

# PAST ATTACKS, PAST RESPONSES

Date	Attack	Response
October 12, 2000	A small civilian boat with explosives rams the destroyer USS <i>Cole</i> as it refuels in the harbor of Aden, in Yemen. Seventeen sailors die, and 38 are injured.	U.S. conducts intensive investigation, suspects Osama bin Laden, undertakes no military response.
August 7, 1998	Two truck bombs explode in coordinated attacks on U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. Twelve Americans and 200 others are killed, and more than 5,000 are wounded. Osama bin Laden is suspected.	On August 20, 1998, President Clinton orders cruise missile strikes on bin Laden's terrorist base in Afghanistan and on an alleged weapons factory linked to him in Khartoum, Sudan. The Sudanese insist the factory made pharmaceuticals, and the U.S. later unfreezes \$24 million in assets belonging to the plant's Saudi Arabian owner.
June 25, 1996	A truck bomb explodes at the Al Khobar Towers U.S. military housing complex in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, killing 19 American airmen and wounding another 500.	U.S. conducts an investigation, suspects that Iranian terrorists were involved, but takes no official retaliatory action. U.S. officials criticize the lack of cooperation from Saudi Arabia.
November 13, 1995	A car bomb explodes outside the Riyadh headquarters of the program manager's office of the Saudi Arabian National Guard. Seven people are killed, including 5 Americans; 42 people are injured.	Having confessed to carrying out the attack, four Saudi nationals are put to death on May 31, 1996, in Saudi Arabia.
April 20, 1995	Timothy McVeigh detonates a fertilizer bomb, killing 168 civilians in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.	After being tried and convicted on all 11 counts of murder, conspiracy, and using a weapon of mass destruction, McVeigh is executed on June 11, 2001.
February 26, 1993	A truck bomb put together by local Islamic extremists explodes in an underground garage below New York City's World Trade Center. Six Americans are killed, and more than 1,000 injured.	On May 24, 1994, a U.S. district judge in New York sentences four perpetrators to 240 years in prison. Ten others are later convicted and sentenced to long prison terms.
December 21, 1988	Pan Am Flight 103 explodes over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270 people, including 159 Americans.	On April 15, 1992, the United Nations places sanctions on Libya for its failure to hand over the two suspected terrorists, Abdel Basset Al-Megrahi and Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah. After trial by a special Scottish court sitting in the Netherlands, Al-Megrahi is sentenced on January 31, 2001, to life in prison. Fhimah is acquitted.
April 5, 1986	A bomb explodes in a West Berlin discotheque, killing two U.S. soldiers and a Turkish woman, and injuring 229 others.	After U.S. intelligence determines that Libyan strongman Moammar Gadhafi was behind the bombing, President Reagan orders U.S. air attacks on military targets in Tripoli and Benghazi on April 15, 1986. An estimated 37 Libyans are killed and 93 wounded.
October 23, 1983	Suicide bombers detonate a truck full of explosives in a U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, killing 241 U.S. servicemen. Another suicide bomber on the same day bombed a French military command post, killing 58 soldiers. The attacks were believed to be Syrian-backed.	U.S. troops begin to withdraw from Lebanon four months later.
April 18, 1982	A suicide bomber attacks the U.S. Embassy in West Beirut, killing 17 Americans and 32 Lebanese, and injuring more than 120 people. A member of the Islamic Jihad was suspected to be behind it.	None.
November 4, 1979	Islamic students storm the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran, during the Islamic revolution led by the Ayatollah Khomeini. Attackers hold 52 Americans hostage for 444 days.	President Carter devises a secret rescue operation, but eight U.S. servicemen die in the Iranian desert when a helicopter and airplane collide. The U.S. cuts off all ties with Iran and expels Iranian diplomats.

—Gregg Sangillo