

Alternatives to “Mumbai-style” Attacks

Conventional terrorist attacks can be accurately described by specifying the number of attackers, weapons, tactics, and targets rather than using terms such as “commando” or “Mumbai-style.”

Location, Year	Weapon	Tactic	Target	Example Attack Description (Weapon + Tactic+ Target)
Frankfurt, Germany 2011	Handgun	Assault by a single attacker	Unarmed military, civilians	An attacker used a handgun to assault unarmed soldiers, killing two, in a US military bus in an international airport.
Sanaa, Yemen 2010	Rocket-Propelled Grenade (RPG)	Ambush by two attackers	Diplomatic convoy, armored vehicle	Two AQAP assailants used a light anti-armor weapon to ambush a British diplomat in an armored vehicle.
Mogadishu, Somalia 2010	Small arms, explosives	Assault by fewer than five attackers	Hotel, civilians, political figures, security forces	Fewer than five al-Shabaab terrorists used small arms and explosives to attack a hotel, killing Somali lawmakers, security forces, and civilians.
Ft. Hood, TX 2009	Handgun	Assault by a single attacker	Unarmed military	An attacker used a handgun to kill 12 unarmed soldiers and one Army civilian at a pre-deployment center on a US Army post.
Lahore, Pakistan 2009	Automatic rifles, grenades, explosives, RPGs	Assault by 12 attackers	Civilians	Twelve terrorists armed with automatic rifles, grenades, explosives, and RPGs attacked a bus carrying the Sri Lankan national cricket team, injuring six team members and killing six Pakistani police and two civilians.
Sanaa, Yemen 2008	Automatic rifles, VBIEDs	Assault by several attackers	US Embassy	Al-Qa’ida members with automatic rifles and two VBIEDs attacked an embassy security checkpoint, killing 12 and wounding 16.
Mumbai, India 2008	Small arms, grenades, explosives	Assault by 10 attackers, seize and hold, carjacking, hostage taking	Maritime, train station, hotels, hospital, religious site, civilians, café	Ten LT terrorists hijacked a vessel to begin near-simultaneous attacks using small arms, grenades, and IEDs against hotels, a train station, café, hospital, and a religious site; the five two-man teams also used carjacking, hostage taking, and assassination during the 60-hour operation.
Beslan, Russia 2004	Small arms, explosives	Assault by 30 attackers, seize and hold, hostage taking	School, civilians	Thirty Islamic extremists used small arms and IEDs in an attack and three-day siege of a middle school, killing 330 people including 186 children.
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia 2004	Small arms, explosives	Assault by five attackers	US Consulate	A five-man al-Qa’ida team used small arms and improvised explosives in an assault against the US Consulate that killed several guards.