April 2019
REGIONAL DOMESTIC OSINT IED REPORT

Summary of the TRIPwire open-source research and regional overview of the monthly domestic explosives-related events and incidents that include the implementation of improvised explosive devices (IEDs)

Overall Classification: (U) UNCLASSIFIED

Announcements:
OBP Training & Awareness Courses Recognized by IAEM

The DHS Office for Bombing Prevention’s Counter-IED Training & Awareness courses are now recognized by the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and approved for credit toward both the Associate Emergency Manager (AEM®), and Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®) certifications. Information on the IAEM and the CEM certifications can be found in the Training Materials section of the TRIPwire Library.
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**Most Activity**

- **Region**: IV
- **State**: CA
- **Day**: Tuesday

**Monthly Summary**

- **Total Incidents**: 242
- **Bomb Threats**: 92
- **Devices**: 84
- **Suspicious Package**: 66

**Highlight of the Month**

**Utah: Explosive Precursors and Possible Target Notes Found Inside Private Residence**

On 28 April 2019, North Salt Lake Police Department officers found explosive precursors and notes about a potential targeted attack in a residence following the arrest of a 24-year-old male suspect. After a family member reported an unusual chemical odor emanating from the man’s room, police searched the room and found items and chemicals consistent with a drug or explosives lab, including precursors for triacetone triperoxide (TATP). Authorities described the material as a white powdery substance produced by mixing and manipulating hydrogen peroxide, but no finished product of TATP was found. Police also found notebooks containing references to chemical weapons and notes on a Salt Lake City apartment building, which was described as a “target,” and (incorrectly) the site of multiple U.S. Government offices. When questioned, the suspect did not explain the intended purpose of the discovered chemicals.

**Monthly Casualties**

- **Injuries**: 4
- **Fatalities**: 0
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INCIDENTS BY DAY

INCIDENTS BY INFRASTRUCTURE

Additional Gov’t
Commercial/Retail
Courthouse
Healthcare
Other
Private Residence
Schools
Transportation

Device Functioned
Device Emplaced
Device Discovered
Bomb-Making Materials
Suspicious Package
Bomb Threat
On 17 April 2019 at approximately 0700 hours local time, Methuen Police Department (MPD) officers responded to reports of an explosive device functioning in a residential mailbox, damaging multiple mailboxes and a nearby vehicle but causing no injuries. According to MPD, a pyrotechnic device caused the explosion.
On 6 April 2019, police executing a search warrant at a Berlin borough home discovered a pipe bomb with associated components in addition to nine firearms, crystal methamphetamine, and heroin. The prosecutor’s Suburban Narcotics Task Force, Berlin Borough police, and the Lower Camden County Regional Special Response Team executed the raid as part of an investigation into suspected drug sales. The Camden County Sheriff’s Department Bomb Squad responded to the scene and removed the device and explosive materials.
On 24 April 2019 at approximately 2230 hours local time, police responded after an unspecified explosive device functioned outside a parking lot clothing donation box in Claymont, critically injuring one man. No further information was available, but the Delaware State Police, Delaware State Fire Marshal's Office, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are investigating the incident.
On 20 April 2019, a 25-year-old man initiated an IED described as a pipe bomb that landed in his neighbor’s yard. The man told Volusia County Sheriff’s Office deputies that he used stump remover mixed with sugar to make smoke bombs and shared a video of the outcome on social media. No one was injured in the incident, but the deputies evacuated the neighborhood as a precaution.
On 23 April 2019 at approximately 0030 hours local time, Logan Police Department officers observed what appeared to be an IED and additional associated components in an arson suspect’s apartment. Officers were initially called to the area based on reports of a female suspect throwing bricks through the windows of several residences. Responding officers discovered the suspect setting fire to the Hocking County Courthouse. When confronted, the suspect pulled a large knife, ran from the officers, barricaded herself in her apartment, and set her couch on fire as officers entered. After taking the suspect into custody, officers discovered the IED and associated components, and the Logan Fire Department requested the assistance of the Ohio State Fire Marshal’s Office and the Columbus Division of Fire Bomb Squad to remove the device and components.
On 2 April 2019, Rogers County Sheriff’s Office (RCSO) deputies responded to the scene of an IED explosion in the mailbox of a private residence in Inola. According to witnesses, they heard a loud explosion before finding the mailbox destroyed and the driveway covered in smoke. No injuries were reported, but RCSO deputies confirmed the damage was caused by an IED.
Missouri: Man Arrested After IED Functions Outside Residence

On 8 April 2019 at approximately 0800 hours local time, Cole County Sheriff’s deputies responded to reports of a male suspect detonating IEDs outside a residence. The victims also indicated the suspect had detonated additional devices a day earlier. During a search of the area, deputies found an IED wedged next to a mobile home. The Regional West Fire District responded, and the Missouri State Highway Patrol Bomb Squad rendered safe the device. There were no further details on the devices. The 40-year-old suspect was arrested and charged with second-degree assault and unlawful manufacture and use of a dangerous weapon.
(A) UNCLASSIFIED
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INCIDENTS BY TYPE

- Device Functioned: 2
- Device Emplaced: 1
- Device Discovered: 2
- Bomb Threat: 7
- Bomb - Making Materials: 3
- Suspicious Package: 2

INCIDENTS BY STATE

- CO 6
- UT 5
- ND 3
- MT 2
- WY 1

INCIDENTS BY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Additional Gov't
- Commercial/Retail
- Courthouse
- Healthcare
- Other
- Private Residence
- Schools
- Transportation

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHT

**Colorado: One Police Officer Injured in Chemical Overpressure Device Attack**

On 6 April 2019 at approximately 0020 hours local time, five teenagers ambushed an Arvada police officer with a chemical overpressure device that caused the officer to lose consciousness and injured a witness. The juveniles allegedly made a makeshift barricade on the road near Ralston Valley Park in Arvada by piling traffic signs, which the witness called 911 to report. While the witness and officer were picking up the signs, one of the suspects threw a plastic container containing the chemical, which detonated in a “big cloud of gas.” Authorities found a three additional devices, and the Arvada Fire Hazmat Crew determined at least one used brake fluid and powdered chlorine, causing the chemical reaction.

**Utah UPDATE: HMTD Found, Two Arrested After Man Injures Self in Explosion**

On 12 April 2019, Cache County Sheriff’s deputies arrested a 22-year-old injured male (the second suspect) in connection with the 9 April explosion at a Providence residence after the injured suspect was released from the hospital. A 21-year-old male (the first suspect) was arrested on 10 April after deputies questioned him and subsequently found hexamethylene triperoxide diamine (HMTD) at his home. The first suspect confessed to using the HMTD to manufacture blasting caps with the help of the second suspect, and driving the second suspect to the hospital after the casing exploded.

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On 24 April 2019 at approximately 0230 hours local time, a 36-year-old male suspect rammed his vehicle into a Federal defense contractor’s building in Kearny Mesa and initiated an improvised incendiary device (IID) in the back of the vehicle. San Diego Police officers found the crashed vehicle in flames, which were quickly extinguished and caused only minimal damage to the building. In the back of the vehicle, investigators discovered two empty magazine cartridges, towels, remnants of a melted gas container, and a bottle that had a strong odor of gas and noted the vehicle’s gas cap was missing. The FBI, ATF, and San Diego Police and Metro Arson Strike Team participated in the investigation. The suspect, who fled to Mexico after the incident, was arrested while attempting to cross back into the United States and is facing Federal charges.
**REGIONAL HIGHLIGHT**

**Washington: Police Find Multiple Explosive Devices in Residence**

On 6 April 2019 at approximately 0530 hours local time, Shelton Police Department officers responded to reports of gunfire at a residence and found a 35-year-old male with non-life-threatening injuries at the scene. Police obtained a warrant to search the residence and found multiple weapons, including multiple unspecified explosive devices. No description of the devices was available, but a photo provided to the press by police showed a cylindrical cardboard tube with an endcap and visible protruding fuse. Washington State Patrol Bomb Squad technicians removed the devices from the residence.
**1 The Infrastructure Categories** listed in this report are derived from the DHS Critical Infrastructure Sectors.
- Chemical
- Commercial/Retail
- Communications
- Critical Manufacturing
- Dams
- Defense
- Industrial Base
- Emergency Services
- Energy
- Food and Agriculture
- Financial Services
- Government Facilities
- Healthcare and Public Health
- Information Technology
- Nuclear
- Transportation Systems
- Water
- Non-Critical Infrastructure
  - Other (including Religious facilities)
  - Postal and Shipping
  - Private Residence

**2 The Incident Types** used in this report are defined as follows:
- Bomb-Making Materials (BMM): Ingredients commonly associated with IEDs, but which were not assembled into a functional device at the time of discovery; this category includes both discoveries and thefts
- Bomb Threat: An intentionally false claim of the presence of a bomb at a certain location
- Device Discovered: The discovery of a hazardous device before the device was emplaced at the targeted location
- Device Emplaced: The discovery of a hazardous device emplaced at a targeted location
- Device Functioned: A hazardous device functioned
- Suspicious Package Discovered: The discovery/examination of an ultimately non-hazardous package

**3 The Federal Regions** used in this report consist of:
- Region I Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
- Region II New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands
- Region III Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia
- Region IV Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee
- Region V Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin
- Region VI Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas
- Region VII Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska
- Region VIII Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming
- Region IX Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

**NOTE:** Incident map and circle graph indicate Federal regions utilizing the same colors. Graph reads clockwise from top.

**DISCLAIMER:**
This product provides a statistical analysis of available open-source reporting of explosives-related events, bomb threats, and improvised explosive device (IED) activity in the United States and its territories. Due to the nature of open-source intelligence (OSINT) collection, this data may not reflect all bomb-related incidents or casualty figures during the stated period, and does not include Classified or Law Enforcement Sensitive information. Incidents that received a response from authorities, law enforcement, and/or first responders are frequently reported only through official channels, such as locally held police logs. Therefore, the information may not be available and/or captured in the data used to compile this report.

**CONTACT:** Questions or comments regarding this product, and any other support, should be directed to the TRIPwire Help Desk via email: tripwirehelp@dhs.gov or by selecting the “Contact Us” tab at the top of the TRIPwire homepage. Thank you for utilizing TRIPwire.