



Jarrett William Smith

- Pvt First Class
- Infantry Soldier
- Stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas
- Age 24 at time of conviction



CDSE

Center for Development
of Security Excellence

CASE STUDY

Self-Radicalization

WHAT HAPPENED

- Jarrett William Smith joined the U.S. Army on June 12, 2017. Following his initial entry training at Fort Benning, Georgia, he was stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas beginning November 27, 2017. Smith served the U.S. Army as an infantry soldier, trained in combat and tactical operations.
- On March 27, 2019, the FBI received information regarding the Facebook account belonging to Smith. The information received by the FBI demonstrated that Smith had disseminated guidance to others on how to construct Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and spoke to others via social media about his desire to travel to the country of Ukraine to fight with a violent, far-right paramilitary group.
- On July 8, 2019 Smith was transferred to Fort Riley, Kansas.
- During a Facebook chat, Smith offered to teach other Facebook users to make cell phone explosive devices "in the style of the Afghans." On Aug. 19, 2019, Smith told an undercover investigator he was looking for "radicals" like himself. Smith talked about killing members of Antifa and destroying nearby cell towers or a local news station.
- On Aug. 21, Smith told an undercover investigator about how to make a vehicle bomb. When the investigator commented that most of the components were household items, Smith said: "Making AK47s out of expensive parts is cool, but imagine if you will if you were going to WalMart instead of a gun store to buy weapons."
- On September 20, 2019, Smith engaged with an FBI Undercover Employee on social media, using the moniker "Anti-Kosmik 2182." During these online discussions, the defendant provided specific instructions for constructing an explosive device. Smith also described in detail to the undercover investigator how to build a bomb that could be triggered by calling a cell phone. Later in that same conversation, Smith provided the UCE with a recipe for creating improvised napalm.

INDICATORS

- Judgement, Character, and Psychological Conditions - Communicating extremist views. Smith openly stated his willingness to actively support and fight with an extremist group.
- Criminal, Violent, or Abusive Conduct - Smith openly shared information on Social Media about how to construct Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) He also provided a recipe for improvised napalm for use in a weapon of mass destruction

IMPACT

- Convicted of Distribution of information related to explosives, destructive devices and weapons of mass destruction
- Sentenced to 30 months in federal prison and three years supervised release

ADDITIONAL INFO

- Smith's attorney petitioned for a lenient sentence because of "the emotional trauma of not only having been routinely bullied over his cleft lip and speech impediment for years by peers but also being targeted for murder by a classmate added significant trauma to Mr. Smith's already deteriorating mental health and low self-esteem."
- Smith found online communities surrounding new forms of faith that he began to explore, his attorney wrote. His years of rejection by his peers and yearning for inclusion made him "the perfect target for online extremists groups searching for new recruits."
- According to court documents, Smith "gave information out freely to people who may use it for harm, for the glory of Quayinism, and his religion of anti-kosmik Satanism. He wants to cause chaos, as it brings back the realm of his religious beliefs, through the destruction of the universe. He said he will provide information to people who ask, as it furthers his beliefs."
- Smith said chaos in the world is a disruption and he can be an agent of chaos by enabling people with his knowledge. Smith said that if chaos results in the death of people, and he provided information to them, it doesn't affect him.
- Years later, he stated that after his Army contract ends he intends to join the Azov Battalion, Right Sector Volunteer Corps, or to aid one of the organizations fighting ISIS in the Middle East.
- On April 3, 2018, Smith sent a text message saying that "[o]n my bucket list is to KO an Antifa member." On other occasions, he engaged in text and social media conversations in which he provided specific, detailed directions about how to build and detonate explosives, and discussed things such as looking for more "radicals" like himself; killing and targeting members of the far-left group Antifa, including a specific address of a particular Antifa member; and destroying cell towers, news stations and networks.

Consider the following questions:

- Do you know of someone who espouses extremist beliefs? Have they ever spoken of taking action these beliefs? If so, did you report them? Would you if it happens in the future?
- If you knew a co-worker or military person who espoused beliefs similar to Smith's would you report? If so, to whom would you report?
- How can your organization proactively address the threat posed by potentially violent extremists?

Resources for further exploration:

- [FBI Monograph: Making Prevention a Reality](https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/making-prevention-a-reality.pdf) (https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/making-prevention-a-reality.pdf)
- [Homegrown Violent Extremist Mobilization Indicators](https://www.cdse.edu/Portals/124/Documents/jobajds/insider/homegrown-violent-extremist-mobilization-indicators.pdf?ver=Pnd573NYc-8eV0NIXVt5Sg==) (https://www.cdse.edu/Portals/124/Documents/jobajds/insider/homegrown-violent-extremist-mobilization-indicators.pdf?ver=Pnd573NYc-8eV0NIXVt5Sg==)

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

Contact the appropriate POC to report any observed potential risk indicators:

Name: _____
Title: Supervisor/Security Officer/ITP

Agency/Department: _____
Senior Official/ITP Manager