally target racial, ethnic, and religious minority communities. Some of these violent extremists may choose areas of opportunity with limited security and others may take additional steps to plan attacks, including research and surveillance of possible targets.

Increasing Opportunities for Violent Extremist Attacks This Summer:7 The DHS Office of Intelligence & Analysis assesses violent extremists might seek to exploit easing COVID-19 restrictions, increased access to mass gatherings, and possible changes in levels of violence during the summer months to conduct attacks against a range of potential targets with little or no warning. In recent weeks, domestic violent extremists (DVEs) motivated by various violent ideologies have continued to advocate violence and plan attacks. Additionally, messaging from foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs) continues to amplify narratives encouraging US-based homegrown violent extremists (HVEs) to conduct attacks.

Senate Appropriations Hearings on Domestic Violent Extremism:8 On May 12, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland and Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas testified before the Senate Appropriations Committee on the state of domestic violent extremism and domestic terrorism in the Homeland. The witnesses testified that domestic violent extremists (DVEs) pose one of the gravest threats to our homeland. They agreed that Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists (REMVEs) present the most lethal threats among DVEs and are most likely to conduct mass-casualty attacks against civilians. Secretary Mayorkas testified to the continued challenges DVEs pose to the ability of law enforcement to detect and disrupt their attacks. According to Secretary Mayorkas, this is because of “their capacity for independent radicalization to violence, their ability to mobilize discreetly, and their access to weapons.” He reasoned that a whole-community approach is necessary, implying that law enforcement must engage with federal, state, local and communal partners as a continued, necessary strategy to respond. One cannot count on law enforcement alone for their protection. Attorney General Garland also testified to the deadly consequences when DVEs act, including, “the burning and bombing of places of worship throughout the country, as well as other acts of hate-fueled violence that are less likely to make national news but that still terrorize entire communities.”

House Appropriations Hearings on Domestic Violent Extremism:9 On April 29, 2021, Jill Sanborn, FBI Executive Assistant Director, National Security Branch, and Brad Wiegmann, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, testified at a hearing before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science on the state of domestic violent extremism and domestic terrorism in the Homeland. The witnesses testified that domestic violent extremists (DVEs) pose one of the gravest threats to our homeland. They agreed that Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists (REMVEs) present the most lethal threats among DVEs and are most likely to conduct mass-casualty attacks against civilians. Deputy Assistant Attorney General Wiegmann relayed some of the most serious attacks in recent years, including:

7 Source: OIA Intelligence Brief, 28 June 2021 (IA-52535-21)
- The mass shooting of nine African-American parishioners engaged in religious worship and Bible study at Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina, in June 2015.
- The bomb plot against a mosque used by Somali immigrants in Garden City, Kansas, in October 2016.
- The mass killing of 11 Jewish congregants gathered to engage in religious worship at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in October 2018.

Executive Assistant Director Sanborn testified to the continued challenges DVEs pose to the ability of law enforcement to detect and disrupt their attacks. According to Executive Assistant Director Sanborn, this is because of “their unpredictable target selection,” which includes soft civilian targets and places of worship. She reasoned that a whole-community approach is necessary, implying that law enforcement must engage with federal, state, local and communal partners as a continued, necessary strategy to respond. One cannot count on law enforcement alone for their protection.

White supremacists and neo-Nazis celebrated anniversary of the Poway, California synagogue shooting and called for additional violence against Jews: On April 27, white supremacists and neo-Nazis celebrated the second anniversary of the Poway, California synagogue shooting. John Earnest, a former nursing student, has pleaded not guilty to 113 counts including murder, attempted murder, and violating the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, for his Christchurch-inspired attack that killed one person and wounded three others. Earnest has also been charged with arson as a hate crime for the March 24, 2019 fire at a mosque in Escondido, California. In a manifesto posted on 8chan before the synagogue attack, Earnest is alleged to have stated that he acted out of his hatred for Jews, referencing the great replacement conspiracy theory. At least two dozen white supremacist Telegram channels celebrated the anniversary of the attack by posting Earnest’s manifesto and drawings, photos, and videos of him, as well as calling for additional violence against Jews. Users of imageboards on the dark web also praised Earnest’s actions, with one user referring to him as the first “disciple” of Brenton Tarrant.

DHS Office of Intelligence & Analysis Intelligence Brief: On April 29th, a DHS brief was issued assessing that violent extremists may seek to exploit the easing of COVID-19-related restrictions across the United States to conduct attacks against a broader range of targets. Previous restrictions probably have limited violent extremists’ access to more traditional targets of ideologically motivated violence, including houses of worship and mass gatherings. Restrictions on large gatherings and religious services probably limited opportunities for lethal violent extremist attacks in 2020, including suspected racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist-white supremacists (RMVE-WSs) who had consistently been the most lethal, and among the most active, domestic violent extremist (DVE) threats for several years. Most mass casualty RMVE-WS attacks since 2014 have targeted houses of worship, according to an I&A review of RMVE-WS attacks. With respect to Foreign Terrorist Organization inspired threats, Homegrown violent extremists (HVEs) have primarily sought out attacks against soft targets and mass gatherings, according to an I&A review of HVE activity.

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Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation: Domestic Terrorism:12 According to FBI Director, Christopher Wray, the most significant threat to our homeland is posed by lone actors who often radicalize online and seek out soft targets to attack with easily accessible weapons. We see these individualized threats manifested within both domestic violent extremists (DVEs) and homegrown violent extremists (HVEs). Although they have different ideologies, they both typically radicalize and mobilize to violence on their own and are both located primarily in the United States. Individuals who commit violent criminal acts in furtherance of ideological goals stemming from domestic influences — some of which include racial or ethnic bias — are described as DVEs, whereas HVEs are individuals inspired primarily by achieving global jihad, but not receiving individualized direction from Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs).

Domestic and homegrown violent extremists are often motivated and inspired by a mix of sociopolitical, ideological, and personal grievances against their targets, and more recently have focused on accessible targets to include houses of worship and mass public gatherings. Selecting these types of soft targets, in addition to the insular nature of their radicalization and mobilization to violence and limited discussions with others, challenges law enforcement to detect and disrupt the activities of lone actors before they occur. The top threat we face from DVEs continues to be those we identify as racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (RMVEs), specifically those who advocate for the superiority of the white race, and who were the primary source of ideologically motivated lethal incidents of violence in 2018 and 2019. The FBI assesses HVEs as the greatest, most immediate international threat to the Homeland. As I have described, HVEs are United States-based individuals, located in and radicalized primarily in the U.S., who are not receiving individualized direction from global jihad-inspired FTOs, but are inspired largely by the Islamic State of Iraq and Ash-Sham (ISIS) and al Qaeda to commit violence. An HVE’s lack of a direct connection with an FTO, ability to rapidly mobilize without detection, and use of encrypted communications pose significant challenges to our ability to proactively identify and disrupt them.

According to Wray, the number of US homegrown terror cases has risen sharply, as he warned that the deadly January Capitol riot may serve as ‘inspiration’ for extremists.13 Some 2,000 FBI domestic terror probes are open, up from 1,400 at the end of 2020, Director Christopher Wray said. Arrests of “racially motivated violent extremists,” including white supremacists, have tripled since 2017. Domestic terrorism “has been metastasizing around the country for a long time now, and it’s not going away anytime soon,” Wray said. “Whenever we’ve had the chance, we’ve tried to emphasize that this is a top concern.”14

Office of the Director of National Intelligence Report:15 The Intelligence Community assesses that in 2021:

- Domestic violent extremists (DVEs), including those with bias related to religion, race, and ethnicity, pose an elevated threat to the Homeland.

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Enduring DVE motivations pertaining to biases against minority populations will almost certainly continue to drive DVE radicalization and mobilization to violence.  
Racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (RMVEs) present the most lethal DVE threats, with RMVEs most likely to conduct mass-casualty attacks against civilians.  
DVE lone offenders will continue to pose significant detection and disruption challenges because of their capacity for independent radicalization to violence, ability to mobilize discretely, and access to firearms.

ADL 2020 Report Tracking White Supremacist Propaganda:  
ADL's Center on Extremism (COE) tracked a near-doubling of white supremacist propaganda efforts in 2020, as antisemitic and racist messaging surged. The 2020 data shows a huge increase of incidents from the previous year, with a total of 5,125 cases reported (averaging more than 14 incidents per day), compared to 2,724 in 2019. This is the highest number of white supremacist propaganda incidents ADL has ever recorded. Propaganda gives white supremacists the ability to maximize media and online attention, while limiting the risk of individual exposure, negative media coverage, arrests and public backlash that often accompanies more public events. The barrage of propaganda, which overwhelmingly features veiled white supremacist language with a patriotic slant, is an effort to normalize white supremacists’ message and bolster recruitment efforts while targeting minority groups. The 2020 propaganda appeared in every state except Hawaii, with the highest levels of activity in Texas, Washington, California, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

Far Right use of Antisemitic Secret language Online to Avoid Exposure:  
Antisemites and white supremacists make use of a secret code and lexicon to talk online while avoiding the gaze of algorithms and law enforcement, a new study has found. According to University of Haifa's Professor Gabriel Weimann and web intelligence analyst Ari Ben-Am, the secret language works to recruit new followers and spread propaganda. The coded language makes use of certain coded phrases called "dog-whistles," which are only understood by members of certain groups. Some are simple, such as calling Jews "Skypes," African-Americans as "Googles" and Latinos as "Yahoos." Others are more complex, with letters and numbers meant to indicate certain specific phrases, people or concepts. The numbers 88, for example, represents Heil Hitler, as H is the eighth letter in the alphabet. Antisemites and white supremacists make use of a secret code and lexicon to talk online while avoiding the gaze of algorithms and law enforcement, a new study has found. According to University of Haifa's Prof. Gabriel Weimann and web intelligence analyst Ari Ben-Am, the secret language works to recruit new followers and spread propaganda. The coded language makes use of certain coded phrases called "dog-whistles," which are only understood by members of certain groups. Some are simple, such as calling Jews "Skypes," African-Americans as "Googles" and Latinos as "Yahoos." Others are more complex, with letters and numbers meant to indicate certain specific phrases, people or concepts. The numbers 88, for example, represents Heil Hitler, as H is the eighth letter in the alphabet. Weimann wrote a study in 2020 on the far Right's presence on the popular social media platform TikTok, and noted the widespread use of such coded symbols and messages to evade the algorithm and censorship. The goal of this, Weimann claimed, was recruitment. And even more worryingly, these symbols and codes have been used before, with some high-profile incidents making use of this secret language including the New Zealand Christchurch shooting.

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17 Jerusalem Post, “Far Right, antisemites' secret language used online exposed by new study,” March 1, 2021; Link: https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/far-right-antisemites-secret-language-used-online-exposed-by-new-study-660578
National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin: On January 27th, 2021, the Acting Secretary of Homeland Security has issued a National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) Bulletin due to a heightened threat environment across the United States. Information suggests that some ideologically-motivated violent extremists could continue to mobilize to incite or commit violence. The Bulletin described current developments and general trends regarding threats of terrorism, including violence and threats meant to intimidate or coerce specific populations on the basis of their religion, race, ethnicity, identity or political views. DHS is concerned these same drivers to violence will remain through early 2021.

Hate Crime Data Helps Law Enforcement Address Threat: According to a January 19, 2021 news bulletin, hate crimes have a devastating impact on victims, families, and communities, which requires reliable data to help law enforcement and the government to identify challenges and direct resources to combat these crimes. A hate crime is a crime like murder, arson, or vandalism with an added element of bias. The FBI released its latest Hate Crime Statistics for 2019 on November 16, 2020. According to the report, hate crimes rose to their highest numbers in a decade, including a 14% increase in anti-Jewish incidents over the previous year and constituted more than 60% of all anti-religious bias crimes reported. In 2019, there was a deadly shooting in a synagogue in Poway, California, at a kosher supermarket in Jersey City, New Jersey, and a machete attack at a large religious holiday gathering at a rabbi’s home in Monsey, New York. The collection dates back to 1990, when Congress passed the Hate Crime Statistics Act. Of all the categories of religious bias crimes reported, the majority reported have been motivated by anti-Jewish bias.

Content that Provoked Amazon to Suspend Parler’s Web Services Account: In a January court filing, Amazon gave outsiders a new look at the content that provoked Amazon to suspend the web services account of the Parler social networking service. Content that threatened or encouraged violence included:

- “White people need to ignite their racial identity and rain down suffering and death like a hurricane upon zionists.”
- “We need to act like our forefathers did Kill [Black and Jewish people] all Leave no victims or survivors.”
- “We are going to fight in a civil War on Jan.20th, Form MILITIAS now and acquire targets.”

Mitigating Attacks on Houses of Worship Security Guide: Scholars estimate there are approximately 350,000 to 400,000 individual congregations within the United States. Each represents a critical part of the local community, and houses of worship of all faiths are traditionally regarded as sanctuaries that value openness and inclusion. At the same time, that openness, social prominence, and symbolic importance create unique security challenges. Acts of targeted violence against houses of worship are a real—and potentially growing—problem in the United States. The data points to two distinct trends: that Houses of Worship face a baseline of persistent targeted criminal activity and that the specific threat
of targeted violence may be increasing. One estimate based on FBI data projects that between 2000 and 2016 there were approximately 480 violent incidents per year against Houses of Worship. Additionally, mass shootings at House of Worship, which represent the greatest trauma and loss of life, have increased in the last five years. Qualitatively, a strong association appears to exist between social climate and threats to Houses of Worship. Historical analysis reveals that attacks on distinct ethnic and religious groups and individual houses of worship often accompany periods of intense racial and religious strife. Troubling signs indicate that the country has once again entered a period of social unrest with a simultaneous rise in bias-motivated attacks and hate crimes. The Associated Press points out that three of the deadliest attacks on Houses of Worship have occurred since 2015. The rise of social media, meanwhile, has created fertile ground for hate speech and hateful ideologies to flourish within certain corners of the internet. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic may be increasing the prevalence of hate crimes and racial prejudice across the western world, further exacerbating the threat to Houses of Worship. In response, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency issued a security guide in December 2020, which recommends Houses of Worship develop and implement sound security practices to mitigate future incidents, including investments that are required, supported, and funded by FEMA’s Nonprofit Security Grant Program and intended to save lives and protect property, including:

- Conducting a vulnerability assessment to understand the risks to the house of worship from which you may prioritize implementing any subsequent safety measures.
- Applying physical security measures to monitor and protect the outer, middle, and inner perimeters, while respecting the purpose of each area of the house of worship.
- Implementing safety measures around childcare, daycare, and schools.
- Creating emergency action plans and incident response plans that are well communicated and exercised.

II. Recent Threat Incidents Reported
(Includes a representation of international incidents reported)

San Diego, California, December 28, 2021 (KGET NBC): John T. Earnest, a 22-year-old white supremacist, was sentenced to life in federal prison for a 2019 mass attack at a Poway, California synagogue, killing a woman and injuring three others. This was in addition to a life sentence he received three months earlier in state court. Minutes after the shooting on the last day of Passover, Earnest called a 911 dispatcher to say he shot up the synagogue to save white people. “I’m defending our nation against the Jewish people, who are trying to destroy all white people,” he said. The San Diego man was inspired by mass shootings at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh and two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, shortly before he attacked Chabad of Poway, a synagogue near San Diego, on April 27, 2019. He frequented 8chan, a dark corner of the internet, for those disaffected by mainstream social media sites to post extremist, racist and violent views. Earnest bought a semi-automatic rifle a day before the attack, according to a federal affidavit. He entered the synagogue with 10 bullets loaded and 50 more on his vest but fled after struggling to reload. Worshippers chased him to his car. Earnest killed 60-year-old Lori Gilbert-Kaye, who was hit twice in the foyer, and wounded an 8-year-old girl, her uncle and Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, who was leading a service on the major Jewish holiday.

London, England, December 24, 2021 (Times of Israel/Antisemitism.org): Police in London said they were searching for a man accused of injuring a Jewish man in an antisemitic attack during the Hanukkah holiday earlier this month. The man was accused of approaching the victim and making antisemitic comments at him, including that he wanted “to kill my first Jew,” according to reports. He also tore down a public menorah (a Hanukkah display).
San Jose, California, December 23, 2021 (KPIX 5 CBS SF Bay Area): San Jose police said they’re looking for someone who lit a fire in the carport of a local synagogue that spread to the main sanctuary, causing major damage and rendering the building uninhabitable. Investigators are searching for the arsonist.

Sacramento, California, December 22, 2021 (CBS 13 Sacramento): A man suspected of leaving hateful flyers on the grounds of a Carmichael synagogue has been arrested. The Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office says 33-year-old Nicholas Wayne Sherman was arrested by detectives for the hate crime-related incidents, including placing leaflets with an antisemitic message on the menorah outside the Shalom Le Israel Messianic Synagogue. Sherman is facing charges of desecrating a religious symbol, a felony, as well as 13 additional misdemeanor counts of terrorism by symbol.

Los Angeles, California, December 22, 2021 (WEHOville): A Nazi propaganda-style poster posted near a synagogue in the Fairfax District suggested links between the Jewish people and anti-vaccination proponents. The incident follows two other acts of antisemitism in Pasadena and Beverly Hills.

Melbourne, Australia, December 22, 2021 (The Age): More than $31 million in federal government funding is being used by Jewish schools and community groups to fortify buildings, including the installation of blast-resistant walls, air-lock entrances, security cameras and safe rooms. Anti-Semitism is on the rise, according to the Executive Council of Australian Jewry’s most recent annual report, which logged 447 incidents in Australia during the past year, up 35 per cent on the 331 incidents logged in the previous year. Threats have been made against Jewish schools and Jewish cultural institutions in Melbourne and community supporters of the assistance point to overseas attacks such as the shooting of 11 people at a synagogue in Pittsburgh in the United States in 2018. Sam Tatarka, chair of the Beth Weizmann Jewish Community Centre, said security measures put in place at the center enabled it to be less dependent on armed guards. “Security requires a multifaceted approach and physical security is an inherent part of that approach and relieves some of the reliance on and cost of paid security guards,” he said. “Despite substantial government assistance from political parties on both sides of the aisle, there are massive costs imposed on our community in financial terms to support security infrastructure.”

Westfield, New Jersey, December 21, 2021 (TAP Into Westfield): Steel pipes filled with concrete were installed in front of a synagogue on East Broad Street earlier this month in what is the latest of security measures intended to keep congregants and staff of Temple Emanu-El safe, the religious institution said. Funded by a 2020 Homeland Security Grant, the bollards have been cemented into the ground on the front lawn of the temple and line its driveways. The Homeland Security Grant fully funded the project, which is among a series of security measures taken by the synagogue. As part of this grant, the Temple will also soon be installing impact resistant film on all glass windows and doors. Temple Emanu-El is among synagogues across the nation that have reevaluated and boosted their security measures amid rising levels of antisemitism. The target hardening at Temple Emanu-El came in the same month swastikas were discovered at Westfield High School — the latest in a series to be discovered in both public schools and public areas of the town over the past several years.

United States and Brazil, December 21, 2021 (Homeland Security Today.U.S): US Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Homeland Security Investigations worked with Brazilian authorities to stop neo-Nazis from planning and executing a mass-casualty attack on New Year’s Eve in São Paulo and other attacks across Brazil. The investigation targeted, “targeted antisemites and neo-Nazis networking online and threatening acts of violence.” The operation was launched in May in response to neo-Nazi groups using online platforms based in the United States to stoke violence against Jewish and black civilians. The neo-Nazi activity was monitored by Brazil’s Secretariat of Integrated Operations’ Cyber Operations Laboratory and critical information was shared with U.S. counterparts at HSI at the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia.
between May and November. “While executing the search warrants, Brazil police found homemade explosives, weapons, Nazi paraphernalia, and detailed plans of future attacks,” ICE said of the raids. “Through continued investigative collaboration, members of dangerous anti-Semitic and neo-Nazi cells were apprehended before they caused a possible mass casualty event,” said HSI Brasilia Acting Attaché Patrick Chen.

Germany, December 21, 2021 (The Algemeiner/Süddeutsche Zeitung (SZ)): The leading federal official tasked with countering antisemitism in Germany has urged the country’s tax-payer funded, public broadcaster, Deutsche Welle (DW), to “clarify in detail” recent allegations of antisemitism among its Arabic service staff and its media partners in the Arab world. Investigations have revealed that several employees of DW’s Arabic department had made antisemitic remarks or had affiliations with antisemitic organizations. Several staff members had posted violently antisemitic messages on social media.

Nationwide, December 20 and 22, 2001 (The Algemeiner/ADL): A virulently antisemitic group with a reputation for mounting propaganda stunts staged what one expert on extremism described as a “surge of incidents” during the weekend of December 18-19, 2021 in nine different states across the country (Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, North Carolina, Texas and Vermont). Individuals associated with the antisemitic Goyim Defense League (GDL) distributed propaganda in multiple states. The “surge of incidents” were sparked by a promise from the founder of the “GDL”, Jon Minadeo Jr., to send $100 of merchandise to any supporters who engaged in propaganda distribution. Minadeo is also the founder of an online merchandise store called “Goyim Gear” which deals in t-shirts glorifying Adolf Hitler, the Waffen SS and other individuals and groups lionized by white supremacists. Carla Hill — associate director of the Center on Extremism of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) described the stunt as “purely and simply the monetization of hate.” Despite the fact that the “GDL” is a “small network of individuals,” Hill said that the group’s voice is “much louder because it has thousands of supporters.” The group “spreads hateful propaganda and harasses the Jewish community just so they can get attention online,” she said. “The more egregious the behavior, the more money they raise.”

Greensboro, North Carolina (Fox 8): The Greensboro Jewish community is speaking out after antisemitic flyers were left at the homes of multiple people. In a statement, religious leaders with Temple Emanuel, Beth David Synagogue and Greensboro Jewish Federation said that multiple Jews and others received “a vile piece of antisemitic hatred.” “It seeks to spread antisemitic, blatantly false, and evil conspiracies about the Covid-19 virus and our nation’s efforts to combat its spread,” the statement said. “We are not the first community in which this has happened. Our hearts go out to all those who have received this disgraceful propaganda.” Police are investigating.

Austin, Texas, December 15, 2021 (KVUE ABC): An 18-year-old man arrested in the October 31 arson at Congregation Beth Israel is now facing federal charges. Franklin Barrett Sechriest was ordered to remain in detention following a detention hearing. The night of the fire, Sechriest wrote in his journal "scout a target" on October 31, according to an affidavit filed by the FBI. That evening, his Jeep SUV was seen in the parking lot of the synagogue shortly before the fire is seen on security video, the affidavit said. In the following days, he wrote in his journal "I set a synagogue on fire" and that he became worried when authorities announced that they were hopeful they would find a suspect, according to excerpts in the affidavit.

New York, New York, December 14, 2021 (Jerusalem Post/Hamodia): James Vincent, 44, was sentenced to 11 years in prison Monday for an antisemitic hate crime where a hassidic man in Brooklyn was assaulted and strangled while walking home from synagogue. The defendant, 44-year-old James Vincent, was convicted of first- and second-degree strangulation as a hate crime, second-degree attempted assault and
third-degree assault as a hate crime, and fourth-degree criminal mischief. The defendant, , was convicted in late October of first- and second-degree strangulation as a hate crime, second-degree attempted assault and third-degree assault as a hate crime, and fourth-degree criminal mischief. 52-year-old Rabbi Menachem Moskowitz, a father of nine, was walking home from the synagogue on Shabbat, when attacked. He sustained several rib fractures, bruises, swelling and an abrasion.

Helsinki, Finland, December 11, 2021 (YLE News/Kirkko ja Kaupunki newspaper): Helsinki’s Jewish synagogue is the only religious organization in Finland that has its own security unit. The congregation’s security budget is as much as 450,000 euros a year. The majority of the funding comes from state coffers, with the rest from donations. There are around 2,000 Jews in Finland, with around a thousand of them part of the Helsinki congregation. The congregation does not go into details in describing its security arrangements, but the goal is clear: prevention. According to a synagogue spokesperson, "Money spent on security enables us to arrange our activities." "Without it people would not dare to join our activities." The threats come regularly through email and vandalism. According to Finland’s Church Research Institute, antisemitism in Finland is concentrated among neo-Nazi groups and other far-right organizations, with some present among Muslim groups linked to events in Israel. According to the synagogue spokesperson, Finland lacks a clear, structured strategy to combat hate crimes.

Amarillo, Texas, December 10, 2021 (DOJ/U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas): Christopher Stephen Brown, 37, was arrested and charged via criminal complaint with interstate threatening communications for threatening to execute three prominent Jewish rabbis. “Mr. Brown’s anti-Semitic statements were both disgusting and unlawful. The First Amendment may guarantee the right to make hateful remarks, but it does not allow for specific threats of violence against individuals. The circumstances of the defendant’s arrest only reinforce our belief that Mr. Brown poses a serious threat to the community,” said U.S. Attorney Chad Meacham. “Mr. Brown allegedly expressed an intent to commit violent acts toward numerous entities including private citizens, law enforcement and Jewish Rabbis associated with Chabad Lubavitch Headquarters,” said FBI Dallas Special Agent in Charge Matthew J. DeSarno. One of his targets was Chabad Lubavitch, a Jewish organization that has provided spiritual guidance and assistance to Jewish people since before the Holocaust. Chabad is headquartered in New York City and maintains more than 3,500 institutions worldwide.

United Kingdom, December 10, 2021 (Jewish News, Great Britain): A new report highlights how social media companies are failing to control the problem of anti-Jewish hatred on their platforms. Almost half-a-million explicitly antisemitic tweets are sent per year – representing two for every Jewish person in the UK – a shocking new report has revealed. After 18 months of research, the data estimates that there is up to 1,350 antisemitic tweets sent every day in the UK, representing 495,000 per year. The figures were revealed in a study released by the Woolf Institute, presented in a report by the Community Security Trust and Antisemitism Policy Trust.

Berlin, Germany, December 9, 2021 (The Algemeiner): Antisemitic incidents in Germany’s capital peaked in the first six months of this year compared to years prior, according to a report. A total of 522 antisemitic outrages were registered in Berlin from January to June, showing an increase of about 17 percent year-on-year, according to RIAS, a Berlin-based monitoring institute. On average, there were almost three antisemitic incidents a day during the period. Analysis of the data, “shows how widespread antisemitic attitudes are across all political spectra and how much antisemitism as a kind of background noise accompanies the everyday life of Berlin’s Jews,” the report stated.

Paris, France, December 8, 2021 (Daily Mail/Le Fegaro/BFM TV): French police have arrested two suspected ISIS militants who were plotting a stabbing spree over the Christmas holiday period. One of
the suspects told officers he wanted to slaughter 'disbelievers'. He also pledged allegiance to ISIS. Detectives say they planned knife attacks.

**Indonesia, December 9, 2021 (New York Times):** Upik Lawanga, an Indonesian militant was sentenced to life in prison over a 2005 bombing. He is a member of the **terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah that has bombed churches** among other civilian targets and targeted American embassies overseas. President George W. Bush formally declared it a “foreign terrorist organization” in October 2002.

**New York City, December 8, 2021 (The Algemeiner):** Hate crimes in New York City have risen a shocking 100% over the past year, including a 50% spike in antisemitism, the New York Police Department said. NYPD statistics showed 503 reported hate crimes, twice the 252 reported in 2020. **Antisemitic hate crimes rose sharply as well, with 183 incidents, a rise of 50% over 2020's 121 incidents.**

**Northern, Virginia, December 2, 2021 (Virginia Fusion Center/Northern Virginia Regional Intelligence Center):** Recent events, including, uncorroborated threats to Virginia, and foreign terrorist organization calls to target mass gatherings highlight the need for increased public safety awareness of threat indicators during the holidays. Significant holiday attacks include the December 28, 2019 machete attack at a Hanukkah celebration at a rabbi’s residence in Monsey, New York, which killed one Jewish congregant and injured five. The largest physical security risk is a spontaneous disruption or targeted attack by individuals or groups motivated by violent extremist ideology, personal grievances, or opportunity, which are often difficult to detect.

**Kansas City, Missouri, December 4, 2021 (Kansas City, Missouri, December 4, 2021 (KCTV/CNN Newssource):** Members of the local **Chabad synagogue are without a place to worship during Chanukah after it was vandalized.** There’s water damage to classrooms, paperwork thrown across offices and missing copper pipes and wires.

**Worldwide, December 3, 2021 (Texas News Today):** Far-right militant Richard Hesquez, 36, was imprisoned for four years after admitting to inciting racial hatred. One of Britain’s most prolific anti-Semitic video streamers, Hesquez yelled at the Jewish plot, celebrated the neo-Nazi terrorism, and **posted 4,000 videos in support of violence against the Jews. His videos were seen by millions of people around the world.**

**Concord, California, December 1, 2021 (CBS KPIX 5 SF Bay Area):** A jury found Ross Farca, 25, guilty of four **felony charges related to posting antisemitic murder threats online and illegally possessing an assault weapon.** Farca initially posted hate speech on an online gaming platform, under the screen name “Adolf Hitler.” Online, he said he wanted to **mimic the works of previous mass synagogue shooters** and kill any responding law enforcement, according to the district attorney’s office. The posting prompted the Concord Police to search his residence, and upon investigation, police officer found an assault rifle, ammunition and Nazi-related objects.

**Sioux Falls, South Dakota, December 1, 2021 (KELOLAND News):** Anti-Semitic stickers were found in town, displaying a Nazi swastika and messages related to anti-Semitic conspiracies involving Holocaust denial, the media, banking and COVID-19. Jen Dreiske, President of the board of the Mount Zion Congregation, indicated that “In the last week and a half there have been **four instances of anti-Semitism** being posted throughout our community,” she said, describing the situation with the stickers. The Jewish community in South Dakota is not large, with the Mt. Zion congregation comprising about 100 families across the state. “We are **one of the smallest Jewish populations within the United States,**” explained said Jacob Forstein, Vice President of the board of the synagogue.
Highland Park, Illinois, November 30, 2021 (Lake and McHenry County Scanner/Chicago Sun-Times): A hate crime investigation is underway after racist and antisemitic graffiti was found scrawled on The Central Avenue Synagogue in suburban Highland Park last week, according to Highland Park Deputy Police Chief Bill Bonaguidi. There are currently no leads in the investigation.

New York, New York, November 30, 2021 (Fox 5 News/ABC 7): Investigators are searching for three suspects behind a string of attacks against Jewish ultra-Orthodox children in Brooklyn. Police say three women seen in surveillance pictures are linked to three incidents. The victims were all wearing traditional Jewish attire when they were targeted. The NYPD’s Hate Crime Task Force is investigating the incidents.

Nationwide, November 30, 2021 (DoJ/National Institute of Justice): According to a new DoJ study on understanding hate crimes perpetrators, individuals who commit hate crimes do so out of a variety of bias-based motivations. The study described as “unprecedented [in] scope on what drives people who perpetrate hate crimes,” found that those arrested or indicted for hate crimes motivated by the victims’ religious characteristics are more likely, compared to those who commit other types of hate crimes, to cause mass casualty events. It also found that those planning mass casualty events were significantly more likely, when acting alone, to target religious victims. (Source: DoJ/National Institute of Justice, “Hate Crimes: National Database Identifies Traits and Motivations Marking Distinct Pathways of People Who Commit Bias-Based Offenses,” November 30, 2021; Link: https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/hate-crimes-national-database-identifies-traits-and-motivations-marking-distinct)

Homestead, Florida, November 29, 2021 (WPLG Local 10): A trespasser scaled a fence at the Homestead Jewish Center and hung a banner with an anti-Semitic message ahead of Hanukkah, a Jewish festival also known as the Festival of Lights. The Greater Miami Jewish Federation and the Anti-Defamation League released a statement saying the banner used shorthand references to neo-Nazi, white supremacist, and alt-right ideals. “Hate crimes may target individuals or single institutions, but are generally done to send a message of fear and intimidation to entire communities....” Sarah Emmons, the regional director of ADL Florida, said in a statement. The Homestead Police Department is investigating the incident.

Lancaster, Pennsylvania, November 29, 2021 (WGAL NBC-8): Lancaster police are investigating damage to the menorah in Downtown Lancaster. According to police, the menorah had been placed on the square on Friday, November 26, at the start of the Jewish holiday period of Chanukah. They say the damage occurred overnight between November 26th and the morning of the 27th. The police are working to identify the person or persons involved in this criminal act and are gathering surveillance video from the surrounding area.

Poway, California, November 27, 2021 (San Diego Union-Tribune): Prior to his deadly shooting attack on a synagogue and an arson attack on a mosque, fellow students warned school authorities about their concerns over statements made to them by John T. Earnest, but no action was taken against Earnest. Earnest was sentenced to life in prison for killing one worshipper and wounding others at Chabad of Poway in 2019 shooting and setting fire at Dar-ul-Arqam mosque. Earnest shared White supremist material with at least two of his Cal State San Marcos classmates, according to a newly obtained court filing. He studied Hitler. He had a copy of the manifesto of the man who shot up two New Zealand mosques in March 2019 — and he liked it. Two fellow nursing students took their concerns about Earnest to a professor, who reported it up the chain at the university. An investigation followed, which included university police as part of the team, but no action was taken against Earnest. On March 24, 2019, Earnest set fire to Dar-ul-Arqam mosque in Escondido and spray painted references to the New Zealand shooter. He then fled. Earnest’s identity as the arsonist was a mystery for a month until he confessed — an admission made in an open online letter he posted moments before the synagogue attack. There were 54 people inside Chabad of Poway on the last day of Passover in 2019 when Earnest walked and opened
Chabad of Poway congregant Lori Gilbert-Kaye, 60, was killed. Founding Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, Noya Dahan, then 8 years old, and her uncle, Almog Peretz, then 34, were injured. In June, Earnest pleaded guilty in San Diego Superior Court to murder, attempted murder and hate crimes. He was later sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. Prosecutors allege in the motion that Earnest’s radicalization started about 18 months before the shooting, with YouTube videos and visits to political boards on sites such as 4chan and 8chan. That matches what Earnest wrote in his open letter.

Massachusetts, November 26, 2021 (JTA): In response to several disturbing patterns of hate crimes and antisemitism, including the stabbing of a rabbi outside of a Boston Jewish day school this summer and several incidents of antisemitism at high schools and middle schools described as institutional and going on for years, Massachusetts lawmakers this week approved a bill that will require genocide education in all public secondary schools. “An Act Concerning Genocide Education,” which also establishes a public-private trust fund to support curriculum development and training for educators, is now at the desk of Republican Gov. Charlie Baker. Once signed, Massachusetts would become the 21st state to require some form of Holocaust education in secondary schools, according to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial and Museum. Jewish groups, including the Anti-Defamation League and the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston, have backed the bill.

Charlottesville, Virginia, November 24, 2021 (Times of Israel): A jury ordered 17 white nationalist leaders and organizations to pay more than $26 million in damages over the violence that erupted during the deadly Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville in 2017. After a nearly monthlong civil trial, the jury in a US District Court found the white nationalists liable on four claims in the lawsuit filed by nine people who suffered physical or emotional injuries during the two days of demonstrations. The verdict is a rebuke to the white nationalist movement, particularly for the two dozen individuals and organizations accused in a federal lawsuit of orchestrating violence against African Americans, Jews and others in a meticulously planned conspiracy. Hundreds of white nationalists descended on Charlottesville for the Unite the Right rally on Aug. 11 and 12, 2017, ostensibly to protest city plans to remove a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. During a march on the University of Virginia campus, white nationalists chanted “Jews will not replace us.”

Waukesha, Wisconsin, November 24, 2021 (New York Post/Daily Mail): While no motive has been ascribed to Darrell Brooks, accused of driving his SUV through a Christmas parade in suburban Milwaukee, killing six people and injuring dozens, it is reported that he shared social media posts suggesting "Hitler was right" for killing Jews. In 2015, he also reportedly shared a disturbing anti-Semitic meme that appeared to align with the beliefs of the Black Hebrew Israelites. It suggests World War 3 would start when people “learn Hitler was right” and “did the world a favor by killing” Jews.

Columbus, Ohio, November 23, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney’s Office of the Southern District of Ohio): Douglas G. Schifer, 66, of Bucyrus, Ohio (formerly of Columbus), threatened neighbors and their guests because of their religion Schifer was charged by a federal criminal complaint in March and pleaded guilty in June to interfering with the right to fair housing. Plea documents detail that Schifer stated in part, “all you f***ing people, it’s no wonder Hitler burned you people in ovens,” “f***ing Hitler should have gassed you,” and “Jews burn, you belong in ovens.” Court documents say that Schifer also said to the neighbors, “f***ing dog” and “I will poison your dog if it comes back to the fence.” Schifer admitted to threatening to shoot the neighbors and their dog, and to “burn to the ground” a garage the neighbors were remodeling. Schifer shouted other antisemitic slurs, obscenities and other derogatory language about their religion at his neighbors and their guests on Nov. 7, 2020. He also broke one of their windows and spat at one of the neighbors. He also made reference to gassing Jewish people, chopping them up, and burning them in ovens.
Nationwide, November 23, 2021 (Homeland Security Today\textsuperscript{23}): Though police have not ascribed a terror motive to the deadly incident in which an SUV drove into crowds at a Wisconsin Christmas parade, the scene brought to mind the vulnerabilities of “soft” targets. Extremist movements and lone actors have favored targets connected to holidays for these logistical reasons — ease of attack, ability to effectively use simple weapons, crowds that may be oblivious to the threat — or for symbolic reasons if the intended target, date, or victims align with an ideological motive. These can combine; for example, if a person with antisemitic beliefs opportunistically decides to attack a Jewish community location after noticing light security on an important date for either the faith of the victims or the faith of the attacker. Holiday attacks present a conundrum for security services that are trying to keep venues and celebrations protected while keeping a sense of openness and welcoming during observations of community traditions. The National Terrorism Advisory System bulletin released earlier in November warned of a continuing “diverse and challenging threat environment” as several religious holidays and associated mass gatherings approach “that in the past have served as potential targets for acts of violence.” Domestic violent extremists and individuals inspired by foreign terrorist organizations have targeted houses of worship and mass gatherings associated with several dates of religious significance over the next few months, could provide increased targets of opportunity for violence. In 2019, on the seventh night of Hanukkah, masked assailant Grafton Thomas allegedly entered a party at the home of a Hasidic rabbi in Monsey, N.Y., and stabbed five people, killing one. He was blocked from then attempting to enter the synagogue next door. Thomas had a history of antisemitic writings and browser searches. Robert Bowers, who stands accused of picking Shabbat services in 2018 to launch the deadliest attack on the American Jewish community, is hailed as a hero in the antisemitic meme culture, with domestic extremists urging others to emulate his actions and Nike “Just Do It” branding superimposed on his mugshot. And the pre-attack open letter attributed to 2019 Poway synagogue shooter John Earnest, who chose the last day of Passover for his attack and wrote that there is “no other option” than to kill Jews, also has shown that manifestos have legs among domestic extremists. While this antisemitism unfortunately flourishes year-round and has been getting worse, particular attention to security is warranted on holidays because of the demonstrated penchant extremists have for openly admitting they draw inspiration from each other’s crimes. Important days in the Jewish faith are a potential target for extremism rooted in antisemitism — including white supremacists, neo-Nazis, conspiracy theory extremists, and Islamist extremists — but the threat is especially concerning in today’s environment of rising antisemitic attacks not necessarily linked to holy days. At an August Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee hearing on the domestic extremist threat, Brian Levin, director of the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, warned that antisemitic hate crimes were up 135 percent in New York City and 53 percent in Los Angeles and “heading for records.”

Phoenix, Arizona, November 22, 2021 (ABC News): Far-right social media personality Tim Gionet has been charged with misdemeanors over allegedly damaging a Hanukkah display in December 2020 outside the Arizona Capitol. Prosecutors declined to provide specifics on the charges, but one of the people who helped organize the display in Wesley Bolin Plaza said a video shows Gionet tearing a sign off from the display that honors the Jewish Festival of Lights. Rabbi Levi Levertov said the sign was of little material value, but that damaging a religious display was disturbing. “It’s an attack on an entire community,” Levertov said. Gionet hasn’t yet entered a plea to the criminal damage and attempted criminal damage charges filed against him earlier this month in Arizona.

Nationwide, November 19, 2021 (The Hill/ADL): Religious institutions in the United States face an unprecedented level of violent attacks today. In fact, it’s estimated that 617 worshipers were killed at houses of worship in the U.S. between 1999 and 2019. This includes the single deadliest antisemitic

\textsuperscript{23} Link: \url{https://www.hsfdoday.us/subject-matter-areas/terrorism-study/holiday-terror-threats-how-extremists-encourage-violence-during-the-season/}
attack in American history at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA, in 2018; The murder of nine members of the Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC, in 2015; and the murder of six members of The Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, WI, in 2012. This problem isn’t unique to marginalized communities: Between 2000 and 2020, American churches experienced 19 fatal shootings. As a result, 80 percent of Protestant pastors say their church has some security measures in place.

Youngstown, Ohio, November 21, 2021 (WFMJ 21 – NBC): Authorities are investigating a bomb threat emailed to the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown. Local authorities canvassed the building and determined that there was no credible threat. In February 2020, the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown was also one of several Jewish institutions across the country to receive an email in reference to a possible bomb threat. Similar emails were also sent to more than 50 JCCS and other Jewish organizations. (Source: WKBN 27 – CBS, February 25, 2020)

Nationwide, November 16, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey): Richard Tobin, 20, of Brooklawn, New Jersey, was sentenced to one year and one day in prison for his role in conspiring with members of a white supremacist hate group to threaten and intimidate African Americans and Jewish Americans by vandalizing minority-owned properties, including synagogues, throughout the country. Tobin admitted that from Sept. 15 to Sept. 23, 2019, he was a member of a white supremacist group, “The Base,” and during that time, he communicated online with other members and directed them to destroy and vandalize properties affiliated with African Americans and Jewish Americans. Tobin dubbed this coordinated attack “Kristallnacht,” or “Night of Broken Glass,” after an attack in Germany on Nov. 9 and 10, 1938, in which Nazis murdered Jewish people and burned and destroyed Jewish homes, synagogues, stores and schools. Tobin implored members of The Base to post propaganda flyers and to break windows and slash tires belonging to African Americans and Jewish Americans. On Sept. 21, 2019, members of The Base vandalized synagogues in Racine, Wisconsin, and Hancock, Michigan, by spray painting them with hate symbols. A conspirator, Yousef Omar Barasneh, previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy against rights in federal court in the Eastern District of Wisconsin, for his role in vandalizing the synagogue in Racine, Wisconsin.

London, Ontario, Canada, November 16, 2021 (Global News): In a targeted vehicle attack, five members of a Muslim family were run down and 4 of them killed by an extremist driving a pickup truck. Salman Afzaal, 46, his 44-year-old wife Madiha Salman, their 15-year-old daughter Yumna and her 74-year-old grandmother, Talat Afzaal, were killed in the attack. The couple’s nine-year-old son, Fayez, was left seriously injured, but survived. This marked the deadliest mass murder in London’s history. New government documentation indicates that police found a knife “close by” when the suspect, Nathaniel Veltman, was arrested six kilometers from the scene of the incident. It also indicated the alleged attacker was wearing a bulletproof vest. Multiple sources with knowledge of the investigation also indicate that Veltman’s alleged crimes were inspired by the Christchurch gunman, Brenton Tarrant, who took 51 lives at two New Zealand mosques two years ago.

Liverpool, England, November 14 and 15, 2021 (Agence France-Presse news/Daily Mail): Police in northwest England on Monday said they were treating a deadly blast outside a hospital in Liverpool as a "terrorist incident" involving a homemade bomb that was reportedly foiled by a quick-thinking taxi driver. Russ Jackson, in charge of counter-terrorism policing in the region, said the improvised explosive device ignited and incinerated the cab and killed the passenger -- the alleged bomber. Reports indicate the suspicious taxi driver locked the passenger in the car and as the clock struck 11 am, the bomb went off. The explosion outside the Liverpool Women’s Hospital came just minutes before a Remembrance Sunday service at nearby Liverpool Cathedral. The timing and proximity has prompted speculation the event was the intended target. Some 2,000 people attended the religious service of remembrance, one of the biggest outside London. It has been noted that the roads outside the cathedral were closed, which
may have forced the bomber to divert his path to the nearby hospital. **MI5 are said to be working with counter-terrorism police to confirm whether the Cathedral or the hospital was the true target and whether it was an Islamist attack.**

**Lee County, Mississippi, November 16, 2021 (CNN):** A Mississippi man has been arrested and charged with making a **terroristic threat after he posted on social media about planning "a mass murder" at his church,** authorities said. The Lee County Sheriff's Department said it received a tip from the FBI that prompted an investigation into Ryan Evans, 20, and his activity on social media. "Upon further investigation it was determined an individual made a comment on a social media platform that he was planning "a mass murder" at his church the “next Sunday.” The post was not specific as to which church, just that it was his church, the sheriff's department said. Evans was taken into custody without incident and has been charged with making a terroristic threat, a felony.

**Huntsville, Alabama, November 16, 2021 (News 19 – CBS):** A Huntsville synagogue has been subjected to vandalism for the second time in less than two years. Rabbi Moshe Cohen of Chabad of Huntsville told News 19 their **nine-foot menorah was stolen from their front lawn.** “The message of the menorah, the liberty of the freedom of religion and positivity and joy and light will continue even in a place of darkness and hate,” said Rabbi Cohen. The Etz Chayim Synagogue and Chabad of Huntsville were vandalized in April of 2020, where anti-Semitic graffiti was sprayed, including swastikas. **The vandalism in 2020 was discovered during Passover. This theft was discovered 12 days before Hanukkah.**

**Austin, Texas, November 15, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Texas):** A federal complaint was unsealed charging Franklin Barrett Sechriest, 18, of San Marcos, with arson in connection with the fire **intentionally set at the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue in Austin on October 31, 2021.** According to court documents, Sechriest allegedly set the fire at the synagogue, which caused several thousand dollars in damage. Earlier, on October 28, 2021, **Sechriest’s vehicle was identified on security footage at the synagogue.** “Arson at a sacred place of worship shakes the very foundations of our society,” said U.S. Attorney Ashley C. Hoff. “This Office strongly condemns the intentional act of violence alleged in the complaint and will vigorously prosecute this type of conduct to the fullest extent possible.”

**Westfield, New Jersey, November 15, 2021 (TAPintoWestfield):** Authorities are investigating after **literature containing antisemitic writing was found at a church** in Westfield. The photocopied document found at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield was left with instructions “**threatening harm**” if the literature was not distributed, according to police, who are investigating the matter as a **bias incident.** Ethan Prosnit, the senior rabbi at Temple Emanu-El of Westfield, comments, “The Westfield Clergy Association met and discussed the flyers and I thank my clergy partners who brought the antisemitic literature to the authorities. I am proud to be in a community where my faith partners take antisemitism seriously and where we work together to make our town a place that honors diversity.”

**Paris, France, November 11, 2021 (Los Angeles Times):** A French man has been sentenced to life in prison for **stabbing an 85-year-old Holocaust survivor to death in an antisemitic attack,** a case that triggered widespread outrage and called attention to resurgent anti-Jewish sentiment in France. After horror and grief, Mireille Knoll’s family feels justice following the verdict. Yacine Mihoub, a neighbor who grew up in the Paris public housing project where Knoll had lived most of her life, **was convicted of killing a vulnerable person based on religious motives.** Another suspect was acquitted of murder but convicted of **aggravated theft with religious motives.** At 9 years old, Ms. Knoll escaped a 1942 Paris roundup of more than 13,000 Jews who were deported to Nazi concentration camps.

**Kalisz, Poland, November 12, 2021 (JTA/PAP news agency):** Polish nationalists **shouted “death to Jews” as they burned a book representing a historic pact protecting the rights of Poland’s Jews.** The book
burning at a rally in Kalisz, situated 120 miles southwest of Warsaw, was part of a series of nationalist events on November 11, National Independence Day, which is the anniversary of when Poland regained its sovereignty in 1918. Videos and eyewitness accounts on social media show that Wojciech Olszański, a far-right activist, lit a red-covered book that was meant to symbolize the Statute of Kalisz. The document issued in 1264 by Prince Bolesław the Pious regulated the legal status of Jews living in Poland and afforded some protection through penalizing attacks on them. The statute served as the legal foundation for relations between non-Jews and Jews in Poland for centuries later. Olszański poured a flammable liquid on the book that had been skewered on a sharp metal object and lit the book on fire as the crowd cheered and shouted, “Death to Jews.” Some also chanted: “No to Polin, yes to Poland.” “Polin” is both the Hebrew-language name for Poland and the name of the main Jewish museum in Warsaw. “This is a scary and symbolically important event,” said Rafal Pankowski, a leader of Poland’s Never Again anti-racism group. He compared the rally to the burning of books in Nazi Germany, including on the Kristallnacht pogroms in 1938. The pogroms’ 83rd anniversary was Wednesday. “Having monitored antisemitism for more than 25 years, I have never seen anything like that,” Pankowski told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Police are studying the footage.

**Europe, November 10, 2021 (Agence France-Presse):** A new report by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) finds that antisemitism has grown during the coronavirus pandemic. As well as old lies being revived, “new antisemitic myths and conspiracy theories that blame Jews for the pandemic have come to the fore,” said the report. At the same time, the agency’s own research showed that antisemitic acts were consistently underreported. The lack of data on the issue made it harder to tackle the problem. “Antisemitism is a serious problem,” FRA director Michael O’Flaherty said in a statement introducing the report. “But without the data, we do not know how serious it is.” EU countries need to encourage reporting of such incidents and improve the recording and collection of the data, he added.

**Lyon, France, November 9, 2021 (Jerusalem Post):** French police arrested a teenager who brandished a machete with a 2-foot-long blade outside the College/Lycee Juive de Lyon, a Jewish high school while shouting antisemitic slogans. He also hurled marbles at students in the school and called them “dirty Jews” as he waved the knife, according to reports. The incident comes as French Jews and French schools are both on high alert after a series of deadly incidents. Jewish leaders in France see a 2012 killing of three children and a rabbi at a Jewish school in Toulouse as the beginning of a wave of antisemitic attacks by Islamic jihadists that have killed at least 12 Jews and more than 200 others since then.

**Historical Event, Sutherland Springs, Texas, November 5, 2017 (Delaware Valley Intelligence Center, Philadelphia, PA (Situational Awareness)):** Wearing tactical gear and a ballistic vest, Devin Patrick Kelley, opened fire at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, killing 26 people and injuring 22.

**Historical Event, Springfield, Massachusetts, Historical Event, November 5, 2008 ((Delaware Valley Intelligence Center, Philadelphia, PA (Situational Awareness)):** Michael Jacques, Thomas Gleason, and Benjamin Haskell burned down an African-American Church, the Macedonia Church of God in Christ, in Springfield, Massachusetts, hours after Barack Obama was elected President. They doused the partially constructed building with gasoline and a massive blaze gutted the building.

**Nationwide, November 3, 2021 (House Intelligence Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Counterintelligence, and Counterproliferation/Reuters):** U.S. law enforcement and security agencies believe domestic extremists, notably white supremacists, pose a violent threat in the United States similar to that of Islamic State militants, top U.S. security officials told Congress. Concern about racially motivated domestic extremists had prompted the FBI to elevate the threat to a level equal with that posed by the Islamist militants. The bureau was conducting around 2,700 investigations related to domestic violent
extremism, and there had been 18 lethal attacks targeting U.S. religious institutions in which 70 people had died in recent years. Timothy Langan, Assistant Director, Counterterrorism Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, testified to the nature of the threat posed by terrorism — both international and domestic, highlighting that the greatest terrorism threat to our Homeland today is posed by lone actors or small cells who typically radicalize online and look to attack soft targets, such as houses of worship, with easily accessible weapons. Whether Domestic Violent Extremists (DVE), inspired by racial or ethnic bias, or Homegrown Violent Extremists inspired primarily by foreign terrorist groups, the FBI urges private sector partners to remain vigilant in light of the persistent threats in order to effectively protect against domestic violent extremist threats and terrorist attacks in the United States. John Cohen, Counterterrorism Coordinator and Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, also testified that racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (RMVEs), including those who advocate for the superiority of the white race, present the most lethal DVE threats, with RMVEs most likely to conduct mass-casualty attacks against civilians. Among increasingly likely targets, he highlighted houses of worship. And as Timothy Langan called for vigilance in the nonprofit sector, John Cohen warned that lone actors, who are increasingly choosing soft, familiar targets for their attacks, limits the ability of law enforcement to detect and disrupt their attacks.

Nationwide, November 3, 2021 (House Homeland Security Committee): Jen Easterly, Director, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, testified that while cyber intrusions and ransomware dominate the recent headlines, physical threats to our people and our critical infrastructure remain a top concern. Terrorism, mass shootings, and other forms of targeted violence continue to threaten our schools, houses of worship and other soft targets and crowded places, she testified. According to the Department of Justice’s U.S. Bomb Data Center, in 2020 alone, there were more than 12,000 explosive-related incidents and more than a 70% increase in domestic bombings. Director Easterly warned that, “These types of physical threats can cause mass casualties, lead to hundreds of millions of dollars in damage, and cause cascading damage across vital physical and cyber infrastructure. From a broader perspective, as modern threats become more sophisticated, it is important to stay vigilant and take proactive measures to enhance the security and resilience of our communities and critical infrastructure.”

Austin, Texas, November 3, 2021 (Austin American-Statesman): Arson investigators are seeking public assistance in identifying a man they believe set a fire at a Jewish synagogue in Central Austin. Austin firefighters said the man was seen on security video carrying a 5-gallon fuel container Sunday night as he walked onto the campus of Congregation Beth Israel, a Reform Jewish temple. He then left the synagogue still carrying the container and drove away. Firefighters put out a fire to the doors and portico of the sanctuary. It is reported that reopening the synagogue will take weeks because of smoke damage, and replacement of the large wooden doors to the sanctuary, which were burned beyond repair. The FBI is also investigating the arson attack. This was one in a spate of antisemitic incidents in recent weeks across Travis County.

Nationwide, November 1, 2021 (Amtrak Police Department, Office of Intelligence/Axios): Houses of worship across a variety of faiths, whether Jewish, Buddhist temples, Muslim, or Catholic, are experiencing high amounts of vandalism, arson, and other property damage. 2021 is on track to exceed last year’s spike in hate crimes in the U.S., many of them linked to religious bigotry. The number of hate crimes reported in FY 2020 was the highest since 2001, when a wave of Islamophobia followed the 9/11 attacks, according to updated FBI data released 25 Oct. One Catholic organization said recently that it has now recorded 100 acts of hate against Catholic sites in the U.S. since May of 2020. Earlier this summer, Canada saw more than a dozen arson attacks on churches, following the discovery of mass graves near Catholic-run residential schools that had housed indigenous children. NYC experienced almost as many
antisemitic hate crimes during a three-week period in May than in the whole first quarter of the year, coinciding with heightened tensions between Israel and Palestine. Historically African American churches experienced property damage in retaliation for Black Lives Matter protests, and a Buddhist temple in Los Angeles was set on fire as a result of anti-Asian hate.

Washington, DC, November 1, 2021 (Jewish Press): Several Jewish texts, including a replica Torah scroll, were damaged in a break in at the Alpha-Pi Chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, housed on the George Washington University campus. Many members of the fraternity are Jewish. According to a report in the school newspaper, “the Torah scroll was one of several religious texts that belongs to the chapter, which usually uses them to swear in new members of the fraternity.” It went on to say that other religious texts were left undisturbed. In a statement, president of the university Thomas LeBlanc said he is “appalled by the anti-Semitic vandalism that occurred at the TKE fraternity house, especially the desecration of the Torah scroll. ... I want to be clear: I condemn all such acts of anti-Semitism and all forms of hatred, discrimination and bias in our community... .” The incident comes just days after a release of a report on anti-Semitism on campus by Hillel International and the Anti-Defamation League which found 32 percent of Jewish college students were targeted in anti-Semitic incidents.

New York, New York, November 1, 2021 (The Algemeiner/New York Daily News): The Supreme Court of Brooklyn has convicted James Vincent, 44, of strangulation and assault as a hate crime for his attack on Rabbi Menachem Moskowitz, 52. The assault took place after Moskowitz, a father-of-nine, left a synagogue. Vincent ran up behind Moskowitz and began choking and punching the rabbi while yelling antisemitic slurs. Moskowitz suffered a black eye and fractured ribs before bystanders stopped the attack.

Toledo, Ohio, October 31, 2021 (The George Washington University Program on Extremism/Extremism Tracker): Damon M. Joseph, aka Abdullah Ali Yusuf, a 23-year-old resident of Holland, Ohio, was sentenced in the Northern District of Ohio to 20 years in prison for attempting to provide material support to IS and attempting to commit a hate crime. Joseph admitted to plotting an attack on a synagogue in the Toledo, Ohio area. Beginning in September 2018, Joseph began engaging in online communications with individuals he believed to be IS supporters in which he affirmed his support for the group and produced propaganda he believed would be used in their recruitment efforts. Following this, Joseph met with undercover FBI agents and discussed conducting a mass shooting at a synagogue, stating he wanted to kill a rabbi. Joseph took numerous steps in furtherance of this plot, including identifying a specific synagogue, and conducting research to determine when the most people would be present at the synagogue. Joseph was arrested upon taking possession of firearms which had been rendered inoperable.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 31, 2021 (The George Washington University Program on Extremism/Extremism Tracker): Mustafa Mousab Alowemer, a 23-year-old resident of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, pleaded guilty in the Western District of Pennsylvania to attempting to provide material support to IS. In pleading, Alowemer admitted to plotting to bomb a church in Pittsburgh using an explosive device. Alowemer stated that he was motivated to commit the attack to support IS, and that he wanted to take revenge for “our ISIS brothers in Nigeria.” In furtherance of the plot, Alowemer distributed instructional documents related to the construction of explosive devices, purchased nails and acetone for use in the construction of an improvised explosive device. Alowemer met with FBI undercover employees to discuss details of the plot, during which Alowemer provided satellite maps with identifying markings and a handwritten plan outlining the details of his plot to deliver the improvised explosive device to the church in a backpack. Alowemer was arrested following a final planning meeting with FBI undercover employees.

Fife, Scotland, October 29, 2021 (BBC News): The case of a white supremacist who idolized right-wing mass killers has caused “anxiety and fear” among Scotland's Muslim communities. 24-year-old Sam Imrie,
from Glenrothes, was convicted of **terrorism charges for posting messages online saying he was planning to set fire to the Fife Islamic Centre.** During the trial, the High Court in Edinburgh was told that Imrie, a loner, became "steeped" in right-wing ideology and started to "hate" Muslims after looking at extremist content on websites such as 8Chan and messaging app Telegram. Imrie had posted a comment online about how he was thinking about carrying out an attack and was considering live-streaming it. Evidence presented at trial supported the allegation that Imrie was inspired by the far right activist who slaughtered Muslim praying at their mosques in New Zealand, in 2019.

**Providence, Rhode Island, October 25, 2021 (WPRI-12 News/CBS):** Police are investigating after the Open Table of Christ Church was hit by several bullets. Officers responded to after an employee discovered a bullet had pierced one of the building’s windows, according to police. That bullet was found lodged into the wall of the church’s library. Police said two more rounds hit the exterior of the brick building while another struck a nearby dumpster. Pastor Sunmin Cho said the bullet hole in the window wasn’t discovered until after Sunday’s service had ended.

**Denver, Colorado, October 18, 2021 (Colorado Sun):** A Jewish private school, Denver Academy of the Torah, had windows smashed and its electricity cut off (damaged the school’s electrical equipment), officials said. Additional antisemitic vandalism and other messages of hate and in tolerance occurred at George Washington High School, also in Denver. Swastikas and hate speech were spray painted on the main school, athletic fields and building equipment and on the surface of the outdoor running track, according to a statement from JEWISHcolorado (the local Jewish Federation), a nonprofit that connects and supports members of the Jewish community and that operates a student club at George Washington High School. It was an “extensive act of vandalism,” JEWISHcolorado regional security advisor Phil Niedringhaus said in the statement after visiting the school. Within a few blocks of George Washington are Temple Emanuel, the Jewish Community Center, the Mizel Museum, observant neighborhoods and other centers of east Denver’s Jewish community.

**New York, New York, October 17, 2021 (PIX-11 New York):** Police arrested Sharee Jones, 39, after she allegedly poured gasoline along the front gate and lawn of a Brooklyn yeshiva (school) and lit it on fire. She is charged with reckless endangerment as a hate crime and arson charges. Her actions were captured on surveillance video and a security guard for the school rushed over and doused out the flames with water. The State Police Hate Crimes Task Force will assist the NYPD in its investigation.

**Malmö, Sweden, October 16, 2021 (Jerusalem Post/Dagens Nyheter Swedish newspaper):** Swedish police are investigating how the words “the Holocaust was a scam” were projected onto the main synagogue in Malmö while that city was holding an international forum on combating antisemitism. The projection was seen on the Synagogue of Malmö and on other buildings in cities across southern Sweden, the day of the Malmö International Forum on Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism. The Nordic Resistance Movement, a neo-Nazi group, **claimed responsibility for the incident.** Police are handling the case as a hate crime. With a Jewish population that has dwindled to about 500, the city known for its high rates of antisemitism. Malmö’s only synagogue, community center (houses a kindergarten, meeting halls and apartments) and cemetery have been the targets of antisemitic attacks from explosives to bricks over the past decade. (Sources: Haaretz, “Attack on Jewish Community in Sweden Follows Surge of Hate Crimes,” September 28, 2012; ADL, “Global Anti-Semitism: Selected Incidents 2010,” September 10, 2012)

**Nationwide, October 14, 2021 (Arutz Sheva 7, Israeli National News):** The ADL continues its criticism of the Gab social media network and is calling on the FBI to investigate the platform for allegedly allowing anti-Semitic content to be uploaded without restriction. Gab CEO Andrew Torba has vowed never to censor comments on the platform. According to Jonathan Greenblatt, ADL’s National Director and CEO,
“Gab is not moderating this extremist content, and their CEO seems to be encouraging users to upload it.” The platform came to national attention in 2018, when it was revealed that Robert Gregory Bowers, the gunman responsible for the deadly shooting attack at a Pittsburgh synagogue, had hinted at the shooting in a post uploaded to Gab shortly before the attack.

New York, New York, October 14, 2021 (The Patch/Spectrum News 1/JTA/New York Post): A BB gun shooting in Crown Heights has drawn the attention of top NYPD officials after community members expressed their fear. A 23-year-old man wearing traditional Jewish clothing was shot with a BB gun by a suspect in a moving car. The pellets grazed his head. The NYPD’s Hate Crimes Task Force has been notified.

Washington State, October 13, 2021 (Washington State Fusion Center (WFSC)): According to the 2021 Washington State Annual Threat Assessment, the WFSC assesses with high confidence that acts of terrorism and violent extremism very likely could occur in Washington State with little or no warning and expect to see additional threats directed at houses of worship and other critical infrastructure throughout the remainder of 2021 and into 2022. This assessment is informed by research and analysis of information received from other state fusion centers, local, state, federal, tribal, and private sector partners, cybersecurity partner agencies, finished intelligence products, open-source information, and news media reporting.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 12, 2021 (Associated Press): Pittsburgh police officers who responded to the October 2018 Tree of Life synagogue massacre told a judge that defendant Robert Bowers made several references to killing Jews. Federal prosecutors played dozens of snippets from police radio transmissions from the scene, including one in which Officer Stephen Mescan said: “Suspect is talking about ‘all these Jews need to die.’” Bowers faces more than 60 federal charges, including hate crimes violations, obstruction of religious belief and the use of a firearm during a crime of violence, has pleaded not guilty. Authorities allege Bowers, 49, perpetrated the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history, killing 11 Jewish congregants. He also wounded seven, including five police officers. Officer Clint Thimons testified Bowers told him, “he’s had enough and that Jews are killing our children and the Jews had to die.” A third officer, David Blahut, said that after being taken into custody Bowers told him that “these people are committing genocide on my people and I want to kill Jews.” Investigators say Bowers opened fire with an AR-15 rifle and other weapons during worship services inside the building, killing eight men and three women. Three separate congregations — Tree of Life, Dor Hadash, and New Light — were conducting Sabbath services in different areas of the large building in Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood when the attack happened.

Denver, Colorado, October 11, 2021 (Catholic News Agency/Boulder Jewish News): The Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Denver was spray-painted with anti-Catholic slogans, the third time the cathedral has been targeted since July and the latest in a series of vandalism incidents against Catholic buildings in Colorado. Archdiocese of Denver spokesman Mark Haas said since February 2020, at least 25 parishes or ministry locations in northern Colorado are known to have been the target of vandalism, property destruction, or theft. Through its contacts at the Archdiocese and the Colorado Catholic Conference, JEWISHcolorado has offered its support, including from its Secure Community Network (SCN) Regional Security Advisor.

Albany, New York, October 11, 2021 (NBC 13 Albany): Albany police have given the all-clear after a bomb threat at the Jewish Community Center. Albany police say the threat came by email, which led to an evacuation of the building. This is not the first bomb threat terrorizing the Albany JCC. A similar incident targeting the JCC occurred in February 2020. At that time CNN reported that the incident represented the latest in a growing number of anti-Semitic threats and attacks in New York and around the country, including some 42 anti-Semitic incidents in New York State in the past couple of months, according to
then-Governor Cuomo. (Source: CNN, “New York Jewish center cleared after bomb threat; governor says multiple centers threatened,” February 23, 2020)

Santa Monica, California, October 8, 2021 (The Algemeiner): Antisemitic graffiti was found drawn on the car windows of the Chabad rabbi serving as a mentor to the Jewish students at Santa Monica College, a public community college home to over 32,000 students. The car was parked in the Chabad parking lot when a large swastika and a Star of David followed by the words “Is Illegal” were found scrawled on the front-left window and back window of his sedan. Commenting on the incident, the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center called the drawings “despicable acts of antisemitism meant to demonize and degrade Jews.”

New York, New York, October 8, 2021 (Riverdale Press): A grand jury has indicted Jordan Burnette, 30, on a 76-count indictment that includes criminal trespass, criminal mischief, aggravated harassment, burglary, and petty larceny — many of them charged additionally as hate crimes for allegedly breaking windows and wreaking havoc and other damage at four different synagogues over a three-day period. Riverdale Jewish Center, the first target of his attack, was one of two Riverdale synagogues targeted by homegrown violent extremists for terrorist attack in June 2009. James Cromitie, aka Abdul Rahman, aka Abdul Rehman; David Williams, aka Daoud, aka DL; Onta Williams, aka Hamza; and Laguerre Payen, aka Amin, aka Almando, were found guilty of plotting to use improvised explosive devices to bomb the synagogues. (Sources: FBI, New York Field Office, “Four Men Found Guilty of Plotting to Bomb New York Synagogue and Jewish Community Center and to Shoot Military Planes with Stinger Missiles,” October 18, 2010)

Poway, California, October 1, 2021 (JTA/Associated Press): The man who opened fire at a synagogue in Poway, California, in 2019 will spend the rest of his life in prison. The shooter, who attacked the Chabad of Poway with an automatic rifle on the last day of Passover, killed one person, Lori Gilbert Kaye, and injured three, including the synagogue rabbi and a child. He turned himself into police following the shooting and pleaded guilty to federal and state charges this year. The guilty pleas allowed John Earnest to avoid a death sentence, and at his state sentencing, he received life without parole. His federal sentencing will take place in December. Minutes after the shooting, Earnest called a 911 dispatcher to say he shot up the synagogue to save white people. “I’m defending our nation against the Jewish people, who are trying to destroy all white people,” he said. The San Diego man was inspired by mass shootings at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh and two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, shortly before he attacked Chabad of Poway, a synagogue near San Diego, on April 27, 2019. He frequented 8chan, a dark corner of the internet, for those disaffected by mainstream social media sites to post extremist, racist and violent views. Earnest legally bought a semi-automatic rifle in San Diego a day before the attack, according to a federal affidavit. He entered the synagogue with 10 bullets loaded and 50 more on his vest.

Glasgow, Scotland, October 1, 2021 (Glasgow Live): A Catholic Primary school in Glasgow’s south side has been targeted by vandals making Nazi graffiti. St. Alberts in Pollokshields was found to have a red swastika painted on its wall, with other extremist markings. Staff were left deeply disturbed and reported the incident to local police who are investigating the matter. They say that the school is an ”important resource” for the local community.

Nationwide, September 29, 2021 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Washington): The leader of a Neo-Nazi hate group ‘Atomwaffen’ was convicted in U.S. District Court in Seattle of five federal felonies for his conspiracy to send threatening messages to Jewish or journalists of color and employees of the Anti-Defamation League, an American-based nonprofit organization that fights antisemitism and hate and promotes social justice for all. Kaleb Cole, 25, of Montgomery, Texas, was
convicted of conspiracy, three counts of mailing threatening communications, and one count of interfering with a federally protected activity.

**Fort Lauderdale, Florida, September 29, 2021 (WPLG Local 10 Miami):** A South Florida man known to post online about starting a race-based civil war in the United States was sentenced to 41 months in federal prison. Paul Miller, 33 of Fort Lauderdale, had pled guilty to charges of **possessing a firearm as a convicted felon in 2018, possessing ammunition as a convicted felon in 2021, and possessing an unregistered short-barreled rifle in 2021.** According to the arrest affidavit, a federal search warrant conducted at Miller’s address led to law enforcement finding firearm parts that could be assembled into an unregistered short-barreled rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition. The Anti-Defamation League had identified Miller as a “volatile white supremacist-accelerationist,” citing videos across several online platforms where he was seen taunting with vulgar language, anti-Semitic rants, racial and other hate speech.

**Los Angeles, California, September 28, 2021 (Jewish Journal/The Algemeiner):** The Los Angeles Police Department’s Major Crimes Division is investigating an **attempted car-ramming into a crowd of people attending a Jewish holiday concert celebrating Sukkot.** About 300 to 400 attended the event at Congregation Shaarei Tefila synagogues. According to security personnel at the religious celebration, the suspect made derogatory remarks about Jews outside of the event and returned with his vehicle approximately 20 minutes later and attempted to run over Jews at the event. According to witnesses, “He slammed the gas to full throttle down an alley full of people. People had to jump out of the way or they would have been run over... it **appeared he was targeting a woman and her teenage daughter.** The car stopped short in front of the metal gates, as he screamed ‘F the Jews.’ He then turned his car around and left.” A crowd of about 20 to 30 people managed to jump out of the path of the vehicle before it stopped.

**Nationwide, September 24, 2021 (CBS News):** A power vacuum in the QAnon Telegram community is being exploited by extremists and conspiracists, according to a new report from the ADL. GhostEzra is one of the most popular QAnon channels on Telegram. From January through August, the account amassed over 300,000 followers and **posted a wide spectrum of COVID-19 conspiracies and antisemitic memes; published the personal information of Jewish executives and CEOs; and often encouraged violence.** The average QAnon account has no more than a few thousand subscribers. Only a handful of the largest neo-Nazi channels have more than 10,000. Few are as big as GhostEzra. Accounts advancing conspiracy theories proliferate across the messaging service because extremists can use the service without fear of deplatforming.

**Youngstown, Ohio, September 23, 2001 (NBC -WFMJ 21):** 22-year-old James Reardon was sentenced 40 to 41 months in prison in connection to **threats made against the Youngstown Jewish Community Center.** Reardon plead guilty to posting a video on Instagram showing him firing multiple rounds. The caption under the post read "Police identified the Youngstown Jewish Family Community shooter as white nationalist Seamus O’Reardon," leading to his arrest. Several agencies searched and **confiscated two AR-15's, a rifle with a bayonet, a 40 caliber anti-tank gun and knives** in the home of Reardon’s mother. Youngstown Area Jewish Federation CEO Andrew Lipkin released the following statement that stated in part, “the threats posed to the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown were traumatic to not only staff, members, and guests, but to the entire Jewish community. The JCC is the most visible and most visited agency of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, and serves as the hub of the Valley’s Jewish life as well as the corporate offices of the Federation. Words, particularly hateful words, matter, and Mr. Reardon’s shattered our communal security.”
New York, New York, September 21, 2021 (New York Post): A 23-year-old man standing in front of Congregation Bnai Usher Tenka, an Orthodox synagogue in Borough Park, Brooklyn, was approached by another man passing by who made anti-Semitic comments and threatened to blow up a Brooklyn synagogue. Police released surveillance photos of the suspect at the NYPD’s Hate Crimes Task Force is investigating.

Nationwide, September 20, 2021 (JTA): A survey of members of AEpi and AEPhi, the most prominent national Jewish fraternity and sorority, found that large numbers of respondents have experienced antisemitism on campus. More than 60% of students in AEpi and AEPhi said that at some point, they have felt unsafe as Jews on campus or in virtual campus settings. Most of both groups said they’re worried about verbal attacks, and about a third of each group said they’re worried about online harassment or being “marginalized or penalized” by a professor, according to the survey. About one in six respondents feared a physical attack. The survey also found that about half of respondents have felt the need to hide their Jewish identity on campus or in virtual campus settings. The survey was commissioned by the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, a legal organization that aids Jewish and pro-Israel college students. The survey was conducted last April, before the spike in antisemitism in the United States surrounding the Israel-Gaza conflict the following month.

Kansas and Missouri, September 20, 2021 (NPRKCUR in Kansas City): The FBI’s most recent data show Missouri, Kansas, and the rest of the country experienced a substantial increase in hate crimes reported in 2020. In Missouri, 115 hate crimes were reported, up 29% from 2019. Kansas saw an even bigger bump, with a 65% increase. There were 124 hate crimes reported, which was the most in Kansas since at least 1990. The figures don’t surprise Gavriella Geller, director of the Jewish Community Relations Bureau and the American Jewish Committee in Kansas City, who expects 2021 numbers to be even higher. “That is generally the trajectory that we’ve been on for several years now,” Geller said. “Whenever you see periods of social or economic anxiety, there’s going to be efforts to pin down blame on scapegoat groups.” Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the racial reckoning spurred by the police killing of George Floyd, Geller said African Americans, people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent, Jews and Muslims have all found themselves on the receiving end of hate.

According to the FBI’s 2020 numbers, Kansas had 28 hate crimes motivated by the offender’s bias against religion, including 10 anti-Eastern Orthodox, six anti-Jewish and four anti-Sikh crimes. Missouri had five anti-Islamic, three anti-Sikh and two anti-Jewish crimes reported, with 14 total anti-religion crimes reported for the year. Hate crime statistics are notoriously difficult to collect, and some community leaders in Kansas City expect the true numbers are much higher. “Despite a national rise in reported hate crimes, underreporting remains a severe obstacle to the investigation of these incidents, leading to a lack of accountability for bias-motivated offenses that can intimidate, isolate, and terrorize entire communities,” Aaron Ahlquist, ADL Southern Division policy director, told KCUR in an email.

Union Vale, New York, September 20, 2021 (Jerusalem Post/New York State Police/Mid Hudson News): An off-duty New York City police officer has been arrested after he allegedly broke into Camp Young Judea on the second day of Rosh Hashanah, September 8th. Matthew McGrath, 37, was arrested and charged with felony burglary and criminal mischief after he allegedly smashed windows, destroyed the camp director’s residence, and extensively damaged the property.

San Diego, California, September 17, 2021 (DoJ.US Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of California): John T. Earnest of Rancho Penasquitos pleaded guilty in federal court today to a 113-count hate crimes indictment, admitting that he set fire to an Escondido mosque and opened fire in a Poway synagogue because he wanted to kill Muslims and Jews. The religiously- and racially-motivated attacks resulted in the murder of one person and the attempted murders of 53 others. According to the plea agreement and other court documents, after several weeks of planning, Earnest drove to the Chabad of
Poway synagogue, where members of the congregation were gathered for religious worship. Earnest entered the building armed with a Smith and Wesson M&P 15 assault rifle that was fully loaded with a 10-round magazine. He wore a chest rig which contained five additional magazines, each loaded with ten rounds of ammunition. Earnest opened fire, killing one person (Lori Gilbert Kaye) and injuring three other members of the congregation, including a then 8-year-old child. After Earnest emptied his initial magazine, several congregants rushed at Earnest. Earnest fled in his car and, shortly after, called 911 and confessed that he had “just shot up a synagogue.” Earnest was apprehended by local law enforcement who found the rifle and additional ammunition in his car. Investigators found a manifesto written by Earnest and posted on the Internet shortly before the attack. In the manifesto, Earnest made many anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim statements, including “I can only kill so many Jews” and “I only wish I killed more.” Earnest wrote that he was inspired by the Tree of Life synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the shootings at two mosques in New Zealand. Earnest also admitted that he attempted to set fire to the Dar-ul-Arqam mosque in Escondido, California because of his hatred of Muslims and the religious character of the building. Seven missionaries were asleep in the mosque at the time of the attack, but no one was injured.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, September 16, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania): Mustafa Mousab Alowemer, 23, of Pittsburgh pleaded guilty to one count of attempting to provide material support to ISIS in relation to his plan to attack a church. According to court documents, Alowemer plotted to bomb a church located on the north side of Pittsburgh using an explosive device. His stated motivation to conduct such an attack was to support the cause of ISIS and to inspire other ISIS supporters in the United States to join together and commit similar acts in the name of ISIS. Alowemer also targeted the church to “take revenge for our [ISIS] brothers in Nigeria.” Alowemer was aware that numerous people in the proximity of the church could be killed by the explosion. In his planning, Alowemer purchased several items, including nails and acetone (nail polish remover) with the belief that they were necessary to assemble a destructive device and with the intention they be used to construct the explosives that would be detonated in the vicinity of the church. He also printed Google satellite maps, which included hand-written markings identifying the church and routes of arrival and escape. Alowemer also wrote and provided a 10-point handwritten plan outlining details related to his plot to personally deliver explosives in a backpack.

Nationwide, September 16, 2021 (Department of Homeland Security): The Department of Homeland security assesses that some individuals involved in or opposed to the “Justice for J6” rally planned for 18 September at Union Square in Washington, DC may seek to engage in violence. In early September, social media users discussed using the rally to target local Jewish institutions and “liberal churches,” while law enforcement is distracted that day.

Hagen, Germany, September 16, 2021 (13 ABC WHAM/Associated Press/ Der Spiegel news magazine/DPA news agency/France 24): German security officials detained four people in connection with a suspected planned Islamic extremist attack on a synagogue in the western city of Hagen. The detentions took place on Yom Kippur, the holiest day in Judaism, and two years after a deadly attack targeting a synagogue in the German city of Halle the Yom Kippur holiday. (In the Halle attack, an armed right-wing extremist tried, but failed, to force his way into the synagogue with 52 worshippers inside. When the door held, he shot dead two people nearby and injured two others as he fled.) According to news reports, a foreign intelligence service tipped off German security officials about the threat based on an online chat where one of the suspects discussed planning an attack with explosives on a Hagen synagogue. The interior minister of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, where Hagen is located,

24 DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Intelligence in Brief, “Prospects for Violence at “Justice for J6” Rally in Washington, DC,” 16 September 2021 (IA-54468-21)
confirmed that there was an attack threat. Dozens of police officers secured the building and a service planned to mark Yom Kippur, the holiest Jewish holiday, was cancelled at short notice.

**Toledo, Ohio, September 13, 2021 (Department of Justice/Office of Public Affairs):** Damon M. Joseph, aka Abdullah Ali Yusuf, 23, of Holland, Ohio, was sentenced to 20 years in prison for attempting to provide material support to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) and for planning to attack two synagogues in the Toledo area. According to Acting Assistant Attorney General Mark J. Lesko of the Justice Department’s National Security Division, “Inspired by ISIS, Damon Joseph planned to conduct a deadly terrorist attack at a synagogue in Ohio. He hoped to cause mass casualties by selecting a time when numerous innocent victims would be present.” According to the Department of Justice release, Joseph attempted to support ISIS through violent attacks on Jewish congregants, including children, and any first responders who sought to protect and assist them. According to statements Joseph made to undercover FBI personnel, he wanted to use AR 15s, AK 47, Glock handguns and ammunition to inflict mass casualties, he specifically wanted to kill a rabbi, and wanted to conduct the attack on the Jewish sabbath so that more people would be present.

**Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, September 13, 2021 (JTA):** Two separate threat incidents proximate to the Jewish high holy days have led to increased security measures and communal disruptions. Beth El Synagogue in St. Louis Park (Minneapolis) closed its doors and moved Shabbat services online after the regional offices of ADL Midwest in Chicago notified the congregation of a “a specific threat of violence” itreceived against the synagogue via its online incidence-report system. Specific details of the threat are not being released, with authorities citing an ongoing investigation. This synagogue threat occurred one day after 32 headstones were knocked down at the Chesed Shei Emes cemetery in St. Paul. As the high holy days continue, area synagogues and Jewish organizations are increasing security at their institutions in light of the threat.

**Bloomington, Minnesota, September 13, 2021 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Minnesota):** Emily Claire Hari, 50, f/k/a Michael Hari, was sentenced to 53 years in prison for the August 5, 2017, bombing of the Dar al-Farooq (DAF) Islamic Center. Hari was convicted by a federal jury on all five counts of the indictment, including intentionally defacing, damaging, and destroying religious property because of the religious character of that property; intentionally obstructing, and attempting to obstruct, by force and the threat of force, the free exercise of religious beliefs; conspiracy to commit federal felonies by means of fire and explosives; carrying and using a destructive device during and in relation to crimes of violence; and possession of an unregistered destructive device. As proven at trial, during the summer of 2017, Hari established a terrorist militia group called “The White Rabbits” in Clarence, Illinois. Hari recruited co-defendants Michael McWhorter and Joe Morris to join the militia, which Hari outfitted with paramilitary equipment and assault rifles. On August 4 and 5, 2017, Hari, McWhorter, and Morris drove in a rented pickup truck from Illinois to Bloomington, Minnesota, to bomb the DAF Islamic Center, using a 20-pound black powder pipe bomb together with a plastic container filled with a mixture of diesel fuel and gasoline. When the pipe bomb exploded, the blast caused extensive damage to the Imam’s office. It also ignited the gasoline and diesel mixture, causing extensive fire and smoke damage. At the time of the bombing, several worshipers were gathered in the mosque for morning prayers. Hari targeted DAF specifically to terrorize Muslims into believing they are not welcome in the United States and should leave the country. In handing down a 53-year sentence, United States District Judge Donovan W. Frank described the attack orchestrated by Hari as a highly sophisticated and premeditated act of domestic terrorism.

**Buxton, Maine/Nationwide, September 13, 2021 (Bangor Daily News):** Brian Dennison, 24, allegedly threatened in his Twitter feed “to kill Jews with my AR-15” during the High Holy Days, has been charged in federal court in Portland with transmitting threatening interstate communication. He also said he was
building a pipe bomb, according to documents filed in U.S. District Court in Portland. Dennison posted the threat on September 8, the second day of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. According to Dennison’s parents, their son owns “a few pistols and rifles, including an AR-15-style rifle.” They also said that Dennison “had been obsessed with Jews for about three years, and that he believed Jews were responsible for all of his problems,” and that “They said they had many concerning conversations with Brian regarding Jews,” according to a court affidavit.

Framingham, Massachusetts, September 9, 2021 (MetroWest Daily News): Two hand-sized swastikas were found carved into a wooden sign at the Temple Beth Sholom synagogue in the midst of the high holiday season. The Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, began on September 8th.

Nationwide, September 7, 2021 (Department of Homeland Security): The relocation of Afghan nationals to the United States likely exacerbates Domestic Violent Extremist grievances associated with Muslim communities and could lead some to commit violence. Some Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist-White Supremacists are posting content blaming the Jewish community for the relocation of Afghan nationals. A suspected RMVE-WS has called for an arson attack on a Jacksonville, Florida-based nonprofit organization involved in Afghan resettlement, according to nongovernment organization reporting.

Germany, September 3, 2021 (The Algemeiner): Germany’s president Frank-Walter Steinmeier delivered a Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) message to Germany’s Jewish community filled with concern for the community’s safety and security. Steinmeier remarked that two years after the Halle atrocity, “Jews in Germany continue to be ridiculed, belittled, violently attacked.” On October 9, 2019, neo-Nazi Stephan Balliet drove to the Halle synagogue as more than 50 worshipers inside the sanctuary held services to mark Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar. Balliet was equipped with eight firearms, several explosive devices, a helmet, and a protective vest for the attack. After failing to break through the synagogue’s locked entrance despite exploding a grenade, Balliet shot dead a 40-year-old female passerby. After additional violent attempts to force his way inside the temple, Balliet drove to a Muslim-owned restaurant and shot dead a 20-year-old man he believed to be a Muslim. According to German federal government figures released in February, at least 2,275 crimes with an antisemitic background were logged over a 12-month period ending in January 2021. Steinmeier asserted that antisemitic conspiracy theories fueled by the COVID-19 pandemic were gaining momentum. “It pains me and makes me angry that antisemitic hatred and anti-Jewish agitation are showing themselves so openly — in Germany, of all places,” the president said.

Nationwide, September 2, 2021 (CTV News Canada/CNN): As the United States-backed government in Afghanistan fell to the Taliban and U.S. troops raced to leave the country, white supremacist extremists expressed admiration for what the Taliban accomplished, a worrying development for U.S. officials who have been grappling with the threat of domestic violent extremism. Several concerning trends have emerged in recent weeks on online platforms commonly used by white supremacist and other domestic violent extremist groups, including "framing the activities of the Taliban as a success," and a model for those who believe in the need for a civil war in the US, according to the head of the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Intelligence and Analysis, John Cohen. Cohen expressed concerns that these narratives may incite violent activities directed at immigrant communities and certain faith communities. Neo-Nazi and violent accelerationists -- who hope to provoke what they see as an inevitable race war, which would lead to a Whites-only state -- in North America and Europe are praising the Taliban for its anti-Semitism, homophobia, and severe restrictions on women's freedom, the SITE Intelligence

25 DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Intelligence in Focus, “Possible Domestic Violent Extremist Responses to the Relocation of Afghan Nationals to the United States.” 7 September 2021 (IA-51281-21)
Group found. For example, a quote taken from the Proud Boy to Fascist Pipeline Telegram channel, said: "These farmers and minimally trained men fought to take back their nation back from globohomo. They took back their government, installed their national religion as law, and executed dissenters ... If white men in the west had the same courage as the Taliban, we would not be ruled by Jews currently," SITE found.

Nationwide, September 1, 2021 (NTIC Homeland Security Intelligence Digest - September 10, 2021/San Diego Law Enforcement Coordination Center Intelligence Bulletin (21-18)): A review of 17 disrupted domestic violent extremist (DVE) plots in the United States from June 2016 through July 2021 found that DVEs interested in plotting violent action using IEDs are more likely to construct simple devices from readily available supplies, rather than seeking to purchase a fully built device. The cases reviewed included many targeting faith-based communities: Mosque (Garden City, Kansas - October 2016); Religious Facilities (Oklee, Minnesota - October 2017); Muslim Community (Islamberg, New York - January 2019); Synagogue and Mosque (Brownsville, Texas - June 2019); Synagogue (Las Vegas, Nevada - August 2019); Synagogue (Pueblo, Colorado - November 2019); and Jewish Populations (Campbell, California - July 2021). Outlook: DVEs will likely continue to attempt to acquire commercially available explosive precursors and seek to build simple IEDs.

Nationwide, August 30, 2021 (DoJ, Office of Public Affairs/FBI): The FBI released its Hate Crime Statistics Report for 2020, an annual compilation of bias-motivated incidents throughout the nation. Hate crimes motivated by religious bias accounted for 1,331 single-bias offenses reported by law enforcement. While considered an undercount in reporting by the ADL (Anti-Defamation League) and others, the number of reported anti-Jewish bias offenses amounted to almost 60% of all anti-religious offenses reported, despite constituting a mere two percent of the population. The data also showed that Jews constitute the third-largest target of hate crimes out of all minorities in the entire country, more than, Hispanics, Muslims, Asians, and virtually all other groups. It was also the 24th consecutive year that anti-Jewish offenses amounted to the majority of all religious-biased offenses reported. Attorney General Merrick B. Garland issued a statement on the FBI’s announcement of the 2020 Hate Crimes Statistics, which said, in part, “These hate crimes and other bias-related incidents instill fear across entire communities and undermine the principles upon which our democracy stands. All people in this country should be able to live without fear of being attacked or harassed because of where they are from, what they look like, whom they love or how they worship.”

Boston, Massachusetts, August 26, 2021 (the algemeiner): The suspect in the stabbing of a Boston rabbi last month in what is believed to be an antisemitic hate crime will be arraigned on nine, including violating his victim’s constitutional rights. Rabbi Shlomo Noginski was stabbed outside a Jewish day school in Brighton, a suburb of Boston. His attacker, Khaled Awad, was caught by security cameras committing the attack, and arrested shortly after by police. Noginski was stabbed nine times in the assault, suffering serious wounds to his chest and arm. Awad appears to have cased the school, having been filmed in proximity to the institution the day before the attack. Former friends of Awad have testified that he was a violent antisemite.

Stratford, Connecticut, August 25, 2021 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Connecticut): A Blauvelt, New York, man was sentenced to 36 months of imprisonment, followed by three years of supervised release, for making antisemitic death threats to a Jewish resident of Stratford, Connecticut. According to court documents and statements made in court, in November 2019, Rascoll began to threaten a woman, who is Jewish, through numerous text messages, voicemails and Facebook posts. In several text messages

and voicemails, which continued until June 2020, Rascoll threatened to murder or seriously injure the victim. He also threatened to blow up the victim’s house and car. Some of Rascoll’s threatening text messages contained anti-Semitic references to the Holocaust. On December 23, 2019, the first day of Hannukah, Rascoll sent the victim a message that included the words “Sun’s about to go down. It would be a shame if your house were used to light the menorah. Or turned in a gas chamber.” On April 8, 2020, the first day of Passover, Rascoll wrote “I’m going to kill you. You better be gone because if you’re in [the victim’s housing community] Easter weekend I’m going to stick you in an oven. Or I’m going to shoot you . . . . I should send you to a concentration camp.” On June 26, 2020, only a few hours before he was located and arrested by the FBI, Rascoll left the victim a voicemail message stating, “The police are not going to help you. The courts are not going to help you. . . . I will kill you.”

Seattle and Nationwide, August 24, 2021 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office, Western District of Washington): Cameron Shea, 25, a leader of the neo-Nazi group Atomwaffen Division, was sentenced to 3 years in prison for federal conspiracy and hate crime charges for threatening journalists and advocates who worked to expose anti-Semitism. “The Justice Department will continue to aggressively prosecute threats motivated by religious intolerance, and to prosecute defendants like this one who threatened violence against individuals who work to end discrimination,” said Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke for the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division. “The Justice Department is committed to prosecuting to the full extent of the law, violent neo-Nazis and other perpetrators of hate crimes.” Shea and three co-defendants were charged with conspiring via an encrypted online chat group to identify journalists and advocates they wanted to threaten in retaliation for the victims’ work exposing anti-Semitism. The group focused primarily on those who are Jewish or journalists of color. The group created posters, which featured Nazi symbols, masked figures with guns and Molotov cocktails, and threatening messages, to deliver or mail to the journalists or advocates the group targeted. Shea pleaded guilty to one count of conspiring to commit three offenses against the United States: interference with federally protected activities because of religion; mailing threatening communications; and cyberstalking. He also pleaded guilty to one count of interfering with a federally protected activity because of religion.

Worldwide, August 24, 2021 (Jewish Insider): Popular, unrelated cultural references have been used to propagate antisemitism on the social media platform TikTok, according to a new report from the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, a London-based think tank that studies extremism and misinformation. The report highlights the surprising ways that TikTok users advance antisemitic narratives on the video-sharing application, which was the most downloaded app in the world in 2020. Content creators use code words and numbers, duplicate accounts, misspelled hashtags and more to evade detection on the platform. What makes TikTok so successful is its algorithm, which can hide the dangerous content from more mainstream users. Social media platforms have struggled in recent years to counter violent and hateful content, whose younger users may be less able to understand what is being said could or could not be true. More than half of users in the United States are under 30. This demographic presents a particular challenge in the realm of antisemitism. Recent studies show that American young adults know very little about the Holocaust. A September 2020 survey commissioned by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany found that 63% of millennials and Generation Z did not know that six million Jews were killed in the Holocaust, and 10% did not recall ever hearing the word “Holocaust” before. ISD found that antisemitism on TikTok manifested most frequently as Holocaust denial.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 24, 2021 (JTA): Hackers posting death threats, including “I’ll enter synagogues and kill everyone,” broke into the online mourning ceremony, known as a “shiva,” for a former Jewish school principal. “Death to Jews,” “I’ll explode,” “Sieg Heil” and “dirty Jews” were also part of the attack during the shiva session on Google Meet in honor of Dora Fraifeld, a beloved figure at the pluralistic Eliezer Max School for nearly 40 years. Fraifeld died last week. The hackers also used scenes of Adolf Hitler along with Nazi symbols and slogans, as well as pornography and loud music, in threatening Jewish
community members and institutions. The ceremony was held in partnership with the Associacao Religiosa Israelita, Rio’s largest synagogue with some 1,000 families. Known by the acronym ARI, the temple is affiliated with the Reform movement.

Cologne, Germany, August 23, 2021 (JTA/ Juedische Allgemeine Jewish weekly newspaper): An 18-year-old Jewish man wearing a kippah in Cologne, Germany, was beaten by a group of 10 attackers in a public green space and taken to the hospital with a broken nose and cheekbone. The attack was captured on surveillance video. Police arrested two suspects, ages 18 and 19, in what they are deeming an antisemitic hate crime. Frankfurt Rabbi Avichai Apel, speaking for the board of the Orthodox Rabbinical Conference of Germany (ORD), said that the age of the suspects was particularly worrying. “Young people in schools, educational institutions or other public institutions must be taught more about Jewish life,” he said.

Melbourne, Australia, August 23, 2021 (Sky News): Concern builds over a rise in anti-Jewish sentiment following Melbourne’s ‘Freedom Day’ rally. Victoria’s ongoing COVID-19 outbreak and extended lockdown has led to concerns of rising hate speech directed towards the Jewish community. “People are outright scapegoating and pointing the finger at the Jewish community for the extended lockdown,” Chairman of the Anti-Defamation Commission Dr Dvir Abramovich told Skynews.com.au. “People are exploiting public anxiety around the pandemic to promote this evil agenda” of age-old anti-Jewish tropes, he said. This includes harmful conspiracy theories such as Jews were responsible for the 911 attacks.

Long Beach, New York, August 22, 2021 (LI Herald): A 23-year-old man was arrested in connection with vandalizing an Orthodox synagogue. Long Beach Police Commissioner Ron Walsh identified the suspect as Hunter McElrath after police checked synagogue videos. Walsh said he had an extensive arrest record across the country. Two torahs (Jewish bibles) were missing and two others had been thrown to the floor. Torah crowns and religious silver chains were also missing. The attack on the synagogue came two weeks before the important holidays of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish year. Torahs cost between $50,000 and $60,000 each.

Nationwide, August 19, 2021 (Joint Violent Extremism Snapshot, Volume 1, Issue 1): White Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists (WRMVEs) use ‘White Boy Summer’ Meme to Incite Violent Action. A song by Chet Hanks, “White Boy Summer,” has been co-opted by accelerationist WRMVEs and has been used in memes, graphics, and songs inciting violent action. In particular, accelerationist WRMVEs have been sharing memorializing graphics of individuals who have carried out violent actions and have been honored by WRMVEs as Saints (i.e., Dylann Roof – a white supremacist, neo-Nazi and mass murderer convicted for perpetrating the Charleston church mass shooting on June 17, 2015), encouraging similar actions. Additionally, a popular WRMVE-aligned Telegram channel that produces racist music released an album on 30 July titled, “White Boy Summer,” which included the song “Gas Two Jews,” and which incited listeners to target faith-based and minority communities.

Berkely, California, August 18, 2021 (Berkelyside): A man police say went into a Berkeley synagogue and interrupted Sabbath services with antisemitic threats of violence has been charged with two hate crimes, according to court papers. The Alameda County district attorney’s office charged 37-year-old Anatoly Smolkin with disturbing religious meetings and civil rights violations, both of which are hate crimes, and disturbing the peace by offensive language. According to police, Smolkin entered Congregation Netivot Shalom and “threatened physical harm by yelling ‘call the police, Jews are going to pay for what you did

27 Central Florida Intelligence Exchange (CFIX) and the National Capital Region Threat Intelligence Consortium (NTIC), 19 August 2021 CFIX Product #21-08-88 | NTIC Product # 2021-08-020; Central Florida Intelligence Exchange review of publicly available and closed access WRMVE-aligned Telegram channels from June-July 2021.
“to me”” and “You are all going to burn, Jews are going to burn in hell.” The rant interrupted Saturday Shabbat services at the Berkeley synagogue and caused “fear and confusion on the part of the assembled members,” according to court papers. Police said Smolkin then tried to enter the property of a nearby Jewish community center, Chabad House, but was prevented from going inside.

**Great Britain, August 18, 2021 (Jewish News):** A man will face trial for allegedly setting up a website called “Radio Aryan” to distribute racist and anti-Semitic podcasts. James Allchurch, 49, is accused of regularly uploading banned content to the site claiming that black and white people in Britain are in a state of race war. He also posted material perpetrating racist tropes against Jewish people, it is claimed. The court heard that Radio Aryan had been in operation since 2015. Three charges against him relate to podcasts said to be antisemitic.

**Nationwide, August 13, 2021 (AP):** The upcoming 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks as well as approaching religious holidays could inspire extremist attacks, the Department of Homeland Security said in a terrorism alert. The alert noted that the U.S. is in a “heightened threat environment,” fueled by factors that include violent extremists motivated by racial and ethnic hatred and resentment of restrictions imposed during the pandemic. The Department of Homeland Security says domestic extremists remain a national threat priority for U.S. law enforcement and will for at least the remainder of the year. DHS also noted that domestic extremists motivated by religious and ethnic hatred have in the past attacked houses of worships and other gatherings. DHS expressed concern about both domestic extremists, motivated by “personal grievances and extremist ideological beliefs,” and foreign influences.

**Lincoln, England, August 13, 2021 (BBC News):** A "right-wing extremist" is facing jail after been found guilty of possessing a bomb-making instruction manual. Ben John, 21, was convicted of having a copy of The Anarchist Cookbook on a computer hard drive. Lincolnshire Police said the "radical publication" was found alongside "a wealth of white supremacist and anti-Semitic material." He was convicted by a jury of possessing information likely to be useful to a terrorist.

**France, August 13, 2021 (The Times (London)):** The French government has brought criminal action against a website that claimed Jews control the country and begins prosecution of a teacher who allegedly suggested that Macron was part of a Jewish plot. The government ordered the crackdown after incidents that showed how much the pandemic has fueled antisemitic tropes that have stained French history.

**Long Beach, California, August 12, 2021 (DoJ, Department of Public Affairs):** A federal jury convicted a California man for attempting to bomb a rally in Long Beach for the purpose of causing mass casualties. According to court documents and evidence presented at trial, Mark Steven Domingo, 28, of Reseda, was found guilty of providing material support to terrorism and attempting to use of a weapon of mass destruction. The investigation into Domingo was prompted by his online posts and conversations in an online forum in which he expressed support for violent jihad, a desire to seek retribution for attacks against Muslims and a willingness to become a martyr. After considering various attacks – including targeting Jewish people and churches – Domingo decided to bomb a rally scheduled to take place in Long Beach in April 2019. As part of the plot, Domingo asked a confederate – who was working with the FBI as part of the investigation – to invite a bomb-maker into the scheme. Domingo then purchased and provided to the confederate and the bomb-maker – who in fact was an undercover law enforcement officer – several hundred 3½-inch nails to be used as shrapnel for the bombs. Domingo specifically chose those nails because they were long enough to penetrate organs in the human body. According to the criminal complaint (US District Court, Central District of California, Case No: 2:19-MJ-01751-DUTY, 04/27/2019), Domingo discussed targeting the Jewish community with an FBI “online covert employee” (OCE). In discussing with the OCE how many people Domingo would like kill, Domingo wrote: “one [individual]? was more like a group theres a bunch of jews around this on street not alot of parking so theyre forced
to find parking to the synagogue." Later, Domingo also wrote that "the yahud go on saturday for their worship," and that the area was upscale and had a lot of businesses and surveillance cameras. ("Yahud" is the Arabic word for Jews.)

Norway, August 10, 2021 (JTA): A Muslim imam in Norway who has led interfaith dialogue projects has made antisemitic statements on Facebook, including on how Jews are dangerous and “should be killed,” for years. The Norway branch of Minhaj-ul-Quran, an international Muslim organization that is considered moderate and geared toward outreach, suspended Noor Ahmad Noor indefinitely following an expose published last week by the Vartland newspaper on his antisemitic statements. Noor had served for years as the branch’s director. Police have launched an investigation into his remarks. In one post from 2019, Noor wrote that Jews “put the world in danger” and it is “necessary to kill them.”

Germany, August 9, 2021 (the algemeiner): As cases of COVID-19 once more begin to rise in Germany, a new study details how the pandemic has fueled antisemitic conspiracy myths, holding German Jews responsible for the spread of the virus and for government measures to contain it. Working with the American Jewish Committee Berlin (AJC), the Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism (RIAS) recorded a total of 561 antisemitic incidents connected to the COVID-19 pandemic between March 2020 and March 2021. Almost 60% of the incidents were related to antisemitic statements found in speeches, slogans and posters, seen at demonstrations taking place throughout Germany but especially in Bavaria and Berlin.

United Kingdom, August 7, 2021 (Jerusalem Post): Graham Hart, a 69-year-old radio host from Cornwall, England, has been sentenced to 32 months in prison for antisemitic speech and inciting racial hatred on his live radio show, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) announced. The sentencing comes after Devon and Cornwall Police opened an investigation into eight radio show broadcasts on the internet between 2016 and 2020, in which he hosted or appeared as a guest. In these broadcasts, Hart made many antisemitic statements that framed Jews as an enemy to be defeated and expelled from society.

France, August 5, 2021 (Jerusalem Post): Jewish doctors and medical staff have become targets of hate crimes by anti-vaccine and antisemitic individuals, the Simon Wiesenthal Center asserted in a letter to Gerald Darmanin, the French Interior Minister. The letter argued that anti-vaccination rhetoric is closely linked to antisemitism. A UK study published in October reported that antisemitism has been on the rise within the anti-vaxxer movement — stating that of the leading anti-vaccination groups on social media, nearly 80% of those groups propagated antisemitic content.

Nationwide, August 3, 2021 (Jewish Insider): The rising threats to religious and faith-based organizations will be front and center this week for one Senate committee, Eric Fingerhut, the Jewish Federations of North America president and CEO, told Jewish Insider ahead of a scheduled hearing on domestic terrorism before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. In an interview with Jewish Insider, Fingerhut told JI that he plans to focus on the funding shortfall for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP). Fewer than half of this year’s applications for the program, which provides funding to nonprofits to upgrade their security infrastructure, were approved. “It seems very clear to us that the rising documented threats — documented by the federal government and by the experts in the federal government — combined with the unmet need call for a significant increase in the [NSGP],” Fingerhut explained.

Worldwide, August 2, 2021 (The Guardian): There has been a serious and systemic failure to tackle antisemitism across the five biggest social media platforms, resulting in a “safe space for racists”, according to a new report. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and TikTok failed to act on 84% of
posts spreading anti-Jewish hatred and propaganda reported via the platforms’ official complaints system. Researchers from the Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH), a UK/US non-profit organization, flagged hundreds of antisemitic posts over a six-week period earlier this year. The posts, including Nazi, neo-Nazi and white supremacist content, received up to 7.3 million impressions.

Skokie, Illinois, July 30, 2021 (Chicago Sun Times): Grace Cutler, a Skokie resident, was murdered in 1982 when terrorists attacked a Jewish deli in Paris, slaughtering six people and wounding 22 others. Now, after nearly four decades, one of her alleged killers will face trial. In April, a French court upheld the legal procedure extraditing Walid Abdulrahman Abou Zayed from Norway to France. On the afternoon of August 9, 1982, several men threw a grenade and started shooting into the Chez Jo Goldenberg restaurant on Rue des Rosiers in Paris’ Jewish quarter. The French government blamed Palestinian militants associated with the Abu Nidal faction for what was one of the deadliest anti-Semitic attacks in France since World War II.

London, England, July 29, 2021 (the algemeiner): Antisemitic violence in London skyrocketed in May, with Israel’s 11-day conflict with Hamas used as a pretext to attack Jews in the city, new police data revealed. Statistics released by the Metropolitan Police showed 87 incidents of antisemitic violence in May, which was four times higher than any month since 2018.

Delaware County, New York, July 28, 2021 (the algemeiner): Three men have been arrested for carrying out an antisemitic assault and robbery against a Jewish man in the village of Fleischmanns. The assailants assaulted their victim as he walked home from Shabbat services at the local synagogue. A statement on Tuesday from the New York State Police, noted that one of the men “got out of a pickup truck and stole the victim’s shtrimele (fur hat). The suspect returned to the pickup truck, which was occupied by the two other suspects, who all shouted antisemitic slurs and then drove off.”

Hartford, Connecticut, July 28, 2021 (Hartford Courant): Faced with threats and graffiti at various churches, mosques, and synagogues, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont announced that he was releasing nearly $4 million in special grants for increased security at nonprofits and houses of worship. Lamont gathered with clergy and state legislators outside a Bloomfield synagogue to highlight the security concerns. “This is an important day,” said state public safety Commissioner James Rovella, whose department oversees the grants. “Prevention is the best ingredient that will prevent any kind of violent crime. These should be safe havens for our places of worship — both our churches and nonprofits.” The money was awarded nearly three years after the shooting deaths of 11 people at a Pittsburgh synagogue, and the funding reimbursements are being made for improvements related to threats of hate crimes, terrorism, and violence.

State Department, District of Columbia, July 28, 2021 (JTA/Axios): President Joe Biden and Secretary of State Antony Blinken are among the top U.S. officials to make statements condemning antisemitism after a swastika was found in an elevator in the State Department building. Blinken, whose stepfather survived the Holocaust, condemned the graffiti in a series of three tweets, including, “Hate has no place at the @StateDept. The hateful graffiti has been removed and this incident will be investigated. As this painfully reminds us, anti-Semitism isn’t a relic of the past. We must be relentless in standing up and rejecting anti-Semitism.” It comes as the Biden administration is about to name an antisemitism monitor who would be responsible for reporting on antisemitism overseas and pressing foreign governments to adopt measures to mitigate antisemitism.

New York, New York, July 27, 2021 (Associated Press): The conviction of a New Yorker charged with providing material support to Hezbollah by seeking targets in New York City for terrorist attacks was
upheld. Prosecutors said Lebanon-born Ali Kourani was recruited, trained and deployed by Hezbollah’s Islamic Jihad Organization and spent years conducting surveillance on potential targets including day care centers. Prosecutors also said Kourani traveled to Lebanon in 2011, where he learned to use a rocket-propelled grenade launcher, assault rifles, a submachine gun, a machine gun and a Glock pistol.

New York, New York, July 27, 2021 (PIX-11 New York): Police arrested 30-year-old Naved Durrni in connection with several anti-Muslim assaults. He faces charges of menacing as a hate crime, assault as a hate crime, criminal weapons possession, and aggravated harassment. He is alleged to have made anti-Muslim statements against his victims while holding a knife, punching his victims, grabbing their religious clothing, and punching them.

London, England, July 26, 2021 (The Times (UK)): A woman wearing a Charlie Hebdo T-shirt was stabbed in Hyde Park by a man who fled the scene. The victim, 29, who is believed to be an evangelist Christian, suffered a stab wound on the side of her face after being attacked by a man dressed in black. He was pursued by members of the public and police officers, who were at the scene at the time of the attack, but no arrests have been made. [Over three days in January 2015, Islamic extremists attacked the Charlie Hebdo magazine headquarters, a policewoman (in front of the Montrouge synagogue and school) and a Jewish supermarket in Paris, France, leaving 17 people dead. Source: The Guardian, January 12, 2015.]

Omaha, Nebraska, July 26, 2021 (NBC-6 Local): Jonathan Ziegler, 30, pleaded guilty to property damage and hate intimidation, after getting caught posting neo-Nazi recruitment stickers near a synagogue. Security video showed Ziegler affixing stickers on the poles about 20 feet east of Temple Israel’s parking lot entrance.

Canada, July 22, 2021 (JTA): Amid an unprecedented number of antisemitic incidents, the Canadian government is set to spend more than $5 million to shore up the security of the nation’s Jewish community institutions. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau made the announcement at a special virtual national “summit” on antisemitism. The new funding is part of his government’s Security Infrastructure Program to bolster the safety of at-risk minorities. A main message at the conference was that good intentions won’t be enough to rid the world of one of its oldest scourges. According to B’nai Brith Canada, more than 2,600 antisemitic incidents took place in Canada in 2020, a fifth consecutive record-setting year. Some 44% of them appeared to be related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the group said. “The rise in hate-motivated crimes against the Jewish community in the past few months is not only alarming, it’s completely unacceptable,” Trudeau said. “As Jewish Canadians, too many of you have told me you’re feeling isolated and vulnerable.”

Worldwide, July 21, 2021 (BBC News): Andrew Dymock, 24, from Bath, England, convicted of 15 offences and jailed for seven years for creating two extremist groups and promoting hate. He led the outlawed neo-Nazi groups System Resistance Network (SRN) and Sonnenkrieg Division and used the SRN website and a Twitter account to state that Jewish people should be exterminated and encourage lone actor terror attacks.

Głogów, Poland, July 21, 2021 (JTA): Several participants in a rally said that Jews are to blame for the COVID-19 pandemic and agreed that Jews "rule the world." About 100 people walked through the streets of the city in western Poland in opposition to vaccination and "sanitary segregation," or restrictions on unvaccinated people. "We know who is behind this whole 'plandemic,'" one of the march's leaders said, implying that he believes the pandemic is fake and part of a "plan" to weaken Poland's economy. "Do you know who hates Poles? We know who hates [us]," he added. "Jews," answered another marcher. Another
said Jews will "apply for our houses," referring to the debate over Holocaust property restitution, which Poland's right-wing government is attempting to limit.

**New York, New York, July 20, 2021 (Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office):** Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez announced that three Brooklyn men have been charged in a 68-count indictment for assault and menacing as hate crimes for attacking Jewish people outside synagogues. The defendants are accused of both verbal and physical threats and against victims dressed in traditional religious clothing, banging on a synagogue door after children and adults ran inside seeking refuge, punching another victim multiple times and putting him in a chokehold. Azad allegedly exited the driver’s seat and also punched one of the victims in the head and chasing after another with wooden bat.

**San Diego, California, July 20, 2021 (San Diego Union Tribune):** John T. Earnest pleaded guilty in San Diego Superior Court to shooting congregants at a Poway synagogue on the last day of Passover in 2019, killing one person and injuring three others, including a child. admitted charges of murder and attempted murder in a plea deal that spares him a potential death sentence in the state case. He pleaded guilty to all the charges he faced, including arson for setting fire to an Escondido mosque a month before the attack on the synagogue, and he admitted that both acts were hate crimes. In his plea, the defendant acknowledged that he **killed or tried to kill the Chabad victims because they were Jewish,** and that **before the shooting, he had posted an online open letter saying his planned attack was motivated by hatred for Jews.** There were 54 people inside the synagogue for a Sabbath service when Earnest started shooting. Earnest also acknowledged that he had “willfully and maliciously” set fire to the mosque “for the purpose of terrorizing the worshippers.”

**New York, New York, July 20, 2021 (News 12 The Bronx/Williamsburg News):** A woman was caught on video **smashing the windows of a Hasidic Jewish school with a hammer.** Caught on security video, the woman is seen walking up and smashing the school’s windows with a hammer before walking away. This comes days after a vicious attack on a Jewish man who was on his way to a synagogue in Flatbush.

**Argentina, July 19, 2021 (JTA):** On the 27th anniversary of the AMIA Jewish center bombing in Buenos Aires that killed 85 and injured hundreds, Argentina's Vice President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner called the imminent trial into her alleged efforts to cover up Iran's role in the attack a "monumental scandal." Kirchner, the country's president from 2007 to 2015, was indicted by a federal judge in 2018 for obstructing the investigation into the 1994 attack. Allegedly Kirchner had a secret back channel with Iranian officials who were involved in the bombing and worked to keep them free of suspicion.

**Los Angeles, California, July 18, 2021 (Patch):** In the first six months of 2021, there were 43 hate crimes targeting Jewish people, according to Los Angeles Police Department data. That is a 59.2% increase from the same timeframe last year, and more than double the number of incidents in a comparable period in 2018. Anti-Jewish attacks made up 14.6% of the 295 hate crimes reported in Los Angeles in the first half of 2021. Jewish people were the third most-targeted population. The estimated 600,000 Jewish people living in Los Angeles gives the city one of the largest Jewish populations in the world.

**Los Gatos, California, July 15, 2021 (Fox News):** Wesley Charles Martines, 32, was found with multiple firearms, drugs, and pipe bomb materials, bullets, body armor and a manifesto saying he wanted to "wipe out" Black, Hispanic and Jewish people, authorities said. His weapons stockpile included a Glock 9 mm. handgun and two AR-style rifles, which are illegal in California, prosecutors said. A journal allegedly belonging to him had racist and anti-Semitic writings.

**Lehighton, Pennsylvania and Worldwide, July 14, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney’s Office for Middle District of Pennsylvania):** Corbin Kauffman, age 32, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment for Internet threats
against the Jewish community. According to Acting United States Attorney Bruce D. Brandler, Kauffman posted a digitally-created image of his own arm and hand aiming an AR-15 rifle at a congregation of praying Jewish men, gathered in a synagogue. The threatening image came in the wake of the October 2018 mass-shooting at Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where 11 died and several more were wounded. On the same day he posted his own threatening image, Kauffman also shared a video of the Tree of Life shooting, as well as another post in support of the shooter. That same day, Kauffman also posted multiple references to “hate crimes” and a photograph of vandalism he committed by defacing a display case at the Chabad Lubavitch Jewish Center in Ocean City, Maryland, with white supremacist and anti-Semitic stickers. In imposing the sentence, Judge Mariani found that Kauffman had made several threats, and that he intentionally selected the targets of his threats based on their race, religion, or ethnicity.

New York, New York, July 15, 2021 (Patch): A Bayside, Queens man who fantasized on social media about a "racial holy war" and glorified attacks against Jewish and Black communities was sentenced to nearly five years in prison after pleading guilty to buying firearms without serial numbers, federal prosecutors said. Joseph Miner, 30, pled guilty to buying assault rifles in 2020 that didn't have serial numbers, which makes the weapons virtually untraceable. Miner had discussed past attacks on Jewish communities online and praised the 2019 deadly stabbing at a rabbi's home in Rockland County during Hanukkah, calling it "exciting," according to a detention memo filed last year in Brooklyn federal court.

Alliance, Ohio, July 15, 20221 (the alegemeiner): Police are investigating a spate of antisemitic and racist vandalism in the downtown area which they believe are connected. All three incidents targeted Jews. The same symbol — a Star of David crossed out in a red circle — was daubed on the front of the YWCA and other buildings. One spray-painted slogan read “Down with ZOG” (an acronym that stands for “Zionist Occupation Government) accompanied by the same crossed-out Star of David. No arrests have yet been made in connection with any of the incidents.

Worldwide, July 14, 2021 (The Forward): Antisemitism on TikTok, the viral video sharing app, has increased by 912% since 2020, according to a study from the University of Haifa and the IDC Herzliya’s Institute for Counter-Terrorism. The platform evolved during the COVID-19 pandemic, helped grow the platform into a bigger stage for all kinds of content, including malicious. The 912% increase in antisemitism refers to comments. There was also a 41% increase in antisemitic videos. The study also notes that antisemitic usernames grew by 1,375%.

Union City, New Jersey, July 14, 2021 (Hudson County View): Oswaldo Domingo Xil-Argueta, 29 was charged with aggravated arson, criminal mischief, and burglary of a local Jewish synagogue and yeshiva. Xil-Argueta is accused of setting a fire set at a Jewish synagogue and the Mesivta Sanz Yeshiva, also known as the Jewish Community Center on North Hudson.

New York, New York, July 10, 2021 (Times of Israel): A Jewish man was punched and attacked with a piece of furniture in an apparent hate crime. The 25-year-old victim was punched in the chest and then struck in the back. Police said they were looking for the suspect who was seen in security camera footage breaking off the piece of furniture and attacking the man, before fleeing the scene. The suspect also made anti-Jewish statements toward the victim, according to the NYPD. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo directed the state’s Hate Crimes Task Force to offer assistance in the investigation.

Boston, Massachusetts, July 9, 2021 (JTA): The suspect in the stabbing of a Boston Chabad rabbi has been charged with committing a hate crime and civil rights offense. Khaled Awad, 24, was arrested after allegedly stabbing Rabbi Shlomo Noginski outside of his school and synagogue in the Brighton
neighborhood. Noginski survived the stabbing. Awad was charged initially with assault and battery by means of a dangerous weapon and assault and battery on a police officer. Prosecutors now have added the hate crimes charge because they say the attack was motivated by antisemitism.

**Boston, Massachusetts, July 8, 2021 (NBC-10 Boston):** Prosecutors have brought hate crime charges against the 24-year-old man accused of stabbing a rabbi outside of a Jewish Day School in Boston's Brighton neighborhood multiple times last week. Khaled Awad, of Brighton, faced nine charges in a Brighton courtroom, including the hate crime charges that some in the Jewish community believe should have been brought from the very beginning. New evidence supports “that the suspect had strong religious views and opinions against Jews, Christians, and the American culture,” assistant district attorney Margaret Hegarty said in court. Prosecutors said they learned that hate drove Awad to stab Rabbi Shlomo Noginski nine times. Investigators spoke to people who knew Awad when he lived in Florida, who described him making “statements like, ‘All Jews are stingy and evil.’ ‘They are evil and control the world,’” Hegarty said.

**Baltimore, Maryland, July 8, 2021 (JTA/Times of Israel):** More than a dozen headstones were discovered vandalized with swastikas over the July 4 weekend at a Jewish cemetery in the suburb of Dundalk. In addition to swastikas, vandals also defaced a headstone with a tag that appeared to reference Holodomor, the 1930s famine in Soviet Ukraine that killed more than 3 million people. Invoking Holodomor as a way to target Israel and the Jews has become a growing tactic on the far-right, many of whom blame Jews for the famine. Venick said he also filed a police report on the incident and would temporarily be locking the gates to the cemetery. The association is also exploring an on-demand locking system for the gates that would only allow “permitted people” inside the cemetery grounds. Other Jewish cemeteries have been vandalized in recent months, including the desecration of Jewish graves in Grand Rapids, Michigan, just prior to the 2020 election and Jewish headstones smashed in Romania and Ukraine earlier this year.

**Grenoble, France, July 8, 2021 (the algemeiner):** Antisemitic vandals defaced a memorial to the Holocaust by engraving swastikas into its metal plate using a blowtorch. The grisly act was discovered on a plaque commemorating deportees to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Police have opened an investigation into the vandalism.

**Pennsylvania, July 7, 2021 (JTA):** The Pennsylvania legislature has cut security funding for nonprofits to zero. The General Assembly budget passed last month effectively ended a five-year fund (after 3 years) the state established in 2019, just after the Tree of Life massacre in Pittsburgh, to secure nonprofits. Precipitating the state program, which has benefited synagogues, churches and mosques, a gunman killed 11 worshippers at the Tree of Life synagogue complex in October 2018, the worst attack on Jews in U.S. history. Since then, white supremacist activity has only increased in the Pittsburgh area.

**New York, New York, July 7, 2021 (the algemeiner):** New York police arrested a Staten Island man for throwing a firework at a Jewish woman on a day that saw multiple violent attacks against Jews attending a pro-Israel rally. Twenty-four-year-old Mohammad Othman of Staten Island was arrested for the May 20 incendiary attack, which left a 55-year-old Jewish woman with burns. Othman was arrested for two other antisemitic incidents from the same protest and was charged with first-degree gang assault as a hate crime, third-degree assault as a hate crime and second-degree reckless endangerment as a hate crime.

**Boston, Massachusetts, July 6 & 2021 (JTA):** A series of violent acts have stunned Greater Boston and threatened its Jewish community. The latest incident occurred when Chabad Rabbi Shlomo Noginski was stabbed outside of Shaloh House, a Jewish school and synagogue in Brighton, where he teaches. Noginsky was sitting on the steps outside the Shaloh House, which was in use as a summer camp, when
24-year-old Khaled Awad, a citizen of Egypt, allegedly approached him with gun in hand and demanded that Noginsky take him to his car. Noginsky began to run, but not before Awad stabbed him eight times. Less than a week prior, on June 26, in Winthrop, a seaside town just north of Boston, a white supremacist who harbored virulent racist and antisemtic views murdered Air Force veteran Ramona Cooper, 60, and retired state trooper David Green, 68, both African American. The shooting took place near two synagogues and is being investigated as a hate crime. Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins sought to alert the Jewish community to the antisemitic leanings of the Winthrop shooter, 28-year-old Nathan Allen, noting that his personal writings revealed racist and antisemetic views, including drawings of swastikas, and that he may have been looking to target Jews in addition to Black people.

Philadelphia, PA and Washington, DC, July 4, 2021 (Newsweek): White supremacists marched, carrying banners that said, "reclaim America" and chanting "life, liberty and victory." They appeared to be from the Patriot Front, a group known for joining localized flash mobs. Based out of Texas, the far-right group is associated with the so-called alt-right movement—which organized the deadly "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017. During that march, alt-right demonstrators infamously carried torches as they chanted, "Jews will not replace us." The Anti-Defamation League describes the Patriot Front as "a white supremacist group whose members maintain that their ancestors conquered America and bequeathed it to them alone. They define themselves as American fascists or American nationalists who are focused on preserving America's identity as a European-American identity."

New York, New York, July 3, 2021 (New York Post): Hate crime in the city skyrocketed by 139 percent this year, including a 69% escalation in anti-Jewish assaults, according to NYPD statistics.

Canada, June 30, 2021 (the algemeiner): Canada’s Jewish community “came under assault on multiple fronts” during the month of May, according to a report issued by B’nai Brith Canada. As least 250 antisemitic incidents were reported during May — the highest ever reported in a single month by B’nai Brith since the group began collecting data in 1982. There were at least 154 incidents of harassment, 51 incidents of vandalism, and 61 incidents of violence.

Worldwide, June 30, 2021 (N-World): Far-right extremists have used children’s gaming platforms to recreate the Christchurch mass attacks on 2 mosques in New Zealand in which 51 people were killed. A map of one of the mosques targeted in Christchurch was placed on Minecraft, terrorism researchers revealed. The map, which had been online for two months, received hundreds of views and a link had been posted on a white supremacist image board on the dark web. In another instance, a video which included the same music that was used in the live-streamed mosque attack was created in the online Roblox game and shared.

San Diego, California, June 29, 2021 (the algemeiner/CBS8 local news): Continuing a wave of antisemetic hate crimes on college campuses across the United States, two women were filmed vandalizing the Chabad House at San Diego State University (SDSU). The incident marked the second time since April that the Jewish center, which opened at SDSU in 1977, has been targeted. Security cameras monitoring the property captured video of the crime, showing one woman pulling on the decorative menorah mounted in front of the center until one of its branches broke, and another holding a torn piece of fabric from a Chabad banner commemorating Jewish heritage.

Columbus, Ohio, June 29, 2021 (DoJ/Us Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Ohio): Douglas G. Schifer, 66, pleaded guilty in federal court to charges stemming from antisemitic threats the defendant made to his neighbors. According to court documents, Douglas G. Schifer, 66, threatened neighbors and their guests because of their religion during an outdoor gathering at the neighbors’ residence on Friday, November 7, 2020 (the beginning of the Jewish sabbath). Schifer admitted to threatening to shoot the
neighbors and their dog, and to “burn to the ground” a garage the neighbors were remodeling into an apartment. Schifer shouted other antisemitic slurs, obscenities, and other derogatory language about their religion at his neighbors and their guests. He also broke one of their windows, spat on one of the neighbors and made references to gassing Jewish people, chopping them up, and burning them in ovens.

Los Angeles, California, June 24, 2021 (ABC News/Department of Justice (January 24, 2013)): A federal judge in Los Angeles is weighing whether to extradite to India Tahawwur Rana, a Pakistani-born Canadian who is wanted by Indian authorities for allegedly conspiring with American David Coleman Headley in assisting the Pakistani terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in carrying out the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai that killed 166 people and injured more than 200. Rana allegedly supported Headley’s operational planning for the attacks by letting him use his immigration business as a front for Headley’s time in Mumbai. Headley is serving 35 years in prison for his role, which included travelling to Mumbai multiple times to select targets for attack, which included the Chabad Jewish synagogue and community center where six people were tortured and executed.

Belgium, June 24, 2021 (the algemeiner): Belgium’s representative Jewish organizations have condemned the government’s announcement that it will withdraw Belgian Army protection from synagogues, Jewish schools, and other communal institutions. The extra security measures involving the Belgian military have been in place since the May 2014 Islamist terrorist attack on the Jewish Museum in Brussels, in which four people were murdered by gunman Mehdi Nemmouche, who had previously fought with the ISIS terror group in Syria. In a statement, the coordinating organizations expressed regret that troops were being withdrawn when “no equivalent solution has yet been proposed to guarantee the safety of citizens who frequent Jewish events or institutions.” The government’s announcement was also criticized by the European Jewish Association, which pointed out that the withdrawal of troops went against the advice of Belgium’s own intelligence services. The government’s move comes amidst rising antisemitism across the country.

Tucson, Arizona, June 24, 2021 (Patch): Nathan Beaver, 30, was charged with aggravated criminal damage in connection with the vandalism at Tucson’s Chabad on River synagogue.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 22, 2021 (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette): A Squirrel Hill resident was hospitalized with broken bones after being attacked in what the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh says is one of recent antisemitic attacks against the Jewish community. The attacks have prompted the federation to warn its members to “be vigilant.” During the month of June, four members of the Orthodox Jewish community in Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood have been assaulted and subjected to antisemitic slurs after leaving religious services.

New York, New York, June 22, 2021 (JTA/New York Post): The New York Police Department is investigating the firing of a bullet into a synagogue in Brooklyn on Shabbat. No one was hurt in the incident at Khal Zichron Mordechai. The bullet was fired before 3 p.m. Saturday into a first-floor window of the synagogue. The synagogue, which is Orthodox, was closed at the time. The bullet hole and a bullet fragment were found that night.

New Haven, Connecticut (June 22, 2021 (NBC CT): All programs at the New Haven Jewish Community Center are closed after a threat was received to the building. The Jewish Federation of New Haven said a threat was called into the JCC building and the building was immediately evacuated. Out of an abundance of caution and due to how long it will take to inspect the property, officials said all JCC programs are closed for the day.

Longmeadow, Massachusetts, June 16, 2021 (Department of Justice): John Rathbun, 37, of East Longmeadow, was convicted in connection with placing a lit firebomb at the entrance of a Longmeadow
senior health care facility in April 2020. On the morning of April 2, 2020, Rathbun assembled, placed, and lit a homemade incendiary device outside the entrance of Jewish Geriatric Services Lifecare, Inc., an assisted living facility in Longmeadow. The device consisted of a five-gallon Scepter fuel canister filled with gasoline and a Christian religious pamphlet as the wick. Forensic analysis identified Rathbun’s DNA on the canister and pamphlet. “Mr. Rathburn’s dangerous and cruel acts harmed not only the elderly residents of this Jewish assisted living facility, but also the entire community,” said Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke of the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division. “I thank the jury, prosecutors and investigators for their efforts to ensure the defendant was held accountable for his actions.”

Albert, Canada, June 16, 2021 (Edmonton Journal): Edmonton city police are investigating three incidents of hate vandalism including one at a mosque. Imam Nasir Butt of the Baitul Hadi Mosque said members of the congregation were saddened to learn the place of worship was targeted with a symbol of hate, a swastika, which was painted in red on the side of the building.

Bristol, United Kingdom, June 15, 2021 (Jewish News, Britain): A neo-Nazi former Army driver who stockpiled chemicals to make explosives has been jailed for 18 years. Dean Morrice, 34, collected a cache of terrorism manuals and instructions on how to make home-made bombs and weapons. He regularly took part in far-right forums and had set up two of his own propaganda channels, glorifying figures from the Third Reich and hailing neo-Nazi terrorists as “saints”. In one video he strummed a guitar in time with the gunshots to footage of the Christchurch mosque shooting, in which Brenton Tarrant killed 51 people, three days after the 2019 attack. A stockpile of chemicals used to make thermite and gunpowder was found in his garage when police raided his home. Officers also discovered a 3D printer, along with instructions for how to make a gun and printed parts for a firearm. Detective Chief Superintendent Kath Barnes, head of Counter Terrorism Policing South East, said: “Through dedicated investigation, Morrice was stopped before he was able to carry out any physical act of terror but the evidence showed that he actively encouraged terrorism to others with his toxic ideology and had the intention and potentially the capability to commit one himself.”

Nationwide, June 14, 2021 (Forward): More than half of American Jews said they encountered antisemitism following the start of May’s violence in Israel and Gaza, according to a survey released by the Anti-Defamation League. Its findings suggest a dramatic uptick in the number of Jews who have witnessed antisemitic behavior or heard or read an antisemitic comment. The survey also found that about 40% of American Jews said they were “more concerned about their personal safety” in the aftermath of the violence between Israel and Hamas and because of a rise in antisemitic incidents in the U.S.

Bath, United Kingdom, June 14, 2021 (The Jewish Chronicle/NYPD Daily Terrorism Brief): A 24-year-old neo-Nazi from Bath who published an article calling for the extermination of Jewish people has been found guilty of terror offences. Andrew Dymock was convicted of 15 offences, including five counts of encouraging terrorism, four of disseminating terrorist publications, two of terrorist fundraising and one of publishing or distributing written material to stir up racial hatred. Prosecutors accused Dymock of establishing and raising money for the now-banned, racially/ethnically motivated violent extremist groups System Resistance Network (SRN) and Sonnenkrieg Division. Dymock allegedly used Twitter and a website to promote SRN and its aims of precipitating a race war, eradicating Jews, and opposing non-white, and Muslim communities. The court heard how he published an article describing Jewish people as “a cancer” and calling for their extermination, according to reports.

Frankfurt, Germany, June 13, 2021 (JTA/Bild): A swastika was found scrawled on the ark at a synagogue at the Frankfurt International Airport in Germany. The swastika was discovered less than a week after a
A fire was set outside a synagogue in Ulm, about 70 miles northwest of Munich, in what police suspect was an attempted arson attack.

**Salt Lake City, June 11, 2021 (ABC4):** Police provided new details regarding the vandalism case that shook the Jewish community on May 16th. The Salt Lake City Police Department has shared images of a person of interest. “In the early morning hours of Sunday, 16 May 2021, a swastika was carved in the doors of the Chabad Community Center,” states the department. “The male pictured here is a person of interest in this vandalism and hate crime.”

**New York, New York, June 11, 2021 (New York Post):** Three men on motorcycles were caught on video robbing and harassing a young Jewish man in Brooklyn before yanking off his yarmulke, in another apparent anti-Semitic attack in New York City. The bikers approached the 21-year-old and demanded his money while making statements that disparaged Jews, according to the NYPD. When the victim tried to call 911, the suspects allegedly snatched off his religious headgear and fled. The robbers remain at-large, according to police.

**France, June 11, 2021 (Arutz Sheva 7/ France Bleu):** Two synagogues in southern France, in the towns of Béziers and La Grande-Motte, were sent threatening antisemitic letters. In one letter posted by the mayor of Béziers, the author called Jews “parasites” and a “cancer of humanity.” “I am very armed,” he wrote, stating that he had purchased “two Kalashnikovs” and ammunition “expressly for you.” He continued, “I will wait until the synagogues are full of vermin, so I do more carnage than the Bataclan.” He signed his letter, “See you soon, friends.” The incidents are under investigation by police.

**Arizona, June 10, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney’s Office for the District of Arizona):** Kevin Thomas Kerr, 51, of Waukegan, Illinois, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Douglas L. Rayes after pleading guilty to Making Threats in Interstate Commerce. On March 6, 2020, as part of an ongoing series of harassing communications, which included anti-Semitic slurs, Kerr called the victim in Arizona and left a voicemail threatening to injure and kill him.

**Nationwide, June 10, 2021 (The Medialine/Secure Community Network):** A group of diners outside a Los Angeles restaurant was violently attacked for being Jewish. An innocent 23-year-old man in New York City was beaten by a group of people because he is Jewish. A brick shattered a window at a kosher pizzeria in Manhattan. Synagogues across the country have been vandalized. These attacks in the last few weeks serve as an unfortunate reminder that, even in the United States, the Jewish community needs to constantly be on high alert for threats and attacks. **Antisemitic incidents reported to the Secure Community Network (SCN) soared 80% in May.** This comes on the heels of a near-historic increase in antisemitic incidents and assaults over the last several years: According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, over 60% of religiously motivated hate crimes in 2019 targeted Jews – a 14% increase from the previous year. These horrific statistics coupled with Jewish institutions beginning to reopen and communities gathering once again is a call to action for the Jewish community. We must stay cautious and alert as we resume operations. [SCN is the official security arm of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.]

**Italy, June 9, 2021 (Politico/Times of Israel/Deutsche Welle):** Italian police announced they had broken up an online neo-Nazi group dedicated to anti-Semitic and racist propaganda that encouraged young people to carry out extreme acts of violence against Jews and foreigners. Italian postal police and Carabinieri paramilitary police said 12 individuals aged between 26 and 62 were allegedly involved in the group, which was present on Facebook and the Russian social network VK under the name “Ordine Ario
Romano,” a Carabinieri police statement said. Posting content “inspired by Nazi, antisemitic and Holocaust-denial ideologies, as well as by anti-Jewish conspiracy theories,” the group called for violence against Jews, the statement added.

Beachwood, Ohio, June 8, 2021 (Cleveland Jewish News): Two 15-year-old boys were hit with paintballs in a drive-by incident. The incident took place directly in front of Waxman Chabad Center of Cleveland, an Orthodox synagogue, and at least one paintball hit a retaining wall in front of the property. The boys were walking in a group with other students from Fuchs Mizrachi School, a private Jewish K-12 day school, and the from one Fuchs Mizrachi teacher’s house to another’s to celebrate the start of the Jewish sabbath, according to Rabbi Avery Joel, head of school at Fuchs Mizrachi.

New York, New York, June 8, 2021 (the algemeiner/Hamodia): The three suspects arrested in connection with antisemitic attacks in Brooklyn last month have reportedly been indicted by a grand jury on a total of 64 charges. Danial Shaukat, 20, Haider Anjam, 20, and Ashan Azad 19, were indicted on charges that included assault, menacing, attempted assault and aggravated harassment. Many of the counts were charged as hate crimes. At one point, Shaukat, Azad and Anjam chased four other Orthodox Jewish men, while shrieking, “Kill you Jews,” prosecutors said. They were wielding had a cricket bat. The victims ran for refuge in a synagogue, Agudath Israel in Borough Park. Shaukat and one of his cohorts banged on the doors to try to get inside the sanctuary.

London, Ontario, June 8, 2021 (The Globe and Mail): Police say a 20-year-old London, Ont., man deliberately struck down five members of a Muslim family with his truck in a hate-motivated act of mass murder. The family of five had been out for an evening walk and were waiting to cross the street when police say the truck mounted the curb and struck them. Minutes after the collision, Nathaniel Veltman was arrested after a police chase and faces four charges of first-degree murder and one of attempted murder. Authorities say they are weighing whether to pursue terrorism charges.

Tucson, Arizona, June 8, 2021 (COL LIVE Orthodox Jewish news Service): Antisemitic graffiti painted on a side door of Chabad on River, an Orthodox synagogue. A large Nazi swastika was accompanied by the wording “dirty kyke,” an ethnic slur for a Jew. Chabad on River, which houses a synagogue and religious study classes, is one of the 5 Chabad centers operating in Southern Arizona. This incident follows a barrage of anti-Jewish attacks across the United States in recent weeks. The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) reported a 75% increase in antisemitism reports of verbal and physical violence, as well as properties being vandalized and damaged.

France, June 8, 2021 (JTA/France Inter radio station): A far-left politician, Jean-Luc Melenchon, leader of the Unsubmissive France movement, suggested that a jihadist’s 2012 murder of four Jews in Toulouse was part of an election’s conspiracy and that more incidents of that kind would occur during next year’s presidential election. He was referring to the mass attack conducted by Mohammed Merah, a former combatant for jihadists in Syria, who murdered three Jewish children and a rabbi (teacher) at a Jewish school in Toulouse in 2012. “All of this has been planned in advance,” said Melenchon, who has declared as a presidential candidate for ‘22. “We get all kinds of people pulled out of nowhere at a very serious event which, once more, allows to point fingers at Muslims and to invent a civil war. It’s boring.” Melenchon has made multiple statements widely condemned as antisemitic. In 2014, he defended Arabs who stormed and torched synagogues in France.

Potomac, Maryland, June 7, 2021 (Washington Jewish Week): Congregation Har Shalom is enhancing security after the second pro-Israel banner in two weeks was stolen from the synagogue’s property. The banner, which read “Har Shalom supports Israel,” was a replacement for an identical banner that was vandalized last week. “This is an act of ignorance and hatefulness,” said Rabbi Adam Raskin. Har Shalom
is installing additional security cameras, said Raskin. He added that the synagogue is considering increasing outdoor lighting and hanging a third banner in a less accessible location to ensure another incident does not happen.

Ukraine and Romania, June 7, 2021 (JTA): In two separate incidents, Jewish cemeteries were vandalized. The Center for Monitoring and Combating Antisemitism in Romania-MCA reported about the incident in the town of Ploesti, located about 50 miles north of Bucharest. Multiple headstones, some as recent as 2009, were knocked over. Several were smashed. Also, at least 10 of the 60 headstones in the Jewish cemetery of Radvanka, a western Ukraine village on the outskirts of Uzhgorod, according to the United Jewish Community of Ukraine. In 2012, the Council of Europe, an intergovernmental body, adopted a nonbinding resolution placing responsibility for the care of Jewish cemeteries on national governments. The resolution was based in part on a report that said Jewish cemeteries are “probably” more vulnerable than other cemeteries.

Ulm, Germany, June 5, 2021 (JTA/Deutsche Welle): An unidentified individual is believed to have started a fire outside a synagogue in the city of Ulm in Germany. A masked man was seen pouring liquid on the synagogue's exterior wall, which was then set alight. A witness called firefighters who arrived on the scene within minutes and extinguished the flames. Police are looking for the culprit. “It shows the insidious face of antisemitism, which we oppose clearly and unambiguously,” said Winfried Kretschmann, the prime minister of the German state of Baden-Württemberg, where the incident happened. Nazis destroyed the interior of Ulm’s synagogue in the 1938 Kristallnacht pogroms. It was reopened only in 2012.

Poway, California, June 4, 2021 (Los Abeles Times): The man accused of opening fire in a Poway synagogue, killing one person and wounding three others, has signed a conditional plea agreement that is now in the hands of the U.S. attorney general, who is still deciding whether to pursue the federal death penalty in the case, attorneys said at a court hearing. The terms of the plea offer were not disclosed. John T. Earnest, 21, is indicted on 113 counts in the case. There were 54 people inside the Chabad of Poway the morning of April 27, 2019, when Earnest is accused of entering the lobby and opening fire with an assault-style rifle. The indictment counts each person as a victim on charges of a hate crime and obstruction of free exercise of religious beliefs using a dangerous weapon resulting in death, bodily injury and attempts to kill. Lori Gilbert-Kaye, 60, was killed in the attack. Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein was shot in both hands, causing him to lose an index finger, while Noya Dahan, then 8, and her uncle, Almog Peretz, were wounded. Earnest was also charged with four counts of discharging a firearm during crimes of violence. An additional charge — damage to a religious property using fire — relates to an arson at Dar-ul-Arquam mosque in Escondido a month earlier.

Nationwide, June 3, 2021 (Secure Community Network): Between 10 May and 24 May 2021, SCN reporting has shown an 80 percent increase in antisemitic incidents as compared to the same time frame during the month of April. Since the recent conflict between Israel and Hamas began on 10 May 2021, SCN has received reports of several criminal incidents of assault against members of the Jewish community, anti-Jewish hate crimes, and property damage, often vandalism, directed against Jewish and Israeli institutions, motivated in part by a rise in anti-Israel sentiment in the US. These incidents have included violent attacks against Jewish individuals, property damage against Jewish facilities, and the use of antisemitic and violent rhetoric to harass and intimidate Jewish individuals and institutions, both in person and online.

Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 1, 2021 (the algemeiner): Rabbi Jonah C. Steinberg of Harvard Hillel confirmed that Harvard University Police Department were investigating two acts of vandalism targeting the Jewish student group's Reisman Center in the Rosovsky Hall campus building. The most recent
incident, which is the second in two weeks, occurred when someone shattered one of Rosovsky Hall’s windows.

Kremenchuk, Ukraine, June 1, 2021 (JTA): In Ukraine, bullet holes were found in a synagogue. Jewish sites have been vandalized multiple times in Kremenchuk in recent years. In 2012, unidentified individuals tried to set fire to the synagogue and in 2009.

Nationwide, May 28, 2021 (JTA): President Joe Biden said in a statement that a spate of antisemitic attacks are terrorizing American Jews and “must stop.” Biden named some of the attacks, which included a swastika carved into the door of a synagogue in Salt Lake City, and museums in Florida and Alaska, “dedicated to celebrating Jewish life and culture and remembering the Holocaust,” vandalized with anti-Jewish messages. “These attacks are despicable, unconscionable, un-American, and they must stop.”

Los Angeles, California, May 28, 2021 (Jewish Journal): Young Israel of Century City (YICC) is reeling from an incident involving an unidentified individual throwing a cinderblock at its synagogue’s window. Security camera images show a man was throwing a concrete plank at the synagogue. The synagogue’s shatterproof windows prevented the planks from breaking the glass. The synagogue’s leadership believe the incident, which occurred amidst a spike in hate incidents targeting Jews across the country, was a hate crime.

Anchorage, Alaska, May 28, 2021 (KFQD – news talk radio): A tall, thin man wearing a hood and a mask was caught on a security camera in the act of plastering Nazi stickers on a Jewish Museum. He drove a scooter to the Alaska Jewish Museum, placed one sticker on the door and jumped to place three more symbols of hate on windows as captured on video cameras Tuesday. Each white sticker was emblazoned with a black swastika, the symbol of the Nazi party, and targeted two groups associated with Holocaust victims. Written above and below the swastika are the words, “WE ARE EVERYWHERE.”

Nationwide, May 27, 2021 (JTA): A “virtual rally” to combat antisemitism exhibited rare agreement between the leading Republicans and Democrats in Congress on the need to fight hatred of Jews. The Zoom event, which approximately 23,000 people attended, was held in the wake of an increase in antisemitism nationwide. Jews have been assaulted and synagogues and other Jewish establishments vandalized in cities across the country. The event, which was organized by the Jewish Federations of North America, Anti-Defamation League and all four major Jewish religious movements, was attended by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, who all denounced antisemitism using largely similar messaging. Among other action steps to respond to increased threats within the Jewish community, the event organizers called upon Congress to fund FEMA’s nonprofit security grant program at $360 million in FY 2022. [The program provides modest grants to at-risk nonprofits to enhance their physical security and preparedness to respond to terrorist and terroristic attacks from foreign terrorist organizations, homegrown violent extremists, and domestic violent extremists, who are presently considered the highest terrorist risk to the homeland, especially those DVEs who are motivated by racial and ethnic hatred.]

New York, New York, May 27, 2021 (The Hill): New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced he would deploy additional state troopers to Jewish communities and especially Jewish religious and educational facilities, to respond to the disturbing number of antisemitic incidents that have targeted the Jewish community in New York.

United Kingdom, May 27, 2021 (Cleveland Jewish News/British Jewish News of London): The security arm of the Jewish community in the United Kingdom said that it has recorded 294 anti-Semitic incidents
since May 8. The numbers reported by the Community Security Trust represent an increase of nearly 570 percent from the days leading up to May 10, which is when the recent conflict between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip began. Among the incidents were physical attacks; anti-Semitic emails being sent to Jewish leaders; schoolchildren, teachers and Jewish schools being targeted in anti-Semitic hate crimes.

New York, New York, May 26, 2021 (Fox 5 New York): The NYPD says it has made a trio of arrests in connection to an anti-Jewish incident at a synagogue in Brooklyn. According to authorities, Danial Shaukat, 20, Haider Anjam, 20, and Ashan Azad, 19, drove to Agudath Israel and began harassing and yelling anti-Jewish statements at four men standing outside of the synagogue. The trio reportedly yelled “Kill all Jews!” at the men, causing them to retreat inside the synagogue and lock the door. Authorities say the suspects then banged on the locked door of the synagogue. The men have been arrested and charged aggravated harassment and menacing as hate crimes.

Los Angeles, California, May 27, 2021 (Department of Justice): An Alaska defendant pleaded guilty to making threats to a synagogue and attempting to obstruct the free exercise of religious beliefs in Los Angeles, California. William Alexander, 50, of Anchorage, Alaska, entered a guilty plea to an indictment charging Alexander with making threatening interstate communications and intentionally obstructing and attempting to obstruct persons in the enjoyment of their free exercise of religious beliefs through the threatened use of force. According to information presented at the guilty plea hearing, while in Anchorage, Alexander used his cellular phone to call a Los Angeles area synagogue. Alexander left a voice message stating that he was going to kill the synagogue’s congregants, while repeatedly using slurs referring to people of Jewish faith. Alexander intended the voice message to be viewed as a threat.

Youngstown, Ohio, May 26, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Ohio): Acting U.S. Attorney Bridget M. Brennan announced that James P. Reardon, 22, of New Middletown, Ohio, pleaded guilty in federal court to a two-count indictment charging him with transmitting a threatening communication targeting the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence. Reardon uploaded a video to Instagram where he is seen holding an assault rifle in multiple firing positions with audio of gunshots, sirens and people screaming added into the background. The video also had a caption that stated: “Police identified the Youngstown Jewish Family Community shooter as local white nationalist Seamus O’Rearedon.” The video is shown to be tagged at the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown. A search warrant at Reardon’s residence uncovered several firearms and clothing articles that were observed in Reardon’s Instagram video postings, including an MP-40 submachine gun; an AR-15 assault rifle; numerous Nazi World War II propaganda posters; a rifle bayonet and vintage U.S. military equipment.

Boston, Massachusetts, May 26, 2021 (New Hampshire Union Leader/Boston Herald): Members of the Nationalist Social Club stood in front of the New England Holocaust Memorial across from City Hall Plaza. Holding flags, members of the white supremacist group took a photo in front of the memorial and posted the picture on the social media site Telegram. “This is the kind of thing they like to do. They like to be provocative and want to spread hate, anti-Semitism, and they try to incite people,” said Robert Trestan, ADL New England's regional director. "They purposefully chose to go to the Holocaust Memorial, a place that is sacred for Boston-area Jews, to basically spread a message that the Holocaust didn't happen and to send the message that you don't belong here," Trestan added. "It's disgusting and despicable." "They're on a little bit of a publicity road trip," he added. "At a time right now when we're seeing a dramatic increase in anti-Semitic violence against Jews, this is a concern. It's a concern that it might incite or inspire other people to attack Jews or other groups."

Worldwide, May 25, 2021 (JTA): The organization that advises U.S. Jewish communities on security matters said it recorded an 80% spike in antisemitic acts in the last month amid Israel’s 11-day war with
Hamas. One of the causes, according to the Secure Community Network, was disinformation spread on social media during and since the exchange of rocket fire. “There may be foreign actors spreading information and disinformation, often tied to antisemitic tropes,” Michael Masters, its CEO, said in an interview. “We’re seeing a clear rise in the calls for violence against the Jewish community and an uptick of attacks of violence.” Masters ticked off some of the antisemitic incidents: “Acts of vandalism from Oregon to Virginia, synagogue desecrations from Illinois to Arizona, reports of people having bottles thrown at them, children’s playgrounds being daubed with swastikas in New York and Tennessee.” He said there has been a commensurate intensification of antisemitism on social media during the hostilities between Israel and Hamas that ended with a ceasefire. A feature of the attacks was to link Jews and Israel to the coronavirus pandemic, in some cases by blaming Jews for the virus, in others by likening Israel to the virus. A hashtag, #COVID1948, using Israel’s founding to identify Israel as a deadly virus, seems to have had its origins in Iran, Masters said. Many of its initial uses were in Farsi, he said. The Network Contagion Research Institute, which tracks disinformation on social media, traced a sudden massive spike in #COVID1948 usage on May 12, the third day of the war. It also tracked spikes in uses of phrases like “Hitler was right,” “Zionazi” and “Kill all Jews.”

Hallandale Beach, Florida, May 24, 2021 (CBS Miami): The Hallandale Beach Police Department has announced the arrest of a man wanted for hurling anti-Semitic slurs and dumping a bag of feces outside a synagogue. Jeffrey Fleming is being charged with stalking with an enhancement for a hate crime and for littering human waste. The Chabad of South Broward said they are beefing up security following the acts of hate. According to witnesses Fleming at first appeared friendly, but then shouted that he was a Nazi and wanted to “kill you all one by one.” According to data from the ADL (Anti-Defamation League), Florida saw a near 40% increase in anti-Semitic incidents between 2019 and 2020, and Florida is one of the top states for these kinds of acts.

Nationwide, May 22, 2021 (USA Today/JTA): Five Jewish groups penned a letter to President Joe Biden on Friday expressing concern about the recent surge of antisemitic hate crimes in the U.S. amid the military confrontation between Israel and Hamas, which agreed to a cease-fire this week. The American Jewish Community, the Anti-Defamation League, the Jewish Federations of North America, Hadassah, and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America called on the president to use his platform to condemn antisemitism and take a number of actions to combat anti-Jewish hate in the U.S. "We are grateful for the current ceasefire in the conflict between Israel and the terrorist organization Hamas, but we fear that the way the conflict has been used to amplify antisemitic rhetoric, embolden dangerous actors and attack Jews and Jewish communities will have ramifications far beyond these past two weeks," the groups wrote. "We are tracking acts of harassment, vandalism and violence as well as a torrent of online abuse," Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt said in a statement. Among its recommendation, the letter calls on Biden to further increase security funding for nonprofits.

New York, New York, May 22, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York): A criminal complaint has been filed in federal court in Brooklyn charging Ali Alaheri with setting fire to a yeshiva and synagogue in Brooklyn on May 19, 2021. According to a statement by Acting U.S. Attorney Mark J. Lesko, Alaheri is accused of deliberately setting fire to a yeshiva (a Jewish school) and synagogue, and viciously attacking a man wearing traditional Hasidic (religious) garb. As set forth in the complaint and detention letter, Alaheri was captured on surveillance video piling garbage bags against the side of a building that housed the school and synagogue and igniting the garbage bags. Firefighters responded to a fire alarm at the location and extinguished the blaze. Several hours later, Alaheri was again captured on surveillance video, this time repeatedly punching a man wearing traditional Hasidic garb. There was no interaction between Alaheri and the victim prior to the assault.
Paris, France, May 19, 2021 (Global News – Canada): A French court has upheld a decision directing Ottawa sociology professor Hassan Diab to stand trial in the decades-old bombing of a Paris synagogue. The Court of Cassation, the highest court in the French judiciary, delivered the ruling. French authorities suspected Diab was involved in the 1980 bombing of a Paris synagogue that killed four people and injured dozens of others.

Tucson, Arizona, May 19, 2021 (KGUN ABC 9): A Tucson Jewish synagogue’s door was smashed with a rock overnight, according to the Tucson Police Department. Police say they do not have any suspects. The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona strongly condemns the vandalism against Congregation Chaverim. A rock was thrown through a window in the front door of the synagogue earlier this week and left the Jewish community shaken by this terrible act of violence. There is no place in our community for this type of hateful act. We will not allow this hatred to go unchecked. We urge anyone with information about the perpetrators to come forward.

Skokie, Illinois, May 17, 2021 (NBC 5 Chicago): An incident in which the Persian Hebrew Congregation in north suburban Skokie was vandalized was being investigated as a hate crime, authorities said. Officers observed a shattered window and discovered both a broken stick and a "Freedom for Palestine" sign beneath the window, police said. Lonnie Nasatir, head of the Jewish United Fund Chicago, acknowledged tensions are high in the Middle East, which has led to local protests. However, he says the hate crime was an act of intimidation. "This was clearly not freedom of speech, this went right into actually a real assault, and quite frankly, a terrorist act on a religious place of worship," he said.

Nationwide, May 15, 2021 (ABC 7 Eyewitness News): The Department of Homeland Security issued a National Terrorism Advisory System bulletin warning that violent extremists may take advantage of the easing of pandemic restrictions to conduct attacks. It reflects a sense of anxiety over domestic extremists, particularly those motivated by racial and ethnic hatred, that has been building for months. The alert does not cite any specific threats, but notes that, historically, extremists motivated by racial and ethnic hatred have targeted religious institutions among likely targets.

Nationwide, May 14, 2021 (Reuters): The U.S. Department of Homeland Security warned that domestic extremists could take advantage of easing COVID-19 restrictions to launch attacks on a broader range of targets, including religious institutions. In a new national terrorism advisory bulletin, DHS said the United States in 2021 is “facing threats that have evolved significantly and become increasingly complex and volatile,” including threats posed by domestic terrorists, by individuals and by “groups engaged in grievance-based violence”. DHS said social media and online forums “are increasingly exploited by these actors to influence and spread violent extremist narratives and activity.” The bulletin said racially motivated extremists have used social media and online platforms to advocate “a race war” and have suggested that civil disorder “provides opportunities to engage in violence in furtherance of ideological objectives.” Driven by “perceived grievances, false narratives, and conspiracy theories”, ideologically motivated extremists share information online with the intent to incite violence, DHS said, using websites which cater to extremists to call for violence against religious facilities among targets.

Worldwide, May 14, 2021 (abcNews): Two years after a white supremacist in New Zealand livestreamed the slaughter of 51 Muslim worshippers on Facebook, French President Emmanuel Macron says the internet continues to be be used by terrorists as a weapon to propagate hate. Macron and other leaders from tech giants and governments around the world — including the U.S. for the first time — gathered virtually on Saturday to find better ways to stop extremist violence from spreading online. The U.S. government and four other countries joined the effort, known as the Christchurch Call, for the first time this year. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said in a prerecorded video that authorities in his country alone had taken down more than 300,000 pieces of terrorist material from the internet over the past
decade, which he described as a tsunami of hate. “Countering the use of the internet by terrorists and violent extremists to radicalize and recruit is a significant priority for the United States,” White House spokeswoman Jen Psaki said in a statement.

San Francisco, California, May 14, 2021 (Jewish News of Northern California): A judge upheld felony charges and set a trial date for an East Bay man accused of threatening a mass shooting targeting Jews on an online message board. In June of 2019 25-year-old Ross Farca posted a detailed scenario on a Steam message board about a mass shooting targeting Jews: “I currently own an AR15 semi auto rifle but I can buy/make the auto sear and get the M16 parts kit,” the post read. “What do you think of me doing what [Poway shooter] John Earnest tried to do, but with a Nazi uniform, an unregistered and illegally converted ‘machine gun’ and actually livestreaming it with Nazi music?”

Grand Prairie, Texas, May 13, 2021, (Dallas Observer): Christian Michael Mackey, 20, a white nationalist apparently intent on killing members of the Jewish faith, filed a notice of his intent to plead guilty to some of the charges against him. The federal court will decide in the coming months whether it accepts the plea deal. According to a February 8, 2021 statement of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Texas summarizing the criminal complaint, Mackey regularly posted in online chats organized by the Iron Youth, a Neo-Nazi white nationalist group dedicated to national socialism, militancy, and political terror. The group espouses “siege” ideology – using a series of anti-government terrorist attacks to instigate a race war. On Instagram, Mr. Mackey said he liked “control and killing,” called himself a “radical jew slayer,” and vowed he would “die attacking the sustem [sic].” He urged fellow group members to kill Jews and African Americans. At a meeting with an undercover FBI agent in December, Mr. Mackey allegedly expressed interest in selling his rifle (AM-15) in order to purchase another firearm and stated that another Iron Youth member had recommended a ghost-gun, a homemade pistol without a serial number.

Europe, May 13, 2021 (JTA): As hostilities between Israelis and Palestinians rise, so do fears that European Jews will be targeted in a phenomenon that many here call “the import of the conflict.” That is what happened when Hamas and Israel exchanged blows in 2014, triggering the worst wave of antisemitic violence in Europe since the Holocaust in terms of its prevalence and scope. A dozen synagogues, most of them in France, were torched. And in the Paris suburb of Sarcelles, rioters smashed the windows of multiple Jewish-owned businesses, producing an aftermath that for some evoked Kristallnacht, the 1938 pogroms that presaged the Holocaust. Jews faced attacks, too, when Israel battled Hamas in 2009, and during the intifada that began in 2000, which triggered the first major outbreak of antisemitic violence in Europe in connection with the Israeli-Arab conflict. Hundreds of attacks were documented, including the torching of synagogues. Already there are signs that the current round of hostilities may be spilling over into Europe.

Great Britain, May 13, 2021 (The Jerusalem Post/BBC): Alleged neo-Nazi Andrew Dymock from Bath in the United Kingdom is currently on trial after being charged with five counts of encouraging terrorism, four of distributing terrorist publications, two of terrorist fundraising, one of possessing material useful to a terrorist, one of owning racially inflammatory material, one of inciting racial hatred, among a total of 15 terrorism and public-order offenses. Dymock, 23, is also accused of being part of the now-banned extremist groups Sonnenkrieg Division and System Resistance Network (SRN), after allegedly using the latter’s website to publish an article that said Jewish people are a “cancer.” Prosecutor Jocelyn Ledward said one article written by Dymock, titled “The Truth About the Holocaust,” is “clear in its encouragement of the eradication of Jewish people,” adding that “such encouragement constitutes encouragement to commit acts of terrorism.” The author calls for the destruction, the eradication, the extermination of an entire race of people.” Ledward said that Dymock also wrote and published an article titled “Hail Victory,”
in which he claimed that a “racial holy war is inevitable,” and that “every stabbing, bombing, shooting further plays into our hands.”

**Germany, May 13, 2021 (DW Akademie/Funke media group):** German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas pledged "unwavering security" for synagogues in Germany. **Police have stepped up protection at Jewish temples** and intervened at a number of anti-Israel rallies taking place across the country as violence escalates in the Middle East. Maas called on citizens to reject the idea of "blaming the people of the Jewish faith in Germany for events in the Middle East — whether on the streets or on social media." The foreign minister, who placed blame for the violence currently gripping Israel on Hamas, said there would be "zero tolerance for attacks on synagogues in our country." Police have detained several individuals in connection to **rocks being thrown through the windows of synagogues** across the country, among other vandalism.

**Germany, May 12, 2021 (the algemeiner):** The escalating conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is beginning to impact Jewish communities in Europe, where previous wars in Gaza and Lebanon during the last 20 years have triggered waves of antisemitic attacks. In Germany, at least three antisemitic incidents have been reported to police this week. In the state of North-Rhine Westphalia, Israeli flags were burned by unidentified individuals outside synagogues in the cities of Bonn and Munster, while a memorial stone to a synagogue in Dusseldorf destroyed during the Nazi era was vandalized.

**Berkeley, California, May 11, 2021 (KPIX CBS-5 San Francisco):** Police announced the arrest of a suspect in connection with multiple hate crimes involving graffiti, burglary and vandalism aimed at people of the Jewish faith. Among his crimes, the suspect was seen vandalizing a Jewish synagogue and destroying religious artifacts while leaving a handmade reverse swastika. The same suspect was also caught on surveillance video burglarizing a Jewish community center. The suspect was arrested on suspicion of burglary, vandalism and defacing or destroying property for the purpose of intimidating/interfering with the free exercise of any right/privilege secured to the person by the Constitution. The third charge is considered a hate crime.

**Imperial California, May 10, 2021 (The Philadelphia Inquirer):** Brian Thibodeau, 20, who has ties to the white supremacy movement, is the subject of a domestic terrorism investigation, federal authorities wrote in court documents related to racially motivated violent extremism. The FBI said their investigation involves white supremacy and domestic terrorism movements, the court documents say, as well as **online planning for possible violent attacks in the U.S.** Federal agents executing a search warrant at Thibodeau’s home in in March discovered an unregistered gun silencer, two firearms, a kit for making an AR-type rifle and metal pipes that authorities believe might be used to make pipe bombs. In addition, officials uncovered two notebooks filled with racist and Nazi phrases and drawings, as well as various racist and antisemitic documents and propaganda items, a novelty grenade and a copy of “The Turner Diaries,” an antisemitic novel that is popular with extremists. The search warrant also turned up a T-shirt featuring a neo-Nazi symbol, a German helmet and a black Nazi-style jacket with skull and crossbones on the collar.

**Jersey City, New Jersey, May 10, 2021 (abc7 NY):** A ceremony was held to honor the Jersey City police detective gunned down by the suspects in an antisemitic attack against a kosher deli, which also included civilian casualties. Detective Joseph Seals was killed in December 2019.

**Maitland, Florida, May 10, 2021 (Orlando Sentinel):** An anti-Semitic group called the Goyim Defense League protested outside the Roth Family Jewish Community Center of Greater Orlando to protest against its Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center Holocaust Center. A van painted with anti-Jewish messages tried to drive on to the Holocaust Center’s property but were denied entry by security. The van then went across the street, and a group of about 10 people with anti-Jewish signs used a bullhorn to
yell antisemitic slurs and handed out flyers to drivers stopped at the traffic light. This group is a loose network founded in California that spews their contempt for Jewish people in California, Colorado, Florida, and New York. They share their anti-Semitism by way of the Internet, propaganda distributions and street protests.

May 8, 2021, France (The Brussels Times/FR24News): As part of a number of anti-terrorism investigations linked to far-right movements underway in France, three members of a neo-Nazi group have been charged with “criminal terrorist association” on suspicion of planning an attack on a Masonic lodge. The three were detained on the basis of intercepted communications, Internet research into explosives, and surveillance of potential targets. Other counterterrorism investigations concern a neo-Nazi group suspected of targeting Jewish and Muslim places of worship. Historically, Freemasons and Jews were both targets of anti-Semitic propaganda. When Nazism came to power in Germany, it started a campaign to destroy both Freemasons and Jews.

New York, New York, May 5, 2021 (JTA/NYPD): The NYPD’s Hate Crime Task Force said the city recorded 180 hate crimes through May 2, compared to 104 such crimes during the same period last year, a 73% increase. The majority of incidents recorded targeted Asians and Jews.

New Jersey, May 5, 2021 (India West): Two men convicted of carrying out attacks on Jewish communities in New Jersey that included the firebombing of two synagogues and throwing a Molotov cocktail into a rabbi’s home lost their bids to have their convictions thrown out. A state appeals court rejected numerous arguments by Indian American Aakash Dalal and Anthony Graziano. The two, who were 19 at the time of the attacks in 2011, were convicted in separate trials in 2016 and sentenced to 35 years in prison under a state anti-terrorism law. Their attack on the rabbi’s home in Rutherford occurred while the rabbi, his wife, five children and his parents were sleeping, according to authorities. Dalal also was charged with conspiring to murder a Bergen County assistant prosecutor after a jailhouse informant alerted authorities. That gave rise to the search of Dalal’s cell, which yielded anti-Semitic writings and references to explosives as well as the names of judges and prosecutors. The pair plotted the attacks via text messages. “I don’t trust you until you kill a Jew,” Dalal allegedly told Graziano via instant messenger, in evidence revealed during the five-week trial. After a particularly heinous attack in Rutherford, New Jersey, which occurred while a rabbi and his family were sleeping in the building, the pair boasted about a Molotov cocktail hitting the rabbi’s bed. “Next time, burn the place down,” said Dalal, via messaging. “Definitely,” said Graziano, who was found guilty of 19 counts of arson and bias intimidation in May 2016. After the first firebombing at a Maywood, New Jersey, synagogue, Dalal urged Graziano to do more. “The Jews got what they deserved tonight. We should do another one in Paramus,” he wrote. After a January attempt to firebomb Temple K’Hal Adath Jeshurun proved unsuccessful, Dalal told Graziano he had inflicted no damage. “You have not proved yourself,” he said.

Nationwide, May 4, 2021 (The Daily Gazette): The former leader of a violent extremist group in Texas who federal authorities linked to a swatting incident at a Schenectady church and other faith-based organizations was sentenced to 41 months in federal prison for his role in a conspiracy across the U.S. John Cameron Denton, 27, of Montgomery, Texas, was sentenced for his participation in a conspiracy that conducted swatting attacks (making bomb and armed intruder threats) on at least 134 locations. Swatting is a harassment tactic that involves deceiving emergency dispatchers into believing a person or persons are in imminent danger of death or bodily harm. Many of the conspirators, including Denton, chose targets because they were motivated by racial hatred, according to the Department of Justice. The conspiracy targeted, a historic African American Church in New York and an Islamic Center in Texas. The First Reformed Church in Schenectady, NY, was chosen at least in part because the church has a livestreaming web camera that allowed the co-conspirators to watch the police response, according to an
earlier criminal complaint filed by the FBI. Among the targets was Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, VA, and he Dar El-Eman Islamic Center in Arlington, Texas.

Overland Park, Kansas, May 4, 2021 (JTA/Kansas City Fox4): Frazier Glenn Miller, also known as Frazier Glenn Cross, the white supremacist who murdered three people outside Jewish institutions in Overland Park, Kansas, in 2014, has died at the El Dorado Correctional Facility near Wichita, Kansas. He was 80 and believed to have died of natural causes. Miller was convicted in 2015 of three counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of Reat Underwood, 14, and his grandfather, William Corporon, 69, outside the Jewish Community Center of Kansas City in Overland Park, as well as Terri LaManno, 53, outside the Village Shalom assisted-living facility in April 2014. None of the victims were Jewish, but Miller assumed they were when he shot them. Two of the victims were Methodists and the one a Catholic.

Portland, Oregon, May 4, 2021 (JTA/NBC affiliate KGW): A Holocaust memorial was defaced with swastikas and antisemitic slurs during Jewish American Heritage Month. The memorial was created by Holocaust survivors who lived locally and includes names of their family members who perished in the war.

Nationwide, May 3, 2021 (Jewish Insider): A large bipartisan contingent of House members is calling to double funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) for a second year to $360 million for the 2022 fiscal year, citing a “lethal threat to faith-based communities.” A letter obtained by Jewish Insider, which was signed by 145 members of the House — approximately a third of the chamber — shows broad House support for increasing funding to the Department of Homeland Security grant program, which provides funding for nonprofits and faith-based organizations to improve their security programs. The letter was led by Reps. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) and John Katko (R-NY), the ranking member of the House Homeland Security Committee, and lays out in stark language the threats facing the Jewish community and Congress’s need to stay vigilant. “Today’s threat environment provides a compelling public interest in protecting against attacks on the nonprofit sector that would disrupt the vital health, human, social, cultural, religious, and other humanitarian services and practices they provide to communities, and which threaten the lives and well-being of millions of Americans who operate, utilize, live, and work in proximity to them,” the letter reads. The letter highlights assessments from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the Department of Homeland Security about the pressing threat from domestic extremists and foreign terrorist organizations — particularly to the Jewish community.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 4, 2021 (The New York Times): For more than two years the Tree of Life — Or L’Simcha synagogue, in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood, has sat empty of worshipers. Since the morning in October 2018 when a gunman showed up at Shabbat services and killed 11 worshipers, the somber building complex has been a crime scene, a place of mourning and the subject of long, emotional discussions about its future. Now, after much deliberation, the Tree of Life congregation has decided that the building will return as both a home for worship as well as a commemorative site and center for people from all over the world to learn about confronting hatred.

Ohio, May 3, 2021 (The Columbus Dispatch): Ohio last year experienced the highest number of antisemitic incidents in more than 40 years. Justin Shaw, director of Jewish community relations at the area nonprofit JewishColumbus noted that incidents have been rising for the past few years, and with COVID-19, it’s become easier for people to harass Jewish people online. There likely were more incidents, he said, than even appeared in the report released by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), which says 43 were disclosed in 2020. In 2019, 25 incidents were reported, marking a 72% increase in antisemitic events in 2020, according to the ADL. The 43 instances of antisemitism in 2020 represent a 52% increase from the state’s average of 28 incidents a year, the report shows.
New York, New York, May 2, 2021 (JTA/ABC7NY): Jordan Brunette, 29, has been arrested on hate crimes charges for a string of attacks on synagogues in a Jewish neighborhood of New York City. Police said Brunette is also the suspect in a string of recent attacks in which someone hurled rocks through windows and glass doors at four Riverdale synagogues. He is facing several charges, including burglary as a hate crime.

North-central Connecticut, May 1, 2021 (Journal Inquirer): A bill making its way through the state legislature that would establish a division within the state police to focus on investigating hate crimes and extremist groups follows an increase in the amount of white supremacist propaganda distributed in the state last year. The number of instances of white supremacist propaganda statewide — usually flyers, stickers, banners, and posters — increased from 27 in 2019 to 106 in 2020, according to the Anti-Defamation League. Several of those incidents were in north-central Connecticut. The state followed a trend that was seen around the country, where there were more than 5,000 incidents of propaganda being distributed, Connecticut Anti-Defamation League Director Steven Ginsburg said. That was nearly double the number from 2019, and “the highest number of white supremacist propaganda incidents we’ve ever recorded,” Ginsburg said. He said extremism has been increasing in the country for several years, and the presence of extremists in the state is irrefutable.

Storrs, Connecticut, April 30, 2021 (The Hill/The Hartford Courant): A student at the University of Connecticut was arrested and charged with a hate crime after he allegedly spray-painted a swastika near the UConn Hillel building during the Jewish holiday of Passover. Kristopher Pieper, 21, was charged with third-degree intimidation based on bias and third-degree criminal mischief, according to UConn police. The arrest allegedly stems from an incident reported on 27 March, when a swastika was found graffitied on the side of the chemistry building directly facing the Jewish campus community center. The antisemitic vandalism occurred on the first day of Passover. According to an arrest warrant, Pieper was identified through campus security camera footage, wireless internet records and his use of his student access card to enter buildings the night of the incident. Another swastika and a separate Nazi symbol were spray-painted in a similar paint just three days later. Police believe the incidents are related.

Omaha, Nebraska, April 29, 2021 (the algemeiner/KETV NewsWatch 7): Nebraska police will press charges against Jonathan Ziegler, 30, who was caught on CCTV footage posting antisemitic stickers at the entrance to a synagogue. Ziegler faces misdemeanor citations for damage to property and hate intimidation.

Nationwide, April 29, 2021 (JTA): A federal jury in Brooklyn, NY, convicted Brendan Hunt, 37, of Queens, NY, of threatening to assault and murder members of Congress. He faces up to 10 years in prison. In the days after the Capitol riot, Hunt posted threatening social media posts, including a video called “KILL YOUR SENATORS” in which he rants, “[W]e have to take out these Senators and then replace them with actual patriots. This is a [Zionist Occupied Government],” according to the Department of Justice. “Zionist Occupied Government,” or ZOG, is a catchphrase among white supremacists who believe that the U.S. government is controlled by Jews. The evidence against Hunt included white supremacist material and documents downloaded from his’s electronic devices, including Hitler’s manifesto “Mein Kampf.”

Tucuman, Argentina, April 29, 2021 (JTA): Police have arrested two people who authorities believe were planning an attack on an Argentine synagogue during the Jewish sabbath. The country’s federal judiciary was investigating a group called Goy Group Unleashed, according to the Simon Wiesenthal Center, when prosecutors found evidence on the messaging services Telegram and WhatsApp of the imminent Shabbat attack in the Tucuman province of northern Argentina. Police ordered two raids on the capital city of the province, San Miguel de Tucuman, and in a smaller town called El Manantial. In addition to the two arrests, they found guns, knives, radio communications equipment and Nazi literature. "That two of the group
decided to take violent action against a Jewish community is a worrying step, as the threat in Latin America had, until now, come from the far left and Islamist/Iran,” Shimon Samuels, director for international relations of the Wiesenthal Center, said in a statement. **There were three violent antisemitic attacks recorded in Argentina in 2019 and the number of total antisemitic incidents rose by 107% in 2018 over the previous year.**

**Stratford, Connecticut, April 28, 2021 (Hartford Courant):** Christopher Rascoll, 49, who sent antisemitic death threats to a Stratford resident for nearly a year pleaded guilty to one count of interference with the right to fair housing, a hate crime, and a count of sending threatening messages. “On December 23, 2019, Rascoll sent a message that included the words ‘Suns about to go down. It would be a shame if your house were used to light the menorah. Or turned in a gas chamber,’” investigators said. “On April 8, 2020, Rascoll wrote ‘I’m going to kill you. You better be gone because if you’re in [the victim’s housing community] Easter weekend I’m going to stick you in an oven. Or I’m going to shoot you.’” The charges against him carry a combined maximum imprisonment of 15 years.

**Bochum, Germany, April 28, 2021 (Monitoring Antisemitism Worldwide):** According to German police, plastic-coated metal bullets were shot at an area synagogue shortly after midnight. A windowpane in the the main entrance of the synagogue and two panes of the planetarium were damaged.

**Moscow, Russia, April 28, 2021 (Israel National News):** An unidentified group of people set fire to the SHAMIR Jewish Community Center and vandalized it with the slogan “Death to Jews” and a swastika. The attack took place on April 20, Hitler’s birthday, but was only just reported. The fire destroyed part of the front entrance. The Center, which is over 30 years old, has been the target of other attacks in the last two years.

**Canada, April 27, 2021 (JTA):** An antisemitism watchdog in Canada said **44% of the nation’s violent incidents in 2020 were related to the COVID outbreak.** The report released by B’nai Brith Canada’s advocacy arm, the League for Human Rights, said that **antisemitic incidents overall spiked 18% from 2019, reaching 2,610. It was the fifth consecutive year that antisemitic incidents had topped previous levels,** the report said. The violent antisemitic incidents related to COVID were spurred by misinformation that haredi Orthodox Jews were defying pandemic containment rules, according to the League for Human Rights.

**Nationwide, April 27, 2021 (Jewish News Syndicate):** Antisemitic incidents in the United States remain at a near all-time high, according to the Anti-Defamation League’s annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents. The report revealed a total of **2,024 anti-Semitic incidents in 2020 nationwide—an average of five incidents a day.** Five states—New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Florida, and California—accounted for nearly 57 percent of all incidents or more than 1,100 acts of Jew-hatred. Only 10 states reported five or fewer anti-Semitic incidents in 2020. After around 440 incidents were recorded in January and February alone, the number of incidents plummeted in March when nationwide coronavirus lockdowns kept people at home and instances somewhat in check. Still, despite people shuttered at home **2020 still managed to record the third-highest number of anti-Semitic incidents since the ADL began keeping track in 1979.**

**New York, New York, April 25, 2021 (Norwood News):** Thirteen years after a foiled plot to blow up a synagogue in the Riverdale section of the Bronx, the NYPD is seeking the public’s assistance identifying an individual seen in surveillance video and photos, who is wanted for questioning with regard to multiple acts of vandalism/criminal mischief targeting Jewish centers. The incidents are being investigated by the NYPD’s Hate Crime Task Force. The incident occurred at Young Israel of Riverdale, Conservative Synagogue Adath Israel of Riverdale, Chabad of Riverdale and Riverdale Jewish Youth Library, and Riverdale Jewish Center. [On October 18, 2010, The US Attorney’s Office for the Southern
District of New York announced that James Cromitie, aka Abdul Rahman, aka Abdul Rehman; David Williams, aka Daoud, aka DL; Onta Williams, aka Hamza; and Laguerre Payen, aka Amin, aka Almendo, were found guilty of plotting to detonate explosives near a synagogue and Jewish community center in the Riverdale section of the Bronx, New York.

Cambridge, England, April 23, 2021 (The Daily Mail): Nazi sympathizer Oliver Bel, 24, faces up to 15 years in jail after buying a bomb-making manual. He was raided by counter-terror police after threatening to get a machine gun and go on a 'killing spree', leading to the discovery of the bomb manual. Describing himself as an 'English National Socialist', he said Jews were 'parasites', writing: 'Extermination is the best option for them.' In a Facebook post he wrote: 'I just want to go on a killing spree.' Counter-terror officers found far-Right publications and an emblem worn by Hitler's SS at his home in Salford, in November 2019. They also found a copy of the Anarchist Cookbook, described in court as an 'instructional manual on how to kill people'. Previously, police looking into Bel’s activities, said they thought he believed a 'racial holy war' was looming, but did not pose a threat.

New York, New York, April 22, 2021 (Queens Gazette): Congresswoman Grace Meng, NYS Senator Toby Ann Stavisky, Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi, and Councilwoman Karen Koslowitz released the following statement after a reported anti-Semitic incident occurred in Rego Park. “The 112th NYPD Precinct and Hate Crimes Task Force are investigating an incident in which a Jewish male was subjected to anti-Semitic hate speech and physically assaulted by an unidentified man... in Rego Park.” “This occurred only days after another individual was apprehended by the 112th Precinct in relation to an anti-Semitic act of vandalism that took place outside of the Rego Park Jewish Center...”

Singapore, April 20, 2021 (The Straits Times (Singapore)): As Muslims mark the ongoing fasting month of Ramadan, mosques have increased their focus on detecting potential threats to their buildings and worshippers. The police have also continued patrols at places of worship, which they recently stepped up for the Easter holiday. Ramadan could still be a dangerous period, as terrorists are known to conduct attacks during events of religious significance. The threat is augmented by a recent heightened regional terror alert, as well as a surge in extremist narratives and radical ideologies circulating online.

New York, New York, April 19, 2021 (the algemeiner/New York Daily News): New York police have arrested the driver responsible for a deliberate hit-and-run attack on five Brooklyn Hasidim (religious Jews). The minivan driver was caught on camera intentionally backing up into five pedestrians in the Williamsburg neighborhood of Brooklyn, striking the victims twice and initially lingering on the scene before ultimately speeding away. The NYPD reportedly arrested the suspect, Shokhobiddin Bakhritdinovon, 26, after his car was spotted by members of a neighborhood watch group. The victims were five male relatives ranging in age from 11 to 82.

Cedar Grove, New Jersey, April 19, 2021 (Tap Into Verona/Cedar Grove): Police are investigating the source of a swastika painted on the rear door of Temple Sholom of West Essex. According to Cedar Grove police, an officer responded to the Temple Sholom to take a report of bias intimidation. A staff member at the Temple discovered the swastika on a door above an electronic key reader. The detective bureau has obtained video surveillance, captured from a camera at the rear door, and is in the process of reviewing it.

Berlin, Germany, April 19, 2021 (the algemeiner): More than 1,000 antisemitic incidents were recorded in Berlin during 2020, marking a rise of nearly 20 percent on the previous year, according to new research published by RIAS, an antisemitism monitoring institute based in the German capital. A total of 1004 antisemitic incidents were registered during a year that was dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Almost one in five of the antisemitic incidents recorded during 2020 were related to the coronavirus crisis,
RIAS said in a statement. Such incidents often occurred during demonstrations against social distancing, through “the spread of antisemitic conspiracy myths, perpetrator-victim reversals and Holocaust trivializations.”

**Belfast, Northern Ireland, April 18, 2021 (JTA/BBC):** Vandals knocked down and smashed at least 10 gravestones in the Jewish section of one of Northern Ireland’s largest cemeteries. The Jewish section has graves as old as the 1870s. In 2016, 13 headstones were damaged in a similar attack on the Jewish section of the same graveyard. Police are investigating as a hate crime.

**Riverhead, Long Island, New York, April 16, 2021 (ABC-7NY):** Suffolk County District Attorney Tim Sini announced an indictment in connection with several reported shootings and hate crimes on Long Island. Sini said 36-year-old Christopher Keller, of Manorville, harassed people based upon their religion and sexual orientation. Officials say Keller was involved in a number of incidents, including shooting a firearm into three establishments in Holtsville, Medford, and Nesconset, as well as into a residence in Kings Park where he also is accused of vandalizing cars outside the home. He allegedly chose his victims because he believed them to be Jewish or gay, and authorities say he posted extremely disturbing statements on Instagram towards his victims with threats and hatred.

**New York, New York, April 16, 2021 (foreshillspost):** The police have arrested Ramtin Rabenou, 41, of Forest Hills for allegedly scrawling a swastika next to the Rego Park Jewish Center (synagogue).

**Northern, New Jersey, April 16, 2021 (NBC-4NY):** Two men, Aakash Dalal and Anthony Graziano, convicted of carrying out attacks on Jewish communities in New Jersey that included the firebombing of two synagogues and throwing a Molotov cocktail into a rabbi’s home lost their bids to have their convictions thrown out. Their attack on the rabbi’s home in Rutherford occurred while the rabbi, his wife, five children and his parents were sleeping, according to authorities. Dalal was charged with other crimes after a search of his cell yielded anti-Semitic writings and references to explosives as well as the names of judges and prosecutors.

**International, April 16, 2021 (Jewish News Syndicate):** Nearly a dozen European countries are “insufficient” in their efforts to meet the challenges of antisemitism, a report by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom found. “Sadly, 2020 was another difficult year for global antisemitism” between COVID-19 unleashing an “avalanche” of antisemitic propaganda to physical attacks on Jews worldwide, said Gary Bauer, a commissioner with the organization, as well as president of the American Values think tank. His comments came during an hour-long briefing on the just-released “Antisemitism in Europe: Implications for U.S. Policy” from the commission, a U.S. government body established by the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. He report examined anti-Semitism in 11 European countries—Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. Among the report’s recommendations are that European governments wholly fund security requirements of Jewish communities; reform education to include positive portrayals of Jews and their contributions to the individual country and the world; and improve law enforcement’s handling of anti-Semitic crimes.

**Canada, April 12, 2021 (Global News (Canada)/National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians Annual Report 2020 Revised March 2021):** The National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians identified the growing threats from violent hate groups as among the leading threats facing the country today. The findings came in a report that found, in part, that Ideologically motivated violent extremism has been growing since 2018. This form of extremism encompasses xenophobic violence and "other grievance-driven and ideologically motivated violence." According to CSIS, what unites these groups and individuals is a common belief that "the success or
survival of society/civilization cannot be separated from the need for ongoing violence against a perceived threatening group (e.g. visible minorities and religious groups, among others). While CSIS uses the term ideologically motivated violent extremism to describe attacks motivated by extreme ideologies across the political spectrum, CSIS’s recognition of this form of extremism is in part a response to the evolving threat of right-wing extremism.

London, England, April 12, 2021 (Associated Press/Norwegian broadcaster NRK): A man has been charged in Norway for his alleged role in plans to carry out three extremist attacks in Denmark and in London, and for purportedly spreading Islamic State group propaganda on the internet. Authorities believe the 24-year-old man, who was not identified, was part of a group that sought to strike a church in England, possibly St. Paul’s Cathedral in London. It was not immediately known whether the case was linked to the July sentencing in London of Safiyya Shaikh, a British woman who had converted to Islam. She was jailed for life, with a minimum sentence of 14 years, for plotting to blow up St. Paul’s Cathedral.

Monsey, New York (April 9, 2021 (Jewish News Syndicate): Due to the suspect’s continued mental state, attorneys from the U.S. Justice Department are conceding that they may not be able to prosecute Grafton Thomas, who on December 28, 2019, the seventh night of Chanukah, allegedly walked into the home of Rabbi Chaim Rottenberg and stabbed 5 people, killing one, with a machete. After fleeing the rabbi’s home, Thomas then allegedly attempted to gain access to the adjacent synagogue, but the door was locked. He left the area and was caught by New York City police.

Nationwide, April 9, 2021 (Office of the Director of National Intelligence): US-based lone actors and small cells with a broad range of ideological motivations pose a greater immediate domestic threat. We see this lone-actor threat manifested within domestic violent extremists (DVEs), who commit terrorist acts for ideological goals stemming from domestic influences, such as racial bias. This diverse set of DVEs reflects an increasingly complex threat landscape, including racially or ethnically motivated threats. Of these, violent extremists who espouse an often-overlapping mix of white supremacist, neo-Nazi, and exclusionary cultural-nationalist beliefs have the most persistent transnational connections via often loose online communities to like-minded individuals and groups in the West. Violent extremists who promote the superiority of the white race have been responsible for at least 26 lethal attacks that killed more than 141 people and for dozens of disrupted plots in the West since 2015. While these extremists often see themselves as part of a broader global movement, most attacks have been carried out by individuals or small, independent cells. DVEs are motivated and inspired by a mix of ideological, sociopolitical, and personal grievances against their targets, which have increasingly included houses of worship. Lone actors, who by definition are not likely to conspire with others regarding their plans, are increasingly choosing soft, familiar targets for their attacks, limiting law enforcement opportunities for detection and disruption.

Nationwide, April 8, 2021 (Associated Press): An organizer of a neo-Nazi campaign to threaten journalists and Jewish activists in three states has pleaded guilty in federal court in Seattle. Cameron Shea was one of four members of the neo-Nazi group Atomwaffen Division charged earlier this year with having cyberstalked and sent Swastika-laden posters to journalists and an employee of the Anti-Defamation League, telling them, "You have been visited by your local Nazis," "Your Actions have Consequences," and "We are Watching." Shea mailed the threatening fliers to two people associated with the nonprofit Anti-Defamation League, which opposes anti-Semitism. One of the other defendants accused of leading

the plot, Kaleb Cole, has pleaded not guilty. **Seattle police seized Cole's guns in 2019 under an "extreme risk protection order" that suggested he was planning a race war.**

**Montpellier, France, April 8, 2021 (Euronews/AFP (France))**: A woman has been arrested on suspicion of **planning an attack on a church** in the French city of Montpellier, according to anti-terrorism investigators. During searches of the suspect's home, authorities found images of "armed jihadists," bomb-making materials, a diagram of a nearby church, and handwritten notes referring to Nazism and the Islamic State group, officials said. Anti-terrorism authorities said they had launched an investigation into the individual for "criminal terrorist association" and "possession of incendiary or explosive products".

**Wisconsin, April 7, 2021 (WUWM – 89.7 Milwaukee’s NPR)**: Anti-Semitism continues to grow as an issue in Wisconsin. The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation released its annual report on anti-Semitic incidents and found that **over the past year, harassment towards Jewish people rose by 36%**. The audit included 99 reported and corroborated incidents. But that upward trend has been happening for years, JCRC chair Brian Schupper said. “In two years, we’ve seen a doubling of anti-Semitic activity, and prior to that it was a doubling of the two years before that,” he further said.

**Worldwide, April 7, 2021 (Jewish News)**: A new report by Tel Aviv University’s Kantor Centre has warned that **the rise in online conspiracy theories during the pandemic “could lead to greater physical attacks on Jews when lockdowns end.”** Dr. Moshe Kantor, President of the European Jewish Congress, said “there has been a deep global polarisation, with the extremist margins increasing due to conspiracy theories and the search for answers in a challenging world” at the release of the Annual Report on Antisemitism Worldwide 2020. “We know that antisemitism spread online to young minds can and does lead to violent and racist attacks. We only have to look at some of the most pernicious hate crimes of recent years such as Breivik in Norway, Mohammed Merah at the Jewish school in Toulouse in France, the attack on a mosque in New Zealand and the attacks on synagogues in Pittsburgh and Poway to see how easy it is to transfer learned hatred into murderous violence. “Anti-Jewish hatred online never stays online. We have to be prepared that antisemitic conspiracy theories could lead to physical attacks on Jews when lockdowns end.”

**Paris, France, April 7, 2021 (The Jerusalem Post/Le Parisien)**: Jewish residents of a Paris suburb chased and overpowered a man whom witnesses said **tried to stab three Jews near a synagogue in Sarcelles, then handed him over to police**. The suspect, a 35-year-old illegal immigrant from Pakistan, approached the men from behind. The men were wearing yarmulkes. Residents who saw the scene unfold from their balcony warned the three men, who ran away unscathed. The suspect, who was carrying an 11-inch blade that is used to slice plaster boards, also fled. But local Jews alerted to the commotion pursued and overpowered him, holding the man until police arrived.

**Storrs, Connecticut, April 6, 2021 (Jewish News Syndicate)**: Students at the University of Connecticut held a rally against hate speech and anti-Semitism following a number of incidents on its main campus. **On the first day of Passover, a swastika was found spray-painted on the side of the chemistry building. A few days later, another one was found spray-painted on the campus’s Philip E. Austin Building.** A university spokesperson said “UConn Police documented the graffiti in both cases and are actively investigating.” Avital Sutin, vice president of UConn’s Hillel chapter, said that in the past academic year, seven anti-Semitic incidents have taken place on campus.

**Aalborg, Denmark, April 5, 2021 (the algemeiner)**: Children’s dolls splashed with fake blood alongside dozens of flyers promoting the infamous antisemitic “blood libel” was discovered at a Jewish cemetery. The flyers were marked with a large Star of David and the word “Pesach” – the Hebrew name for the
Passover holiday that was celebrated last week — on top of a text that labeled the holiday “another Jewish celebration of bloodshed.” They were signed with the online address of Nordfront, the Danish wing of the neo-Nazi Nordic Resistance Movement (NRM) that is active across the Scandinavian countries. Henri Goldstein, president of the Jewish Community in Denmark (Mosaik Troessamfund), said on Monday that news of the vandalism would only increase the sense of insecurity among Denmark’s Jews, who number about 8,000 and are mostly concentrated in the capital, Copenhagen. “When such things happen, it creates a suspicion that there is something else to fear — including physical violence,” Goldstein told Danish broadcaster DR. Police are investigating the vandalism as a hate crime.

New York, New York, April 1, 2021 (Jewish Journal/New York Post): A man was arrested for allegedly attacking a Hasidic Jewish couple and their one-year-old baby with a knife in Manhattan. The Hasidic man sustained a wound to the head and the Hasidic woman was cut on her lip. The suspect also attacked the couple’s daughter, who got slashed on the chin. The couple proceeded to run away from the attacker and the suspect followed them. The suspect was later arrested on counts of assault, criminal possession of a weapon and possession of a controlled substance. The ADL stated that is aware of the incident and is reaching out to Law Enforcement to find out more (about the motive).

Istanbul, Turkey, April 1, 2021 (JTA): The archaeological remains of a former synagogue in Istanbul caught fire in what police say may have been arson. The report about the suspected arson involves the former Kasturya Synagogue. Its gate is a registered archaeological site and is undergoing renovations. Police and firefighters are investigating.

Nationwide, March 31, 2021 (JTA/ADL): An annual survey from the Anti-Defamation League found that a quarter of American Jews have personally experienced anti-Semitism in the past five years, and that most American Jews have witnessed anti-Semitic comments targeting others. In that same time period, 9% of Jewish respondents said they have been the victim of an anti-Semitic physical attack. In total, 63% of Jewish respondents reported that they had either witnessed or experienced anti-Semitism in the years since 2016, an increase from 54% last year.

Overland Park, Kansas, March 30, 2021 (Kansas City Star): American domestic terrorist and former Ku Klux Klan member Frazier Glenn Miller, who killed three people during a shooting spree in two suburban Kansas City Jewish sites on Passover Eve in 2014, has appealed to overturn his death penalty on the grounds that he was unfit to represent himself in the trial. Miller, also known as Glenn Cross, was convicted in 2015 on one count of capital murder, three counts of attempted murder, and assault and weapons charges after he chose to represent himself in court, arguing that his plan to "kill Jews" was justified since "Jews have too much power and must be stopped." Miller’s April 13, 2014, rampage outside the Jewish Community Center and the Village Shalom care center took the lives of Reat Underwood, 14; his grandfather William Corporon, 69; and 53-year-old Terri LaManno, who worked with visually impaired children. At his sentencing, Miller reiterated his desire to kill Jewish people. “I’d do it again,” he said, “if they ever let me out of here.”

New York, New York, March 29, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York): Mark J. Lesko, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York announced that the Office will double the size of its Civil Rights Section in the Criminal Division to provide additional resources to evaluate and, where appropriate, prosecute hate crimes. “Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) is proud to join together with the FBI and the United States Attorney’s Office, EDNY, in combatting the rising trend of Hate Crimes that we are seeing throughout our region. Every person should be free to live and worship as they wish without fear for repercussions or their safety,” stated HSI New York Special Agent-in-Charge Peter C. Fitzhugh. “Working with our partners, HSI will hold those who victimize others based on their nationality, race, religion or otherwise, responsible for their actions.”
**Indonesia, March 29, 2021 (Reuters):** Indonesian police discovered powerful explosives and arrested more suspected Islamist militants, after a series of raids following a suicide attack outside a cathedral on the first day of the Easter Holy Week. The attack in the city of Makassar on Sulawesi island wounded 19 people and took place as mass was finishing. Police said the bombers were a married couple who belonged to Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD), an Islamic State-inspired group suspected of suicide attacks on churches and a police post that killed at least 30 people in the city of Surabaya in 2018.

**Indonesia, March 28, 2021 (BBC News/Metro TV):** A suspected suicide bomb attack outside a Catholic church in the Indonesian city of Makassar has left at least 14 people wounded, police say. Police said an explosion erupted as two attackers tried to enter the church on Palm Sunday ahead of Easter. A priest at the church, Father Wilhemus Tulak, told reporters that security guards had tackled one suspected bomber. Police blamed an Islamic State-inspired network, the Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD) group, for the attacks.

**Washington, DC, March 26, 2021 (US Department of Justice):** The Justice Department announced that Sonia Tabizada, age 36, of San Jacinto, California, was sentenced to 15 months and 13 days for intentionally obstructing persons in the enjoyment of their free exercise of religious beliefs by threatening to bomb the Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School in Washington, DC. According to the plea agreement, Tabizada made multiple calls threatening violence against the school. On May 15, 2019, Tabizada left a voice message stating that she was going to burn and bomb the church. She also stated that she was going to kill school officials and students. Tabizada further left a voice mail stating that she was going to blow up the school and warned that she would commit “terrorism.” “No school and no child should be subjected to death threats, because of their religious beliefs,” said Pamela S. Karlan, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division, “and the Department of Justice will continue to vigorously prosecute violent threats motivated by bias.”

**Atlanta, Georgia, March 26, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia):** Acting U.S. Attorney Kurt R. Erskine and Chris Hacker, Special Agent in Charge of FBI Atlanta are condemning bigotry, racism, and hatred against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community and issuing a call for people to report potential discriminatory incidents immediately. “We are deeply troubled by the acts of violence and harassment against our Asian American neighbors, family, and friends in this district,” said Acting U.S. Attorney Kurt R. Erskine. “We will not tolerate discrimination or criminal acts against people based on their real or perceived race or ethnicity and will continue to examine all evidence related to the shooter’s motivation in order to determine whether these horrific murders violated federal hate crime laws. Federal law enforcement in this district is committed to the safety of the members of our AAPI community and we urge the public to report potential racial discrimination and hate crimes to law enforcement so we can address these illegal acts.”

**Seaside, California, March 25, 2021 (JTA):** Thomas Shefflette, a former Cal State Monterey Bay graduate student, was arrested at his campus apartment on weapons-related felony and misdemeanor charges. Campus police, accompanying the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office, went to his apartment to issue an eviction notice for unpaid rent and found a loaded 9 mm handgun, a “large quantity of AR-15 weapon parts” and parts for the assembly of a ghost gun, a handmade weapon that lacks any serial number. Police also reportedly found a swastika taped to his wall and a photo of Hitler.

**Pennsylvania, March 24, 2021 (GoErie):** There were 330 Hate incidents reported last year in Pennsylvania by the Anti-Defamation League — a record high since the ADL started tracking cases in the state five years ago. Most of the incidents involved white supremacist propaganda, while 96 were antisemitic incidents and eight were white supremacist events. The findings line up with those noted by
the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, the top civil rights agency in the state. The spike in hate incidents across Pennsylvania mirrors a trend across the country. White supremacist propaganda surged across the U.S. in 2020, with 5,125 cases of racist, antisemitic and other hateful messages reported by the ADL. There was an average of about 14 incidents per day and nearly double the 2,724 cases reported in 2019. Most of the cases were tied to 30 far right and white supremacy groups that spread propaganda in every state but Hawaii. While the highest number of incidents were reported in Philadelphia, its suburbs, the Poconos, Lehigh Valley, Pittsburgh and the Harrisburg area, the ADL report shows hate was widespread through at least 100 communities in Pennsylvania.

Worldwide, March 23, 2021 (Los Angeles Times): Experts on extremism are warning about a troubling shift in the right-wing QAnon movement toward a new vein of conspiracy that blends anti-Chinese and anti-Jewish tropes with fears of vaccines and a global plot to take over the world. The anti-Asian sentiment has shifted to anxiety about worldwide dominance, specifically a communist overthrow of governments backed by Jewish people who control wealth. According to researcher Joel Finkelstein, director of Rutgers University’s Network Contagion Research Institute, “They are unifying under a giant umbrella of a common enemy. Sometimes it’s the Jews. Occasionally it’s the Asians. Usually, it’s the government. What is happening is they are fishing for different issues to cause violence with.”

Switzerland, March 22, 2021 (The Jerusalem Post): In a statement to mark International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Swiss Federal Commission against Racism (FCR) has said that hate speech and intolerance are on the rise in the country, including antisemitic conspiracy theories often surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. That report found that of 485 reported incidents of online antisemitism, primarily in social media and newspaper talkback pages, there were 249 reports of contemporary antisemitic conspiracy theories. Of those, 45% involved conspiracy theories about the Jewish people and responsibility for the COVID-19 pandemic, the report said.

London, England, March 22, 2021 (Huffington Post): An attack on a Jewish pregnant woman in which she was repeatedly punched after a pillowcase was put over her head is the latest in a string of reported anti-Semitic hate crimes. The 20-year-old victim, who is around 28 weeks pregnant, was taken to hospital for treatment of injuries following the assault in Stamford Hill. The Metropolitan Police said a man, aged in his late 50s, had been arrested on suspicion of grievous bodily harm and is in custody. Rabbi Herschel Gluck, president of the Shomrim neighborhood watch group in the area, said the assault was part of a “general spike” targeting Jewish women and girls. CCTV footage shared online shows a man approach the woman from behind and can be seen putting a pillowcase over her head before repeatedly punching her, then running away. Rabbi Gluck told the PA news agency: “Over the past month, there have been seven similar incidents, assaults on women and girls. “He followed her for about a mile. In other words, it was clearly premeditated, it wasn’t an ‘opportunistic’ incident. “It has reached a new level of violence. It seems he wanted to kill her. It’s a very shocking picture.” He said the woman has been left “traumatized” by the incident, while the whole Jewish community was feeling “deeply concerned”.

Rome, Italy, March 22, 2021 (JTA): A food delivery man in Rome was stabbed after telling a fellow courier to stop an anti-Semitic rant. The victim sustained lacerations on his face and required medical treatment. The incident occurred while the two men were waiting for food orders to deliver. The alleged attacker ranted about Jews and produced a knife and assaulted the other courier after he protested the man’s antisemitic rhetoric. The alleged attacker left the scene on his motorcycle after the incident. Police are searching for him on suspicion of assault aggravated by racist hatred.

Miami, Florida, March 20, 2021 (Times of Israel): A Miami-based imam criticized those who seek peace and normalization with Jews, whom he referred to as “the offspring of apes and pigs” that are behind all corruption worldwide, in a sermon. Imam Dr. Fadi Yousef Kablawi’s speech at the North Miami Islamic
Center was posted to the mosque’s Facebook page and translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI). Kablawi was likely referring to the recent signing of diplomatic agreements between Israel and various Arab and Muslim-majority states. Israel established ties last year with the UAE and Bahrain in a US-brokered deal known as the Abraham Accords. Sudan, Morocco, and Kosovo followed suit shortly after. Extremist Islamists have often referred to Jews as pigs and apes, based on their interpretation of certain Quranic verses. Kablawi’s sermon also blamed Jews for spreading “corruption” upon the land. According to MEMRI, Kablawi is a dentist and had immigrated to the United States from Jordan.

Columbus, Ohio, March 19, 2021 (the algemeiner/Columbus Dispatch): Douglas G. Schifer, 65, who harassed his Jewish neighbors with antisemitic insults and threats was charged in a federal district court with a hate crime. Schifer is alleged to have repeatedly targeted his neighbors, a Jewish couple from California who had recently moved to the neighborhood. Alongside antisemitic insults, Schifer allegedly threw rocks through their patio door and windows, shattering the glass; an incident captured on a neighbor’s doorbell camera. On another occasion, he reportedly threatened to shoot family members.

New York, New York, March 19, 2021 (NBC News): A man suspected of drawing a swastika front of a historic temple was captured after New York City police said he returned to the site to again mark it with other anti-Semitic symbols. Manuel Barrera, 50, of Harlem, was arrested on a charge of anti-Semitic aggravated harassment, according to authorities. New York police released video showing a man approach the doors of Temple Emanu-El on the city’s Upper East Side. In the footage, the man is seen writing or drawing something before heading away. Barrera returned to Temple Emanu-El to again draw a swastika, along with a pentagram and "666," an NYPD official confirmed. The pentagram and "666" are satanic symbols. Temple officials called police, who took Barrera into custody. Temple Emanu-El, was established in 1845. One of the largest synagogues in the world, the sanctuary fits more people than New York’s St. Patrick’s Cathedral.

Virginia, March 17, 2021 (ABC 13 News): White supremacist propaganda has doubled in 2020 compared to 2019, according to data from Anti-Defamation League. In Virginia, incidents increased from 138 in 2019 to 249 in 2020.

Washington, DC, March 16, 2021 (JTA/South Florida Sun Sentinel): A Capitol Police officer has been suspended after a copy of “The Protocols of the Elders of Zion,” an infamous anti-Semitic document, was found near his work area. “The Protocols,” first published in Russia in the early 20th century, is one of the most widespread anti-Semitic tracts of all time. It alleges a Jewish conspiracy to control the world.

Brevard, North Carolina, March 14, 2021 (ABC News 11): Several law enforcement agencies are investigating after multiple suspected 'incendiary devices' were found near the First Baptist Church of Brevard. The Brevard Police Department is now working with the local sheriff’s office as well as the NC State Bureau of Investigation, FBI and ATF to investigate the incident.

Northern, California, March 10, 2021 (JTA): Jon Minadeo Jr., 38, as launched an online merchandise store selling virulently anti-Semitic T-shirts and apparel in an effort to fund propaganda tours across California and beyond. Dubbed Goyim Gear, “All proceeds go to the next N.T.N.T.,” a message at the top of the webpage says, referring to what Minadeo calls the “Name the Nose Tour,” outings on which he and others drive around California shouting anti-Semitic slurs and conspiracy theories through a megaphone. Minadeo, with a group known as the Goyim Defense League, went on a Name the Nose tour last summer in Southern California, driving in a white van scrawled with anti-Semitic messages such as “Jews killed Jesus” and “BLM is funded by Jews.” They hung banners reading “Honk if you know the Jews want a race
war” on a Los Angeles highway overpass, shouted conspiracy theories about COVID-19 to mask wearers and stood outside a Chabad center claiming that “these Jewish terrorists” were behind 9/11. 

Singapore, March 10, 2021 (The Jerusalem Post/The Straits Times): A 20-year-old Singaporean man was detained on Wednesday under the Internal Security Act for his plan to stab local Jewish community members after their prayer service at Maghain Aboth Synagogue in the city-state, according to reports. The man, Amirull Ali, was serving as a national serviceman in the Singapore Armed Forces at the time of his arrest and is believed to have been self-radicalized since at least the age of 14. **He planned to target three Jewish men after their Saturday congregational prayers.** He seemed to have operated under the assumption that any Jewish worshipers he would be able to kill would have been involved in Israel’s actions in the Gaza Strip. Home Affairs and Law Minister K. Shanmugam said that many Jewish people in Singapore are local citizens and would have served in that country’s defense forces and not the Israeli Defense Forces. **He preparations for the attack included practicing stabbing movements with a practice-knife, learning about the human body to carry out an effective attack, and visiting the synagogue to familiarize himself with it.**

Atlanta, Georgia, March 10, 2021 (Atlanta Jewish Times): There have been 15 Zoombombing incidents reported to the Anti-Defamation League’s Southeast regional office in Atlanta in the past year, mostly targeting the Jewish community. Zoombombing is basically a group hijacking the Zoom platform’s screen-sharing feature to project graphic verbal and visual content to unwitting meeting participants in an attempt to shock and shut down those gatherings, according to a compilation of online definitions. The cases of Zoombombings in the Jewish community have trickled in throughout the pandemic, a period when more people turned to the video teleconferencing platform Zoom for such gatherings as office meetings, synagogue services, activities, simchas and family holiday celebrations, according to Rabinovitz, who handles security for the community through the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta in partnership with the national Secure Community Network. Rabinovitz said perpetrators of Zoombombing, if apprehended, could be charged with state or federal crimes, depending on the circumstances. As examples, he cited: “disrupting a public meeting, computer intrusion, using a computer to commit a crime, hate crimes, or transmitting threatening communications.” The Jewish community is not alone when it comes to being Zoombombed. In August, internet trolls targeted the Rev. Raphael Warnock when he was running for the U.S. Senate, according to media reports. **The perpetrators hurled racist slurs, showed Nazi symbols and pornographic images as Warnock began to speak** on a Zoom meeting of the Hall County Democratic Party, the reports indicated.

Nationwide, March 8, 2021 (ABC News): Based on investigations between 2016 and 2020, agents and analysts with the FBI’s division in San Antonio concluded that white supremacists and other right-wing extremists would “very likely seek affiliation with military and law enforcement entities in furtherance of” their ideologies, according to a confidential intelligence assessment. In some cases, they wanted to join the military or police so they would be able to commit acts of violence toward members of minority groups. In others, they planned to join the military or police to learn how to wage war against members groups. The document was distributed to law enforcement agencies both in Texas and elsewhere in the country. **In the long term, FBI San Antonio assesses [racially motivated violent extremists] successfully entering military and law enforcement careers almost certainly will gain access to non-public tradecraft and information, enabling them to enhance operational security and develop new tactics in and beyond the FBI San Antonio” region, the document said.**

Australia, March 8, 2021 (The Herald Sun): There is a “dangerous” and alarming rise of the far-right movement across Australia. Far-right groups – spurred on by the dream of an “Australian Hitler” – have dramatically increased their activities on Australian soil in recent years as new cells pop up. A relatively new group to Australia – the National Socialist Network – claims to have an active footprint in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Canberra, Perth and a number of regional cities. **The Brisbane Synagogue is**
one of the places where these groups have congregated to spread their message of hate, white supremacist and neo-Nazi ideology. The nation’s spy agency, the Australian Security Intelligence Organization, says increasing numbers of young Australians – some just 14 years old – are being radicalized by both extreme right wing and Islamist groups.

**Marseille, France, March 5, 2021 (ABC News/Associated Press/JTA):** Guards protecting a Jewish school overpowered a man wielding a knife whom they suspected intended to stab patrons at a nearby kosher store and bakery. Police took into custody the suspect after the security guards protecting the school charged at him and immobilized him, taking away the weapon. The children were briefly sequestered inside the school while police searched for any explosives or accomplices. Police suspect he was intending to carry out a terrorist attack against Jewish individuals. In 2015, a jihadist terrorist killed four Jews at a kosher store in Paris. It happened two days after the shooting at the Charlie Hebdo satirical newspaper on Jan. 7, 2015. The perpetrators of both incidents planned the attacks together. In 2012, another jihadist killed three Jewish children and rabbi at a Jewish school in Toulouse.

**Youngstown, Ohio, March 4, 2021 (Cleveland Jewish News):** According to Judge Patricia Gaughan of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio in Cleveland, the “anti-Semitic beliefs” of defendant James P. Reardon are relevant to the threat he posed to the Youngstown, Ohio Jewish Community Center. Judge Gaughan decided evidence placing Reardon at the Charlottesville Unite the Right rally is admissible because the “defendant’s anti-Semitic beliefs are relevant to show that (the) defendant intended to issue a threat when he posted a video to his Instagram account tagging of the Youngstown Jewish Community Center and featured him speaking German phrases and shooting a World War II-era German assault rifle, accompanied by sirens and screams. Executing a search warrant of Reardon’s home, law enforcement found an MP-40, submachine gun described in court records as similar to the one in the video, an M-16 Vietnam-era model, an M-16 pellet gun with a bayonet attached to it, a knife described as a “Hitler youth knife,” along with Nazi World War II propaganda posters, vintage U.S. military equipment and a Vanguard America shield.

**Christchurch, New Zealand, March 4, 2021 (France 24):** New Zealand police arrested two people over online threats against two Christchurch mosques targeted in a white supremacist attack two years ago that claimed the lives of 51 Muslims. Police in the South Island city announced the pair’s arrest as Christchurch prepares for the second anniversary of the horrific attack on March 15, 2019. While details of the threat have been limited, police said “We take all threats of this nature seriously and we are working closely with our Muslim community." In March 2019, Australian national, and self-proclaimed white supremacist, Brenton Tarrant targeted men, women and children who had gathered for Friday prayers in Christchurch, killing 51 and injuring dozens more.

**Spokane, Washington, March 3, 2021 (The Seattle Times):** A man in a dark jacket, mask and boots crossed the grounds of Temple Beth Shalom in Spokane, pulled out a can of red spray paint and began desecrating the property. Staring into a surveillance camera, he first sprayed its lens to cover it, then moved on, marking one side of the synagogue with a swastika and defacing a Holocaust memorial. The suspect was soon identified as Raymond Bryant, 44, of nearby Airway Heights, Spokane County, a member of a new neo-Nazi group that had sprung up in town. For months, authorities said, Bryant had been spreading hate-filled leaflets in different pockets of Spokane and Airway Heights for his chapter of the 14First Foundation. Foundation fliers also have been distributed in Texas, Kentucky and Louisiana, according to the Western States Center, a Portland-based nonprofit that tracks extremism. Experts who track extremism in the Spokane area said 14First’s members had been attempting to show an increasing presence locally. Bryant had also been to the Temple Beth Shalom synagogue in Spokane at least once before in what appeared to be an earlier attempt at taunting members, according to court documents. The defacement of the synagogue in the middle of the night last month marked an escalation in tactics.
that drew alarm. The group had also taken responsibility for placing flyers around several Texas cities, including San Antonio, Abilene and Austin. Bryant told officers he was a lieutenant in the organization. Disseminating flyers in public spaces has become an increasingly common tool of white nationalists during the pandemic for recruitment, publicity and intimidation, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, which also monitors extremists.

**East Kilbride, Scotland, March 3, 2021 (Daily Record):** Nazi and KKK graffiti was found spray painted on the wall of the South Parish church.

**Paris, France, March 3, 2021 (the algemeiner):** France’s highest court began its deliberations whether to overrule a lower court’s decision excusing the alleged antisemitic murderer of a Jewish woman from a criminal trial because his excessive cannabis use supposedly rendered him mentally unfit. The Court of Cassation’s hearing centers on the Paris Court of Appeal’s decision to excuse from trial the accused killer, Kobili Traore, because his heavy intake of cannabis had fatally compromised his “discernment,” or consciousness, when he murdered his 65-year-old Jewish neighbor, Sarah Halimi. Traore subjected Halimi to a brutal beating before throwing her out of the window of her third-floor apartment to her death, screaming Islamist and antisemitic slogans as he did so.

**Wisconsin, March 2, 2021 (Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle):** Antisemitic incidents reported in Wisconsin increased 36% from 2019 to 2020, according to the Jewish Community Relations Council of Milwaukee Jewish Federation. The increase is one of the findings of the 2020 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents. “2020 was sadly, but not surprisingly another high-water mark year for antisemitic incidents in Wisconsin, surpassing recorded incidents from 2019,” said JCRC Chair Brian Schupper. “We are seeing a significant increase in overt antisemitic expression laden with conspiracy theories and hate group rhetoric…”

**Pueblo, Colorado, March 2, 2021 (JTA/Reuters):** A self-described “skinhead” who plotted to blow up a Colorado synagogue in 2019 was sentenced to nearly 20 years in prison. Richard Holzer, 28, who was arrested in an FBI operation, had planned to attack Temple Emanuel, a 100-year-old synagogue in Pueblo with 35 member families. Holzer had also planned to poison the synagogue’s water supply with arsenic. He pleaded guilty to one count each of trying to obstruct religious services by force and attempting to destroy a building used in interstate commerce. At his sentencing hearing, Judge Raymond Moore castigated Holzer for trying “to terrorize the Jewish community.” “It is one of the most vulgar ... evil crimes that can be committed against an entire group of people,” Moore said.

**Bog Rapids, Michigan, March 1, 2021 (JTA/USA Today/Detroit Free Press):** Ferris State University fired a professor for using anti-Semitic, racist, homophobic and other inflammatory language on social media. Thomas Brennan, a physical sciences professor, had tweeted about a “Jewish mafia” and called the COVID-19 pandemic a “Jewish revolution.”

**New Jersey, Michigan and Wisconsin, February 28, 2021 (JTA/Associated Press):** Richard Tobin, 19, of Brooklawn, New Jersey admitted he coordinated members of the neo-Nazi group The Base in attacks on at least two Midwestern synagogues. He pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges pertaining to attacks on a synagogue in Hancock, Michigan, which was daubed with swastikas and SS symbols and an attack on a synagogue in Racine, Wisconsin, which was defaced with an anti-Semitic slogan and the insignia of The Base. Tobin said he called his efforts “Operation Kristallnacht,” a reference to the pogrom throughout Nazi Germany in 1938 that many refer to as the start of the Holocaust.

**Nationwide, February 26, 2021 (JTA/Politico):** A U.S. State Department employee named Fritz Berggren has been moonlighting as a blogger devoted to attacking Jews and promoting white Christian nationalism. “Jesus Christ came to save the whole world from the Jews — the founders of the original
Anti-Christ religion, they who are the seed of the Serpent, that brood of vipers,” Berggren wrote in an Oct. 4, 2020, post on his website titled “Jews are Not God’s Chosen People. Judeo-Christian is Anti-Christ.” Later in the post he writes, “Jewish ideas poison people.” Berggren has been sharing his extremist and anti-Semitic views under his real name for years while working as a mid-level civil servant. Berggren espouses the idea, common among the far-right, that white people are at risk of being eliminated through demographic change and organized persecution. Berggren works for a State Department unit that handles special immigrant visas for Afghans. He has been identified as a Foreign Service worker since as early as 2009.

Spokane, Washington, February 19, 2021 (KXLY): The suspect in a hate crime at Spokane’s Temple Beth Shalom previously harassed members, according to a newly filed search warrant. Raymond S. Bryant was arrested for malicious harassment with hate bias and malicious mischief. He was also found to be connected to racist and anti-Semitic flyers left on cars around Spokane earlier this month. According to court documents, Bryant, who is accused of spray-painting Nazi symbols on the temple, was identified as the suspect after being caught on surveillance footage. Members of the synagogue told police they installed the surveillance cameras and a security system because of previous threats. One member was able to identify Bryant from incidents in the past. Court records show Bryant previously went to Temple Beth Shalom with other members of a white supremacist group and threw up a Nazi salute.

Lincoln, Nebraska, February 19, 2021 (Associated Press): A 22-year-old man who spray-painted swastikas and racial epithets on a Lincoln synagogue was sentenced to a year in jail. Miller pleaded no contest to criminal mischief enhanced as a hate crime. Members of the South Street Temple discovered the vandalism on Jan. 15. A door had to be replaced at a cost of $2,333.

National, February 19, 2021 (JTA): A Capitol rioter who sat in Mike Pence's seat in the Senate chamber during the insurrection had a history of making antisemitic statements and associating with white supremacists, according to a federal complaint against him. Christian Secor, who uses an online alias honoring a mass shooter, was arrested by the FBI and is charged with assault, civil disorder and other crimes related to the insurrection. According to the federal complaint, Secor described fascism as "epic," has celebrated the 2017 white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, and "suggests Jews and the state of Israel control the politics of other governments and attempt to control 'Westerners.'" He has reportedly identified as a "Groyper," or follower of white supremacist Nick Fuentes. [Fuentes is an internet personality who streams a daily talk show on DLive, an alternative social media platform. He marched in Charlottesville during the 2017 white power rally there, speaks frequently in anti-Semitic terms and pontificates on the need to protect America’s white heritage from the ongoing shift in the nation’s demographics. (Source: ProPublica, January 9, 2021; Link: https://www.propublica.org/article/several-well-known-hate-groups-identified-at-capitol-riot)]

Washington, DC, February 19, 2021 (JTA): A Capitol rioter who sat in Mike Pence’s seat in the Senate chamber during the insurrection had a history of making anti-Semitic statements and associating with white supremacists, according to a federal complaint against him. Christian Secor, who uses an online alias honoring a mass shooter, was arrested by the FBI and is charged with assault, civil disorder and other crimes related to the insurrection. According to the federal complaint, Secor described fascism as “epic,” has celebrated the 2017 white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, and “suggests Jews and the state of Israel control the politics of other governments and attempt to control ‘Westerners.’”

Europe, February 19, 2021 (JTA): In a spate of antisemitic incidents in Western Europe, a swastika was carved into the door of a Swiss synagogue and a Jewish lawmaker in France received hate mail telling her to “get ready for the camps.” Yaël Braun-Pivet, a Jewish lawmaker of the LREM centrist party of President Emmanuel Macron, shared on Twitter an antisemitic hate mail that she received in her private email. In
addition to referencing death camps, the author wrote “This time, it’s the Muslims who will deal with you.” Also, “Jews can no longer come into some neighborhoods. Within two generations it will be whole cities. Demography determines laws.” In the Switzerland incident, the members of the Jewish Community of Biel found the words “Sieg Heil” and “Jews pack” etched onto the door of their synagogue alongside the swastika. Police are searching for suspects, according to the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities.

New York, New York, February 18, 2021 (QNS, Queens local news): The NYPD is investigating a hate crime incident in Rego Park after anti-Semitic graffiti was discovered at a Jewish house of worship. Investigators from the 112th Precinct and the NYPD’s Hate Crimes Unit are viewing surveillance video of a suspect scrawling a swastika on a private property sign on the steps of the Rego Park Jewish Center. The neighborhood is home to many elderly that suffered the atrocities of the Holocaust and other who lived under the persecution of the KGB in the former Soviet Union.

Iowa, February 17, 2021 (Des Moines Register): Eight Iowa mayors are backing a campaign to condemn hate crimes against Jewish people following the deadly riot at the U.S. Capitol on January 6th, where some participants displayed anti-Semitic symbols and messages. According to the Anti-Defamation League, Iowans reported four anti-Semitic incidents in 2020, three of them involving public vandalism. Most recently, on the first day of Hanukkah in December, someone used red spray paint to scrawl the New Testament biblical citation “John 8:44” at an entrance of Davenport’s Temple Emanuel, KWQC reported. The verse has anti-Semitic connotations, according to the Anti-Defamation League. Two Iowans, 41-year-old Doug Jensen of Des Moines and 35-year-old Leo Kelly of Cedar Rapids, face multiple federal charges for their alleged roles at the Capitol riot.

Brisbane, Australia, February 18, 20221 (Australian Jewish News): Congregants leaving Brisbane’s Margaret Street Synagogue after sabbath services were reportedly assaulted with punches, spitting and, antisemitic verbal abuse. It is reported that the Community Security Group and the Queensland Police acted swiftly to contain the assault and a person was taken into custody.

Great Neck, New York, February 16, 2021 (The Island Now): A Temple Beth-El virtual Torah study event was interrupted by anti-Semitic intruders during the Jewish sabbath, according to temple officials. several unknown people logged onto the Shabbat Torah study Zoom event and proceeded to “post offensive material and speak words of hate,” according to a temple statement.

Madrid, Spain, February 16, 2021 (El Pais/La Marea): The Federation of Jewish Communities in Spain has called on the hate crimes public prosecutor to investigate antisemitic accusations made during a neo-Nazi demonstration in honor of the División Azul, or Blue Division, held in Madrid. The Blue Division was a military unit sent by former Spanish dictator Francisco Franco to support Adolf Hitler’s invasion of the Soviet Union during the Second World War. In a video of the demonstration, a young woman is seen at a lectern with a microphone surrounded by dozens of people carrying neo-fascist and Nazi symbols and paraphernalia. The woman in the video is heard saying that “the enemy is always going to be the same albeit wearing different masks: the Jew.” She adds: “Because there is nothing that is more true than this statement: the Jew is to blame, the Jew is to blame, and the Blue Division fought for this.” She later states that communism is “a Jewish invention to pit the workers against one another.”

East Cobb, Georgia, February 15, 2021 (Atlanta Jewish Times): Zoombombers brought the online Shabbat service at Congregation Etz Chaim to a standstill. Five to 10 disrupters disrupted the congregation of about 50 attendees by surprise with a barrage of anti-Semitic and racial statements, including some penned in the Zoom chat space, such as “Kill the Jews,” “F—Jews,” “Hitler Rules,” and “Free Palestine.” They also posted graphic pornographic images.
Germany, February 15, 2021 (Jerusalem Post/Deutsche Welle): Registered antisemitic hate crimes in Germany significantly increased in 2020, according to the German government. The data provided by the German police indicated that most of the hate crimes committed came from the far-right. Police recorded at least 2,275 antisemitic crimes. The number of antisemitic hate crimes in Germany has been steadily increasing from 1,799 recorded in 2018, to 2,032 in 2019.

Freemont, California, February 11, 2021 (The Jewish News of Northern California): A swastika was discovered etched on the outside of the Temple Beth Torah synagogue. Officers asked neighbors for video footage from their security cameras, the synagogue reported. Police said they would be treating the incident as a hate crime.

United Kingdom, February 11, 2021 (the algemeiner/Community Security Trust): According to the Community Security Trust’s Antisemitic Incidents Report 2020, there were at least 1,668 antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2020, the third-highest total ever recorded in a single calendar year by the group. The Community Security Trust is a British nonprofit, which exists to provide safety, security, and advice to the Jewish community in the UK.

Nationwide, February 10, 2021 (Israel Hayom): Alums for Campus Fairness (ACF), a watchdog group of US college alumni active on issues of antisemitism, demonization of Israel, and bigotry, has released a groundbreaking report outlining the 50 most flagrant antisemitic incidents at American universities. Some of the most alarming examples recorded in The Guide to Protect Jewish Students include swastikas spray-painted in a Jewish professor's office, the resignation of a student government vice president due to harassment for her Zionist identity, and a performer at a school-sponsored conference inviting the audience to join him in his "antisemitism song." "Across the nation, Jewish students are targeted, harassed, and discriminated against because of who they are and what they believe," AEPi members were assaulted at Townsend University, NYU students burned an Israeli flag, a University of Michigan professor refused to write a recommendation letter for a student to study abroad in Israel, and vandals defaced the UMass Amherst Hillel on Holocaust Memorial Day. This is only a snapshot of what Jewish students are up against," Alums for Campus Fairness Executive Director Avi D. Gordon said.

Phoenix, Arizona, February 10, 2021 (ABC 15 Arizona): One of the country's most prominent Neo-Nazi groups says they plan to protest in Phoenix in mid-April. The National Socialist Movement (NSM) is a hate group that "specializes in theatrical and provocative protests," according to the Southern Poverty Law Center. "They are the largest and most explicitly Neo-Nazi group in the United States," said Tammy Gillies, ADL's Regional Director over Arizona. "They want what they call a 'greater America.' And would deny citizenship to Jews, non-whites, and anyone from the LGBTQ community." The organization typically holds a large gathering once a year. The goal is likely two-fold," said Gillies. "It’s for recruitment and it’s to let the community know that they are here, and these are their beliefs." Some experts say it is also about provoking a reaction and creating a spectacle, trying to provoke counter-protesters to attack them and make them the victim.

Switzerland, February 10, 2021 (JTA): Pig meat was left at the entrance to two synagogues in Switzerland. The incidents were a deliberate attempt to desecrate the CIL Orthodox synagogue in Lausanne and the GIL Reform synagogue in Geneva, the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities wrote in a statement. Far-right activists in Europe place pig meat, parts, and carcasses at mosques and at synagogues, as pigs are considered unclean in both Islam and Judaism.

St. Paul, Minnesota, February 9, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office for the District of Minnesota): Ray Ghansham Persaud, 21, was sentenced to more than a year of prison for calling in multiple bomb threats to the University of St. Thomas in 2019. St. Thomas is a private, Roman Catholic university founded in
1885 as a Catholic seminary. The bomb threats caused substantial fear and disruption to the University, including the evacuation of campus buildings and a childcare center, re-routing of traffic on nearby streets, and a full response by the University’s Public Safety personnel.

**Cornwall, England, February 9, 2021 (JTA/ Cornwall Live):** A London court has **convicted of terrorism a 16-year-old boy who researched producing weapons for what he described in online chats as actions to gas Jews.** The Central Criminal Court of England and Wales sentenced the teenager from Cornwall to 24 months at a youth rehabilitation program. He is the kingdom’s youngest-ever person to be convicted of terrorism. He pleaded guilty last week to 10 counts of possessing terrorist material and two counts of disseminating terror documents, reported. His crimes began when he was 13.

**Smiley, Texas, February 8, 2021 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office, Western District of Texas):** Federal authorities in San Antonio filed a criminal complaint against Caleb Nathaniel Oliver, age 19, for the **unlawful possession of a machine gun.** Oliver is a **member of the group called Iron Youth, a racially motivated violent extremist group** that advocates violence in the furtherance of its objectives.

**Grand Prairie, Texas, February 8, 2021 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney’s Office, Northern District of Texas):** Christian Michael Mackey, 20, an **alleged white nationalist apparently intent on killing members of the Jewish faith has been charged with a federal firearm offense.** He attempted to sell an AM-15 rifle to a convicted felon. According to the complaint, Mr. Mackey regularly posted in online chats organized by the Iron Youth, a Neo-Nazi white nationalist group dedicated to national socialism, militancy, and political terror. The group espouses “siege” ideology – using a series of anti-government terrorist attacks to instigate a race war. On Instagram, Mr. Mackey said he liked “control and killing,” called himself a “radical jew slayer,” and vowed he would “die attacking the sustem [sic].” He urged fellow group members to kill Jews and African Americans.

**Alpharetta, February 8, 2021 (The Revue & News):** A virtual service for Congregation Gesher Ltorah, attended by 25 to 30 people, **including children,** was zoom bombed by five to seven men who wrote **disparaging and profane comments about Jews** in the meeting’s chat feed during the service and left sexually explicit remarks and attached a lurid photo to the feed.

**San Luis Obispo, California, February 7, 2021 (JTA):** Police are investigating after a **Jewish fraternity, Alpha Epsilon Pi, at the California Polytechnic State University reported finding swastikas and other anti-Semitic graffiti** spray painted on the outside of its house.

**Mumbai, India, January 30, 2021 (The Indian Express):** Police security was stepped up around Jewish establishments across the city after a blast was reported near the Israeli Embassy in New Delhi. Both the Chabad House and the Synagogue at Kala Ghoda receive particular attention. The Chabad House, a Jewish outreach center and synagogue, was attacked during the 26/11 terror attack on Mumbai in 2008, and six of its occupants, including Americans, were tortured and executed.

**Worldwide, January 27, 2021 (USA Today):** Holocaust denial content remains on Facebook three months after pledging to ban all content that “denies or distorts the Holocaust.” That’s according to a new report from the Anti-Defamation League, which gave Facebook a “D” for its efforts. The ADL’s CEO, Jonathan Greenblatt, said the report released on Holocaust Remembrance Day, shows that Facebook and other major social media platforms are “still struggling to address anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial effectively.”

**France, January 27, 2021 (the algemeiner):** The number of violent antisemitic assaults on Jews in France remained consistent during 2020 despite the restrictions on movement imposed COVID-19 lockdowns, a new report from the Jewish community’s security service disclosed. “In 2020, it should be noted that the
number of violent attacks recorded — 44 — remained almost identical to the year 2019 — 45 — despite the three and a half months of confinement and the decrease in community activities,” the SPCJ security service stated in a press release. Among the more notable outrages during 2020 was a brutal assault on a 29-year-old Jewish man by two men in the elevator of his parents’ apartment building in Paris. The victim, who was wearing his kippah when he was attacked while coming to collect his 7-month-old daughter, was strangled and beaten unconscious by the assailants, who yelled antisemitic insults during the attack.

Worldwide, January 25, 2021 (i24NEWS, Israel/Times of Israel): A study by Israel’s Ministry of Diaspora Affairs predicted a steep rise in antisemitic incidents around the world in 2021, warning in a 140-page annual report that the coronavirus pandemic is being used — by Iran, among others — to spread conspiracy theories that say Jews caused the outbreak. The report said there has been a proliferation of antisemitic conspiracy theories online tying Jews and Israel to the coronavirus crisis. “Jews, Zionists, and Israel are accused of having created, spread, financed, and used the virus to expand their global domination, impose a New World Order, but also as a means for profit,” it said. Antisemitic content is spread online, particularly by using the #COVID48 hashtag, which compares Israel to the virus, echoing past depictions of Jews as viruses seeking to take over the world. The report found the hashtag, used at least 250,000 times, appears to be an Iranian campaign and was used in a tweet by Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Over 2.3 million antisemitic posts were detected online in 2020 from nearly 413,000 users in English, French, Arabic, German, Spanish, and Russian on Twitter, 4Chan, Bitchute, Stormfront, Gab, Minds, and 8Kun, the report said. The top country for anti-Semitic content, based on the number of users posting material, was the United States, followed by France, Germany and the UK, according to the ministry’s Antisemitic Cyber Monitoring System, which tracks modes, sources, and locations of online anti-Semitism. The report said that the rising rates of antisemitic sentiment are expected to lead to a significant increase in violence against Jews and Jewish sites in 2021, even after the pandemic is over, and is expected to challenge communities around the world, especially the American Jewish community.

Nationwide, January 25, 2021 (KXLY Spokane): A former Sandpoint man has been fined nearly $10 million for making thousands of racist and anti-Semitic robocalls. The Federal Communications Commission found Scott Rhodes illegally used caller ID spoofing with the intent to cause harm. The FCC said his robocalls, which were made across six states, including Idaho, included xenophobic fearmongering (including to a victim’s family), racist attacks on political candidates, an apparent attempt to influence the jury in a domestic terrorist case.

Lowell, Massachusetts, February 26, 2021 (JTA/Lowell Sun): Bob Hoey, a member of the Lowell School Committee, was on a local talk show when he referred to a Jewish former official as a “kike.” The slur, used as an insulting and contemptuous term for a Jewish person, came amid statements denigrating undocumented immigrants, the diversity of a local high school, Indian Americans, and a NY progressive Democrat. The derogatory term historically has been used as a smear against Jews who immigrated to the United States in the early 20th century from Germany, eastern Europe and Russia.

Hamburg, Germany, February 26, 2021 (Deutsche Welle (DW)): The man who tried to kill a Jewish student in front of a Hamburg synagogue is "mentally ill" and will be treated in a psychiatric facility, a German court has ruled. While the incident was a "targeted attack on a person of Jewish religion," the attacker is suffering from paranoid schizophrenia and was driven by religious delusions, according to the Hamburg-based court. In October 2020, the assailant put on military fatigues and took a taxi to a synagogue in Hamburg. Once there, he targeted a 26-year-old yarmulke-wearing student, hitting him over the head with a short-handled shovel. The victim was hospitalized with severe injuries. Investigators found a drawing of a swastika in one of his pockets.
Quebec, Canada, February 26, 2021 (Montreal Gazette): A man who was arrested last month after he spray-painted swastikas on a synagogue in Westmount has been ordered to be held at a psychiatric hospital after a judge declared him not criminally responsible for his actions. Adam Riga, 28, a resident of St-Laurent, was facing charges of possessing incendiary and explosive materials with the intention of committing a criminal act and with threatening to burn down the synagogue. The materials were found on him after a security guard working at the Shaar Hashomayim synagogue caught him in the act of spray-painting the Nazi symbols on the doors of the place of worship.

Tulsa, Oklahoma, January 25, 2021 (The Hill): The Tulsa Police Department is looking for two suspects who allegedly destroyed several statues dedicated to Jewish children killed during the Holocaust. Law enforcement said they were contacted about the vandalism at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art. In an outdoor display, the museum had erected five Holocaust tribute statues. Each design was filled with 2,000 rocks bearing the individual names of Jewish children killed by the Nazi regime during World War II. Surveillance video showed two men bending the metal statues and knocking them down. According to police, they attempted to steal them but were unsuccessful. The museum said the suspects caused more than $15,000 in damage. “You come out and your car’s been egged, that’s not great,” said Lt. William White in a video. “But when you have statues dedicated to the children that lost their lives in one of the greatest tragedies in the history of humankind, obviously there’s a different tier there. So we’re taking this very seriously and we really want to catch these people.” Earlier this month, a Washington state synagogue was vandalized with spray-painted swastikas and damage to a Holocaust memorial. The Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial in Boise, Idaho, was also targeted in December with swastika flyers reading “we are everywhere.” A report released by the Anti-Defamation League last year found that anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. in 2019 occurred at their highest rate in at least four decades, with a record 2,100 incidents of assault, vandalism and more reported across the country.

Upper Peninsula, Michigan, February 24, 2021 (Click On Detroit/Vice News): The former leader of a neo-Nazi terrorist group was reportedly planning to establish a heavily armed, white nationalist community in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Southeastern Michigan man Justen Watkins, who was arrested in October for several crimes, previously led The Base: A white supremacist and far-right accelerationist group that promotes terrorism in an effort to overthrow governments and establish white ethnostates, or states where citizenship is exclusive to white people. Law enforcement say that members of The Base share a common goal of establishing a white ethnostate in the Pacific Northwest or in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Watkins is accused of operating a “hate camp” in 2019, where he “led tactical and firearms training for members of The Base” in Bad Axe -- where he is from -- according to court documents. Secret chats obtained by VICE News between “known accelerationist neo-Nazis” show that Watkins was planning to take that training to the next level by creating a fortified community of white nationalist members and preparing them to carry out their racially motivated extremist ideologies. The news outlet claims that in the encrypted chat platforms, Watkins made it clear that he was seeking “committed, militant neo-Nazis intent on paramilitary training for the so-called race war” to join him at his existing operation in the Upper Peninsula.

Germany, February 24, 2021 (Gatestone Institute International Policy Council/Tagesspiegel): The number of anti-Semitic hate crimes in Germany surged to a two-decade high in 2020, according to new statistics released by the German government. The problem is now being exacerbated by the Coronavirus pandemic, which far-right conspiracy theorists are blaming on both Jews and Israel. German police reported a total of 2,275 anti-Semitic hate crimes — an average of six per day — in 2020, according to preliminary data provided by the federal government. The tally represents a more than 10% increase over the number of anti-Semitic crimes reported in 2019.
Worldwide, January 24, 2021 (Cleveland Jewish News): A California lawyer has come under fire from Jewish groups for making genocidal claims against Jews on social media. In Twitter posts, the lawyer, Farhad Khorasani, claimed that Israel is “the main enemy of the human race and the world,” saying: “The Jew anywhere is an existential threat to Aryans, Muslims [sic] and Iranians everywhere. Hitler has proved that he knew these terrorist semites [sic] very well. Hitler was right, we need a new Hitler.”

Worldwide, February 23, 2021 (Parentology/Facebook/USA Today): In October 2020, Facebook announced an update to their hate speech policy that, in their words, “prohibits any content that denies or distorts the events of the Holocaust.” Facebook’s goal was not only to keep Holocaust denial off their platform but to fight anti-Semitism, specifically widely known Jewish stereotypes. For example, Jews have too much power, Jews are greedy, and Jews are disloyal. This policy shift comes in the wake of the U.S. Millennial Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness Survey, which revealed that a whopping 63% of Millennials and Gen Zers did not know that six million Jews were killed in the Holocaust. 48% could not name a single concentration camp or ghetto (even though there were over 40,000 of them). Most alarmingly, 11% of survey respondents believed the Jews caused the Holocaust. “We’re taking these steps given the well-documented rise in anti-Semitism globally and the alarming level of ignorance about the Holocaust, especially among young people,” Facebook said in a statement. The Anti-Defamation League has released a report in which they gave Facebook a “D” for the work it has done so far. The ADL’s CEO, Jonathan Greenblatt, said Facebook and other social media platforms are “still struggling to address anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial effectively.”

San Francisco, California, January 22, 2021 (KRON 4): The San Francisco Public School District is investigating racist posts shared at Lowell High School. While the incident is being investigated as a possible hack there is also a concern that this kind of behavior is not an isolated incident, and that racism is present in Lowell High School’s community. A lesson on anti-racism at San Francisco’s distinguished Lowell High School unravels into racial slurs targeting African Americans, anti-Semitic comments and other hate speech.

New York, New York, January 22, 2021 (Brooklyn Daily Eagle): Joseph Miner, 30, of Bayside, Queens, pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm with obliterated serial numbers. Law enforcement began investigating Miner’s interest in illegally buying firearms in late 2019 when he posted on social media accounts his desire to obtain assault weapons and other firearms for a racial civil war or racial holy war. The criminal complaint states that on his Instagram page, Miner posted a photograph of himself giving a Nazi salute and wrote, “God, I hate women jews and n——rs.” In a different post, Miner seen depicted giving a Nazi salute and stating, “overthrowing [Jews] is our Christian duty.” In April 2020, Miner initiated contact with an undercover law enforcement agent who was posing as a firearms dealer. Miner requested firearms from the undercover agent knowing that the serial numbers were removed from the guns that the undercover agent was offering for sale. On May 12, 2020, Miner met the undercover agent at a Queens hotel and purchased a Glock 19 9mm semi-automatic handgun with an obliterated serial number.

Huntsville, Alabama, January 21, 2021 (FBI Birmingham/WHNT 19 News, CBS local affiliate): The FBI is providing a $15,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of a person who vandalized a Huntsville synagogue and a rabbi’s home, which occurred last year as Jewish people around the world began celebrating Passover. The next day, the Chabad of Huntsville on Parkhill Road was also vandalized. The police believe the incidents are connected.

Los Angeles, California, January 20, 2021 (KABC): Police are investigating a possible hate crime in Koreatown. Officers say someone vandalized a Jewish Temple and reportedly spray-painted "I hate your race" in all caps with exclamation marks and crosses.
District of Columbia, January 20, 2021 (JTA): Suspicious letters impersonating Vice President-Elect Harris Received by DC-Area synagogues. The letters included the following text: "Myself and President Joe Biden, will shut down your Synagogue of worship and place heavy fines upon your religious institution. We will be in control in two weeks and we will shut you down. This is your fair warning from me. Mayor Muriel Bowser will have the authority from myself and President Biden to shut you down and take you to prison if you decide to open your doors." The threatening letters were postmarked from Albany, New York. According to Secure Community Network, the facilities affected by the incidents have filed reports with appropriate law enforcement agencies and are coordinating to ensure proper reporting and monitoring of additional suspicious activity.

Atlanta, Georgia, January 19, 2021 (Info Security Group): An annual religious service held in Atlanta in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day was disrupted by a cyber-attack. Threat actors reportedly targeted a Shabbat service that was being broadcast live over the internet from Atlanta synagogue “The Temple.” People attempting to watch the service live via the Temple's website were unable to access it, according to a letter penned by the synagogue's president, Kent Alexander.

Nationwide, January 19, 2021 (Jewish News Service/Jewish Cleveland News): Amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, anti-Semitism continued to morph and grow on U.S. campuses during 2020. While the school year for many students consisted of online or hybrid learning, anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist attacks on Jewish and pro-Israel students increased precisely because of more Internet usage, albeit in new forms.

Germany, January 19, 2021 (VOA News): Violent far-right groups are using rising frustration with pandemic lockdowns in their recruitment efforts, German officials fear. Germany's domestic intelligence agency is closely monitoring protesters of coronavirus restrictions, worried that the influence of militants, including Nazi admirers, ultranationalists and Holocaust deniers, is growing.

Nationwide, January 17, 2021 (New York Times): The Pentagon sent a strong signal to Iran and other potential adversaries in the Middle East not to exploit the nation’s focus on domestic terrorist threats to carry out attacks against Americans in the region. U.S. intelligence agencies have assessed for months that Iran is seeking to target senior American military officers and civilian leaders to avenge the death of Maj. Gen. Qassim Suleimani, the commander of Iran’s elite Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, in an American drone strike last January. Related, this past year, the Nation’s Homeland Security agencies warned that if the Government of Iran were to perceive actions of the United States Government as acts of war or existential threats to the Iranian regime, Iran could act directly or enlist the cooperation of its proxies, such as Lebanese Hizballah, to commit attacks in retribution, with little to no warning, including against US-based Jewish individuals and interests, among likely targets.29

Italy, January 15, 2021 (JTA/La Republica): “Zoom bombers" in Italy crashed the online launch of a book about the Holocaust and shouted anti-Semitic abuse, including “Jews, we’ll burn you in ovens." The incident on the videoconferencing platform came during the presentation of a book titled "The Generation of the Desert" by Lia Tagliacozzo, a Jewish author who was born to Holocaust survivors. "A group of organized people entered en masse the Zoom meeting of the presentation, and “They started shouting 'Jews in the ovens, the Nazis are back, we will burn you all, you must all die,' and they had Hitler portraits and swastikas as their personal photos," said one witness to the attack. The Zoom bombing phenomenon became increasingly common in 2020, as many in-person encounters were replaced with

29 Joint Intelligence Bulletin, “Escalating Tensions Between the United States and Iran Pose Potential Threats to the Homeland,” 8 January 2020 (IA-41117-20)
online events due to emergency measures connected to the COVID-19 pandemic. Among the bombers are anti-Semitic groups that target Jewish events.

Montreal, Canada, January 14, 2021 (Global News, Canada): Adam Riga, 28, was charged with trying to commit arson and for uttering threats after Shaar Hashomayim temple, a major synagogue in Montreal, was defaced with anti-Semitic graffiti. According to a court document, **Riga faces two charges: possession of incendiary materials — a lighter and a gas canister — and with threatening to burn down the synagogue.**

Durham, England, January 11, 2021 (Jewish News/Times of Israel): An 18-year-old neo-Nazi, Jack Reed, who planned a terror attack in his home city, including arson against local synagogues, lost his bid to retain his anonymity. Reed was sentenced to six years and eight months in custody after a jury found him guilty of preparation of terrorist acts between October 2017 and March 2019. When police searched his family home, they found a drafted **manifesto which included written plans to conduct an arson spree with Molotov cocktails on local synagogues.** Analysis of his computer devices and mobile phone also uncovered numerous internet searches on firearms, explosives, and knives as well as downloads of extremist far-right material.

New York, New York, January 8, 2021 (New York Post): A Confederate flag, which has been adopted by far-right extremists, was discovered tied overnight to the front door of the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Battery Park. Governor Andrew Cuomo were quick to condemn the vandalism, stating, “The Confederate flag is a repulsive symbol of hate, and I am disgusted by reports that someone attempted to intimidate our Jewish neighbors by tying one to the door of the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City,”, adding that he’s asked the NYPD’s Hate Crimes Task Force to investigate.

Washington, DC, January 4, 2021 (Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs): Sonia Tabizada, age 36, of San Jacinto, California, pleaded guilty in federal court to intentionally obstructing persons in the enjoyment of their free exercise of religious beliefs by threatening to bomb the Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School in Washington, D.C., the oldest Catholic school for girls in the country. On May 15, 2019, Tabizada left a voice message stating that she was going to **burn and bomb the church.** Tabizada also stated that she was going to kill school officials and students. Several minutes later, Tabizada left a second voice mail stating that she was going to blow up the school and warned that she would commit “terrorism.” “The defendant made violent threats against high school students, religious leaders, and school officials based solely on her disagreement with a private school’s application of religious doctrine,” said Eric Drieband, Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division.

Winona, Texas, January 4, 2021 (CNN): A gunman, identified as 21-year-old Mytrez Beunte Woolen, entered the Starrville Methodist Church in Winona, (about 100 miles from Dallas), and when confronted shot and killed the pastor, Mark Allen McWilliams, 62, and shot and wounded a church goer. The gunman was fleeing the police after he was seen brandishing a forearm when he entered the church.

New York, New York, January 1, 2021 (Daily Mail): A Brooklyn man has been arrested and charged with a hate crime for allegedly **vandalizing four synagogues.** The New York Police Department says 39-year-old Emil Benjamin went on a graffiti spree at four Brooklyn-area synagogues: Kahal Darkei Noam, Young Israel Senior Services, Khal Toras Chaim D’Flatbush, and Bais Avigdor. Witnesses reported **antisemitic acts of vandalism including graffiti, breaking and entering, destruction of property and theft.** The incidents are being investigated by NYPD’s Hate Crimes Task Force.