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EXPLOSIVES AND ARSON STRATEGIC GOAL

Resolve and prevent explosives and fire related crimes.

ATF is responsible for administering and enforcing the regulatory and criminal provisions of the Federal laws pertaining to destructive devices (bombs) and explosives. ATF is committed to establishing and enhancing programs designed to promote public safety and to prevent the use of explosives as terrorist tools. ATF continues to expand the investigative capabilities of our special agents, inspectors, and other technical experts, as well as other Federal, State and local personnel. ATF works with public safety officials, explosives industry members, and State governments to make regulation less burdensome. We also provide training, information, research, and technical expertise to prevent violent crime and protect the public from potential terrorist acts. Our technical knowledge of explosives and expertise in crime scene investigation enables us to promote law enforcement readiness and innovation among State and local authorities, particularly where the magnitude of an incident is beyond their investigative jurisdiction or resources.

Objective 2.1.—Enforce the Federal explosives laws in order to protect the public from criminal acts and unsafe storage of explosives.

Tactics:

- 2.1.1.** Respond to and investigate bombings, explosions, and other incidents involving explosives or fire to determine whether an incident is a criminal act.
- 2.1.2.** Investigate stolen and missing explosives so that acts of violence may be prevented.
- 2.1.3.** Identify terrorism-related investigative information and intelligence, and actively share this information with the intelligence community and other Government agencies. Implement the Safe Explosives Act, and support Presidential Directives aimed at preventing the acquisition of explosives by terrorists and other criminals.
- 2.1.4.** Assist and train Federal, State and local law enforcement to improve their investigative capabilities in solving crimes involving fire and explosives. Provide the assistance of ATF agents with specialized training in advanced fire scene determination and post-blast analysis, who can share their knowledge with scene processing, explosives destruction, and courtroom techniques.

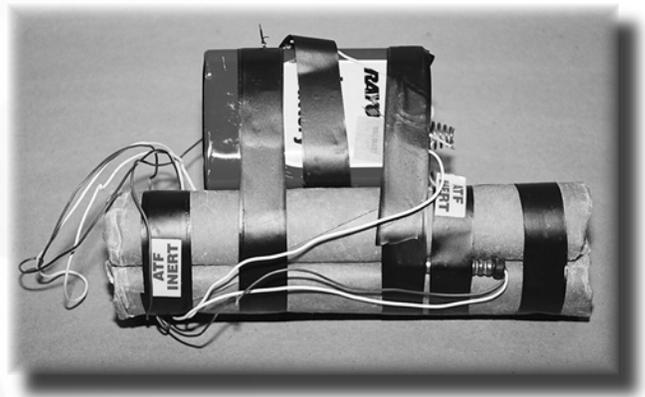
- 2.1.5.** Increase and standardize the reporting of explosives, bombing, and fire incident information from law enforcement and firefighting authorities to the Arson and Explosives National Repository database, to facilitate case analysis and comparison in order to provide investigative leads and intelligence.



Objective 2.2.—Increase compliance with explosives laws and regulations so that these commodities are not used in violent crime.

Tactics:

- 2.2.1. Use appropriate screening so that legitimate applicants enter the explosives industry, and that prohibited persons such as felons and potential terrorists are denied access to explosives.
- 2.2.2. Inspect explosives storage facilities to ensure safe and secure storage.
- 2.2.3. Work in cooperation with those who hold Federal explosives licenses and permits to ensure proper record keeping and business practices that help prevent thefts and the acquisition of explosives by felons and other criminals.
- 2.2.4. Assist in the enforcement of Federal and State regulations governing explosives, and identification of offenders, by exchanging information with State fire marshals and other enforcement agencies. Work with other agencies that have complementary functions in regulating explosive materials or fireworks, or ensuring safe transportation of hazardous materials.
- 2.2.5. Publicize information on ATF policies and regulations, and product safety and security, via the Internet, trade publications, seminars, and industry meetings in order to promote compliance with explosives laws and regulations.



Objective 2.3.—Foster innovation and cooperation in the fire and explosives investigation community.

Tactics:

- 2.3.1. Conduct applied fire and explosives research to expand the knowledge of investigators in reconstructing fire and explosives incidents encountered in the field.
- 2.3.2. Participate in professional organizations that endeavor to increase and exchange the body of professional knowledge in fire and explosive investigation research.

