



## OFFICE of INTELLIGENCE and ANALYSIS

## INTELLIGENCE IN BRIEF

26 MAY 2021

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## TERRORISM

***(U//FOUO)* Upcoming Commemoration of Tulsa Race Massacre Probably an Attractive Target for Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist-White Supremacists**

*(U//FOUO)* We assess that upcoming commemoration events associated with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre in Oklahoma probably are attractive targets for some racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist-white supremacists (RMVE-WS) to commit violence. While we lack specific or credible reporting indicating that violent extremists are planning to target events taking place between 28 May and 1 June, the current Homeland threat environment remains heightened and RMVE-WS have committed violence at other mass gatherings and crowded public spaces in recent years with little or no warning.<sup>a</sup> RMVE-WS historically have used simple tactics, such as vehicle ramming, small arms, edged weapons, and rudimentary explosive devices to target individuals perceived as having ideologically opposing views, racial minorities, or law enforcement at mass gatherings or crowded public spaces. Other domestic violent extremists (DVEs) also could perceive the events as attractive targets, particularly those seeking to target law enforcement or who subscribe to mixed ideologies.

- *(U//FOUO)* The Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission has organized a series of public events to commemorate the centennial of the massacre of an African American neighborhood beginning in late May, which are expected to attract celebrities and prominent public figures. Approximately 15,000 individuals are expected to attend these mostly outdoor events over a three-day period, according to a local law enforcement estimate.
- *(U)* Nearly half of RMVE-WS violent incidents perpetrated during the last 10 years occurred in crowded public spaces or mass gatherings using mostly simple tactics, according to an I&A review of past RMVE-WS incidents. For example, in January 2011, law enforcement thwarted an RMVE-WS's attempt to injure people with an improvised explosive device (IED) because of their race, color, or national origin at a Martin Luther King Jr. Day Unity March in Spokane, Washington. The perpetrator was sentenced to 32 years in prison, according to an FBI press release and press reporting.

<sup>a</sup> *(U)* For more information on the heightened threat environment, see (U); DHS; National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin; "Summary of Terrorism Threat to the U.S. Homeland"; DOI 14 May 2021; <https://www.dhs.gov/ntas/advisory/national-terrorism-advisory-system-bulletin-may-14-2021>; accessed on 21 May 2021.

- (U) Other DVEs have targeted mass gatherings or crowded public events, including those with mixed motivations. In July 2019, an alleged lone offender DVE with mixed motivations shot and killed three people and injured 13 others, before killing himself, at a garlic festival in Gilroy, California that attracted over 100,000 visitors in a multi-day event, according to press reporting. In July 2016, a DVE ambushed law enforcement officers, killing five and injuring twelve during a planned Dallas, Texas large protest of recent officer-involved shootings of African American men, according to press reporting.

**(U) Overview of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre**

(U) Between 31 May and 1 June 1921, as many as 300 people died and more than 1,256 homes burned when a crowd of 10,000 white people – including government officials – descended on Tulsa’s upper middle class African American Greenwood neighborhood, nearly destroying the area, according to a report by the Oklahoma Commission to Study the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921 and an academic study. The massacre occurred in response to a news article claiming that an African American man attempted to rape a white woman the previous day – charges for which he was later exonerated, according to the report. Around noon on 1 June 1921, martial law was declared and National Guard units began to restore order, according to the report. No one faced charges for the attack on Greenwood, and victims of the attack received no public assistance to restore Greenwood, according to the report.

**(U) Threat Indicators**

(U//FOUO) Suspicious activity reporting may help mitigate or prevent violence targeting the Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commemoration. The following list of indicators may be innocuous or constitutionally protected activities. Instances without a reasonable alternative explanation should be evaluated while considering a totality of the circumstances, additional indicators, or observed behaviors reasonably indicative of terrorism before being reported as suspicious activity.

- (U//FOUO) Specific, directed threats of violence towards prominent figures invited to the events;
- (U//FOUO) Online calls for violence by DVEs seeking out and confronting event attendees;
- (U//FOUO) Widespread calls for DVEs to brandish, carry, or use lethal weapons to disrupt nationally televised public events; and
- (U//FOUO) Online outreach and associated organizational efforts by DVEs to travel to the event locations for the purpose of engaging in violence.

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**Source, Reference, and Dissemination Information**


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<b>Source Summary Statement</b>	<i>(U//FOUO)</i> We have <b>low confidence</b> in our assessment that Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission Observance activities are probably attractive targets for some DVEs. Our analysis is based on information on previous DVE attacks from DHS reporting, as well as court documents, academic research, and other open source reporting. The DHS reporting, court documents, and open source reporting used discuss corroborated activities and violent extremist materials. The academic research references research by subject matter experts. Our confidence level would increase if we became aware that credible threats were directed at any of the series of public events in Oklahoma. Additional reporting about other ongoing or new DVE operational activity would also strengthen our confidence in this assessment.
<b>Definitions</b>	<p><i>(U)</i> <b>Domestic Violent Extremist:</b> An individual based and operating primarily within the United States or its territories without direction or inspiration from a foreign terrorist group or other foreign power who seeks to further political or social goals, wholly or in part, through unlawful acts of force or violence. I&amp;A utilizes this term synonymously with "domestic terrorist." The mere advocacy of political or social positions, political activism, use of strong rhetoric, or generalized philosophic embrace of violent tactics does not constitute extremism and may be constitutionally protected. DVEs can fit within one or multiple categories of ideological motivation and can span a broad range of groups or movements.</p> <p><i>(U//FOUO)</i> <b>Lone Offender:</b> An individual motivated by one or more violent extremist ideologies who, operating alone, supports or engages in acts of unlawful violence in furtherance of that ideology or ideologies that may involve influence from a larger terrorist organization or a foreign actor.</p> <p><i>(U//FOUO)</i> <b>Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist-White Supremacist:</b> Groups or individuals who facilitate or engage in acts of unlawful violence or intent to intimidate or coerce the federal government, ethnic and racial minorities, or non-Christian faiths, and often specifically Jewish persons, in support of their belief in the inferiority of nonwhites and non-Christians.</p>
<b>Reporting Suspicious Activity</b>	<i>(U)</i> <b>To report suspicious activity, law enforcement, Fire-EMS, private security personnel, and emergency managers should follow established protocols; all other personnel should call 911 or contact local law enforcement.</b> Suspicious activity reports (SARs) will be forwarded to the appropriate fusion center and FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force for further action. For more information on the Nationwide SAR Initiative, visit <a href="http://nsi.ncirc.gov/resources.aspx">http://nsi.ncirc.gov/resources.aspx</a> .
<b>Dissemination</b>	<i>(U)</i> Federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial authorities and private sector security partners.
<b>Warning Notices &amp; Handling Caveats</b>	<p><i>(U)</i> <b>Warning:</b> This document is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid need to know without prior approval of an authorized DHS official. State and local homeland security officials may share this document with authorized critical infrastructure and key resource personnel and private sector security officials without further approval from DHS.</p> <p><i>(U)</i> All US person information has been minimized. Should you require US person information on weekends or after normal weekday hours during exigent and time sensitive circumstances, contact the Current and Emerging Threat Watch Office at 202-447-3688, CETC.OSCO@HQ.DHS.GOV. For all other inquiries, please contact the Homeland Security Single Point of Service, Request for Information Office at DHS-SPS-RFI@hq.dhs.gov, DHS-SPS-RFI@dhs.gov, DHS-SPS-RFI@dhs.ic.gov.</p>

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Product Title:

All survey responses are completely anonymous. No personally identifiable information is captured unless you voluntarily offer personal or contact information in any of the comment fields. Additionally, your responses are combined with those of many others and summarized in a report to further protect your anonymity.

1. Please select partner type:  and function:

2. What is the highest level of intelligence information that you receive?

3. Please complete the following sentence: "I focus most of my time on:"

4. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following:

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A
Product's overall usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's relevance to your mission	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's timeliness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's responsiveness to your intelligence needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. How do you plan to use this product in support of your mission? (Check all that apply.)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drive planning and preparedness efforts, training, and/or emergency response operations | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiate a law enforcement investigation       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Observe, identify, and/or disrupt threats   | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiate your own regional-specific analysis   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Share with partners   | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiate your own topic-specific analysis      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allocate resources (e.g. equipment and personnel)                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop long-term homeland security strategies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reprioritize organizational focus   | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not plan to use                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Author or adjust policies and guidelines  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/>                    |

6. To further understand your response to question #5, please provide specific details about situations in which you might use this product.

7. What did this product not address that you anticipated it would?

8. To what extent do you agree with the following two statements?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
This product will enable me to make better decisions regarding this topic.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
This product provided me with intelligence information I did not find elsewhere.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. How did you obtain this product?

10. Would you be willing to participate in a follow-up conversation about your feedback?

To help us understand more about your organization so we can better tailor future products, please provide:

Name: <input type="text"/>	Position: <input type="text"/>
Organization: <input type="text"/>	State: <input type="text"/>
Contact Number: <input type="text"/>	Email: <input type="text"/>



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