

WRITTEN STATEMENT

Twenty seven years ago, on April 19, 1995 I was a US Navy Cryptologic Intelligence Chief Petty Officer aboard a Los Angeles Class submarine carrying out operations in the eastern hemisphere. I was sitting in the radio communications space monitoring a report from our higher headquarters. One item dominated the unclassified significant events: TRUCK BOMB EXPLODES IN OKLAHOMA CITY. DOZENS DEAD. As a specialist in Middle East terror groups, I was convinced that one of our adversaries had infiltrated the American homeland and perpetrated a major act of violence. I was so sure I bet a month's salary that it was a foreign terror group ... I quickly lost that bet.

The terrorist who conceptualized, built and delivered the 4,500lb Ammonium Nitrate and Fuel Oil (ANFO) bomb at the Alfred P. Murrah federal building was a decorated US Army veteran named Timothy James McVeigh. He conspired with two others, including his platoon leader Terry Nichols to exact revenge against the government for the deaths of the Branch Davidian religious extremists in Waco, Texas. However, there was a larger ideological belief at play.

McVeigh was a white supremacist who had self radicalized. He came to believe that a race war was imminent in the United States. He used the 1978 fictional novel, *The Turner Diaries* as a blueprint to ignite a racial war which would lead to a white dominated North America.

The Turner Diaries, written by American neo-Nazi William Pierce, describes America as a dystopia where black and Hispanic crime runs rampant, 800,000 whites are mass arrested and guns are confiscated. The fictional Earl Turner is a member of the terrorist group called "The Order." In that book a 5,000lb truck bomb is detonated at the FBI headquarters in Washington DC as the "go sign" for war to overthrow "the system." The system represents America led by "The Jews", the news media, Hollywood, and liberal

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government politicians”. The Order carries out reprisal lynchings of liberal whites they call “race traitors” in “the Day of the Rope.” The book ends when the fictional “hero” dies in a kamikaze airplane bombing of the Pentagon. Then came real life. McVeigh copied the described bomb and altered the target.

Another white supremacist, Robert Mathews, a close associate of Pierce, formed a terror group of the same name in the 1980s to carry out robberies, assassination, bombings and fund a network of white supremacist terror training camps in the rural US. Mathews would later be killed in a shootout with the FBI.

There is a long history of anti government extremism in our nation. We tend to focus on large data points, like Oklahoma City and the Olympic Park bombing but there is an undercurrent of mistrust of government that has always existed. That mistrust is often based on myths, conspiracy theories, paranoia laced with a healthy dose of rebellion nostalgia. Most Domestic Violent Extremists (DVEs) seek to protect and defend rights not as they are written in the Constitution, but as they wish they had been written. They live in an alternate information space which bends them out of objective reality.

Major of DVEs subclasses include:

- Ku Klux Klan & White Heritage groups
- Neo-Nazi / Fascist Internationale Groups
- Christian Identity Movement groups
- Anti-Government / Anti-Tax extremists
- Anti-Government Militia Movement groups
- Anti-Abortionist extremists
- Anti-Immigrant Macro-Nationalists / Clash of Civilization groups

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- White Ethnostate Accelerationist Groups
- Conspiracy Theory Driven DVE
- Autocratic Political Cultist DVE

The 2008 election of President Barack Obama would be a watershed moment that would start the consolidation of the disparate wings of DVE movements. But the 2016 election of President Donald Trump gave them a tribal chieftain they could all rally behind.

Most rightwing extremists have been poorly formed cells with limited capacity or knowledge of terrorist operations. However, many veterans of the military could lend in-depth operational planning and improvised explosive skills to any amateur group. These groups may be amateur but can demonstrate devastating capability if not detected in time.

The 2018 Charlottesville rally was another key point for the movement's subgroup. However, after a period of public shaming they consolidated into an almost immutable coalition under the banner of the pro-Trump campaign and rejection of the Black Lives Matter movement in the summer of 2020. As they are now unified under the banner of insurrection and loyalty to the former President there is little chance they will fracture anytime soon.

Trump's 2020 defeat has led to a completely new wave of DVE organization and preparedness that could potentially realize their most violent fever dream fantasies as patriotic resistance fighters straight from the movie 'Red Dawn.' If they do not understand there is a national rejection of their behaviors then they may feel compunction to act on that potential. We could see future attacks that could make the Oklahoma City bombing pale in comparison.