

continued to receive paychecks for over a year.

The Washington Post again reported the case of a former high-level Environmental Protection Agency employee who pretended he was a member of the Central Intelligence Agency for years. This employee collected paid leave under the pretense he was conducting top-secret work for the CIA when, in fact, he was home exercising and pursuing a personal research project. He effectively, according to the Post, stole \$900,000 from taxpayers for work he never did. That included his salary and bonus. He was actually paid bonuses. The man was paid a bonus payment for not working—defrauding the Agency he worked for. The good news is that they caught him. The bad news is that it took 2½ years to figure out something was going on.

An article in the Washington Times details a 4-year case where an employee at EPA was fired for “sending a ‘hostile email’ and making inappropriate statements that ‘caused anxiety and disruption in the workplace.’” That employee was ultimately removed from the EPA a second time but only after he received 1,496 hours of backpay.

And on and on it goes. I could stand here for a long time talking about examples of paid leave to personnel totaling \$31 million for payments of paid leave for over a 1-year period of time. It is not just the EPA. I am not picking on one agency. Every agency in government has these policies. GAO estimates that there are some bad track records for these agencies. For instance, the Department of the Treasury has 25 employees on paid leave for over a year and the Department of Veterans Affairs has over 46. And even more disturbing is the fact that the GAO investigation found that Federal agencies don’t have sufficient documentation for the paid leave, if they had any documentation at all. How can you put someone on paid leave, how can you make payments for over a year and have no documentation as to why you are making the payments?

Coming to the floor with these waste of the week, fraud-and-abuse situations, it is hard to comprehend how these things go on. The ingenuity of those who are committing fraud and those who oversee agencies that are paying this out is stunning.

I want to make it clear that I am not against paid leave. There are many valid cases. But taxpayers deserve to know why Federal agencies are paying their employees not to work for over a year without sufficient documentation for taking such action. In fact, this ought to go for all paid leave, whether it is for 1 day, 1 month, or 1 year.

Particularly, though, what ought to be ringing an alarm bell is someone who is on the record as receiving paid leave for several months or over a year—and I am only documenting that which was documented for over 1 year. Who knows how much this would total

if we looked into every agency’s policies and found out that they weren’t documented and that they couldn’t prove that the paid leave was legitimized.

I need to give credit where credit is due. The Office of Personnel Management has finally recognized that this is a costly issue and has moved to take steps to address this misuse of taxpayer dollars. This summer, the agency announced guidance on what does and doesn’t constitute paid administrative leave. I urge OPM to follow up now and ensure that all Federal agencies are implementing these recommendations. But why did it take us so long? Why do we have to have an investigative report? Where is the management? Where is the management in these agencies that oversees this and does not allow this to happen? Why do we have to wait for the Government Accountability Office to come in and audit these agencies and find this unbelievable amount of waste, fraud, and abuse that takes place?

So taxpayers are on the hook for another \$31 million of waste. We add that to our ever-growing total of waste, fraud, and abuse, now reaching well over—almost \$119 billion. And we have Members down here talking about a program that needs funding because it is an essential program, but we don’t have the money to do it. Others come down and say we can’t cut a penny more from any of the programs we have—and that is another issue—and yet we continue to waste this kind of money.

Next week it will be item No. 28 as we go forward exposing waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government, taking hard-working taxpayers’ dollars at a time when the economy is not doing all that well. This is something which continues to be a noose around the Federal Government’s neck and which needs to be addressed.

Madam President, with that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I was seeking the floor, but it is my understanding that Senator McCONNELL, our leader, is on his way to the floor. I will wait until he speaks. I don’t think we have to ask for a quorum call because I think he will be here in just a minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

CLOTURE MOTIONS WITHDRAWN

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the two pending cloture motions with respect to H.R. 2577 be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2015, PART II

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3996, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3996) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 3996) was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

TERRORIST ATTACKS IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, because of what happened in Paris last week, a lot of speeches are going to be given on the floor of the Senate about terrorism. But it is too bad that we only seem to talk about the dangers of terrorism when bad things happen in the United States or happen in Paris or someplace else that brings the issue to our attention. I think what we all need to remember is that it is a constant danger that may not appear to us daily, but somewhere out there are people thinking about killing us for what we believe.

So I rise today, again, expressing my sympathies to the people of Paris and those affected by Friday’s terrible attacks by radical Islamic terrorists there. On behalf of the people of Iowa, I continue to stand with the people of France.

Unfortunately, the attacks last Friday should not have been a surprise. Radical Islamic terrorists have been waging war against the United States and our allies for years. When thinking about the last three decades of the last century, you think about the terrorism at the Munich Olympics or an American being murdered on a TWA plane. Then we had a Jewish person in a wheelchair thrown overboard in the Mediterranean. There was the attempt to bring down the Twin Towers in 1993

by car bombs. Marines were murdered in Lebanon—over 200, I think it was. We had the attack on the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, where our military people were living. We had the East African Embassy attacked, and we had the USS *Cole* attack.

Now, all of those happened before 9/11. Since 9/11, attacks have occurred around the world—from the train bombings in Madrid in 2004 to the suicide bombings in London in 2005 to the senseless slaughter in the streets of Mumbai in 2008. My focus today, however, will be on the United States homeland.

Terrorists have continued to try to attack us here on many occasions since 9/11. Some of these attacks have succeeded. Most of them have failed. Some of them have involved direct coordination with terrorist leaders abroad, and some have been committed by lone wolves inspired by terrorists overseas or the views of those terrorists. But these threats are ongoing, and that is what we should not fail to understand. Consequently, we must be vigilant to guard against those threats. We know that we will face them again.

Several prominent terrorist attacks in the United States come to mind. We all remember the carnage at the Boston Marathon in April 2013, where two brothers detonated bombs at the finish line that killed an 8-year-old boy and two others and injured hundreds more. Although the brothers did not appear to have direct ties with terrorist organizations, they were motivated by radical Islamic beliefs.

We also remember the November 2009 shooting at Fort Hood, TX, where 13 people were killed and several dozen others were wounded. Incredibly, the Obama administration refused to categorize this as a terrorist attack, in spite of the fact that the shooter had traded emails with then senior Al Qaeda leader Anwar al-Awlaki. The shooter also later identified his extremist beliefs as a basis of his attack.

But those tragedies only continued the pattern followed by radical Islamic terrorists since Al Qaeda hijacked and crashed airplanes into the Twin Towers and the Pentagon that fateful day in 2001. Soon after 9/11, for example, British citizen Richard Reid attempted to detonate explosives packed in his shoe while on a flight to Miami in December 2001. He had previously trained at Al Qaeda terrorist camps in Afghanistan. Thankfully, he failed, but this attempted attack put us on notice that these terrorists were not finished with what happened on 9/11.

More attacks and plots followed, perhaps less well remembered after the passage of time. And the passage of time is our biggest enemy here, as we don't think about this often enough. But they still demonstrate the ongoing threat we face.

In July 2002, an Egyptian shot and killed two Israelis and wounded four others at the Los Angeles International Airport. Although the FBI did

not find evidence linking the shooter to a terrorist group, the agency concluded the shooting was an act of terror.

In March 2006, another radical Islamic terrorist injured six people when he drove his vehicle into a group of pedestrians at the University of North Carolina. The attacker claimed to have conducted the attack in order to avenge the killing of Muslims around the world by our American Government.

Another example is the “Fort Dix Six” plot in May of 2007. In that case, six men planned to kill American soldiers at the military base in New Jersey but were arrested before they could do so. The men were inspired by jihadi videos.

In June 2009, a terrorist shot two recruiters at a military center in Little Rock, AR. One of the recruiters was killed, and the other was seriously wounded. The shooter told the judge in his case that he was a soldier of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.

Later in 2009, three radical Islamic terrorists were arrested just before they were able to conduct suicide attacks in New York City. One of these terrorists drove all the way from his home in Colorado to strike the New York City subway system with homemade explosives hidden inside a backpack. He later admitted in court that he was trained by Al Qaeda to be a part of what they call a “martyrdom operation.” He further confessed that Al Qaeda officials ordered these suicide attacks from Pakistan.

Also in 2009, on Christmas Day, a terrorist often referred to as the Underwear Bomber attempted to blow up a bomb concealed in his underwear while on a flight over Detroit. Several days later, Al Qaeda affiliates in Yemen and Saudi Arabia claimed responsibility for that effort.

In May 2010, a terrorist tried to set off a car bomb in the middle of Times Square in New York City. He was arrested while attempting to flee the country on a flight to the Middle East. The bomber was trained and financed by the Pakistani Taliban.

More recently, the threat from radical Islamic extremism has sprung from the chaos in Syria. By now we are all familiar with ISIS, or the Islamic State. Last year, we witnessed the horrors of ISIS’s brutal and barbaric beheading of American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff, and aid worker Peter Kassig in Syria.

As FBI Director Comey explained to the Senate Judiciary Committee earlier this year, ISIS presents a new type of Islamic extremist organization. For one thing, ISIS exploits social media to promote its terrorist agenda and encourage people within the United States to commit terrorist attacks. As Director Comey explained, ISIS’s propaganda machine is like a devil on somebody’s shoulder saying: “Kill, kill, kill;” and “if you can’t come to Syria, kill somebody where you are. Kill

somebody in uniform. Kill anybody.” Those are the words Comey used in paraphrasing the message that comes from ISIS on social media.

ISIS’s deadly message of terror is having a profound effect here in our country. Over the last year, the government has stopped numerous individuals in the United States who tried to travel to Syria to fight for ISIS. According to Director Comey, over 200 Americans have traveled or attempted to travel to Syria for this purpose. I fear that such individuals who successfully return home could recreate the Paris attack here in our country, given the training, the indoctrination, and the battlefield experience they received abroad. The Washington Post reported on November 16 that 66 men and women in the United States have been charged with crimes associated with ISIS, including both attempting to travel to Syria to join ISIS or planning attacks here.

Beyond ISIS’s recruitment of Americans to fight in Syria, the Paris attack demonstrates the extreme dangers the group now poses here in North America. Look at what occurred just over the past year or so. In October 2014, a radical Islamic terrorist who could not obtain a passport to travel to Syria shot up the Parliament in Canada, killing a Canadian soldier on duty at the Canadian National War Memorial. The next day, a self-radicalized Muslim convert attacked four police officers on the streets of New York City with a hatchet after watching ISIS Internet propaganda.

In January of this year, the FBI arrested a person in Ohio for plotting to attack the U.S. Capitol with pipe bombs and guns. The terrorist also allegedly expressed a desire to support ISIS, and he had posted videos and messages on social media, supporting violent attacks by radical Islamic terrorists.

Later, in May of this year, two Islamic terrorists drove from Arizona to Garland, TX, to attack a conference center during an art exhibit. The center was hosting an exhibition of cartoons depicting the Islamic Prophet Mohammed. The pair shot and injured a security guard before being killed by a police officer. ISIS subsequently claimed responsibility for that attack.

In June 2015, law enforcement officers in Massachusetts shot and luckily killed a knife-wielding member of a group of ISIS supporters who were plotting attacks here in the United States, along the lines of what Director Comey has said: Just go out and “kill, kill, kill.” Two other alleged terrorists were arrested and are being prosecuted.

Just this month, an American was arrested in Ohio for supporting ISIS. He allegedly posted online detailed personal information, including their addresses, of 100 U.S. military members. He had then allegedly called on fellow

terrorists to kill these military personnel in their homes and communities, along the lines of what the social networking message is from overseas to people in the United States, as Director Comey has reported to us: ‘Kill, kill, kill.’ Just kill anyone.

More chilling than a lot of this is the video released earlier this week. On Monday, ISIS released a video warning countries against participating in air strikes in Syria. The video claimed that ISIS would attack these countries just as it attacked France last Friday. The video specifically threatened to attack this city, right here, Washington, DC.

According to the New York Times just this morning, “at least three dozen people in the United States suspected of ties to the Islamic State were under heavy electronic or physical surveillance even before the Paris attacks.” That ought to wake us all up to the dangerous environment that exists.

It is all too obvious that we will continue to face attacks from radical Islamic terrorists in the future. We ought to remind ourselves every day about this potential threat. So to help remind us both of that certainty and that we must be prepared for it, I ask unanimous consent to enter into the RECORD a long list of terrorist attacks in the United States that I prepared from public sources. The list may not include each and every attack by terrorists, but it does include a wide variety of attempted and planned attacks against our citizens. Because of space limitations on material submitted for the RECORD, a more complete and annotated list can be found on my website. That list also includes a separate list of individuals prosecuted in the United States for attempting to leave the country to fight for ISIS.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RADICAL ISLAMIC TERRORIST ATTACKS AND PLOTS IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE 9/11

I. SUCCESSFUL ATTACKS

July 4, 2002: Hesham Mohamed Hadayet, a 41-year-old Egyptian national, shot and killed two Israelis and wounded four others at the El Al ticket counter at Los Angeles International Airport. Although the FBI did not find evidence linking Hadayet to a terrorist group, the agency concluded the shooting was an act of terrorism because of Hadayet’s stated anti-Israel views and opposition to U.S. Middle East policy.

March 5, 2006: Mohammed Reza Taheri-Azar injured six people when he drove a Sport Utility Vehicle into a group of pedestrians at the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. Taheri-Azar claimed to have conducted the attack in order to avenge the killing of Muslims around the world by the U.S. government.

July 28, 2006: Naveed Afzal Haq shot and killed one woman, and wounded five others, at the Jewish Federation building in Seattle, Washington. During the shooting, Haq spoke with a 911 dispatcher and said “these are Jews and I’m tired of getting pushed around and our people getting pushed around by the situation in the Middle East.”

June 1, 2009: Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad shot two military recruiters at a Little

Rock, Arkansas Army/Navy Career Center, killing one and seriously wounding the other. Muhammad had previously converted to Islam and spent approximately 16 months, beginning in 2007, in Yemen. Although no independent, public confirmation of Muhammad’s ties to Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula exists, Muhammad wrote to the judge in his case stating that he was “a soldier” of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula and undertook his attack as revenge for U.S. killing of Muslims in Iraq and Afghanistan.

November 5, 2009: Nidal Malik Hasan, a U.S. Army Major serving as a psychiatrist, shot and killed 13 people and wounded several dozen others at Fort Hood, Texas. Hasan stated that his motive was jihad to fight “illegal and immoral aggression against Muslims” in Iraq and Afghanistan. Hasan had earlier exchanged 18 e-mails with Anwar al-Awlaki, an important, U.S.-born leader of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.

April 15, 2013: Tamerlan Tsarnaev and his younger brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, detonated two bombs within moments of each other near the finish line of the Boston Marathon, killing three people and injuring hundreds more. Although the brothers were motivated by radical Islam to carry out the attacks, they did not appear to have had any direct ties to Islamic terrorist organizations.

October 23, 2014: Zale Thompson attacked four New York City police officers with a hatchet, injuring two of them (one critically) at a Queens, New York shopping district. The police shot and killed Thompson, and a bystander was injured in the process. Thompson appears to have been a self-radicalized Muslim convert who had posted “antigovernment, anti-Western, anti-white” messages online.

May 3, 2015: Elton Simpson and Nadir Soofi began shooting outside the Curtis Culwell Center in Garland, Texas during an art exhibit hosted by an anti-Muslim group called the American Freedom Defense Initiative. The center was hosting an exhibition of cartoon adaptations depicting the Islamic Prophet Muhammad. The pair shot and injured a security guard before being killed by a police officer. The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria subsequently claimed responsibility for the attack, though the group did not provide evidence of how it was involved with the shooters or in the attack.

July 16, 2015: Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez—who reportedly had been in various locations in the Middle East for nearly seven months last year—shot at government personnel in two military installations in Chattanooga, Tennessee, first through a drive-by shooting at a recruiting center, then by traveling to a naval reserve center and continuing to fire. Before being killed by police, Abdulazeez killed four Marines, and wounded another Marine, a Navy sailor, and a police officer. The Navy sailor died from his wounds two days later. The FBI is investigating the attack as an act of terrorism.

II. UNSUCCESSFUL ATTACKS AND PLOTS

December 22, 2001: British citizen Richard Reid attempted to detonate explosives packed in his shoes while on a flight from Paris to Miami. The airplane’s crew and passengers subdued him, and the plane landed safely in Boston. Reid had previously received training at Al-Qaeda terrorist camps in Afghanistan.

May 8, 2002: Jose Padilla was arrested at Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport and subsequently accused of plotting to attack the United States with a radiological weapon (a “dirty bomb”). He had previously spent several years in the Middle East, and the U.S. government produced evidence at his trial indicating he had attended an Al-Qaeda training camp in Afghanistan.

May 1, 2003: Iyman Faris pled guilty to providing material support to Al-Qaeda and providing information to Al-Qaeda about potential targets in the United States—including a bridge in New York City.

August 2004: A group of men in the United Kingdom, led by Al-Qaeda “member or close associate” Dhiren Barot, were arrested for being part of an Al-Qaeda plan to bomb the International Monetary Fund, New York Stock Exchange, Citigroup and Prudential buildings in the United States, as well as targets in the United Kingdom. Barot had earlier scouted the American targets while visiting the United States in 2000 and 2001.

August 2004: Shahawar Matin Siraj and James Elshafay were arrested after conducting surveillance at the Herald Square subway station in Manhattan. The pair were planning to attack the station with explosives in response to actions by American military forces in Iraq.

August 31, 2005: Kevin James, Hammad Samana, Gregory Patterson, and Levar Washington were indicted on charges to wage war against the United States through terrorist activities. The men planned attacks against targets including American military and Jewish institutions, located in Southern California.

November 24, 2006: Uzair Paracha was convicted of conspiring to help an Al-Qaeda operative member suspected of planning bombing attacks in Maryland to enter the United States. Paracha was later sentenced to 30 years in prison.

June 23 2006: Seven men, known as the “Liberty City Seven,” were arrested for being involved in a plot to blow up the Sears Tower in Chicago as part of an Islamic jihad. Attorney General Gonzales stated later that year that the plotters had promised to fight “a full ground war against the United States.”

July 7 2006: Three men were arrested in Lebanon for plotting to bomb transit tunnels underneath the Hudson River in New York City. The men intended that the New York financial district would then be flooded. The FBI discovered the plot and gathered information on it through emails and chat-room postings on web forums used to recruit Islamic terrorists.

December 8, 2006: Derrick Shareef was charged with plotting to detonate hand grenades at a shopping mall in Illinois during the Christmas shopping season. Shareef was a Muslim convert who reportedly had discussed his desire to wage jihad against civilians and had also spoken of attacking government facilities.

2007: Sabrihan Hasanoff and Wessam Hanafi, beginning in 2007 and at the direction of Al-Qaeda members in Yemen performed surveillance on several potential targets, including the New York Stock Exchange, for future terrorist attacks in the United States. El-Hanafi forwarded the report to Al-Qaeda.

May 2007: Six men planned to kill American soldiers at Fort Dix, New Jersey, but were arrested before they could do so. This plot is popularly known as the “Fort Dix Six” plot, and the men appear to have been inspired by Jihadi videos.

June 3, 2007: Four men were indicted for plotting to blow up jet-fuel tanks and a fuel pipeline at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City. Assistant Attorney General Kenneth Wainstein said that the men “sought to combine an insider’s knowledge of JFK airport with the assistance of Islamic radicals in the Caribbean to produce a ‘devastating attack.’”

January 28, 2009: Bryant Neal Vinas pleaded guilty to joining Al-Qaeda and developing a plan with Al-Qaeda leadership to conduct an attack on the Long Island Railroad in New York.

February 26, 2009: Christopher Paul, also known as Abdul Malek, was sentenced for conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction against targets in Europe and the United States. Paul, who had received terrorist training at overseas terrorist camps in Afghanistan, and had subsequently joined Al-Qaeda, had worked with an Islamic terror cell in Europe to prepare to attack targets in the United States.

May 20, 2009: Four men were arrested for plotting to bomb Jewish synagogues in New York City after they had planted what they thought were bombs near two synagogues. The men also allegedly planned to shoot down U.S. military planes operating out of Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, New York. The men were apparently angry over the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan, and one told an FBI informant that he'd be interested in joining a Pakistan-based terrorist group "to do jihad."

September 2009: Daniel Patrick Boyd and Hysen Sherifi were charged with plotting to kill U.S. military personnel at the Quantico marine base in Virginia. They had undertaken reconnaissance of the base and had practiced attacking the base in July. Boyd, along with several other suspects, had earlier been charged with international terrorism charges in August, but those charges did not concern attacks in the United States. Prosecutors played a tape during Boyd's detention hearing where he decried the U.S. military, decried the struggle of Muslims, and mentioned the honor of martyrdom.

September 2009: Najibullah Zazi, and later Adis Medunjanin and Zarein Ahmedzay, were arrested for planning to conduct suicide attacks with homemade explosives in the New York City subway system. All three had received weapons training from Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan, and Zazi admitted in court that he was trained by Al-Qaeda to be part of a "martyrdom operation." Evidence indicates that senior Al-Qaeda officials ordered the attacks. According to the indictment against Medunjanin, before being arrested for the planned subway attacks, on January 7, 2010, Medunjanin attempted to conduct an attack in New York City by intentionally crashing his car on the Whitestone Expressway.

September 24, 2009: Michael Finton, also known as Talib Islam, was arrested and charged for attempting to kill federal employees by detonating a car bomb at the federal building in Springfield, Illinois. He was arrested after he attempted to detonate what he thought was the bomb, but which was in fact a fake bomb. Finton reportedly idolized (and had written to) American-born Taliban member John Walker Lindh.

September 24, 2009: Hosam Maher Husein Smadi, an illegal immigrant from Jordan, was arrested for placing, with the intent to detonate, what he thought was a car bomb outside of the 60-story Fountain Place office tower in Dallas, Texas. FBI undercover agents met with Smadi over several months while posing as members of an Al-Qaeda sleeper cell. According to the FBI, Smadi "stood out based on his vehement intention to actually conduct terror attacks in the United States."

December 14, 2009: Ehsanul Islam Sadequee and Syed Haris Ahmed were sentenced for their earlier terrorism convictions in support of terrorism. Among other activities, Sadequee and Ahmed had driven to and taken videos—for use by "the jihadi brothers abroad" with whom the pair were connected via the internet—of targets in Washington, DC., including the U.S. Capitol, the World Bank, the Masonic Temple, and a fuel tank farm.

December 25, 2009: Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, a Nigerian citizen, attempted to blow up the commercial airliner

he was flying on over Detroit by igniting high explosives concealed in his underpants. Several days later, Al-Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen and Saudi Arabia claimed responsibility for the attempted attack. Abdulmutallab later plead to the charges against him and read a statement in court saying "I attempted to use an explosive device which in the U.S. law is a weapon of mass destruction, which I call a blessed weapon to save the lives of innocent Muslims, for U.S. use of weapons of mass destruction on Muslim populations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen and beyond."

May 1, 2010: Faisal Shahzad attempted, but failed, to detonate a car bomb in Times Square in New York City. Evidence indicated that the Pakistani Taliban was behind the attempted attack, and that Shahzad was in contact with the group via the internet while living in the United States. Shahzad was attempting to flee the country through a flight to the Middle East when arrested.

May 2010: Paul and Nadia Rockwood, from King Salmon, Alaska, were arrested for lying to the FBI about having compiled a list of 20 domestic terrorism targets, including members of the U.S. military, the media, and two religious organizations. The couple had also begun to acquire components for mail bombs. Rockwood, who had earlier converted to Islam and was studying the writings of Anwar al-Awlaki, sought to "exact revenge by death on anyone who desecrated Islam."

October 20, 2010: Zachary Adam Chesser, a supporter of designated foreign terrorist organization Al-Shabaab, pleaded guilty to charges that included soliciting other jihadists online to murder U.S. citizens in the United States. Among other things, he pleaded guilty to taking specific, repeated steps to encourage jihadists to attack the writers of an American television show for the way the show had depicted Muhammad.

October 27, 2010: Farooque Ahmed, a naturalized U.S. citizen, was arrested for plotting to bomb multiple Washington, D.C. metro stations Ahmed believed he was conspiring with Al-Qaeda operatives in plotting the attacks.

November 26, 2010: Mohamed Osman Mohamud, a Somali-American, attempted to wage jihad by trying to ignite what he thought was a real bomb, but which was a fake bomb supplied by an undercover officer, at a Christmas tree lighting ceremony in Portland, Oregon. Among other statements Mohamud made regarding the attacks, he said "I want whoever is attending that event to leave, to leave either dead or injured."

December 8, 2010: Antonio Martinez, also known as Muhammad Hussain, was arrested after a sting operation for plotting to blow up the Armed Forces Career Center in Catonsville, Maryland. Martinez, a Muslim convert, was motivated to plot the attack because he was upset that the U.S. and other militaries were fighting Muslims.

February 24, 2011: Khalid Ali-M Aldawsari, a Saudi Arabian student in the United States, was arrested for planning and having begun to build bombs for use in various terrorist attacks in America. Targets of the attacks included former President George W. Bush's home, hydroelectric dams, nuclear power plants, nightclubs, and the homes of American soldiers who had been stationed in Iraq at the Abu Ghraib prison. Aldawsari described in his journal, as well as on blog postings, his desire for violent jihad.

May 11, 2011: Ahmed Ferhani, a native of Algeria, and Mohamed Mamdouh were arrested for plotting to attack Jewish synagogues in New York City. The pair were arrested after purchasing several handguns and one grenade. The two were said to be "committed to violent jihad."

June 23, 2011: Abu Khalid Abdul-Latif and Walli Mujahid were arrested after pur-

chasing machine guns and grenades for the purpose of conducting a suicide attack against a federal building housing the Military Entrance Processing Station in Seattle. The pair's motive was to conduct physical jihad in the United States, as they were upset about U.S. military activities in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Yemen.

July 27, 2011: Naser Jason Abdo, a U.S. Army Private who had been Absent Without Leave (AWOL), was arrested in a plot against Fort Hood, Texas. He was found with jihadist materials, weapons, explosives instructions, and materials. The explosives instructions were from an Al-Qaeda explosives course manual.

September 28, 2011: Rezwan Ferdaus was arrested, following an FBI undercover operation, and charged for plotting to use a remote-controlled aircraft filled with explosives to attack the U.S. Capitol and the Pentagon. Ferdaus planned to commit violent jihad with the materials, and hoped to cause a "psychological impact" by killing Americans—who he referred to as "enemies of Allah."

November 20, 2011: Jose Pimentel was arrested for building and plotting to detonate pipe bombs in and around New York City. Pimentel's intended targets included U.S. military personnel who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan, U.S. postal facilities, and police. Pimentel was described as an "Al-Qaeda sympathizer," though he is believed to have worked on his plot alone.

January 7, 2012: Sami Osmakac, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Kosovo, was arrested for plotting to use weapons and explosives "to create mayhem" in Tampa, Florida. He planned to conduct a car bombing, then take hostages, and to finally detonate a suicide belt he would be wearing. Osmakac told an FBI undercover agent that "We all have to die, so why not die the Islamic way?"

February 17, 2012: Amine El Khalifi, a Moroccan who was illegally inside the United States, was arrested following an FBI sting operation for plotting to carry out a suicide bombing inside the U.S. Capitol building. When arrested near the Capitol, Khalifi was carrying what he believed to be a loaded automatic weapon and a suicide vest.

September 15, 2012: Adel Daoud was arrested, following an FBI undercover investigation, for attempting to detonate what he thought was a car bomb in front of a bar in Chicago. Daoud had earlier expressed his interest online in engaging in violent jihad in the United States or overseas.

October 17, 2012: Quazi Mohammad Rezwani Ahsan Nafis, a Bangladeshi, was arrested following a sting operation for plotting to bomb the Federal Reserve Bank in Manhattan. He was arrested after attempting to detonate what he thought was a 1,000 pound bomb near the door of the bank. Nails undertook his plot on behalf of "our beloved Sheikh Osama bin Laden."

November 29, 2012: Raees Alam Qazi and his brother, Sheheryar Alam Qazi, both naturalized U.S. citizens of Pakistani descent, were arrested for plotting to attack New York City, possibly at Times Square. Raees, inspired by Al-Qaeda (members of which he had tried to contact) had recently traveled to New York to attempt to obtain explosives for the attack.

December 13, 2013: Terry Lee Loewen, an avionics technician, was arrested following an FBI sting operation for attempting to explode a car bomb in a suicide attack at the Wichita Mid-Continent Airport in Wichita, Kansas. Loewen is a Muslim-convert who had said to an FBI employee that "I have become 'radicalized' in the strongest sense of the word, and I don't feel Allah wants me any other way."

September 15, 2014: Mufid A. Elgeeh was charged with encouraging and helping prepare two other people to go to Syria and join

ISIS. He had also allegedly plotted to shoot U.S. military members in the United States who had returned from Iraq. Elgeeh was arrested after purchasing two handguns, ammunition, and silencers.

February 25, 2015: Abdurasul Hasanovich Juraboev was charged for offering online to kill the U.S. President if ordered by ISIS. He, along with Akhror Saidakhmetov, allegedly then planned to travel to Syria to wage jihad on behalf of ISIS.

April 2, 2015: Noelle Velentzas and Asia Siddiqui were arrested, following a sting operation, for plotting to detonate explosives in the United States. The two allegedly discussed possible targets online and had acquired both multiple propane tanks and instructions on how to turn the tanks into bombs. Siddiqui had allegedly contacted members of Al-Qaeda on repeated occasions.

April 10, 2015: John T. Booker was arrested, after a sting operation, for allegedly trying to detonate a car bomb at the Fort Riley military base in Kansas on behalf of ISIS. Booker allegedly had spent months discussing different plans of attack before deciding on a suicide attack against the base, and had begun acquiring components for a vehicle bomb before becoming the subject of the FBI operation. He also allegedly repeatedly stated that he wished to engage in violent jihad on behalf of ISIS.

June 12, 2015: David Wright and Nicholas Rovinski were charged with conspiring to commit attacks against persons inside the United States, which was intended to further ISIS's objectives and therefore constituted material support to that group. Wright and Rovinski also allegedly intended to behead a man who had organized a conference in Garland, Texas that featured cartoons depicting Muhammad. Moreover, Wright and Rovinski allegedly conspired with Usaamah Abdullah Rahim—Wright's uncle—who was shot and killed after attacking police officers. The FBI stated that Rahim had been under surveillance because he had bought fighting knives and spoken of imminently attacking "boys in blue." Rahhim, when confronted by the police on a sidewalk, menaced the officers with a military-style knife before shooting him when he refused to drop the knife.

June 17, 2015: Fareed Mumuni and Munther Omar Saleh were arrested for allegedly conspiring to attempt to assist ISIS in committing a terrorist attack in the New York area. Mumuni and Saleh allegedly charged, with knives, at law enforcement officers who were trying to arrest them. Mumuni also allegedly told authorities that he had pledged his support to ISIS.

June 19, 2015: Robert McCollum, who changed his name to Amir Said Abdul Rahman Al-Ghazi, was charged with, among other offenses, attempting to provide material support to ISIS. He allegedly had pledged his support to ISIS via social media, took steps to create propaganda for the group, and had tried to persuade others to join ISIS too. He allegedly had also expressed his desire to conduct an attack on the United States, and had attempted to purchase an assault rifle.

July 13, 2015: Alexander Ciccolo was arrested on gun charges after purchasing two pistols and two rifles from an undercover FBI informant. His apartment allegedly was loaded with bomb-making equipment and jihadi paperwork. Ciccolo allegedly had planned to travel to a town with a state university where he could attack students at the college. Ciccolo was turned in by his father, who said his son was inspired by ISIS, had said he is "not afraid to die for the cause," and reportedly characterized America as "Satan" and "disgusting."

July 28, 2015: Harlem Suarez was charged with attempting to use a weapon of mass de-

struction against a person or property within the United States. Suarez came to law enforcement attention following Facebook posts he made with Islamic extremist rhetoric and promoting ISIS. Suarez allegedly had told a confidential FBI source that he wanted to make a "timer bomb," which was to include galvanized nails and for which he had purchased components, to be buried and detonated at a beach in Key West, Florida.

November 12, 2015: Terrence McNeil was arrested in Ohio for soliciting the murder of members of the U.S. military. He had disseminated ISIS rhetoric and detailed U.S. military personnel information for 100 military members, then called on fellow terrorists to kill the military personnel in their homes and communities.

Mr. GRASSLEY. These lists include successful attacks that harmed Americans as well as unsuccessful attempts that did not—often thanks to law enforcement's efforts. What is common to all the attacks is that they were undertaken by terrorists who coordinated with radical Islamic extremists, were inspired by them or by those who shared their views. The listed attacks should serve as a reminder that we must always be vigilant. We must never forget that radical Islamic extremists are waging war against us. We must always be prepared to fight this battle and to defend against their attacks.

I am grateful this Thanksgiving season for the people in this country who do the difficult work of protecting us from terrorists every day. We must continually strengthen our country's ability to win this war. We must ensure that our military and Special Forces have the ability to take the fight to the terrorists overseas, wherever they are lurking. We must ensure that our intelligence agencies have the tools needed to identify terrorists and their plots, while preserving the civil liberties that make our country very special. And we must ensure that law enforcement is able to use the lawful tools provided by Congress, consistent with our Constitution and approved by our courts, to help stop these terrorist attacks.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO BART AND CHERRY STARR

Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor two great Americans, two wonderful people—Bart and Cherry Starr—for their numerous personal, professional, and charitable contributions to the Nation and the great State of Wisconsin.

We are all aware of Bart's extraordinary contributions on the football field as quarterback for the Green Bay

Packers. Drafted in the 17th round in 1956, Bart proceeded to win 5 world championships, including victories in the first 2 Super Bowls. He was named the Super Bowl's Most Valuable Player for both games, but ever humble, Bart gave full credit to his teammates and to legendary coach Vince Lombardi for the team's historic success.

Over the years, Bart has received many honors. He was selected as a Pro Bowl Player four times and was named the NFL's Most Valuable Player in 1966. He was recognized in 1970 with the Gladiator of the Year Award for best exemplifying the character attributes of a citizen-athlete. And he has been inducted into multiple Halls of Fame: The Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 1976, the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1977, and the Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame in 1981.

Bart's football legacy goes beyond technical skill. His excellence in leadership and strength of character earned him the respect of his coaches, teammates, and fans worldwide. He continues to be lauded as an example throughout the NFL. Every year, the Bart Starr Award is presented to an NFL player who demonstrates leadership and integrity on the field and in his community.

Bart considers his wife Cherry to be the most important member of the Starr family team. Cherry supported and inspired her husband as they raised their children, Bart Junior and Bret, and devoted herself to numerous charitable causes throughout their life together. Their gifts of time, financial support, and celebrity continue to be a part of a lifelong mission benefiting many charities and causes.

At the height of his career with the Packers, Bart and Cherry cofounded Rawhide Boys Ranch, a home for at-risk boys. Over the years, the Rawhide Boys Ranch has grown into a campus comprised of seven boys homes, a state-of-the-art high school named in honor of Bart and Cherry Starr, and numerous work experience facilities that expose youth to a variety of trades.

Bart and Cherry also served as honorary chairpersons for the Vince Lombardi Cancer Foundation for more than 44 years. Their work behind the scenes was central to raising more than \$16 million for cancer research.

In addition, Bart and Cherry have been longtime supporters of Cornerstone Schools of Alabama. Cornerstone offers a Christ-centered education committed to academic excellence for Birmingham's inner city children whose families have limited school choice.

Finally, Cherry's passion for animals fuels their generous support over many years for the Greater Birmingham Humane Society.

Bart and Cherry are very proud of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, but the accomplishment they value most, that they cherish most, is their 60 years of loving marriage. I am honored to recognize