

American Muslim Extremists: A Continuing Threat to Jews

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Introduction

Since the September 11 terrorist attacks, an alarming number of Americans motivated by radical interpretations of Islam have been involved in terrorist plots and conspiracies in which Jews and Jewish institutions have been targeted or considered for attack. Many other American Muslim extremists arrested or convicted of a wide-range of terror-related charges have expressed similar hatred of Jews and Israel.

Approximately [250 American Muslim extremists, including legal residents, have been arrested on various terror-related charges](#), ranging from bomb plots to providing material support to terrorists, since 9/11. About half of those arrested are U.S.-born, and roughly one quarter are converts to Islam.

While most of the plots in the U.S. have been foiled by law enforcement before they were carried out, the number of conspiracies and plots targeting Jews and Jewish institutions demonstrates the ongoing threat posed by American Muslim extremists motivated by hatred of Jews and Israel.

For example, Ahmed Ferhani, a legal resident from Algeria, and Mohammad Mamdouh, a naturalized U.S. citizen awaiting trial, were arrested in May 2011 for plotting to [attack a synagogue in New York City](#).

According to authorities, the two targeted Jews in order to advance their radical ideological goals. Reading a prepared statement in Manhattan Supreme Court, Ferhani declared “I repeatedly discussed...my anger towards Jews based on what I believed and perceived to be their mistreatment of Muslims throughout the world. I intended to create chaos and send a message of intimidation and coercion to the Jewish population of New York City, warning them to stop mistreating Muslims.”

Two years earlier, three American Muslim converts and one Haitian national allegedly [plotted to attack synagogues](#) in the Bronx and to shoot down airplanes at a military base in Newburgh, New York. “These were people who were eager to bring death to Jews,” Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric Snyder said at a court hearing the day after the arrests. All four suspects reportedly converted to Islam while in



prison, reminiscent of a [similar plot](#) hatched in a Los Angeles prison to attack Jewish and military targets in 2005.

The threat posed to the Jewish community by American Muslim extremists has also extended overseas. In December 2009, American citizen [David Coleman Headley](#) was charged for his involvement in the [November 2008 Mumbai terror attacks](#), which killed more than 170 people. In the years leading up to the attacks, Headley conducted extensive surveillance of the Mumbai headquarters of the Chabad Lubavitch movement and of the other targeted locations, reportedly posing as a Jew during an earlier visit to the Jewish center.

More recently, [Eric Harroun](#), an American citizen and former soldier who was charged with conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction while fighting with Al Qaeda-linked Syrian rebels, stated in media interviews that he had planned to go to the Palestinian territories to fight his Israel. His Facebook page reportedly included a post that the “only good Zionist is a dead Zionist.”

Many American Muslim extremists have been influenced, to some degree, by the ideologies of extreme intolerance propagated by terrorist movements overseas. American Muslims have garnered access to such extreme ideologies and messages of violence through sermons, videos and other [terrorist material](#) disseminated via the Internet.

Foreign nationals motivated by a similar hatred have also planned attacks against Americans, both Jews and non-Jews alike. In February 2012 for example, [Amine El Khalifi](#), a Moroccan residing in the United States illegally, was arrested for planning a suicide bombing at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Prior to settling on the Capitol, he expressed to undercover agents, whom he believed to be Al Qaeda operatives, his desire to attack a synagogue, among other potential targets.

In September 2009, Jordanian national Hosam Maher Husein Smadi attempted to [detonate explosives at the 60-story Fountain Place building](#) in Dallas, Texas. In conversations with an undercover agent, Smadi reportedly espoused a hatred of Israel and Jews, calling for the “destruction of the Jews” and seeking to kill the Jews as retribution for Israel's activities in Gaza.

Motivation: Hatred of Jews and Israel

American Muslim extremists fueled by hatred of Jews and Israel have planned a number of terrorist attacks both within the United States and abroad. The following sampling illustrates the extent to which Americans, influenced by radical interpretations of Islam, have targeted or considered attacking Jews or Jewish institutions throughout the U.S. since 9/11, as well as the degree to which hatred of Jews and Israel has motivated those individuals involved in other terror-related activity.

- **2013 - Virginia**

[Eric Harroun](#), an American citizen, was charged with conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction while fighting with Al Qaeda-linked Syrian rebels. In media interviews he stated that he had planned to go to the Palestinian territories to fight his Israel. His Facebook page reportedly included a post that the “only good Zionist is a dead Zionist.” According to an FBI affidavit, when asked about the post by the FBI, he replied that he equates “Zionism with Nazism and Fascism.”



- **2012 - Florida**

[Sami Osmakac](#), a naturalized American citizen from Kosovo, was charged in a plot to attack various sites in Tampa and take hostages. Prior to his planned attack, he had written rap lyrics about bombs and killing Jews, according to a former classmate. In a number of videos posted to YouTube, Osmakac is heard railing against Jews, accusing them of corrupting religion, killing prophets, and compares them to the devil. Osmakac also claimed that the anti-Christ will be a Jewish politician.



Osmakac speaking as “Abdul Samia” from his video “Convert To Islam NOW – To All Atheist Christian (Non-Muslims)”

- **2011 - New York**

[Mansour Arbabsiar](#), a naturalized American citizen from Iran, pleaded guilty to charges of conspiring to commit an act of terrorism and conspiracy to murder a foreign official in a planned assassination of the Saudi ambassador to the United States linked to Iran. According to initial media reports, Arbabsiar and his Iranian coconspirators also discussed targeting the Israeli embassies in Washington and Argentina.

- **2011 – Pennsylvania/Virginia**

Emerson Begolly, an American citizen who pleaded guilty to [soliciting acts of terrorism](#), exhibited rabid anti-Semitism in his extensive online activity. Many of his messages were explicitly anti-Semitic, calling for the death of all Jews and encouraging others to target synagogues, Jewish schools and day care centers. In response to the [Israeli naval operation to stop a flotilla of ships en route to Gaza](#) in May 2010, Begolly wrote and recorded a tribute to the "Activists Who were Martyred, Wounded, and Imprisoned at the Hands of the Zionist Pigs." The song, which is entitled "When the Jew's blood reds my knife, then my life is free from strife," threatens to "throw them [the Jews] in the ovens" and to "shoot and kill Jews one by one."

- **2011 – New York**

[Ahmed Ferhani](#), a legal resident from Algeria, and Mohammad Mamdouh, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Morocco, [were arrested for plotting to attack a synagogue in New York City](#). The men targeted Jews to advance their radical ideological goals, according to authorities. During the undercover operation, Ferhani allegedly said that Muslims around the world are being treated like dogs. He also said that Palestinians are particularly victimized and allegedly expressed interest in going to Gaza to fight. New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said one of the suspects planned to grow out his beard in order to look "more like a Jew" and enter a synagogue more easily.



- **2010 – Illinois**

[Shaker Masri](#), an American citizen arrested in August 2010 for planning to join an [Al Qaeda-linked terrorist group based in Somalia](#), has espoused anti-Israel sentiments. Court documents have alleged that, in January 2009, Masri deemed those protesting for the Palestinians as ineffectual. According to Masri, only those who are "aiming a rifle at the enemy" can achieve Muslim goals. Masri also stated that "the United States and Europe were the real enemies of Islam because they were killing Muslims and supporting Israel with weapons and equipment."

- **2010 – Virginia**

[Zachary Chesser](#), an American convert from Virginia who was sentenced to 25-years in prison for attempting to join an [Al Qaeda-linked terrorist group based in Somalia, communicating threats, and soliciting crimes of violence](#), distributed terrorist propaganda materials online and espoused hatred against Jews and Israel prior to his arrest. In a February 2010 online discussion hosted by [Revolution Muslim](#) (RM), a New York-based anti-Semitic extremist group, Chesser wrote, "May Allah blow up the Jews..." In an interview two months later, Chesser warned that peace will only be established with "a complete withdrawal of non-Muslim forces from Muslim lands [and] an ending of the propping up of the apartheid regime of Israel."

- **2010 – New Jersey**

Two men sentenced to between 20 and 22-years in prison planning to kill American soldiers overseas, participated in rallies organized by [Revolution Muslim](#) (RM) and the Islamic Thinkers Society (ITS), both New York-based anti-Semitic extremist groups. While it is unclear how closely linked the two men - [Mohamed Mahmood Alessa](#) and [Carlos Eduardo Almonte](#) - are to the groups, their alleged plan to travel to Somalia to fight with an [Al Qaeda-linked terrorist group](#) is consistent with RM ideology and advocacy. During an ITS protest against the Israeli Day Parade in New York in May 2010, Alessa, an American citizen from New Jersey, led a chant with the anti-Jewish slogan, "Khaibar, Khaibar ya Yahud, jaish Muhammad sawfa ya'ud," evoking the Quran's account of a battle between the Prophet Muhammad and the Jews of the town of Khaibar, which resulted in the subjugation of the Jews of Arabia. In addition, Almonte, a naturalized U.S. citizen from the Dominican Republic, posted a picture on his Facebook profile of himself at another anti-Israel rally in December 2008, attended by members of ITS and RM, where he is carrying a sign that reads, "Death to All (zionist) Juice."



Mohamed Mahmood Alessa and Carlos Eduardo Almonte

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- **2009 – Illinois**

[David Coleman Headley](#), an American citizen from Chicago sentenced to 35-years for his role in plotting a terrorist attacks, helped plan the November 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai that killed more than 170 people. Headley ultimately pleaded guilty to conducting extensive surveillance of the Mumbai headquarters of the Chabad Lubavitch movement and other locations targeted by suspected members of the Pakistani-based terrorist group [Lashkar-e-Taiba](#) during the November 2008 attacks. Indian news sources have reported that Headley posed as a Jew during a visit to the Chabad center prior to the attacks, and that he again posed as Jew to gain access to other Jewish centers throughout India in the months following the terrorist attacks.

- **2009 – Texas**

[Nidal Malik Hasan](#), an Army psychiatrist from Virginia who allegedly killed 13 people and wounded more than 30 others at the Fort Hood Army base in Texas, expressed his support of killing Jews and Israelis in a series of e-mails exchanged with American Muslim cleric [Anwar al-Awlaki](#) prior to the attack. Hasan also mentioned various justifications for "targeting the Jews with rockets" in e-mails sent to al-Awlaki, the American-born Muslim cleric living in Yemen who distributes radical online lectures encouraging American Muslims to attack non-Muslims and Western interests.



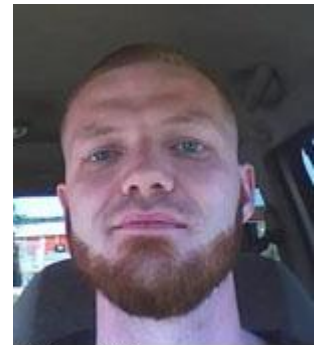
Nidal Malik Hasan

- **2009 – Pennsylvania**

[Colleen LaRose](#), an American convert who pleaded guilty in 2011 to recruiting potential terrorists online, posted comments about Jews on several online forums. On a message board called Islamic Emirate Forum, LaRose criticized Adolf Hitler for not killing more Jews. "I mean look at the terrible things the jews (joos) have done to our Ummah... indeed they are a cancer to the world as a whole.so [sic] yes i [sic] wish Hitler would have finished the job," she said. In another post in response to an anti-Semitic comment made by a member of the Islamic Thinkers Society, a New York based group that justifies terrorist attacks and other forms of violence, LaRose wrote, "LOL@ bashing yahoods [Jews]...dont have ALL the fun akhi [brother], save some for others to terrorize...BAAHAAHAAHAA!" LaRose's MySpace profile reportedly included the message: "I support all the Mujahideen [Muslim warriors] I hate zionist & all that support them!"

- **2009 – Illinois**

[Michael Finton](#), an American Muslim convert sentenced to 28-years in prison for attempting to bomb the federal courthouse in Illinois, expressed anger at the United States for supporting Israel prior to his arrest. According to the affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, Finton told a law enforcement source of his desire to obtain military training and travel to Gaza to fight the Israelis on behalf of the Palestinians. Finton, who allegedly stated ambitions to join Palestinian terrorist organizations like Hamas or Islamic Jihad, projected that an attack on American soil would force the U.S. government to curtail its financial support of Israel, and the "big bully behind Israel (the United States) would not be there anymore."



Michael Finton

- **2009 – New York**

[Zarein Ahmedzay](#), a naturalized U.S. citizen from Afghanistan, admitted in federal court that he and [two other New Yorkers](#) planned to detonate homemade explosives on New York City subway lines during the days following the eighth anniversary of the September 11 terror attacks. While entering his guilty plea, Ahmedzay stated that "the real enemies of this country are the ones destroying this country from within" and condemned "a special group of Zionist Jews" who want to "establish a permanent shadow government in the United States of America."

- **2009 – North Carolina**

[One U.S. permanent resident and six other Americans from North Carolina](#) arrested for engaging in weapons training and conspiring to carry out "violent jihad" overseas may have been motivated by hatred of Israel. According to initial reports, the group raised money and trained for possible terrorist attacks in Tel Aviv, Israel. Several of the men returned to the U.S. from Tel Aviv in June 2007 after "having failed in their attempt to engage in violent jihad," according to the indictment.

The Facebook profile of one of the suspects includes a quote that reads, "I am not going to give 1 inch of Palestine to the Jews."

- **2009 – Arkansas**

[Abdulkhikim Mujahid Muhammad](#), an American Muslim convert who killed one uniformed American soldier and shot another at a military recruiting center in Arkansas, reportedly searched for information about Jewish institutions on the Internet. According to court documents, Muhammad planned to target recruiting centers and Jewish organizations "because [of] what they're doing in Palestine or years of killing Muslims." Muhammad also admitted to throwing a fire bomb at the house of an Orthodox Rabbi in Nashville, Tennessee. He also confessed to the FBI that he had fired shots at the home of Little Rock rabbi in the days before his attack on the recruiting center.

- **2009 – New York**

Four Muslim converts, three American and one Haitian, sentenced to 25-years in prison for their [plot to attack two synagogues](#) in the Bronx and to shoot down planes at a military base in Newburgh, New York. James Cromitie, the apparent leader of the group, and the other three men allegedly began surveillance of several synagogues and a Jewish Community Center in the Bronx in April 2009. "These were people who were eager to bring death to Jews," Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric Snyder said at a court hearing the day after the arrests.



James Cromitie

- **2008 – New York**

[Bryant Neal Vinas](#), an American Muslim convert who pleaded guilty to providing information about New York transit systems to Al Qaeda for potential terrorist attacks, was reportedly angry with the U.S. government for its support of Israel. Vinas was also involved with the Islamic Thinkers Society, a New York-based anti-Semitic extremist group that calls for the destruction of the state of Israel, and met with the former leader of [Revolution Muslim](#), another New York-based anti-Semitic organization that justifies terrorist attacks and other forms of violence against non-Muslims.

- **2007 – New Jersey**

[One naturalized U.S. citizen and four other Muslim immigrants](#) conspired to kill American soldiers at New Jersey's Fort Dix army base. According to court documents, "anti-Zionist hatred is one of the reasons, if not the primary reason why they planned to attack Ft. Dix." The Department of Justice has also further alleged that the men were motivated by "their desire to 'avenge' the supposed crimes of Zionism." Mohamad Ibrahim Shnewer, the naturalized U.S. citizen who was

born in Jordan, told an undercover informant that his first choice was to kill Jews in Israel: "I love to kill Jews. I tell you this, in all honesty, it is a dream of mine."

- **2007 – New York**

[Russell Defreitas](#), a naturalized U.S. citizen from Guyana, and three others plotted to attack John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK), in part because they wanted to take revenge on the U.S. for its diplomatic relationship with Israel. The men planned to plant explosives and blow up the airport's major jet-fuel supply tanks and pipeline. Defreitas, who previously worked as a cargo handler at JFK, was reportedly motivated to carry out the plot after seeing missiles loaded onto a plane he believed was headed for Israel. Defreitas later told an informant that "Muslims also incur the wrath of the world while Jews get a pass," and that he "wanted to do something to get those bastards," according to court documents. Defreitas also suggested targeting a nearby Jewish school or a predominately Jewish neighborhood.

- **2006 – Illinois**

[Derrick Shareef](#), an American Muslim convert who was sentenced to 35-years in prison for planning to set off grenades in an Illinois shopping mall in 2006, also discussed attacking local government facilities and Jewish targets. During secretly recorded conversations with an undercover informant, Shareef said he found synagogues on MapQuest and planned to grab Jews and "shank one or two of them" as they entered the synagogue on a Saturday morning. "I probably would have eventually ended up just stabbing the [expletive] outta some Jews or something," Shareef told the informant. Shareef also said that he became interested in attacking Jews during the 2006 Lebanon war, according to court documents.

- **2006 – Washington**

American citizen [Naveed Afzal Haq](#) was sentenced to life in prison without parole for shooting and killing one woman and wounding five others at the Jewish Federation building in Seattle in July 2006. Haq, who allegedly forced his way through a security door by holding a gun to a 13-year-old girl's head, told Federation staff members that he was "a Muslim-American" who was "angry at Israel." During the assault, Haq 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," according to court records. Haq chose his target after searching on the Internet for Jewish organizations, according to Seattle police.

- **2005 – California**

Three American citizens and one U.S. permanent resident from Pakistan planned [attacks against Jewish institutions and U.S. military locations in Los Angeles](#) during Yom Kippor in retaliation for the U.S. and Israeli governments' policies towards Muslims. The group planned to attack several synagogues, the Israeli consulate, the National Guard and U.S. military bases and recruiting offices. The men also gathered information via the Internet on El Al and planned to target the airline's ticket counter at Los Angeles International Airport. The leader of the group, Kevin James, converted to Islam in prison and urged other inmates to target the Jews and the U.S. and Israeli governments.



Kevin James

- **2005 – California**

American citizen Hamid Hayat, who attended terrorist training camps in Pakistan between 2000 and 2004, was recorded praising the murdered of Daniel Pearl, a Wall Street Journal reporter who was kidnapped and murdered by Muslims extremists in 2002. "They killed him. So I'm pleased about that," Hayat said. "They cut him into pieces and sent him back. That was a good job they did. Now they can't send one Jewish person to Pakistan."

- **2004 – New York**

American citizen James Elshafay and Shahawar Matin Siraj, a Pakistani who was in the U.S. illegally, plotted to bomb New York's Herald Square subway station in 2004. In conversations secretly recorded by an undercover informant, Elshafay talked about his hatred of "Zionists" and his solidarity with the Palestinians, according to court documents. The men also watched terrorist videos at the bookstore where Siraj worked, and Siraj gave Elshafay books that claimed the Jews were conspiring to take over the world's economy.

- **2004 – Virginia**

[Ali al-Timimi](#), an American Muslim cleric who frequently gave anti-Semitic, anti-Israel and anti-Western lectures at the Dar al-Arqam mosque in Falls Church, Virginia, inspired a group of men dubbed the "Virginia Jihad Network" to attend terrorist training camps in Pakistan. In one such sermon, al-Timimi declared that the 2003 explosion of the Columbia space shuttle foreshadowed the ultimate destruction of the West and Israel, according to the indictment. American Muslim convert Randall Todd Royer, who was influenced by al-Timimi, set up an Internet newsletter for the Pakistani-based terrorist group [Lashkar-e-Taiba](#) while attending one of the



Ali al-Timimi

training camps in Pakistan. Royer's newsletter contained several anti-Semitic sections, including an article entitled "Who is Ruling the USA Today" and a section on the Protocols of the Elders of Zion.

- **2003 – Virginia**

American citizen [Ahmed Omar Abu Ali](#) was extradited from Saudi Arabia to the United States after he told Saudi authorities that his "hatred of the United States for support of Israel against the Palestinian people" caused him to join Al Qaeda. While attending college in Saudi Arabia, Ali met with former Al Qaeda leader Zubayr Al Rimi between September 2002 and June 2003 to discuss plans to assassinate President George W. Bush. Ali also planned to hijack and destroy civilian airliners and researched nuclear power facilities in the U.S. at the behest of an Al Qaeda operative, according to the Department of Justice. After his arrest, U.S. authorities found audio tapes in Arabic at Ali's home in Virginia that promoted the killing of the Jews and a Muslim battle against Christians and Jews.

- **2002 – Florida**

Shueyb Mossa Jokhan, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Trinidad, and Imran Mandhai, a Pakistani national, plotted to bomb several targets in Southern Florida in 2002, including Jewish-owned businesses in Weston, the Israeli Consulate in Miami, Jewish community centers in Aventura and Broward County, electrical power stations in Broward and Miami-Dade counties, the National Guard Armory in Hollywood and Mount Rushmore. The men planned to set off a series of explosives that would cause massive power blackouts in Broward and Miami-Dade counties, which they hoped would result in lootings and chaos in Southern Florida. Jokhan and Mandhai also planned to demand the U.S. to stop sending aid to Israel, free Muslims from U.S. jails and change U.S. policy on the Middle East.

- **2002 – Los Angeles**

Hesham Mohamed Hadayet, a U.S. permanent resident from Egypt, killed two Israelis and injured four others at an El Al ticket counter at the Los Angeles International Airport on July 4, 2002. Hadayet, who was fatally shot by an airline security officer, intended to "advance the Palestinian cause in the Israel-Palestine conflict through the killing of civilians and the targeting of an airline owned by the Government of Israel," according to the FBI.

- **2002 – Washington**

[Earnest James Ujaama](#), an American Muslim convert who tried to establish a terrorist training camp in Bly, Oregon, made anti-Semitic speeches labeling the Jews as "the enemy." In the mid-1990s, Ujaama moved to London and attended Finsbury Park mosque, which was headed by radical Muslim cleric Abu Hamza al-Masri and frequented by Richard Reid, the so-called "shoe bomber," and [Zacarias Moussau](#). While giving a speech with al-Masri at the Finsbury Park

mosque, Ujaama said: "There are many Muslims who have forgotten that the Jews and Christians are our enemies....today the crusade is against Islam and they [*sic*] are led by the Jews because they are misguided...and so they are used in Israel's long awaited campaign to destroy Islam and to dominate the world."

- **2002 – New York**

American citizen [Sahim Alwan and five other Americans from Lackawanna](#), New York, attended an Al Qaeda training camp in Afghanistan. After Alwan's arrest, authorities reportedly found several cassette tapes at Alwan's home that called for fighting against the "West" and referred to Presidents Clinton and Bush as "donkeys for the Jews to ride." Another member of the group, Mukhtar al-Bakri, had in his residence a cassette tape asking "Allah to give Jews and their enablers [U.S.] a black day," according to investigators.

- **2001 – Oregon**

One naturalized U.S. citizen, a U.S. permanent resident, and five other Americans – dubbed the "[Portland Seven](#)" – were charged with trying to aid the Taliban and other crimes. One member of the group, Patrice Lumumba Ford, came to the attention of authorities after he sent a series of anti-Semitic emails to the mayor's office in Portland. Another member, Jeffrey Leon Battle, was recorded saying that he considered killing Jews at a synagogue or a Jewish school in Portland. According to court documents, Battle "discussed having considered, but ultimately rejected, committing terrorist acts in the U.S.-specifically, mass murder at a Jewish synagogue or school." Ahmed Ibrahim Bilal, a third member of the "Portland Seven", referred to Jews as "lampshades," a Holocaust reference, in recorded conversations.

Pre-9/11 Activity

Muslim extremists motivated by hatred of Jews and Israel have targeted Jews and Jewish institutions in the United States for many years. Unlike many post-9/11 plots and conspiracies, which have involved or been led by American Muslim extremists, the role of Americans in a majority of the plots prior to 9/11 was significantly smaller.

In July 1997, for example, Gazi Ibrahim Abu Mezer, a Palestinian living in the U.S. illegally, plotted to blow up a subway station in Brooklyn because he wanted to "kill as many Jews as possible." Police raiding Abu Mezer's apartment days before the planned attack found a fully-rigged pipe bomb, an unfinished bomb and a letter threatening to "burn the Jews." Abu Mezer later explained in court that he chose the Atlantic Avenue station as his target because there are "a lot of Jews who ride that train." According to court documents, Abu Mezer also stated that he was "taking the path of Jihad against Israel and the United States." Abu Mezer was sentenced to life in prison in 1999.

Many incidents before the September 11 attacks were partially motivated by anti-Semitism and planned or carried out primarily by foreign nationals. For example:

- In 1997, Palestinian Ali Abu Kamal engaged in a shooting spree atop the Empire State Building, killing one person and injuring several others before killing himself. Kamal reportedly carried a note in his pocket indicating that the attack was meant to vent his anger at the U.S. for using Israel as an "instrument" against the Palestinian people.
- In 1994, Rashid Baz, a Lebanese cab driver, opened fire at a van carrying 15 Hasidic students on the Brooklyn Bridge, killing a 16-year-old boy. After his arrest, authorities found anti-Jewish literature in Baza's house.
- In 1993, a car bombing at Tower One of the World Trade Center in New York City killed six people and wounded more than 1,000 others. Ramzi Yousef, the mastermind behind the attack, first planned to bomb Jewish neighborhoods in Brooklyn but settled on the World Trade Center because "the majority of people who work in the World Trade Center are Jews," according to Abdul Rahman Yasin, a co-conspirator in the attack.
- In 1993, Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, an Egyptian cleric and alleged leader of the terrorist group Gama'a al-Islamiyya, led a plot to bomb five major landmarks in New York, including the United Nations Headquarters, the Lincoln Tunnel, the Holland Tunnel, the George Washington Bridge and the FBI office. He also plotted to attack New York's diamond district, an area largely populated by Jewish businessmen, which, according to one of his co-defendants, would be like "hitting Israel itself."
- In 1993, a Pakistani national murdered two CIA employees and wounded three others near the entrance of the CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia, alleging that the "government of the United States has caused enormous damage to Muslims in the Middle East by supporting Israel and imposing economic sanctions against Islamic countries."

Even the 9/11 attacks were motivated, in part, by anti-Semitism. Mohamed Atta, one of the hijackers, and Ramzi Binalshibh, a key planner of the attacks, considered New York City the center of a global Jewish conspiracy. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the self-proclaimed mastermind of the hijackings, had previously planned several attacks against Israeli and Jewish targets.

Although post-9/11 plots and conspiracies in the U.S. are increasingly led by or involve American Muslim extremists, the threat from foreign nationals in the U.S. remains. In 2004, for example, Ahmed Hassan Al-Uqaily, a native of Iraq who had expressed animosity toward Jews, purchased machine guns and grenades from an undercover agent to be used in attacks against two Jewish facilities in Nashville. He was sentenced to 57 months in prison.

Any effort to combat the domestic terrorist threat posed by Muslim extremists must take into account both the threat from foreign nationals as well as the growing participation of American citizens motivated by hatred of Jews, Israel and America.