

New York State Intelligence Center



Counter Terrorism Bulletin

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(U) Package Bombs Sent to Multiple Locations Targeting High Profile Individuals, Including Packages in Westchester County and New York City

(U) Overview

(U) On October 22nd, a package containing an improvised explosive device (IED) was discovered at approximately 3:45pm ET at the Katonah, NY home of billionaire George Soros, about 50 miles north of New York City.¹ An employee retrieved the package from the mailbox, located outside the gates of the compound, and alerted the authorities upon discovering the suspicious device. The FBI responded and safely detonated the device, which has been described in media reports as a pipe bomb containing explosive powder.²

(U) Early in the morning on October 24th, a second package bomb addressed to former Secretary of State and 2016 Democratic Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton at her residence in Chappaqua, NY was detected and intercepted by mail screening procedures.³ The IED was safely detonated by the bomb squad. The US Secret Service reported that a third package bomb addressed to former President Obama, was detected by mail screen procedures and in both cases that the protectee's lives were never in danger.⁴ Federal authorities are investigating similarities in design and packaging of the three IEDs which indicate they are likely linked.

(U//FOUO) The NYSIC is aware of multiple additional reports of suspicious packages including a now confirmed IED at CNN headquarters in the Time Warner Center, New York City. Other reports of suspicious packages have been reported at multiple congressional offices; however, the presence of actual IEDs in all of these cases have not been confirmed.⁵ As this is an unfolding event, more incidents may be reported in the near future.



(U) Implications

(U//FOUO) Given these incidents, law enforcement and other first responders should remain vigilant and not touch, move, or handle any suspicious or unknown packages. Law enforcement should also review the attached *Best Practices for Safe Mail Handling Guide* and one-page *Safe Mail Handling Procedures*, attached here.

Please report any suspicious activity, which includes suspicious package reporting, to the New York State Intelligence Center – Counter Terrorism Center, Terrorism Tips Line at **1-866-SAFE-NYS (1-866-723-3697)**.

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/22/nyregion/george-soros-explosive-device.html>

² https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/authorities-explosive-device-found-near-george-soros-home/2018/10/23/ea4646a0-d67c-11e8-8384-bcc5492fef49_story.html

³ <http://www.ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/news/2018/10/24/suspicious-device-found-near-westchester-home-of-bill-and-hillary-clinton>

⁴ <https://www.cnn.com/2018/10/24/politics/bill-clinton-hillary-clinton-chappaqua/index.html>

⁵ <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/10/24/time-warner-center-in-new-york-evacuated-because-of-suspicious-package.html>