



## **NOVEMBER 2009 FORT HOOD SHOOTING**

- ❑ **On November 5, 2009, Army Major Nidal Malik Hasan killed 13 people and wounded 32 in a shooting rampage at Fort Hood.**
  - Hasan was shot four times by responders and was paralyzed from the chest down.
  - On August 23, 2013, Hasan was found guilty on 13 counts of premeditated murder and 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder. On August 28, 2013 he was sentenced to death. He is currently on death row at the military prison in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.
  - Hasan used a FN 5.7 caliber gun legally bought at a Texas gun shop.<sup>1</sup> He fired roughly 216 rounds in the shooting, and had nearly 200 rounds remaining after he was shot.<sup>2</sup>
  - Before the shooting, Hasan counseled returning soldiers with post-traumatic stress disorder.<sup>3</sup> A Muslim who was raised in Virginia, he was the son of Palestinian immigrants.<sup>4</sup>
  - At the time of the shooting, he was scheduled for deployment to Afghanistan.<sup>5</sup> He has expressed vocal opposition to U.S. wars,<sup>6</sup> and he had tried to get out of the army in the years after 9/11.<sup>7</sup> He was reportedly harassed for being a Muslim, both by soldiers and civilians.<sup>8</sup>
- ❑ **Mental Health Issues:** While an intern at Walter Reed Hospital, Hasan had been required to seek counseling, and he was subject to extra supervision.<sup>9</sup>
- ❑ **Terrorism Links:**
  - Hasan admitted responsibility for the shooting at the opening of his trial. He said that as a member of the armed forces, he had been on the wrong side of the war against Islam—and that he switched sides by carrying out the shooting.<sup>10</sup> According to witnesses, Hasan shouted "Allah-u-Akbar" (God is great) before opening fire.<sup>11</sup>
  - He wanted to mount a legal defense that the shootings were done to protect Taliban leadership in Afghanistan,<sup>12</sup> and he told the media that he was waging jihad because the Iraq and Afghanistan wars were “illegal and immoral aggression against Muslims.”<sup>13</sup>
  - Internet Postings: In a web posting, Hasan compared suicide bombers to military personnel who throw themselves on a grenade to save their comrades.<sup>14</sup>
  - Contact with Anwar al-Awlaki: Hasan attended the same mosque as two 9/11 hijackers, at a time when radical imam Anwar al-Awlaki preached there.<sup>15</sup> The FBI monitored 18 communications between Hasan and al-Awlaki.<sup>16</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/ft-hood-shooter-nidal-hasan-private-legally-bought-pistol-military-weapon-rampage-article-1.414799>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cnn.com/2013/08/23/justice/nidal-hasan-court-martial-friday/>;  
[http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/nation/2010-10-20-fort-hood-trial\\_N.htm](http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/nation/2010-10-20-fort-hood-trial_N.htm)

<sup>3</sup> <http://content.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1936407,00.html>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/09/us/09reconstruct.html?pagewanted=all&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/09/us/09reconstruct.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0)

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71_story.html)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/09/us/09reconstruct.html?pagewanted=all&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/09/us/09reconstruct.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0)

<sup>7</sup> <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/nidal-malik-hasan-wanted-army-family/story?id=9008184>

<sup>8</sup> <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/nidal-malik-hasan-wanted-army-family/story?id=9008184>,

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/11/06/fort.hood.suspect.muslim/>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.foxnews.com/story/2009/11/06/troubling-portrait-emerges-fort-hood-shooting-rampage-suspect>

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71_story.html)

<sup>11</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71_story.html)

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71_story.html)

<sup>13</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71_story.html)

<sup>14</sup> <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/nidal-malik-hasan-wanted-army-family/story?id=9008184>

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/fort-hood-suspect-nidal-malik-hasan-attended-mosque-9-11-terrorists-article-1.414800>

<sup>16</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/nidal-hasan-convicted-of-fort-hood-killings/2013/08/23/39c468c8-0c03-11e3-9941-6711ed662e71_story.html)