

C-IED AtN COMPARISONS

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May 2012

Attack the Network Counter IED Operations

- Offensive operations against complex networks of financiers, IED makers, trainers and their supporting infrastructure
- Intelligence operations
- Surveillance operations
- Reconnaissance
- Information operations
- Counter-bomber targeting
- Biometrics
- Weapons Technical Intelligence
- Precursor chemical interdiction

AtN C-IED

Has anyone done this before?

- Yes.....
- Two examples today
 - The German Sabotage campaign centered around Hoboken New Jersey– 1914-1918
 - Brooklyn New York – IEDs destined for Britain – 1880s
- Both IED campaigns mounted from US soil
- Both met with a comprehensive AtN efforts
- Others studies in history

Case Study One

The German Bomb Makers

- The German plots making IEDs to sink ships and attack factories in the US during WW1 , the Black Tom explosion (and biological attacks)
- US concern because of the large German immigrant population amongst whom the saboteurs could hide

Parallels with modern terrorists
and immigrant populations

Context - 1916

- New York has a 150 year history of IEDs with a number of significant IED campaigns
- Inspector Owen Eagen, New York's bomb technician dealt with over 7000 IEDs in his career between 1895 and 1920
- NYPD "Bomb Squad" – not EOD **but an IED Task Force**. Established 1914
- Anarchist gangs
- Blackmail gangs
- Cranks



Inspector Owen Eagen

Threat Environment



THE RUINS OF A FRUIT STORE DESTROYED BY BLACK HAND DYNAMITERS.

The SPREAD of the BLACK HAND

**MILLIONAIRE IS
DRIVEN TO EXILE
BY BLACK HAND**

Italian Murder Methods Now Organizing Throughout the United States.

A Perilous Condition that Must Be Sternly Abolished.

**FEAR IN THE BRONX
OF THE BLACK HAND**

Residents of Washington Avenue Are Scared by Threatening Letters.

ASK FOR PROTECTION.

NINE DIE BY FIRE

SET BY BLACK HAND.

Blackmail Had Been Refused and Tenement House Was Set Ablaze.

**EXPLODE BOMB
IN HOUSE WHICH
POLICE GUARDED**

Black Hand Agents Again Try to Wreck Tenement Owned by Francesco Spinelli.

**LIVES OF 10,000 IN
PERIL BY BLACK HAND,
BINGHAM HELPLESS**

BLACK-HAND OUTRAGES CAUSE NEW REIGN OF TERROR

**THIS LESSON SPELLED "DEATH" -- THOUSANDS IN
TERROR SINCE NEW YORK BLACK HAND MASSACRE**

People and Organizations Involved

Police Department:

- “Italian Squad” formed in 1905 under Inspector Joe Petrosino in response to Mafia IEDs
- The Roosevelt Connection
- The Irish Connection
- An innovative cop willing to bend the rules and having political support
- Developed techniques used by many law enforcement agencies today
- Assassinated by the Mafia in 1909

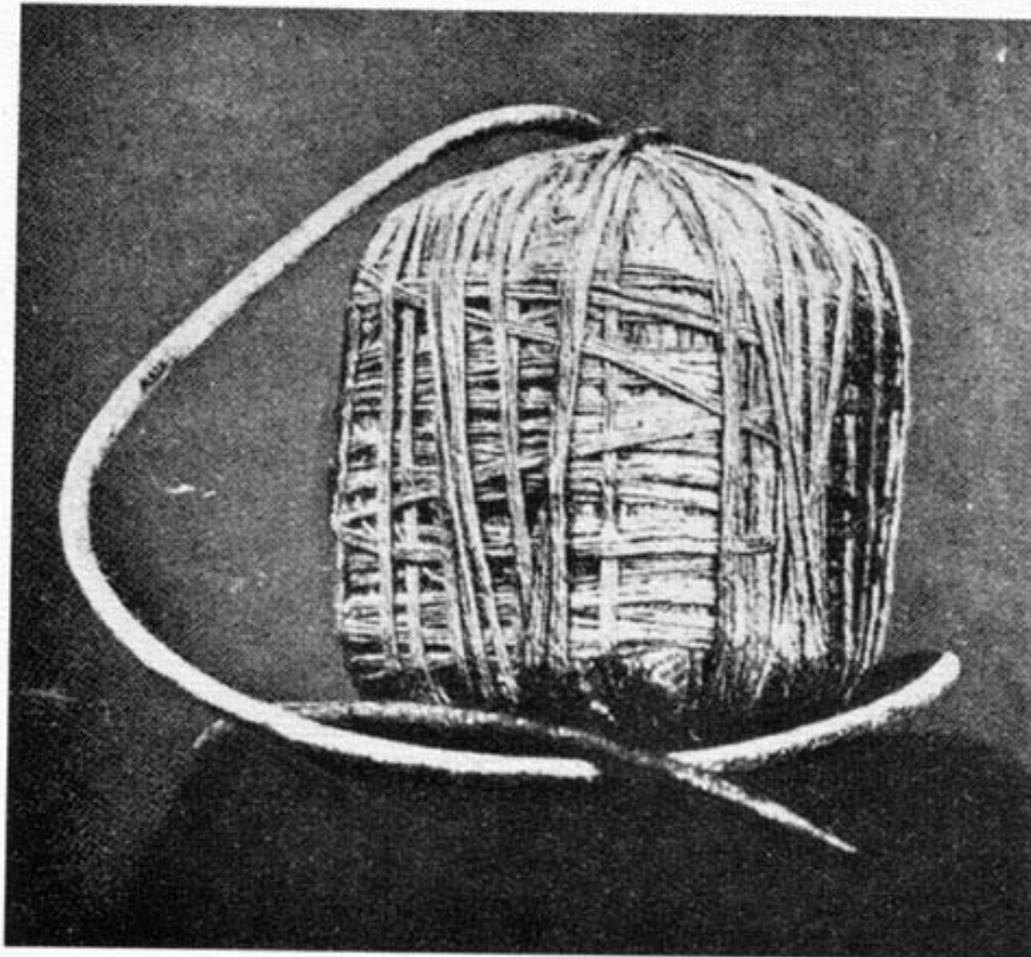


Petrosino's Italian Squad

- Formed in response to Italian mafia use of IEDs and “Black Hand” IED threats
- Later also focused on Anarchist IED threats
- Routine response to IEDs were seen as ineffectual
- Organization charged with being innovative, breaking through stovepipes, “above all – be effective”

- Developed aggressive interrogation techniques
- Developed paid informers and associated intelligence
- Developed “under cover” activities

Dynamite bomb planted by a Black Hand in the hallway of No. 356 East Thirteenth Street, New York City. *McClure's Magazine* (May 1912).





Bombing of a Brooklyn barber shop

Police Commissioner Arthur Woods

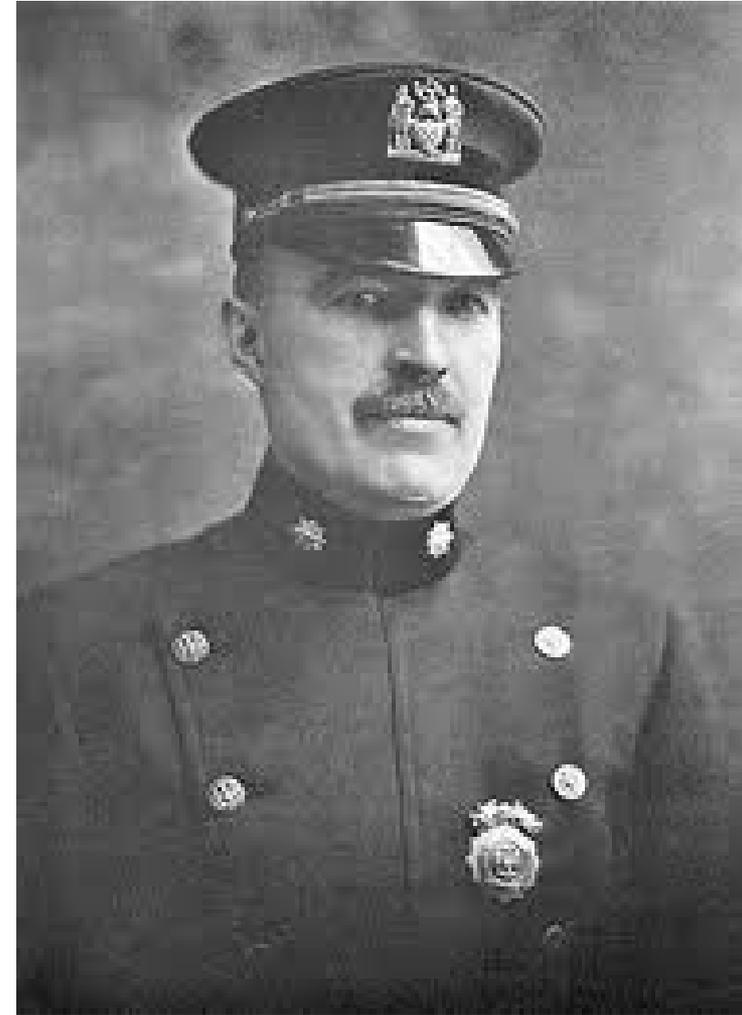
- Visionary ideas about security and police work
- Formed the NYPD Bomb squad – not a bomb disposal organization but an investigative one
- Also formed the Home Defense League to defend against German threats in WW1
- Other very significant threat responses developed



People and Organizations Involved

Police Department and Military

- **In 1914** The NYPD Bomb Squad established by Police Commissioner Arthur Woods and led by Inspector Tunney.
- The organization started with 34 detectives and grew to 150
- Tunney and a large number of bomb squad officers and other senior police officers recruited directly into Military Intelligence in 1917, essentially fulfilling the same role on a national level.
- So this was a national military C-IED organization in 1917



Inspector Tunney

Bomb Squad Activities

- Included surveillance operations against suspects
- Inserted undercover agents in the saboteur team – exploiting tensions (finance) between saboteurs
- Wire tapping persistently led to being able to break saboteurs code and tradecraft techniques for counter-surveillance
- Wire tapping led to identification of saboteurs with personal grudges which could be exploited



Lieut. Barnitz of the Bomb Squad in disguise

German Saboteur Activities -1

- Several IED networks, largely independent of each other (similar patterns in UK today)
- Mare Island explosion, San Francisco 1917
- Large numbers of fires and explosions at munitions manufacturing sites 1915- 1917 (including at least 13 in Du Pont factories alone)
- Attempt to blow up the Elephant Butte dam on the Rio Grande
- Explosion at Kingsland Munitions factory, Lyndhurst NJ, 1917
- Munitions plant at Eddystone PA blown up 1917 killing 117
- Vanceboro Bridge bombing Maine/Canada, 1915
- Sabotage coordination run from the German embassy



Saboteur Kurt Jahnke

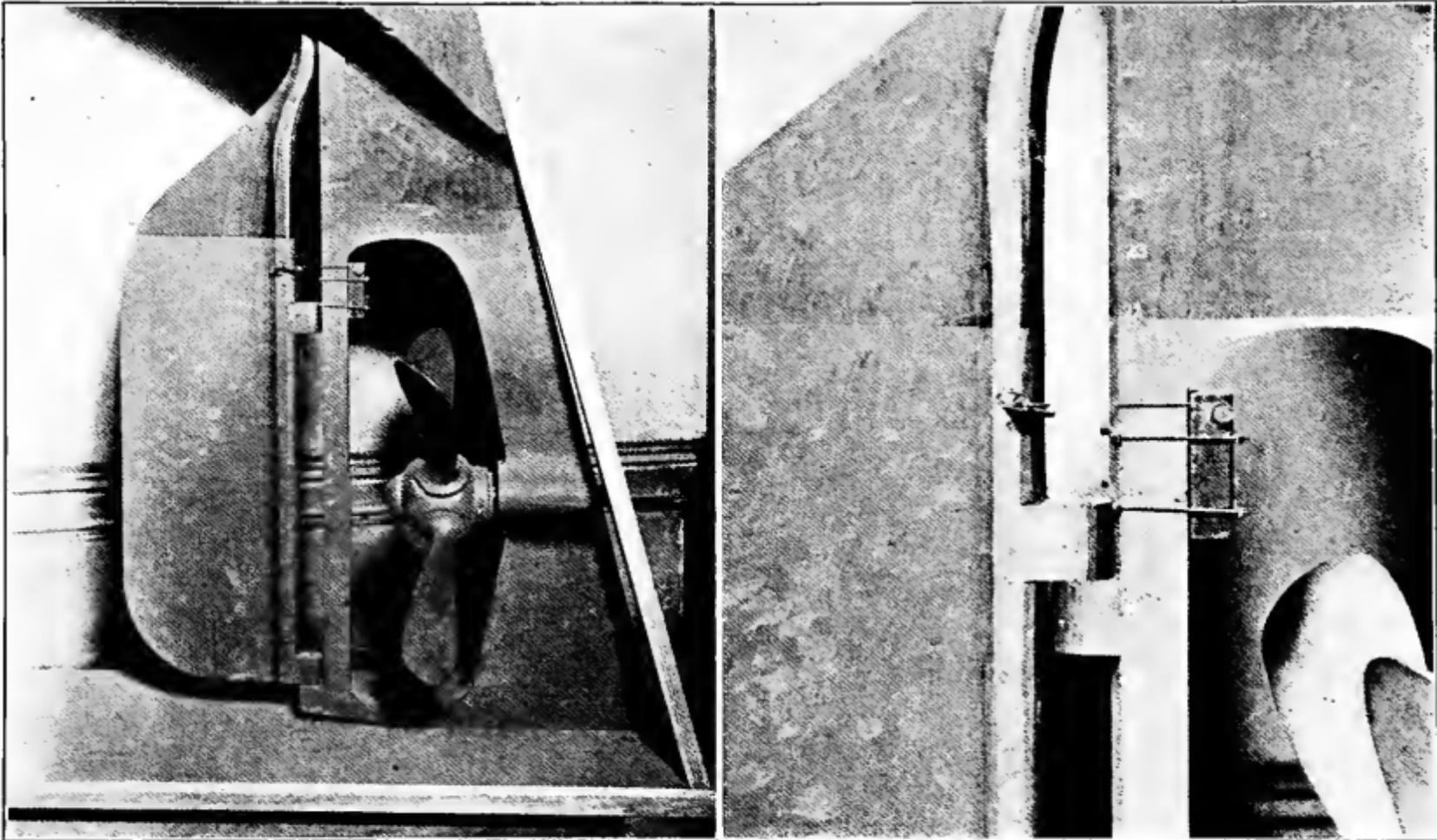
German Saboteur Activities - 2

- Bomb making facility in **fertilizer** factory (a front company) in Hoboken making IEDs to place aboard ships
- Another bomb making facility in Weehawken, NJ
- Developed chemicals to poison water supplies
- Poisoned Fort Leavenworth's milk supply
- Biological research facility, including anthrax research established in Baltimore – possible anthrax infection attempts in Manhattan and Baltimore
- Hundreds of IEDs manufactured
- Interned sailors used as German agents – complex network
- Established “cover” commercial organizations such as night watchmen agencies and import –export businesses

German Saboteur Activities - 3

- At least 47 ships attacked - Numerous fires on allied ships caused by multiple incendiaries and explosives (although only 25% of the IEDs manufactured were actually placed)
- 43 mysterious fires or explosions at defense manufacturing facilities between 1915 and 1917
- Other explosions or fires at railway marshalling yards and on docks and piers shipping munitions and other military equipment
- The Lusitania, sunk by a German U-Boat, allegedly already had nine IEDs placed aboard it which had not yet functioned by the time it had sunk
- An IED in the Senate wing of the capitol
- Attempted assassination of J P Morgan

German IED for Placing Next to the Rudder of a Ship



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The Rudder Bomb

A Closer View of the Rudder Bomb

Black Tom Explosion

- Fire caused by German Agents
- 1000 tons of munitions detonated on Black Tom, a munitions Wharf in New Jersey opposite Statue of Liberty
- Lower Manhattan seriously affected
- Explosion heard as far away as Philadelphia
- \$20 Million damage
- “One of the worst acts of terrorism in American history”



- Germany eventually agreed to pay reparations in 1939 – and finally paid \$50Million in 1979



EXTRA THE JERSEY JOURNAL EXTRA

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SUNDAY EVENING, JANUARY 24, 1915

SEVEN CENTS

BIG MUNITIONS EXPLOSION AT BLACK TOM; 50 BELIEVED DEAD; 21 HURT, IN CITY HOSPITAL; DAMAGE \$75,000,000

Fire At National Docks Set Off Big Shells and Shrapnel and Then Came Two Terrific Explosions of Dynamite Which Rocked the Country For 25 Miles Around; Showers of Glass From Wrecked Windows In Homes, Churches, Stores and Public Buildings Littered the Streets Here, New York, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Points Even More Distant; Not One of Dead Recovered, So Far; One Man Blown Nearly To Liberty Island Survives and Swims Ashore; Damage Many Times Greater Than Last Big Explosion At Communipaw.

A series of explosions of munitions destined for the use of the Allies, beginning with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, then the blowing up of several tons of dynamite, on a barge, the most powerful explosive known to modern warfare, followed by thousands of shrapnel and other shells bursting, and then the explosion of a great charge of dynamite striking the earth for miles around at 2.10 o'clock this morning destroyed the pier of the National Storage Company at Black Tom, two of the pier, scores of grain barges, three piers of the Lighthouse and a great many other piers and some vessels at the Central Railroad

terminal, resulted in the passage between the warehouses, three of which remained standing, and dug Dougherty from the bricks and timber. They did this at great risk to themselves, in the two partially destroyed warehouses were in flames and portions of the walls were still falling.

The second and heaviest explosion lifted John and Thomas Walsh, 21 and 26 years old, respectively, from the ground on which they stood beside Central Railroad cars upon which they were going to report for work and hurled them skyward simultaneously with portions of the destroyed building.

valuable merchandise and accessories, were blown into the New York Bay and the crews were blown with down. The loss on Black Tom itself and immediate vicinity on the shore front will total nearly \$100,000,000. The damage done to property in Jersey City, Bayonne, Hoboken, New York and Brooklyn, Staten Island and elsewhere cannot be well estimated, but it will undoubtedly run close to another \$25,000,000, an insurance loss estimated today.

CITY HALL HARD HIT.

The City Hall of Jersey City was shaken to its foundations. The walls of the building are full of cracks, some have cracked, and Director of Parks and Public Property A. Harry Moore, who happened there when the explosion began, receiving a report that the building was in danger of collapsing, roughly estimated that it would be possible to straighten the stone and restore the walls without entirely reconstructing the building, if it will not be done to a cost less than \$25,000. All the windows and part of the lower work of the Montgomery Street side of the Free Public Library was blown to a few frames, several frames and other public buildings have been seriously damaged and it is estimated that reconstruction of public buildings alone will cost several hundred thousand dollars, which, Commissioner Moore says, will have to be paid by the railroad company, which, despite the protest of the city officials, stored thousands of tons of the most powerful explosive known, within the city limits.

YUG AND ENGLI MEN MISSING.

A search of the docks here this morning disclosed the fact

the presence of the bodies on the job at the pier, started with the smoke at Black Tom. The explosion of shrapnel shells and other missiles to it were scattered to Black Tom for several miles. A. I. Keating of Manufacturers of Dynamite in Hoboken, who made a preliminary report to Black Tom and later to it as Jersey Avenue and Grand Street has again to show the children, including two infants in arms.

The explosion of the National Storage Company pier at Black Tom was one of the most powerful ever known in the history of the world. It was the only one of its kind ever known in the history of the world. It was the only one of its kind ever known in the history of the world.

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C-IED AtN Organisations

- Ad hoc to begin with, across:
 - Navy Intelligence
 - War Department Intelligence (3 people in total in 1916)
 - DoJ
 - Secret Service
 - NYPD and NYFD
 - NJSP
 - International liaison – British, French
- After war declared – Military Intelligence grew rapidly with significant resources for C-IED AtN – co-opted numerous NY policemen including the bomb squad commander and his senior officers.
- Still several agencies involved

Examples of AtN Responses

- Wide range of responses:
 - Intelligence – double agent, under cover operations
 - Surveillance
 - Close target reconnaissance
 - Information Ops
 - International cooperation
 - Tracking of precursor chemicals
 - WTI

British Info Ops

Ambassador Bernstorff, the German coordinator was a victim of the British Secret Service (MI6) when they obtained and distributed to the press a photograph of him -

"in a swimming costume with his arms around two similarly dressed women, neither of whom was his wife"



Then.... 16 September 1920

- Bomb squad “ a mere shell”
- Few resources

- A massive VBIED detonated on Wall St, outside the bank of J P Morgan
- 100 pounds of dynamite
- 500 pounds of shrapnel





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Case Study 2

New York 1880s – British AtN

- “The Dynamite Terror Campaign”
- Against a determined enemy launching attacks overseas
- Planning and executing IED campaigns against the public in the UK
- IED training and resources from a country with an initially ambivalent attitude towards the militants
- Using new IED technology
- C-IED AtN strategies pursued in the US by a foreign entity, in Secret

British Security Release Policy

- 30 year rule
- 50 year rule
- 75 year rule

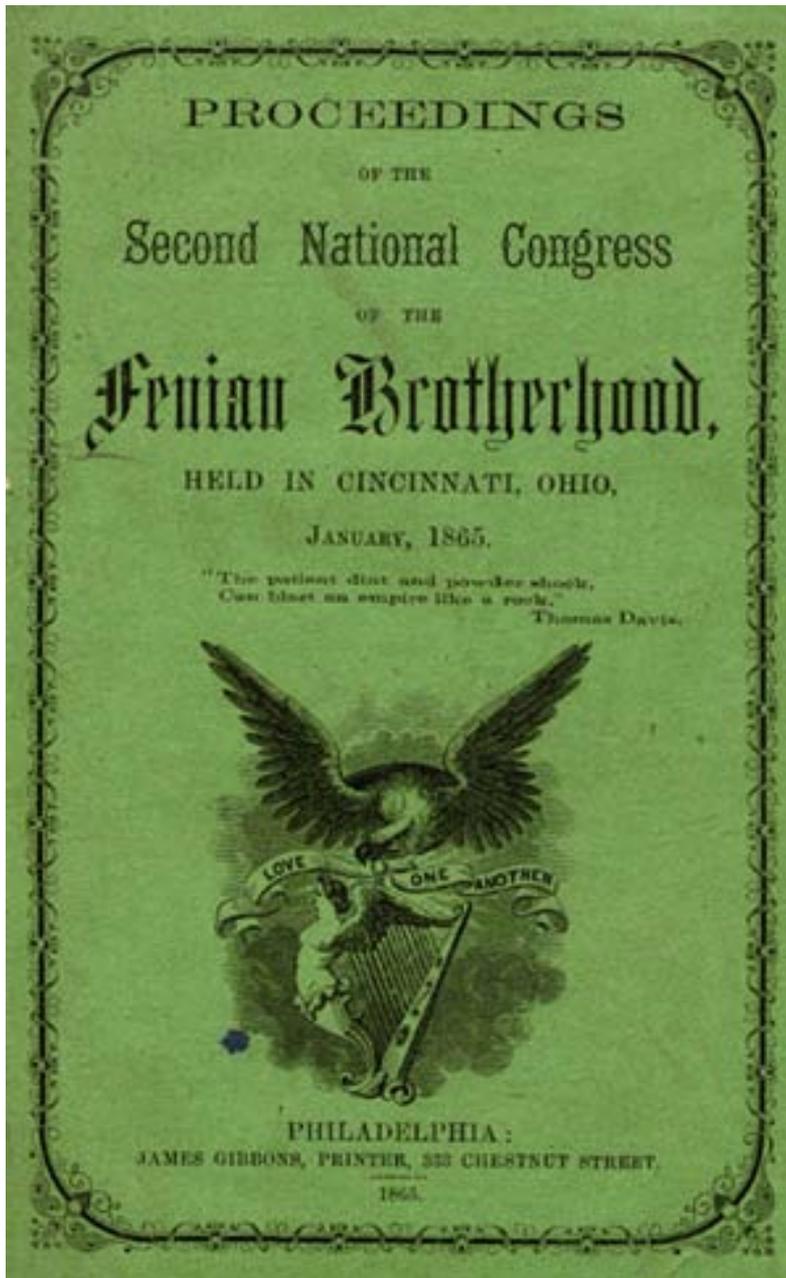
One exception – The British AtN against Irish bomb makers in New York 1880s Government files locked “in perpetuity”

Revolutionary Organizations

- Fenian Brotherhood
- Clan Na Gael
- Irish revolutionary Brotherhood
- United Irishmen
- The Young Ireland Movement



*John O'Mahoney, founder in New York
of the Fenian Brotherhood*



- Not exactly a secret society!



Same damn beards...



Context

- Samuel Colt, Nobel and the Russians, Siemens and the Germans
- Post Civil War
- Gunpowder IEDs and other IEDs became quite prevalent in the US in the 1870s
- The “Forty-Eighters” – insurgents from failed revolutions in Europe in 1848 sought asylum in America
- Development of dynamite in the 1860s
- Feverish revolutionaries and secret societies
- Teed up by a major suicide bombing attack (Assassination of the Tsar 1881)
- The Irish famine and a large community of politically active Irish in New York
- Occupation, suppression, brutality. Fenian raids from the US into Canada in the 1860s

*We are the Fenian Brotherhood,
skilled in the arts of war,
And we're going to fight for Ireland,
the land we adore,
Many battles we have won,
along with the boys in blue,
And we'll go and capture Canada,
for we've nothing else to do.*

Contrast with modern day cross border operations from Pakistan based militants (“somewhat” supported by the nation where the incursions came from....)



*Canadian Home-Guard defending
against Fenians in 1870*

New York 1880s

- IED schools – 2 alone just in Brooklyn
 - June 1882, consular dispatches to the London Home Office reported that New York Fenians were attending a ‘dynamite school of instruction’ in the Greenpoint area of Brooklyn.
- Political meetings and pamphlets, newspapers (equivalent to today’s internet?)
- Networks of revolutionaries
- The newspapers
- Key players
 - O’Donovan Rossa
 - “Professor Mezzerooff” (embalmer!)

Pamphlets

AN ADVOCATE OF DYNAMITE.

OUTLINES OF A PAMPHLET ISSUED BY PROF.
MEZZEROFF.

"Dynamite and Other Recourses of Civilization" is the title of a 23-page pamphlet written by the dynamite chemist, Mezzeroﬀ, in support of the explosive style of warfare, which will be delivered broadcast in the Philadelphia Convention to-day to influence, if possible, the deliberations of that body. The author claims that there is no fixed rule defining honorable warfare; what is honorable to-day is dishonorable to-morrow. He cites the case of the use of torpedoes by the South which were characterized by the North as "diabolical, hellish, unchristian, and fiendish infernal machines," but were soon afterward adopted by the North "to save the country from destruction." A number of similar illustrations are made to fortify the argument.

The Dynamite Press



Queen Victoria's personal Secretary, in a letter to the British Foreign Secretary:

"It is stated in "the Observer" today that there is a newspaper in New York which advocates the assassination of the Queen. Her Majesty asks if this is true?"



The New York Herald

- Foreign Editor had served 10 years in a British prison for shooting a policeman
- The Drama critic had attempted to "liberate" Gibraltar using a plan drawn up by the night editor
- The weather forecaster had plotted to kidnap Queen Victoria's son and established the "Clan na Gael" terrorist group
- The foreign correspondent was "General" Frank Millen a leading military man in Irish revolutionary organizations

Open Public Meetings

CLASSES IN DYNAMITE THROWING.

THE AIM AND OBJECT OF PROF. MEZZEROFF'S WHOLE LIFE.

Finding that eloquence of a Greek-fire character did not succeed well in the cold, calm light of a spring day, the members of the Joe Brady Emergency Club yesterday changed their meeting hour in Kessel's Hall from 4 o'clock in the afternoon to 8 in the evening. In the dim radiance thrown upon the bare walls by four gas jets carefully distributed about the room, the imaginations of Prof. Mezzeroff and Richard Murphy found no chilling influence, but were stimulated by liberal applause to hover about the Irish Channel in a wild cyclone of fire, blood, and destruction.

Contrast with public meetings in Pakistan today, and training camps in Pakistan for global terrorists

many ways. He advised the Irish people to send to America 1,000 intelligent men to learn to manufacture and use dynamite bombs and other explosives. In a few months 500 of these men could return to teach others in Ireland, and 500 could be sent to the English cities. By that method Ireland would be free in less than six months. The speaker closed with a detailed description of some of his inventions of explosives, and of the manner in which they could be utilized in freeing Ireland.

Dynamite Schools

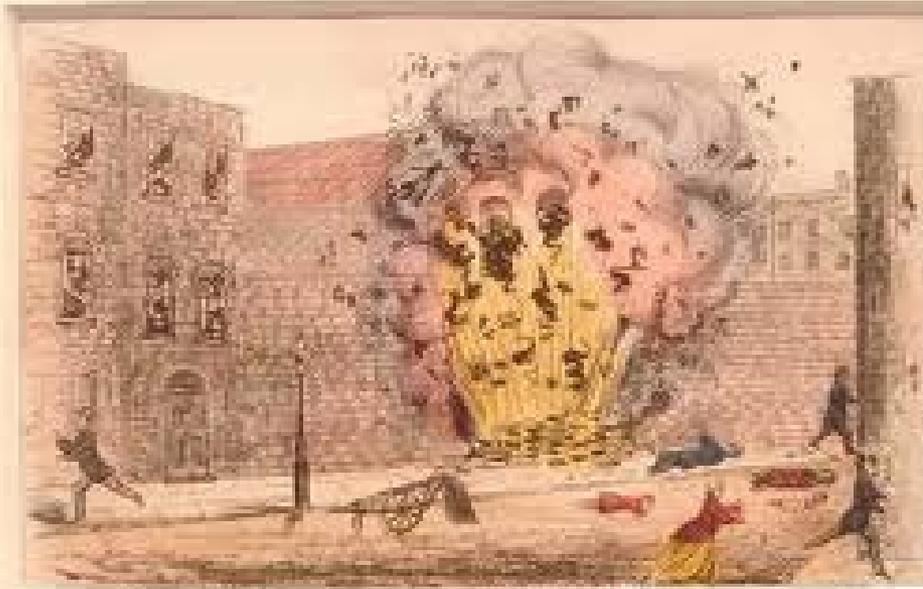
- Brooklyn

- Professor Mezzeroﬀ's School (\$30 to attend, 1 month in duration, students from US and travelers from Ireland and England)
- Dr Thomas Gallagher's dynamite school

- Peoria, Illinois

- Patrick Crowe's school (subject to surveillance by Pinkerton's, paid by the British Consul)
 - Crowe known as "the infernal machine fiend"

Fenian Attacks in England



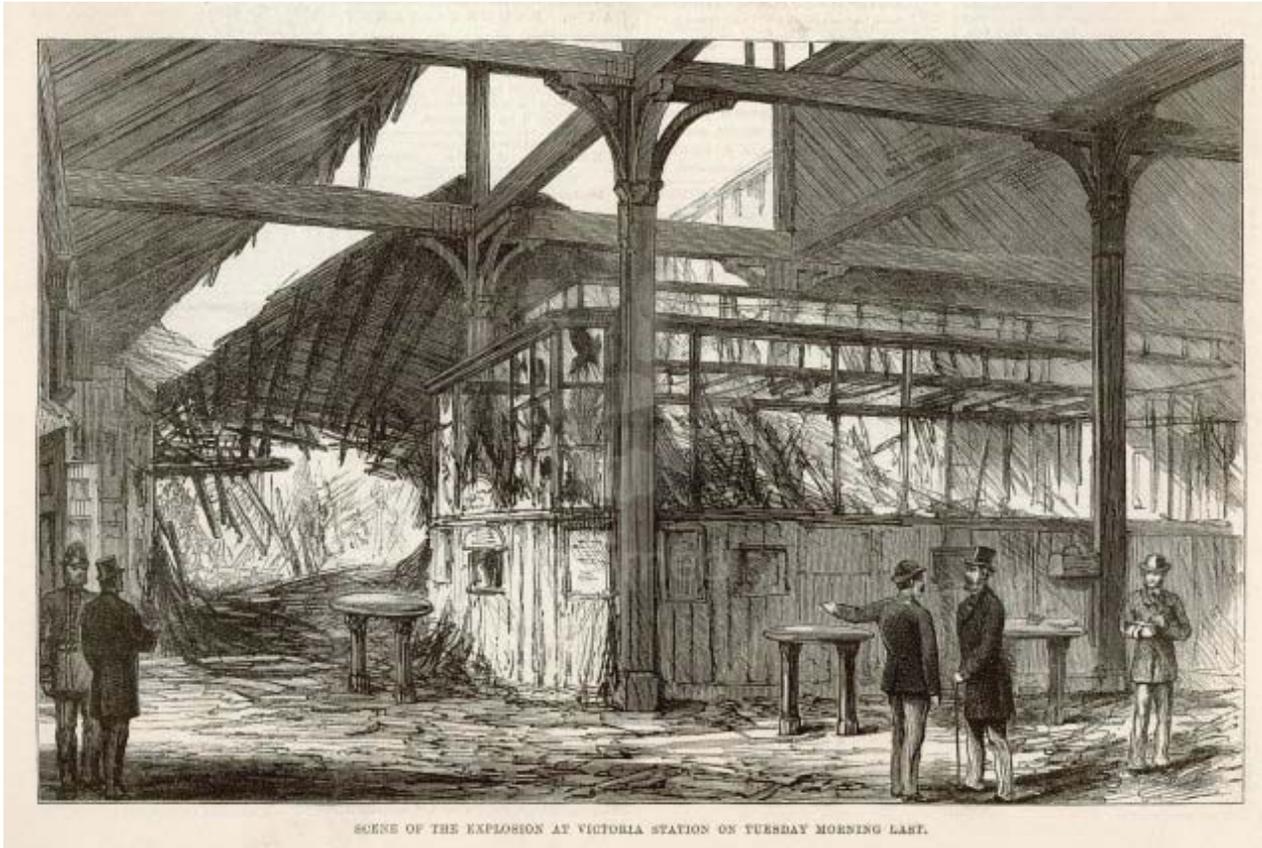
Clerkenwell Prison bomb 1867
12 killed

Generated significant anti-Irish public feeling which until then had been supportive of the Fenians



Attacks on the London Underground

- Several IEDs on the London underground, and railway stations some of them simultaneous



Echoes of
London
underground
bombings by
Al Qaeda
and the IRA

Attacks on the Tower of London and the Houses of Parliament



Bomb Attack on Scotland Yard



Mumbai Style “Fedayeen” Attacks

The real purpose of the four men was to kill the British Minister at Washington. The conspiracy was a deep-laid and desperate one, but it failed. The plot was for 50 men to row out to the vessel when the Minister returned to America and for a number of them to board the ship with explosives. Bombs would have been hurled at the Minister and he would have been killed, but he saved his life by landing at Philadelphia. Possibly some of the men themselves might have been killed, but they were prepared to lay down their lives.

New York Times 1881

The British Response - 1

- Although the bomb attacks killed very few, they were at the heart of the establishment and caused great public concern
- Strong demand for action
- Formation of the “Special Irish Branch” of the police which lives on today

The British Response - 2

- Uncoordinated action from Met Police, the Home Office and the Foreign Office (Pre MI5 and MI6) and Canadian authorities
- Highly secret, “need to know” – OPSEC
- Included WTI and exchange of technical information, exploitation of IEDs
- Counter-Revolutionary Secret Service Department created but lost credibility and closed down
- Competing spy networks developed and political maneuverings between the various government offices concerned

Some things don't change

Intelligence Operations

- Canadian official proposed and set out to obtain....

“one or two clever women whose absolute virtue stands questioned by the censorious” to get “susceptible members of the enemy leadership into their toils and thus as Delilah with Sampson possess themselves of their secrets.”

Translation – “Hire hookers as spies”

British Double Agents

- **Dr Henri Le Caron** (real name Thomas Billis Beach) – operated for 25 years and became very senior in the movement.



General Frank Millen

- Former British Soldier
- Saw action in Crimea
- Emigrated to the US and enlisted
- Swapped sides in the war with Mexico
- Became a Mexican Brigadier
- Became associated with a New York Newspaper as a correspondent
- Became lead military planner for the Irish revolution
- Lastly... became a paid British agent codenamed “XXX”

The facts in regard to the infernal machines found on board British steamers recently have been ferreted out by the secret service agents of the United States, and are now made public. The scheme was the clever plot of a shrewd Irishman named Foye, a saloon keeper at Philadelphia, to make a little money. He caused the manufacture of the infernal machines by Patrick Crowe, of Pioria, and then turned them over to O'Donovan Rossa. When the time was ripe Foye began negotiations with the British Consul at New York, and received 10,000dols. for information leading to the discovery made in the docks at Liverpool. He has fled from the United States, and no one knows his whereabouts. Crowe and Rossa are ostracised from the Irish Nationalist Company.

Sting Operations

Similar
operations
continue today

Assassinations and Assaults

- **O Donovan Rossa** – shot by a British Female,
 - Either an outraged private citizen offended at the Irish IEDs on her homeland
 - Or a British Agent.....
- **Mezzeroff** – The night before Rossa was shot, Mezzeroff was nearly beaten to death by an unknown assailant (another British Agent?)

Surveillance and CTR Operations

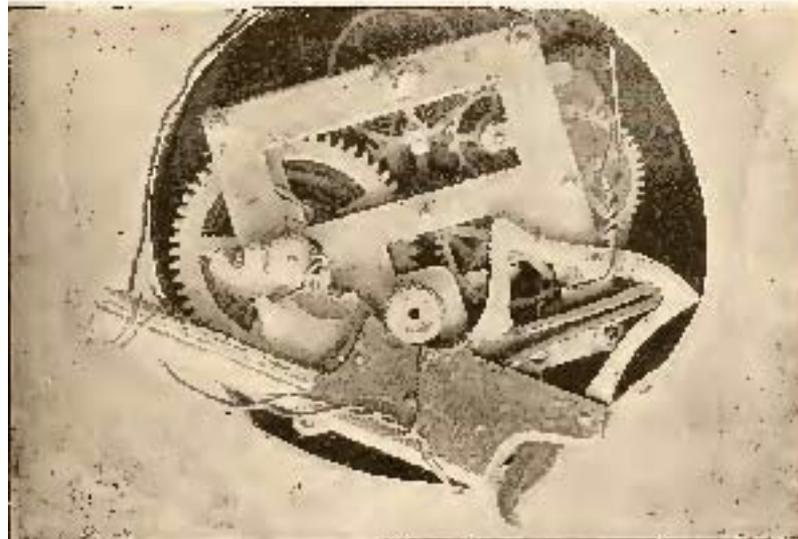
- 6 month police surveillance operation in Birmingham UK on Irish-American Bomb making facility (terrorists trained in Brooklyn, funded from Brooklyn)
- Repeated Close Target Reconnaissance using “Advanced Methods of Entry” to technically exploit IEDs and gather evidence
- Tracking from precursor chemical purchases

Black Ops

- The 1887 “Jubilee plot” was a “black” operation which actually encouraged a bombing campaign in order to sway political opinion in England
- Led directly to distrust of British Intelligence services

International Liaison

- WTI liaison between UK and US
- UK – Col Majendie, one of the first bomb disposal experts
- US Brigadier General Abbott
 - Passage of technical information about IED construction
 - Indications of discussion about sources of explosives and initiators
 - International legal constructs



Lessons for Today

- IED use and C-IED ops are still not new... Direct parallels from historical activity with today
- IED task Forces using “AtN” have been used before, with significant success
- Police make excellent IED Task Force members – much of AtN is good sound police work
- IED cells can be infiltrated and this has been a common tactic for 150 years (more)
- Use of media by terrorists is ancient – and “media ops” or “info ops” have been a persistent tool against them for 150 years
- Technical exploitation of IEDs pays dividends every time and has done for 150 years, including international collaborative efforts
- Security and Intelligence agencies always fight between each other and gain poor reputations as a result, especially when black ops are used
- The Irish have long memories – the rest of us have short memories
- (Don't trust the British)
- A sympathetic public can change its degree of support swiftly if the terrorist actions become close to home

Final Lesson

- Don't get caught swimming with someone who isn't your wife.

Further Reading

- *“The Enemy Within: The inside story of German sabotage in America”* by Henry Landau (albeit with a propaganda slant published in 1937)
- *“Throttled!”* – Tunney (German and Anarchist C-IED operations), written 1919
- *The Detonators The story of Black Tom Explosion*– Chad Millman
- *Confederate Torpedoes* – Rains and Michie. Two 19th century works republished
- Blog: www.standingwellback.com