



ICT's Incidents Database Periodical Report

Summary of Terrorist Incidents and Counter-Terrorist Operations Worldwide June 2013



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Highlights

The following is a summary and analysis of the terrorist attacks and counter-terrorism operations that occurred during June 2013, researched and recorded by the ICT Database Team. The following are among the most important events occurring this month:

- On 1 June, authorities arrested five Al-Qaeda linked militants in Baghdad, Iraq suspected of plotting to carry out poison gas attacks in the Middle East, Europe and North America. Authorities seized remote-controlled toy planes that were intended to distribute the chemicals.
 - On 10 June, 70 people were killed and 114 others injured, in a series of attacks in central and northern Iraq. The majority of attacks targeted security forces and police in Mosul where 36 people were killed and 122 wounded in car bombings, shootings and clashes.
 - On 10-11 June, Taliban militants carried out two large scale attacks in Kabul, Afghanistan. In the first attack, militants armed with rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns launched a rare assault on NATO's operational headquarters at the military section of Kabul's international airport. However there were no casualties except the attackers. The next day, a suicide car bomber killed 17 people and wounded 40 others outside the Supreme Court.
 - On 21 June, eight suspected Al-Qaeda militants were arrested in the Spanish territory of Ceuta, Morocco on suspicion of recruiting militants to join the Jabhat al-Nusra front and the Islamic State in Iraq.
 - On 23 June, ten armed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) militants, disguised as members of the local paramilitary police, ambushed the base camp at the foot of Nanga Parbat, Pakistan killing 10 climbers and a local guide. One person survived.
 - On 30 June, a series of attacks in Pakistan killed 50 people and injured 119 others. Police said that the worst attack occurred in Quetta in a Shia Muslim mosque resulting in the deaths of 28 people and wounding 65 others.
 - On 25 June, authorities dismantled a cell who was intending to use remote-controlled model airplanes filled with explosives to carry out attacks in Germany. Raids were carried out in Stuttgart, Saxony, Munich and at unspecified locations in Belgium. Two men of Tunisian origin were the target of raids. Four other men were arrested, and another man was charged with of money laundering.
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Europe

Denmark

On 27 June, Denmark's public prosecution authority charged 11 men with funding terrorism. The men were accused of raising 130 million kroner (\$22.7 million) for the Kurdistan Workers' Party (*PKK*) rebels. Authorities said the suspects were all of Kurdish origin. Six of the men were accused of actively taking part in collecting money in Denmark, while the four others were accused of distributing funds to other European countries. One man was also accused of channeling money to the organization in 2006 and 2007. They denied the charges.¹ If convicted, they faced a maximum of ten years in prison.²

France

On 24 June, counter-terrorism officers carried out raids in and around Paris resulting in the arrests of six men suspected of plotting terrorist attacks in France. They were also accused of carrying out armed robberies, including the hold-up of a branch of the Banque Postale in Seine-et-Marne in April 2013, to fund their activities. The suspects, aged between 22 and 38, included a man from Benin, another from the Comoros and four French nationals.³ In a separate raid in June, three other suspected militants were detained for alleged involvement in a jihadist movement but authorities provided no details to the public of where the arrests were made or the identity of the suspected.⁴ Authorities said that so far in 2013 they had carried out 21 terrorism-related raids and arrested 48 people, 17 of whom were jailed.⁵

Germany

On 25 June, authorities dismantled a cell who was intending to use remote-controlled model airplanes filled with explosives to carry out attacks in Germany.⁶ The chief federal prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe released a statement that said two men of Tunisian origin were the target of raids in Stuttgart and at unspecified locations in Belgium.⁷ Authorities said they also carried out raids in the eastern state of Saxony and Munich where they targeted four men suspected of having ties to the Tunisian suspects, and a another person who was accused of money laundering. None of the suspects or their contacts was identified by name, and no arrests were made. Authorities said the raids were aimed

¹ AP, "Denmark charges 11 for funding Kurdish PKK rebels in Turkey", 27 June 2013.

² AFP, "Denmark charges 11 for funding Kurdish rebels", 27 June 2013.

³ AFP, "Six arrested in French anti-terrorist raid: source", 24 June 2013.

⁴ AP, "French police detain 9 terror suspects", 25 June 2013.

⁵ Reuters, "French police arrest cell with possible Syria link", 25 June 2013.

⁶ NPR, "Germany Says It's Uncovered Terrorist Plot Using Model Planes", 25 June 2013.

⁷ Spiegel Online, "Islamist Raids: German Police Shoot Down Model Plane Terror Plot", 25 June 2013.

at collecting evidence of plans and preparations for attacks and knowledge of how the plot was financed.⁸

On 27 June, a German-Afghan man, who was only identified as Mohammed Salim A, was charged with being a member of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan. In September 2012, he was arrested and accused of providing politically sensitive information to brothers Mounir and Yassin Chouka for use in making German-language recruitment videos in Pakistan. Mohammed Salim A was also accused of transferring 800 Euros to militants in Pakistan and was allegedly planning to join the group in Pakistan.⁹

Spain

On 12 June, ETA militants Jon Lizarribar Lasarte, 36, and Ruben Gelbentzu Gonzalez, 38, were arrested by Spanish police in Urnieta and Andoain in the northern province of Gipuzkoa. The men were accused of taking part in four ETA attacks in 2002 against the University of Navarra, the department store El Corte Ingles of Zaragoza and two companies from the neighboring province of Navarra. Spanish authorities said police carried out the raids acting on intelligence gathered from documents seized in France from members of the ETA leadership.¹⁰

On 12 June, five Tunisian men living in Barcelona were arrested on charges of distributing jihadist manuals via social networks. The suspects were identified as Kamel Boulehmi, Sabri Riahi, Sassi Ghrab, Hamed Ben Dhaou and Ali Ben Tahar Ghazouani.¹¹ Authorities said the men posted videos on the internet showing the late Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden explaining how to construct bombs, and other videos of Islamic terrorists-in-training on the internet.¹² The Spanish Ministry of Interior said that this arrest was part of an ongoing investigation that had been carried out since the beginning of 2012.¹³

United Kingdom

On 1 June, Michael Adebolajo, alias Mujahid Abu Hamza, 28 was charged in court with the murder of Drummer Lee Rigby in Woolwich, south-east London on 22 May 2013.¹⁴

⁸ New York Times, "Germany, Belgium and France Make Arrests in Reported Plots", 25 June 2013.

⁹ AP, "Germany charges dual-citizen with membership of terror group", 27 June 2013.

¹⁰ AFP, "Spain arrests two ETA suspects", 12 June 2013.

¹¹ Tunis Times, "5 Tunisians arrested on charges of promoting "terrorism" in Spain" 12 June 2013.

¹² Washington Post, "Spain arrests 5 Tunisians on terror-related charges", 12 June 2013.

¹³ AP, "Spain police arrest 5 Tunisians in Barcelona accused of spreading Internet terror propaganda", 12 June 2013.

¹⁴ Huffington Post, "Lee Rigby Killing: Michael Adebolajo Charged With Murder and Attempted Murder After Woolwich Attack", 1 June 2013.

Adebolajo was also charged with the attempted murder of two police officers and possession of a firearm.¹⁵ Michael Adebowale, 22, the other attacker was charged earlier in May 2013 with the soldier's murder.¹⁶ Adebolajo, who was also shot and arrested at the scene, was charged after spending nine days in hospital and being taken into custody at a south London police station. Both Adebowale and Adebolajo were filmed and photographed by witnesses following the attack.¹⁷ On 28 June, the trial date for both men was set for 18 November 2013. Both men appeared at the court via video link from separate rooms at Belmarsh prison. They were remanded in custody to appear for another preliminary hearing at the Old Bailey on 27 September 2013.¹⁸

On 10 June, Omar Khan, Jewel Uddin, Mohammed Hasseen, Mohammed Saud, Zohaib Ahmed and Anzal Hussain were jailed for planning to bomb an English Defense League rally. They pleaded guilty to the charges in April 2013. Five of them had taken a bomb, knives and sawn-off shotguns to a rally in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire in June 2012. However the suspects arrived two hours after the EDL event had ended. The men, who all lived in or near Birmingham, were arrested by chance after a car being used by two of them, and carrying weapons, was stopped by police on the M1 after the rally and found to have no insurance. Khan, Uddin and Ahmed were sentenced to 19-and-a-half years in jail, with a five-year extension on license. Hasseen, Hussain and Saud were jailed for 18 years and nine months, with a five-year extension on license. The six defendants received a reduction of a quarter in their jail terms for pleading guilty before a trial had been due to start.¹⁹

Africa

Mali

On 14 June French authorities said they dismantled a workshop that was manufacturing suicide bombers vests at a house in Bourem.²⁰ Approximately 5,000kg of fertilizer intended to be used as explosive was also seized. Lt Col Cyril Zimmer, French military spokesman said a sample suicide vest and 18 sewing machines were discovered. He also said that it appeared that local women were employed there. Initially the soldiers

¹⁵ AP, "Michael Adebolajo appears in court charged with Woolwich murder", 3 June 2013.

¹⁶ Guardian, "Michael Adebolajo tells Old Bailey, 'I am a soldier'", 5 June 2013.

¹⁷ BBC, "Woolwich: Michael Adebolajo charged with Lee Rigby murder", 1 June 2013.

¹⁸ BBC, "Woolwich murder: Date set for Adebolajo and Adebowale trial", 28 June 2013.

¹⁹ BBC, "English Defence League rally bomb plotters jailed", 10 June 2013.

²⁰ IOL news, "Bomb workshop' found in Mali", 14 June 2013.

thought they had found a factory to make copies of uniforms worn by Malian soldiers and those in the West African force, but they later found the sample vest.²¹

Morocco

On 21 June, eight suspected Al-Qaeda militants were arrested in the Spanish territory of Ceuta on suspicion of recruiting militants to join the Jabhat al-Nusra front and the Islamic State in Iraq. They were charged with belonging to terrorist organizations.²² Authorities identified the suspected leader of the cell as Karin Abdeselam Mohamed, 39. One of the eight, who was not identified, faced preliminary charges of weapons possession. All were Spanish nationals. The group was also allegedly planning to carry out attacks in Spain.²³ Spanish authorities said they first began investigating the cell, which was based in Ceuta and the Fnideq, in 2009. Authorities said the suspects had recruited 12 Spanish or Moroccan males, from both Ceuta and Morocco, to fight in Syria. At least five died in suicide attacks in Syria that caused numerous casualties. Authorities also claimed that some of eight suspects were planning of joining the Jabhat al-Nusra front and fighting in Syria. On 24 June, the suspects appeared in closed-door hearings before the judge at the National Court in Madrid.²⁴

Nigeria

On 26 June, Nigerian prosecutors filed charges against three Lebanese men accused of being members of Hizballah and providing weapons for terrorist activities. Mustapha Fawaz, 49, Abdallah Thahini, 48 and Talal Ahmad Roda, 51, were charged with a six-count charge of terrorism, while a fourth suspect Hussain Nurudeen Kosdi was freed and the fifth was said to be on the run.²⁵ The five Lebanese men were implicated in May 2013 after a large cache of arms and ammunition was found in their premises in the northern city of Kano and in Abuja. The cache included antitank weapons, rocket-propelled guns, anti-tank/antipersonnel mines, seventeen AK-47s with more than 11,000 bullets, and dynamite. The suspects pleaded not guilty to the charges and the judge ordered that they be remanded in custody until their next court hearing on 8 July 2013.²⁶

²¹ BBC, "Mali suicide vest workshop discovered", 14 June 2013.

²² VOA, "Spain Arrests Eight Suspected of Links to al-Qaida", 21 June 2013.

²³ CNN, "Spanish judge orders 8 suspected militants be held in prison", 24 June 2013.

²⁴ Ibntimes, "8 Spanish 'Al-Qaeda Affiliates' Recruiting For Syrian War Arrested In Spanish Port City Of Ceuta, Bordering Morocco", 21 June 2013.

²⁵ Naharnet, "Nigeria Charges Hizbullah-linked Men with Terrorism", 26 June 2013.

²⁶ Jpost, "Nigeria ups charges of 3 suspected Hezbollah men", 26 June 2013.

Somalia

On 5 June, Abdikafi Mohamed Ali was arrested following a raid on a militant safe house in Bossaso. A soldier was also killed in the operation and Ali was injured as a result of a firefight. Ali, who is the head of Al-Shabab Al-Mujahedeen in Puntland was paraded in front of journalists after his arrest.²⁷

On 19 June, a car bomb exploded outside the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) base in Mogadishu, killing seven people and wounding 15 others.²⁸ A group of four gunmen dressed in Somali military uniforms forced their way into the compound and fought with security guards. Interior Minister Abdikarim Hussein Guled said four foreign UN security staff and four local guards were amongst the dead. Seven of the attackers were killed.²⁹ Al-Shabab Al-Mujahedeen claimed responsibility for the attack, calling the UN "a merchant of death."³⁰

On 24 June, MP Abdalla Hassan Yarrow who served in the current Somali parliament was shot dead by unidentified assailants. The militants escaped. No group claimed responsibility for the attack but authorities suspected Al-Shabab Al Mujahedeen militants.³¹

On 26 June, Sheikh Hassan Dahir Aweys, who is on the United States' most wanted terrorist list³², was arrested at the airport in Mogadishu, after he flew in to the city for talks with government officials.³³ Aweys was tied to terrorism by the United States shortly after the 9/11 attacks and was placed on a UN Security Council terrorism sanctions list.³⁴ Sheikh Hassan Dahir Aweys had arrived in Mogadishu amidst reports that a rift had occurred within Al-Shabab Al Mujahedeen. He was detained for questioning at a government intelligence base after a fight broke out between government officials, members of the security forces and clan elders over what to do with him. Sheikh Aweys was flown from the northern town of Adado, escorted by government security forces, but it was unclear whether he had surrendered or defected. The United Nations says he gave himself up to government allies after infighting but clan elders denied this.³⁵

²⁷ BBC, "Somali al-Shabab leader Abdikafi Mohamed Ali 'captured'", 5 June 2013.

²⁸ CNN, "Attack on U.N. compound in Somalia called 'barbaric' ", 19 June 2013.

²⁹ Reuters, "Somali Islamist rebels attack U.N. base, 22 dead", 19 June 2013.

³⁰ Sabah, "Al-Shabaab suicide unit attacks UN compound in Mogadishu", 19 June 2013.

³¹ BBC, "Sheikh Hassan Dahir Aweys: Al-Shabab leader questioned", 30 June 2013.

³² BBC, "Will Somali Islamist purge strengthen al-Shabab?", 4 July 2013.

³³ AFP, " Somali forces arrest Islamist leader in Mogadishu", 26 June 2013.

³⁴ Reuters, "Prominent militant arrested in blow to Somali Islamists", 26 June 2013.

³⁵ BBC, "Sheikh Hassan Dahir Aweys: Al-Shabab leader questioned", 30 June 2013.

Middle East

Egypt

On 9 June, Maj. Mohammed Abdelaziz, 30, a counter-terrorism police officer was killed in el-Arish by suspected Al-Qaeda militants. Abdelaziz was a member of the counter-terrorism department in the national internal security agency. He managed to kill one of the two attackers, the other escaped.³⁶ Following this attack, on 23 June, two police officers were kidnapped by gunmen in South Sinai and on 29 June. Police inspector Brigadier General Mohamed Hani was killed fatally shot as he was leaving his home in Sinai. The attackers escaped. No group claimed responsibility for any of the attacks.³⁷

Iraq

On 1 June, Iraqi authorities said that they foiled a plot by an Al-Qaeda cell to carry out poison gas attacks in the Middle East, Europe and North America. Authorities said they arrested five militants in Baghdad.³⁸ The suspects confessed to the plot and said they had received instruction from another Al-Qaeda offshoot.³⁹ Defense ministry spokesman Mohammed al-Askari said the arrests were made after military intelligence had monitored the cell's activities for three months. Authorities said three workshops for manufacturing the chemical gases were discovered in Baghdad and in an undisclosed site and remote-controlled toy planes were seized at the sites. The Defense Ministry said that the suspects had materials and formulas to make the gases and had a network to smuggle the gas out of Iraq but they had yet to produce any weapons.⁴⁰ Authorities believed the helicopters, flown by remote control, were intended to distribute the gas.⁴¹

On 7 June, 10 people were killed and approximately 30 others injured when a suicide car bomber detonated his explosives by a bus carrying Iranian Shi'ite Muslim pilgrims in Muqdadiyah.⁴² Authorities said the bomber targeted a convoy of three buses carrying Iranian pilgrims, who frequently visit Iraq's Shi'ite shrines in the south of the country. No group claimed responsibility for the bombing but authorities blamed the Islamic State of Iraq.⁴³

³⁶ AP, "Egypt: Suspected militants kill policeman in Sinai", 9 June 2013.

³⁷ Ahramonline, "Police officer killed in militant attack in Sinai", 29 June 2013.

³⁸ AFP, "Iraq says Qaeda poison gas cell busted in Baghdad", 1 June 2013.

³⁹ BBC, "Iraq uncovers al-Qaeda 'chemical weapons plot'", 1 June 2013.

⁴⁰ AP, "Al Qaeda plot to use toy planes in chemical attack foiled, Iraqi officials say", 2 June 2013.

⁴¹ Telegraph, "Iraq arrests five in 'al-Qaeda chemical weapons plot'", 2 June 2013.

⁴² BBC, "Iraq Muqdadiyah bomber kills Iranian pilgrims", 8 June 2013.

⁴³ Reuters, "Iraq bomber hits Iranian pilgrims, at least nine dead", 7 June 2013.

On 10 June, 70 people were killed and 114 others injured, in a series of attacks in central and northern Iraq.⁴⁴ The majority of attacks targeted security forces and police in Mosul where 36 people were killed and 122 wounded in car bombings, shootings and clashes. In one of the attacks a suicide vehicle bombing at a security checkpoint killed nine officers. In a separate attack, 15 people were killed and 30 were wounded when three bombs targeting a vegetable market exploded within minutes of each other in Jadidat al-Shat in Diyala province, close to Baghdad. A roadside bomb also targeted a police patrol in the town of Al-Madaan and as rescue workers arrived to the scene a suicide bomber detonated explosives, killing three police officers.⁴⁵ In Baghdad, two bombs exploded outside a restaurant, killing another three people.⁴⁶ Authorities said many other people were killed in separate attacks in the cities of Kirkuk, Taji, Tikrit and Tuz Khurmato, although they did not give a clear figure of the casualties.⁴⁷ No group claimed responsibility for the attacks but authorities blamed the Islamic State of Iraq.⁴⁸

On 16 June, a series of car bombings across central and southern Iraq has killed 76 people and wounded approximately 100 others.⁴⁹ The majority of attacks occurred in Kut, Najaf, Mahmoudiya, Nasiriya and Basra where there is a high concentration of Shia Muslims. The first attacks occurred in Basra, where an Iraqi official and five civilians were killed and ten others injured, when the official's convoy was hit by two car bombs. In Najaf, a car bomb killed seven people and in Kut two car bombs targeted an industrial area and a gathering of construction workers.⁵⁰ Several hours later three car bombs exploded in Wasit and Babil Provinces and the city of Nasiriya, killing five civilians and wounding more than 70 others. In Madaen, southeast of Baghdad, two car bombs killed five people and wounded 10 others. In Mosul, four police officers were killed and four others wounded in clashes with unidentified gunmen. In Tikrit, a roadside bomb struck an army patrol, killing two soldiers. Finally a suicide bomber detonated his explosives in Baghdad killing six people and wounding 22 others.⁵¹ No group claimed responsibility for the attacks but authorities blamed Al-Qaeda in Iraq.⁵²

On 18 June, 31 people were killed and 60 others injured in a double suicide bomb attack at a Shia mosque in Baghdad. Authorities said the two suicide bombers shot dead the

44 BBC, "Iraq crisis: Dozens killed in day of Iraq attacks", 10 June 2013.

45 CNN, "Close to 60 killed in attacks across Iraq", 10 June 2013.

46 Reuters, "Bombs, rockets hit north Iraq's Mosul police HQ, 24 killed", 10 June 2013.

47 BBC, "Iraq crisis: Dozens killed in day of Iraq attacks", 10 June 2013.

48 Reuters, "Bombs, rockets hit north Iraq's Mosul police HQ, 24 killed", 10 June 2013.

49 New York Times, "Dozens Killed in Attacks Targeting Iraqi Shiites", 16 June 2013.

50 BBC, "Iraq car Bombings: Attacks hit mainly Shia cities", 16 June 2013.

51 New York Times, "Dozens Killed in Attacks Targeting Iraqi Shiites", 16 June 2013.

52 Reuters, "Car bombs, shootings kill 30 across Iraq", 16 June 2013.

guards standing outside the Habib ibn Mathaher mosque shortly after midday prayers, and then detonated their explosive belts inside the mosque among the worshipers.⁵³ The majority of victims were students from a nearby university who were leading the midday prayers in the mosque. There was no immediate claim of responsibility but authorities blamed the Islamic State of Iraq.⁵⁴

On 24 June, ten car bombs exploded in markets and garages on the evening of a Shi'ite Muslim celebration throughout Iraq⁵⁵ killing 42 people and wounding 51 others.⁵⁶ One of the worst attacks came at night when two bombs placed near a market exploded less than a minute apart in Baghdad's mostly Shiite neighborhood of Husseiniyah, killing ten people and wounding 30 others. A second bomb detonated amongst the rescue workers. Police also said that two car bombs exploded within minutes on a commercial street in the mixed neighborhood of Jihad in western Baghdad, killing nine people and wounding 21 others. Four people were killed and nine others were wounded when a car bomb exploded near a line of shops in the Shiite-dominated area of al-Shurta al-Rabeaa. Police said a car bomb also exploded near a supermarket on a main commercial street in the Shiite Karrada neighborhood, killing five people and wounding 16 others. A car bomb exploded near an outdoor market in the Shiite suburb of Nahrawan, killing four civilians and wounding 15 others. Minutes later, another car bomb detonated near a market in the Shiite-majority neighborhood of New Baghdad. Police said that three people were killed and 10 others were wounded in that attack. Another bomb targeting a bus stop in the same neighborhood killed two people and wounded eight others. Two people were killed in a car explosion in the Christian-Shiite neighborhood of Garage al-Amana in southeastern Baghdad. No group claimed responsibility for the attacks but authorities blamed the Islamic State of Iraq.⁵⁷

On 27 June, 22 people were killed in a series of bombings that targeted crowded cafes in and around Baghdad.⁵⁸ Authorities said in north and south Baghdad, two explosions killed eight people in a cafe that was broadcasting a football match. Two other explosions killed 10 people in coffee shops in Baquba. Another bomb exploded near a cafe in the town of Jbela, killing three people. Finally a "sticky bomb" attached to a car

⁵³ BBC, "Iraq violence: Deadly suicide bomb attacks hit Baghdad", 18 June 2013.

⁵⁴ AP, "Iraqi suicide bombers hit Baghdad mosque, kill 34", 18 June 2013.

⁵⁵ Reuters, "Ten car bombs kill 39 in Iraqi capital", 24 June 2013.

⁵⁶ AP, "Series of bomb attacks in Iraq kill at least 42", 24 June 2013.

⁵⁷ BBC, "Iraq violence: Dozens killed in Baghdad bombings", 25 June 2013.

⁵⁸ BBC, "Baghdad cafes hit by wave of deadly bombings", 27 June 2013.

killed one civilian in Iskandariya. No group claimed responsibility for the attacks but authorities blamed Al-Qaeda in Iraq.⁵⁹

On 30 June, a bomb planted near a football pitch killed 12 people and injured 24 others in Nahrawan neighborhood of southeast Baghdad. The victims were mainly teenage boys.⁶⁰ The bombing was the latest in a series of attacks targeting football pitches and cafes broadcasting matches. Authorities said the reason for targeting soccer players was not clear.⁶¹

Israel and West Bank

On 3 June, Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet) announced they arrested Bahar Sa'ad, 26, a Palestinian man suspected of agreeing to carry out attacks on behalf of Hamas in May 2013. Sa'ad was accused of traveling to Jordan to meet with Hamas militant Hesham Ibrahim Hijaz. Authorities said Hijaz recruited Sa'ad to Hamas, instructing him to carry out shooting attacks and to kidnap Israeli soldiers and civilians. During Sa'ad's interrogation, he revealed that Hijaz was planning to send a messenger to Sa'ad with four guns with which to carry out the attacks⁶²

Syria

On 11 June, two suicide bombers detonated their explosives at a police station in Marjeh Square, Damascus, killing 14 people and injuring 31 others.⁶³ The first bomber detonated explosives on the first floor of the police station, causing extensive damage to the building. Minutes later, when police rushed from the station, a second suicide bomber exploded a smaller device on the street as police were leaving the station.⁶⁴ No group claimed responsibility for the attack but authorities blamed Al Nusra Front to Protect the Levant.⁶⁵

Yemen

On 1 June, seven suspected AQAP militants were killed in two drone strikes in southern Yemen.⁶⁶ Authorities said the militants were traveling in separate cars in the al-Mahfad district of Abyan Governorate in southern Yemen.⁶⁷ It was reported that AQAP militant Awadh Ali Lakra and another militant known only as Lawar were amongst the casualties.

⁵⁹ Reuters, "At least 22 killed as bombs tear through coffee shops in Iraq", 27 June 2013.

⁶⁰ Reuters, "Bomb kills 12 soccer players, fans in Iraq", 30 June 2013.

⁶¹ AFP, "15 dead in Iraq attacks", 1 July 2013.

⁶² Jpost, "Plot planned by man freed in Schalit deal thwarted", 3 June 2013.

⁶³ DPA, "Deadly twin bombing in Syrian capital", 11 June 2013.

⁶⁴ New York Times, "Suicide Bombers Attack in Central Damascus", 11 June 2013.

⁶⁵ BBC, "Syria crisis: Damascus hit by double 'suicide bombing'", 11 June 2013.

⁶⁶ BBC, "Drone strikes kill seven in Yemen", 1 June 2013.

⁶⁷ AP, "Drone strikes targeting al-Qaida kill seven in southern Yemen", 1 June 2013.

Following the incident, another drone attack on 9 June, killed three other suspected AQAP militants. Among those allegedly killed was Surah Haidan, considered to be a senior AQAP leader by Yemeni officials.⁶⁸

On 2 June security forces foiled a suicide car bomb attack on a liquefied gas export terminal in Balhaf, in the southern Shabwa province. Authorities said the car exploded before it reached its target, killing only the attacker, who was believed to be an Al-Qaeda militant. Authorities said soldiers guarding the facility, part of a \$4.5 billion LNG project fired on the vehicle as it drove at speed towards them, causing it to explode outside the station's entrance. Authorities said that Yemen's gas and oil pipelines have been targeted previously but this was the first reported attack on the heavily guarded pumping station.⁶⁹ Authorities said a suspected AQAP squad also attacked a nearby gas pumping station in the southern province of Shabwa. No casualties or damage was reported.⁷⁰ No group claimed responsibility for the attack but authorities blamed Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.⁷¹

On 19 June, two people were killed and 11 wounded when a suicide bomber on a motorbike detonated his explosives in a market in Sa`da. Witnesses said the attacker, who was riding a motorbike detonated his explosives at the entrance to the market. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.⁷²

North America

United States

On 7 June, the US Treasury identified Abd al-Hamid al-Masli, 37 also known as Hamza al-Darnawi, a Libyan electronics and explosives specialist, as a senior bomb maker for Al-Qaeda in Pakistan. The Treasury said he runs a workshop, based in Waziristan that provides improvised explosive devices and components for Al-Qaeda to be used in Afghanistan.⁷³ According to the Treasury between 2011 and 2012, al-Masli's workshop provided Al-Qaeda militants in Afghanistan with timers, circuits, mines, and remote control devices for use in IEDs. Authorities also claimed that al-Masli instructed recruits on how to build detonators and was personally in charge of IED component construction at the AQ electronics workshop. Al -Masli had previously served as the commander of the Al-Qaeda's military committee. Authorities said this designation is aimed at preventing

⁶⁸ Long War Journal, "US drones kill AQAP commander, 5 fighters in northern Yemen", 9 June 2013.

⁶⁹ Reuters, "Soldiers foil suicide attack on Yemen gas pumping station", 2 June 2013.

⁷⁰ World Tribune, "Al Qaida renews attacks on Yemen gas sites", 2 June 2013.

⁷¹ AP, "Yemeni terror chief warns US: 'Your security has broken away'", 2 June 2013.

⁷² AFP, "Suicide bombing kills two in Yemen's Shiite North", 19 June 2013.

⁷³ Long War Journal, "US adds al Qaeda explosives expert to list of global terrorists", 6 June 2013.

any US citizens from undertaking financial transactions with Al-Masli or members of his cell.⁷⁴

On 20 June, Eric Harroun, 30, of Phoenix, Arizona was charged with conspiring to provide material support to a designated terrorist organization and with conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction overseas.⁷⁵ He was arrested near Dulles International Airport in Virginia in March 2013.⁷⁶ If convicted he faced a sentence of 15 years in prison. The second count, conspiracy to use destructive devices overseas, carries a maximum punishment of life in prison. According to court documents, Harroun, a former US Army medic allegedly crossed into Syria in January 2013 and fought with members of Al Nusra Front to Protect the Levant against the Bashar al Assad regime in Syria. The documents alleged that Harroun participated in attacks with al Nusra and carried and used various firearms, including a sniper rifle, an AK-47 style machine gun, and a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) weapon.⁷⁷

On 25 June, authorities announced that they had arrested Justin Kaliebe, 18 at JFK International Airport on 21 January 2013, as he attempted to board a flight to Oman en route to join Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) in Yemen. He secretly pleaded guilty to the federal charges. Authorities claimed he was radicalized by the teachings of AQAP leader Anwar al-Awlaki who was killed in a 2011 US drone strike in Yemen. He pleaded guilty to providing material support to a terrorist organization on 8 February as part of an ongoing investigation.⁷⁸ The arrest and guilty plea were believed to have been kept secret due to an ongoing investigation. Authorities said the investigation dates from early June 2012, indicating that Kaliebe had been interested in terrorism since around the age of 15.⁷⁹ Authorities said that in preparation for his planned travel to Yemen, Kaliebe applied for a new United States passport and purchased a ticket to Oman. In recorded conversations and emails with undercover FBI agents during this period, Kaliebe expressed his expectation to fight with AQAP and indicated that he was prepared to die for the cause. According to a transcript of recorded conversation, Kaliebe indicated that he knew his plans to join AQAP were illegal and that he expected to be charged with conspiracy to "to kill, maim, and kidnap in foreign countries," as other

⁷⁴ US Dept. of Treasury, "Treasury Designates Senior Al-Qa'ida Bomb Maker", 6 June 2013.

⁷⁵ AP, "Eric Harroun indicted in Virginia on al-Qaida group charges", 20 June 2013.

⁷⁶ Mailonline, "U.S. Army veteran is arrested on charges of 'conspiring with al Qaeda and using a rocket-propelled grenade'", 29 March 2013.

⁷⁷ US Dept of State, "U.S. Citizen Indicted for Conspiring to Provide Material Support to a Foreign Terrorist Organization", 20 June 2013.

⁷⁸ FBI, "Long Island Resident Pleads Guilty to Attempting to Provide Material Support to al Qaeda Affiliate", 26 June 2013.

⁷⁹ IBT, "Justin Kaliebe, New York Teen, To Get 30-Year Sentence For Trying To Join Al-Qaeda", 26 June 2013.

Americans who have traveled abroad to join terrorist organizations have been. Kaliebe faced sentencing in September 2013 and if found guilty he faced 30 years in prison.⁸⁰

On 27 June, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev,¹⁹ the Boston Marathon bombing suspect, was indicted with killing four people and using a weapon of mass destruction. He faced a total of 30 charges in the 15 April 2013 attack at the Boston Marathon, which killed three and injured more than 260 others. A fourth victim, a policeman, was shot dead by him and his brother as they fled authorities. The indictment confirmed police reports that he was at least partially responsible for the death of his older brother, Tamerlan, who is alleged to have detonated the first of two bombs during the race. If convicted, Tsarnaev faced life in prison or even the death penalty.⁸¹ According to the indictment, Tsarnaev downloaded from the Internet several pieces of extremist Islamic propaganda, including writings to Anwar Alwaki the late AQAP leader before the bombings. According to the US attorney's office in Boston, 17 of the charges against Tsarnaev could bring the death penalty or life in prison. He faced another hearing on 10 July 2013.⁸²

South America

Peru

On 8 June, a court in Lima convicted Florindo Flores, alias Comrade Artemio of terrorism, drug trafficking and money laundering charges. Flores, who was a senior leader of the Shining Path militant group, was sentenced to life in prison without parole. He was also ordered him to pay a \$180 million fine. Flores was captured in February 2012 in the Alta Huallaga Valley, a stronghold of the group in the late 1980s and early 1990s before it was largely defeated.⁸³

Asia

Afghanistan

On 3 June, a suicide bomber on a motorcycle detonated his explosives outside a market near a military convoy and government offices in Gardez, killing 16 people and injuring 20 others.⁸⁴ Amongst the casualties were two US soldiers, an Afghan police officer and 10 children from a nearby school.⁸⁵ Authorities believed the soldiers were the target of

⁸⁰ AP, "New York student sought to join Al Qaeda, federal officials say", 26 June 2013.

⁸¹ BBC, "Boston bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev indicted", 27 June 2013.
2013.

⁸² CSM Monitor, "Dzhokhar Tsarnaev indicted in Boston Marathon bombing", 27 June 2013.

⁸³ AP, "Peruvian court sentences Shining Path leader to life in prison", 8 June 2013.

⁸⁴ BBC, "Peru's Shining Path leader jailed for life for terrorism", 8 June 2013.

⁸⁵ RTT, "Reports: Bomb Attacks Leave At Least 19 Dead In Eastern Afghanistan", 3 June 2013.

the attack. No group claimed responsibility for the attack but authorities suspected the Taliban.⁸⁶

On 10 June, seven Taliban militants armed with rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns launched a rare assault on NATO's operational headquarters at the military section of Kabul's international airport. All seven militants were killed. There were no casualties except the attackers, but it emphasized the challenges faced by Afghanistan's security forces as they prepare to take the lead from a U.S.-led coalition that is rapidly withdrawing its remaining forces. In addition to the airport attack, six militants wearing suicide bomb vests attempted to storm the provincial council building in the capital of southern Zabul province. Interior Ministry spokesman Sediq Sediqi said that 18 people were wounded in the attack, including three police officers, when they detonated a car bomb outside the building in the city of Qalat, but security forces shot and killed them before they could enter. On the outskirts of Kabul, police killed one attacker and arrested two others who tried to storm the headquarters building in the Surobi district. Elsewhere, a roadside bomb killed a Polish soldier in the NATO force.⁸⁷ The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attacks.⁸⁸

On 11 June, a suicide car bomber killed 17 people and wounded 40 others in Kabul outside the Supreme Court during the evening as people were leaving work.⁸⁹ Police said the bomber drove an SUV and specifically targeted the buses with court workers, including several judges. Four buses and approximately 10 cars were destroyed in the attack, and the victims were all civilians, including women and children.⁹⁰ The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack.⁹¹

On 25 June, Taliban gunmen attacked Afghanistan's presidential palace and surrounding buildings, including the CIA's Afghan headquarters. Authorities said President Hamid Karzai was in the palace, but the target appears to have been the nearby Ariana hotel.⁹² Kabul police chief Gen. Mohamad Ayub Salangi said the attack began at approximately 6:30 when three or four gunmen jumped out of their SUV and opened fire after being stopped by security forces while trying to use fake documents to get through a checkpoint. All gunmen were killed in a firefight with security guards, and one palace

⁸⁶ CNN, "10 children, 2 ISAF soldiers killed in Afghan suicide bombing", 4 June 2013.

⁸⁷ AP, "Kabul Airport Attack Part Of Coordinated Taliban Strikes Across Afghanistan", 10 June 2013.

⁸⁸ Reuters, "Taliban launch large attack on Kabul international airport", 10 June 2013.

⁸⁹ Reuters, "Suspected Taliban bomber targets Afghan court, kills 17", 11 June 2013.

⁹⁰ AP, "Afghanistan Supreme Court in Kabul targeted in car-bomb attack; at least 17 dead", 11 June 2013.

⁹¹ BBC, "Afghanistan: Deadly explosion at Kabul Supreme Court", 11 June 2013.

⁹² BBC, "Afghan Taliban assault in Kabul secure zone", 25 June 2013.

security guard was wounded. A car bomb then exploded as it tried to enter the area.⁹³ Authorities said at least seven or eight explosions occurred and then approximately 45 minutes of an on-and-off gun battle.⁹⁴ The Taliban claimed responsibility the attack in a text message to Kabul reporters from spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid.⁹⁵

Indonesia

On 2 June, one person was injured when a suicide bomber on a motorbike detonated his explosives at a police compound in Poso in Central Sulawesi. This was the first suicide attack in Indonesia since 2011. Authorities said as the motorcyclist drove into the compound causing a small explosion which was followed by a second larger explosion. Police said the bomb was a homemade device that consisted of nails packed into a plastic lunch box. The explosion caused minor damage to some cars and shattered some windows.⁹⁶ Authorities suspected the bomber was part of a militant cell led by Santoso, Indonesia's most wanted militant.⁹⁷

Pakistan

On 15 June, 26 people were killed and 22 injured in a series of bombings in Quetta. In the first attack, 11 students were killed and more than 17 wounded when a bomb exploded in their bus in Balochistan.⁹⁸ The attack took place as the students were getting on the bus at the Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University in the provincial capital of Quetta. A subsequent explosion occurred at a nearby hospital treating victims from the first attack. Four attackers were also killed and one arrested.⁹⁹

On 18 June, 28 people were killed and 57 others injured in a suicide bomb attack at a funeral in Sher Garh town. The victims included a provincial MP linked to Imran Khan's PTI party. Authorities said it was unclear if he was the target. Witnesses said that approximately 800 people were attending the funeral when the suicide bomber detonated the device. The lawmaker, Imran Khan Mohmand, ran in Pakistan's May elections as an independent candidate and later supported the party of Imran Khan, the ex-cricketer. He was the second provincial lawmaker affiliated with the party to be killed since the election. The other lawmaker, also an independent who later joined Khan's party, was shot dead earlier this month.

93 AP, "Taliban attack presidential palace in Afghanistan", 26 June 2013.

94 AP, "Afghanistan Violence: Taliban Claim Responsibility For Attack On Presidential Palace In Kabul", 24 June 2013.

95 BBC, "Afghan Taliban assault in Kabul secure zone", 25 June 2013.

96 AFP, "Suicide bomber attacks Indonesian police station", 4 June 2013.

97 Fox News, "Suicide bomber attacks police station in central Indonesia, but no police killed", 2 June 2013.

98 BBC, "Pakistani city of Quetta in shock after double attack", 16 June 2013.

99 DPA, "11 students killed in bus bombing at Pakistan university", 15 June 2013.

On 21 June, militants opened fire on a Shiite Muslim mosque in Peshawar as worshipers were gathering for Friday prayers. Authorities said around 200 people were in the mosque at the time.¹⁰⁰ A suicide bomber then detonated his explosives inside, killing 15 people and wounding 40 others. Authorities said the bomber's vest contained six kilogram's of explosives.¹⁰¹ The other two militants escaped, and police launched a search operation to find them. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.¹⁰²

On 23 June, ten armed militants, disguised as members of the local paramilitary police, ambushed the base camp at the foot of Nanga Parbat, killing 10 climbers and a local guide. One person managed to escape. The attack occurred at the foot of Pakistan's second-highest mountain Nanga Parbat.¹⁰³ Authorities said the attackers stormed the hotel at the base camp in the foothills of Nanga Parbat at about 22:45 local time. The gunmen separated and tied up the local Pakistani staff and told them not to attempt to raise the alarm until morning. The gunmen then shot the foreigners, taking their money and passports. The attackers left at about 01:00 on 24 June.¹⁰⁴ The casualties included two Chinese, one Nepalese, an American citizen of Chinese origin and their Pakistani guide. The Ukrainian foreign ministry said five of its citizens had died, although Pakistani news reports put that figure at three and said that the victims included two Slovaks and a Lithuanian.¹⁰⁵ Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility for the attack. Taliban spokesman, Ehsanullah Ehsan, said that the attackers belonged to a Taliban affiliate named Jundul Hafsa, and that the attack was in response to an American drone attack that killed the Taliban deputy leader, Wali ur-Rehman, on 29 May 2013.¹⁰⁶

On 30 June, a series of attacks in Pakistan killed 50 people and injured 119 others. Police said that the worst attack occurred in Quetta in a Shia Muslim mosque killing 28 people and wounding 65 others. Authorities said that a militant launched a hand grenade towards the mosque forcing people to run in the direction of the mosque, where a suicide bomber detonated his explosives. Authorities said 8kg of explosives filled with pellets was used in the explosion.¹⁰⁷ It was also reported that a roadside bomb struck an army convoy killing four soldiers in the North Waziristan tribal area, and wounding 20 soldiers.¹⁰⁸ In another attack, a car bomb exploded as a convoy of paramilitary troops

100 BBC, "Suicide bomb attack on Pakistan Shia mosque kills 14", 21 June 2013.

101 Pakistan Express, "Suicide attack at Shia madrassa kills 15 in Peshawar", 21 June 2013.

102 AP, "Pakistan Shiite Mosque Attack, Suicide Bombing Kills At Least 15 ", 21 June 2013.

103 CSM, "Pakistan: Militants kill 10 mountaineers in 'well planned' attack", 24 June 2013.

104 New York Times, "Militants Kill 10 Climbers in Himalayas of Pakistan", 24 June 2013.

105 BBC, "Tourists killed at north Pakistan mountain camp", 23 June 2013.

106 New York Times, "Militants Kill 10 Climbers in Himalayas of Pakistan", 24 June 2013.

107 Central Asia Online, "Pakistani bombings kill 52, injure 119", 30 June 2013.

108 BBC, "Bombs kill dozens in Pakistan as Sharif vows action", 30 June 2013.

that were passing through the outskirts of Peshawar, killing at 18 people and wounding 47 others. Authorities said approximately 40kg of explosives coupled with mortar shells were used in the bomb.¹⁰⁹ Lashkar-e-Jhangvi claimed responsibility for the attacks. ¹¹⁰

Thailand

On 29 June, a roadside bomb killed eight soldiers and wounded two others in Yala Province. Authorities said the explosion occurred when 10 soldiers were travelling in a truck in Krong Pinang district. Police said the suspected militants were hiding in nearby plantations when they remotely detonated the bomb buried in the road as the military vehicle passed by.¹¹¹ No group claimed responsibility for the attack but authorities blamed Muslim separatist insurgents who have carried out similar attacks previously.¹¹²

¹⁰⁹ Central Asia Online, "Pakistani bombings kill 52, injure 119", 30 June 2013.

¹¹⁰ Reuters, "Blast in Pakistani city of Quetta kills at least 28", 30 June 2013.

¹¹¹ PTI, "Eight Thai soldiers killed in bomb blast", 29 June 2013.

¹¹² BBC, "Eight soldiers killed by roadside bomb in south Thailand", 29 June 2013.