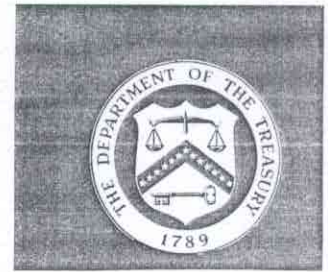


The Department of the **TREASURY**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

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NEWS



FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE EUGENE T. ROSSIDES  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY  
FOR ENFORCEMENT AND OPERATIONS  
BEFORE  
SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 5  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
JULY 16, 1970  
10:00 A.M.

Mr. Chairman and members of Subcommittee No. 5  
of the Committee on the Judiciary:

It is a pleasure to appear before you today on  
behalf of the Department of the Treasury on the  
occasion of your hearings on H.R. 16699 and H.R. 17154,  
and to present to you the results of the recent Treasury  
survey of the incidents of terrorist acts of violence  
by bombing in the United States.

H.R. 16699 would amend section 837 of title 18, United  
States Code, to strengthen the laws concerning illegal use,  
transportation, or possession of explosives and the  
penalties with respect thereto. This bill is sponsored  
by the Administration, and the Treasury urges its enactment.

Incidentally, both Treasury and, we understand, the Justice Department, have received inquiries as to whether it would be appropriate to amend H.R. 16699 to provide for the lawful sporting use of small arms ammunition and components, and black powder by sportsmen who load their own ammunition, and who use black powder as a small arms propellant. Such an amendment is supported by the Treasury, and, as indicated in Assistant Attorney General Wilson's statement yesterday, the Department of Justice would not object.

Your bill, Mr. Chairman, H.R. 17154, is principally regulatory in nature and deals with a subject which has been the subject of intensive study by this Administration since the submission of H.R. 16699 on March 25, 1970. A White House task force addressing itself to this problem has consisted of representatives of the Department of the Interior, the Department of Justice, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, and the Office of Management and Budget.

This task force has had the benefit of consultations with the explosives industry. It is the purpose of this task force

to develop an Administration bill which will be outlined by the Department of the Interior in testimony before your Committee next week.

Mr. Chairman, recently Chairman McClellan of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Government Operations Committee asked Secretary Kennedy to provide the assistance of the Treasury, specifically of our Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division, in surveying the incidents of bombing in the United States, occurring from the period of January 1, 1969 to April 15, 1970, and that the survey be broken down in detail, state by state. In his letter to Secretary Kennedy, Senator McClellan mentioned that he believed the results of such a survey would be likely to "graphically reveal to the Congress and the American people the scope and threat of these terrorist acts of violence and anarchy."

Mr. Chairman, the results of the survey by Treasury's Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the Internal Revenue Service have been posted to a chart copies of which we have provided for the assistance of the Committee, and I shall refer to it from time to time during my remarks.

It should be understood that the survey by the Treasury

was made by compiling submissions which were solicited from state and local law enforcement agencies on a regional basis. As we were not able to contact every law enforcement agency in the country, and some contacted have not yet responded, the figures are, to some extent, incomplete.

As I mentioned, the time period of the survey was from January 1, 1969 through April 15, 1970. In the Southern District of California and the State of Colorado, however, we were unable to obtain such a breakdown and, as a result, those figures include the year 1968 as well as 1969 and the first three months of 1970.

Another caveat to be borne in mind is in the area of attribution. The attribution figures submitted to us contained no breakdown as to what proportion of the figures applied to actual bombings as distinguished from attempted bombings or bombing threats.

In spite of the foregoing cautions, Mr. Chairman, we do believe that the figures will be of assistance to the Committee and the attribution figures clearly establish

certain trends of significance.

And we believe, Mr. Chairman, in reviewing the results of Treasury's survey that the figures do graphically reveal that terrorist acts of violence and anarchy by bombing have reached menacing proportions in our country.

From January 1969 to April of this year -- a scant 15 month period -- this country suffered a total of 4,330 bombings, an additional 1,475 attempted bombings, and a reported 35,129 threatened bombings.

Of the 4,330 actual bombings, 3,355 were incendiary in nature, and 975 were explosive. From these figures, Mr. Chairman, it is clear that the incendiary bomb, the molotov cocktail and the like have been chosen three to one over explosives by the terrorists.

In our judgment, however, Mr. Chairman, the incendiary bomb cannot be compared on an equal basis with the high explosive bomb. When an incendiary, such as a molotov cocktail, explodes, there is usually ample time to evacuate the premises, and often sufficient time for the fire department to extinguish the blaze and limit the damage done. When a high explosive bomb is detonated, it is all

over within seconds. Little can be done by the authorities to reduce casualties other than to knock down remaining walls which threaten to topple onto passersby in the streets. We can all agree that the explosive bomb presents a greater hazard to the public, and is capable of inducing greater terror among our people than the ordinary incendiary bomb.

Further bringing home the seriousness of the situation, Mr. Chairman, is the fact that the Treasury survey reveals that in the reporting period bombings in America were responsible for the deaths of 40 people and \$21.8 million of property damage.

Mr. Chairman, the chart gives individual totals for every state in the union, with the exception of Hawaii, which was not included in the survey. I will not take the Committee's time now to repeat each statistic, but the chart is included as an appendix to this statement, and the figures would be available to all Members who may, understandably, be particularly interested in the result of the survey as it pertains to their home states.

I would like to turn now to the attribution figures we have collected. First, I should point out that these figures represent the best estimate of police sources from around the country and can best be expressed on a percentage basis.

The total number of incidents of bombings, attempts, and threats reported was 40,934. Attribution can be estimated in only 36% of this total. Stated another way, 64% of the total are of unknown attribution.

Of the 36% in which there is an estimate of attribution, 56% are attributed to campus disturbances and student unrest. Nineteen percent are attributed to black extremists, and 14% are attributed to white extremists. Eight percent are attributed to activities in aid of criminal pursuits, such as extortion, robbery and insurance fraud. Only 2% are attributed to labor disputes and 1% to religious difficulties.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that the Treasury survey does make certain things quite clear. While the weapon of choice of the bombers is overwhelmingly the incendiary, a significant amount of explosive materials is used. I think it fair to say, Mr. Chairman, that anyone who can synthesize LSD, for example, would have no difficulty at

all in formulating explosive materials or constructing an explosive device.

We in the Treasury are aware of the great concern about this situation among the members of this Subcommittee and this Administration shares your concern. It was this concern which led to the formation of the White House task force on explosives to which I referred previously.

There are already a great many state laws with respect to explosives and flammable materials. Most of them relate to questions of safety in storage and handling. The Department of Transportation by statute controls the interstate transportation of explosive materials, and the Department of the Treasury is responsible for the administration of the Gun Control Act of 1968, which, among other things, regulates such "destructive devices" as any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas bomb, or grenade; rockets having a propellant charge of more than four ounces; missiles having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter of an ounce; mines; or devices similar to any of the foregoing.

The Treasury also administers certain provisions of the Mutual Security Act of 1954 which deal, among other things, with military explosives, and the Department of



the Interior through its Bureau of Mines also has certain statutory authority with respect to explosives, such as regulating the use of explosives in the mining industry.

As I understand that Assistant Attorney General Wilson, in his appearance before this Committee, discussed the existing body of law on explosives, I shall not go into the matter further at this time.

Explosives play a vital role in the construction, mining and agricultural industries in the United States. In addition, as smokeless propellants are employed in small arms ammunition and black powder is employed in small arms designed for its use, there is extensive use of these two items by our citizens for lawful sporting purposes. Small arms ammunition is also covered by the Gun Control Act of 1968.

There would seem to be, Mr. Chairman, a need to upgrade the security with which the most dangerous explosives, such as the dynamites, are stored, in order to retard theft. It would also be helpful for enforcement agencies to have access to records of the sale, at least, of commercial

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high explosives. However, we are aware from our work with the Administration task force that there are many technical problems which must be taken into consideration in deciding what additional legislation is necessary.

Mr. Chairman, we hope that the survey we have provided today will prove to be a helpful addition to the body of knowledge under study by the Administration and by this Committee.

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Recap of Bombing Statistics  
Period of January 1, 1969 through April 15, 1970  
(Statistics supplied by State and local law enforcement agencies)

1/1/69 - 4/15/70	Explosive Bombings	Incendiary Bombings	Total Bombings	Attempted Bombings	Bombing Threats	Property Damage (in \$ Dollars)	Personal Injury	Deaths
<b>Western Region</b>								
Alaska	1	0	1	1	1	174	153	0
Arizona	3	2	5	5	12	0	0	0
California (less So. Judicial District)	109	358	467	303	254	24,32	1	1
Idaho	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montana	8	3	11	3	71	82	1	1
Nevada	5	28	33	5	174	25	0	0
Oregon	18	78	96	16	384	144	2	0
Washington	90	80	170	27	154	142	3	5
So. Judicial District of California	76	924	1000	-	2880	-	5	1
Utah	1	1	2	1	79	1	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>1139</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>2959</b>	<b>2844</b>	<b>1278</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Southwest Region</b>								
Arkansas	0	66	66	6	62	66	0	0
Colorado	97	167	264	27	1486	707	2	0
Kansas	12	14	26	1	293	40	0	0
Louisiana	42	19	61	67	1367	538	0	0
New Mexico	5	5	10	9	24	365	0	0
Oklahoma	10	2	12	3	232	60	1	0
Texas	40	44	84	13	861	739	3	5
Wyoming	4	0	4	1	16	1	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>1322</b>	<b>2855</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Southeast Region</b>								
Alabama	5	83	88	1	549	38	0	0
Florida	30	194	224	5	987	221	2	2
Georgia	9	1	10	4	235	20	1	1
Mississippi	13	17	30	13	159	28	0	0
North Carolina	27	130	157	72	961	2155	2	0
South Carolina	0	0	0	1	23	0	0	0
Tennessee	2	17	19	11	434	522	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>3328</b>	<b>3014</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Midwest Region</b>								
Illinois	29	606	635	32	721	14	0	0
Iowa	75	105	180	174	375	1500	0	0
Minnesota	3	0	3	0	105	7	0	0
Missouri	38	103	141	8	640	75	11	0
Nebraska	16	43	59	59	211	315	2	0
North Dakota	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
South Dakota	1	0	1	0	14	0	0	0
Wisconsin	2	10	12	0	260	1	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>1053</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>2312</b>	<b>1912</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Central Region</b>								
Indiana	10	76	86	11	625	643	0	0
Kentucky	57	25	82	10	397	948	4	0
Michigan	27	354	381	95	2492	355	165	7
Ohio	28	105	133	62	1767	1163	2	1
West Virginia	2	10	12	5	109	35	1	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>5390</b>	<b>3164</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Mid-Atlantic Region</b>								
Delaware	1	2	3	2	20	255	1	0
Maryland	4	12	16	2	240	43	0	2
New Jersey	16	39	55	20	803	890	2	0
Pennsylvania	41	226	267	81	1119	3192	15	5
Virginia (District of Columbia)	6	22	28	12	440	146	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>2522</b>	<b>4526</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>North Atlantic Region</b>								
Connecticut	11	39	50	30	1267	1955	23	0
Maine	5	7	12	0	136	16	0	1
Massachusetts	31	55	86	80	2941	262	1	0
New Hampshire	6	0	6	1	181	1	0	1
New York	121	177	298	163	9412	2000	106	8
Rhode Island	4	105	109	16	668	311	35	0
Vermont	0	0	0	0	153	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>14758</b>	<b>4155</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>National Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>1148</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>14,775</b>	<b>35,129</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>218</b>
<p>** Figures supplied by police officials in the areas making up the Southern Federal Judicial District of California and Colorado were for the years 1968, 1969 and 3 months of 1970. They cannot be broken down by year and are not included in the Grand Total for the Western Region, Southwest Region or the National Total.</p> <p>** Not included in the total of 133 bombings are 67 bombings which data from respective police agencies did not identify as either explosive or incendiary in nature. As a result total bombings for Ohio are actually 200.</p>								

PERPETRATORS AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMBINGS

Attribution of Those Responsible for Bombings

Bombings (Explosive, Incendiary).....	4,330
Attempts to Bomb.....	1,475
Threats to Bomb.....	35,129
Total Bombings, Attempts or Threats.....	<u>40,934</u>

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64% unknown to law officers

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36% where police indicate the perpetrators fall into the following categories:

- 56% are attributed to Campus disturbances
- 19% are attributed to black extremists
- 14% are attributed to white extremists
- 2% are attributed to Labor disputes
- 1% are attributed to attacks on Religious Institutions
- 8% are in aid of criminal activities (Extortion, Robbery, and Arson for Insurance).