Who is speaking?

Responsibility for Emotion Words and Attitudinal Stance in Quality and Popular Newspapers.

MA Communication Studies Thesis

University of Groningen
Faculty of Arts
Department of Communication Studies
PO Box 716, 9700 AS Groningen (NL)

April 2017

Caroline Gringhuis
s2163217
Tijsweer 3
9679 CH Scheemda
+31652348436
Caroline-G@live.nl

Supervisor: dr. N.M. Stukker
Co-supervisor: dr. F. Harbers
Preface

This thesis is the final product my time as an MA Communication Studies student at the University of Groningen has led to. The journey has been an interesting one and I would like to thank my supervisor dr. N.M. Stukker for her guidance and constructive feedback. Also, thank you to my friends and family for the hours they spent listening to my ideas and for their continued support. I hope you enjoy your reading.

Caroline Gringhuis

Groningen, 7 April 2017
Abstract

One of the ways in which traditional newspapers are trying to ensure survivability in the increasingly competitive media landscape, is through tabloidization and a growing focus on sensational news. Sensational content is often associated with subjectivity and generally seen as an unwanted element according to the rules of traditional journalism. This statement is now being challenged, and there are claims that sensationalism should not be generalized as an exclusively negative element. The aim of this study is to examine whether quality newspapers and popular newspapers differ in their usage of sensational elements, specifically emotion words and expressions of attitudinal stance, to be able to answer the following question: "In what way do quality and popular newspapers incorporate textual sensational elements into their news articles, and can a difference be found?" To answer this question a number of news articles and feature articles from the quality newspaper New York Times and the popular newspaper New York Post were analyzed for use of emotion words, expressions of attitudinal stance and the quotation strategies used to incorporate these sensational elements. A distinction was made between three different categories of quotation strategies with varying objectivity levels: responsibility of the journalist, responsibility of the source or shared responsibility.

Results show that the newspapers differ with respect to the incorporation of textual sensational elements within both news genres. The newspapers use emotion words and expressions of attitudinal stance in an equal frequency, but they differ in their used quotation strategies. New York Post uses the journalist's and source responsibility more often, whereas New York Times uses the shared responsibility more often. Results also show significant differences within the genres, unrelated to newspaper type; emotion words are used more frequently in feature articles, whereas expressions of attitudinal stance can be found more frequently in news articles. A significantly larger frequency of source responsibility can be found in feature articles than in news articles. Combining the variables of newspaper and news genre shows that New York Post uses different types of responsibility depending on the article type; mainly the use of source responsibility is considerably higher within their feature articles. New York Times shows no significant difference in quotation strategies between genres. A striking difference between the two newspapers can be found in responsibility types used in feature articles; New York Post uses source responsibility frequently, whereas New York Times does not utilize this quotation strategy nearly as much and seems to prefer the shared responsibility for this genre type.

Keywords: sensationalism; media; attitudinal stance; affect markers; emotion words; quality newspaper; popular newspaper; quotation strategies; hard news; soft news; subjectivity; objectivity; personalization; tabloidization.
# Table of contents

1. **Introduction**  
   - Changes in newspaper culture  
   - How newspapers adapt: commercialization  

2. **Literature review**  
   2.1. Changes in newspaper culture  
   2.1.1. Internet-based news  
   2.1.2. How newspapers adapt: commercialization  
   2.2. Sensationalism  
   2.2.1. Sensationalism conceptualized  
   2.2.2. Sensation: wrong by definition?  
   2.3. Sensation in language  
   2.3.1. Evoking sensation: emotions and attitudes  
   2.3.2. Distribution of responsibility for sensation: quotation strategies  

3. **Method**  
   3.1. The corpus  
   3.2. Method of analysis  
   3.2.1. Emotion words  
   3.2.2. Attitudinal stance  
   3.2.3. Responsibility for content  

4. **Results**  
   4.1. Differences between a quality newspaper and a popular newspaper  
   4.2. Differences between news articles and feature articles  
   4.3. Differences between the combinations of newspaper type and news genre  
   4.4. Further observations  

5. **Conclusion**  

6. **Discussion**  
   6.1. Differences between a quality newspaper and a popular newspaper  
   6.2. Differences between news articles and feature articles  
   6.3. Differences between the combinations of newspaper type and news genre  
   6.4. Further observations  
   6.5. Limitations of the present study and recommendations for future research  

Bibliography  

Appendix  

*Appendix A: Emotion words and attitudinal stance – marked articles*  
*Appendix B: Types of responsibility – marked articles*
1. Introduction

The media landscape is ever changing and recent changes have had serious consequences for the manner in which journalists report on news events in the world. In the past, readers were typically loyal to the newspaper of their preference. However, nowadays news consumers often read multiple different kinds of newspapers and additionally, news is now consumed on various new platforms such as websites that offer news articles, news blogs and news apps (Asbreuk & de Moor, 2013). These changes have forced newspapers to adjust their strategy in order to capture and hold the readers’ attention in this competitive landscape. One approach the newspapers have turned to is commercialization and more specifically the strategy of implementing sensational elements to make news more interesting and engaging for the reader. Sensationalized journalism is often criticized as it is considered emotional and subjective, and thus the opposite of rational and objective quality journalism (Sparks, 2000; Connell, 1998). Others argue that the emotional engagement created by sensational content can call attention to certain social or political problems and involve the readers in these issues (Peters, 2011; Wahl-Jorgensen, 2013). Sensational elements can be used in both news stories as well as the design elements of newspapers to make the news more exciting (Kleemans, 2007). This strategy of making the news more exciting is referred to as ‘sensationalism’ and the term is commonly used to describe the reporting of news events with the goal of evoking the readers’ emotions (Wiltenburg, 2004; Grabe, Zhou & Barnett, 2001). By making the news more exciting for the reader they are hoping for an opportunity to compete in the media landscape and ensure financial gain (Harbers, 2014). As one would expect, financial gain is an important part of the survivability of the newspapers.

There are various strategies available to journalists that can be used to emotionally involve the reader in the written news stories, for example the usage of emotion and personalization (Wahl-Jorgensen, 2013). Traditionally, the goal of journalists has been to present the news in an objective and neutral manner (Broersma, 2010). This would enable readers to be informed and form their own opinion. Subjectivity is said to influence the opinion of the people and it is thus uncalled for, according to the rules of traditional journalism. The usage of sensational elements within news articles is often associated with subjectivity, hence the traditional journalism’s disapproval of this particular strategy. However, according to Costera Meijer (2010) readers not only want trustworthy news, they also value exciting and engaging news. Personalization of a news story enables empathy and can help readers to identify with, and in turn better understand individuals or situations mentioned in these stories which can increase their engagement or feeling of involvement (Wahl-Jorgensen, 2013). Rupar and Broersma (2010) found that certain techniques used to implement sensational elements in news stories are often valued in award-winning journalism, for example a delayed lead, realistic dialogue and human interest detail. This makes one wonder whether sensationalism or subjectivity is necessarily a bad thing. Popular newspapers have picked up on the wishes of their readers to be able to compete in the current media landscape. One way in which they have done so, is through tabloidization (Zelizer, 2009). Quality newspapers are known to greatly value the ethics and journalistic codes. However, this does not necessarily mean that they are not trying to engage the reader on an emotional level (Wahl-Jorgensen, 2012). According to Peters (2011) it is important to be careful when it comes to defining sensation as an element that is unacceptable within professional journalism. He claims that further research is needed before such statements can be made. Peters also states that emotion has always been present in news articles; merely the way in
which it is incorporated has changed. There is an increasing diversity in methods a journalist can apply to add a certain emotion to their writings. Harbers and Broersma’s (2014) findings support this claim, as they found that different journalistic styles when it comes to emotion, personalization and subjectivity are valued differently by readers. This suggests that further research is indeed necessary and the use of sensation should not be generalized. We know that both quality and popular newspapers have started incorporating sensational elements into their stories. An interesting question is whether the quality newspapers and popular newspapers have taken to different strategies when it comes to making their texts more emotional, considering they value subjectivity differently.

Quality journalism is often perceived as an objective and rational type of journalism, whereas popular journalism is considered anti-rationalist and sensational due to the way in which they embrace the human-interest side of news stories (Sparks, 2000; Connell, 1998). Implementing sensational and subjective elements is a common strategy that can be used to emotionally engage readers. The expectation is that both newspapers use sensational elements, but the different ways in which they value the journalistic codes could lead to a difference in use of sensational elements, the methods they apply to include emotion into their articles and perhaps the number of sensational elements incorporated into the news stories. It is possible that quality newspapers found a way to incorporate certain aspects of sensation in their news articles while still honoring their traditions. This leads to the following research question:

"In what way do quality and popular newspapers incorporate textual sensational elements into their news articles, and can a difference be found?"

The answer to this question will lead to a better insight on the different, possibly ethically correct usages of sensation. Such insights can promote awareness within both readers and journalists when it comes to sensational elements incorporated in news articles.

2. Literature review

2.1. Changes in newspaper culture

In recent years, there have been numerous changes within the news culture. A reader’s approach to consuming the news differs greatly from the way it once was. One important factor is their use of internet to continuously have access to the latest news. A reader is no longer bound to the content of the newspaper and their publishing times. This results in enormous challenges and pressure for the newspapers, as they now have to compete with the new internet-based news providers. It is essential for their survival to distinguish themselves and present themselves in a way that will attract news consumers.

2.1.1. Internet-based news

In recent discussions on the survival of newspapers, there is one main factor that is commonly seen as a threat: web-based news. The origin of web-based news can be found in the 90s, when people began to realize the possibilities of the internet for certain everyday-life situations (Allan, 2006). Web-based journalism was one of these new ideas, which also brought new challenges and opportunities for journalists. Online news can be found on news websites, news apps, news blogs and even social media.
Allan states that the three main points in which online news is differentiated from traditional news are immediacy, depth and interactivity. A study on the reasons for people to read online news confirmed that especially immediacy is a reason to prefer online news over newspapers (Nguyen, 2010). Other reasons were the no cost factor, the ability to multitask while reading news, the increased amount of news choices, the in-depth and background information, 24/7 updates, the interactivity options, and the existence of different viewpoints online. Overall, online news is thought to be convenient and easy due to speed and availability (Conway, 2001). Breaking news used to only be published in the daily newspapers, which had predetermined publishing times. Online news creates the possibility to publish the news immediately and on random times, and additionally it is possible to immediately add further updates.

Another way in which the online news environment distinguishes itself from the traditional newspaper platform is the way in which interactivity with readers is established. While newspapers often have the option for readers to send in their letters, which could be published after a certain amount of time, the internet offers new options. It offered the possibility of an exchange of real-time messages between readers and editors/writers (Allan, 2006). As Nguyen (2010) found, this increased interactivity is an element that is appreciated by the public. However, the interactivity goes further than simply being able to discuss the news. User generated content (UGC) allows ‘ordinary people’ to document the news (Hermida & Thurman, 2008). Passerby’s that happen to be at the scene of a newsworthy event can take pictures or videos and publish this on social media. Certain news sites also allow citizens to send their pictures or videos, which could then be published by the news companies. Not only does this change the interactivity, it also changes the nature of news itself. Where news media used to traditionally be the gatekeepers and inform the citizens on what the journalists thought to be important, the citizens have now become a part of this process and help decide what the news is.

2.1.2. How newspapers adapt: commercialization

The influence of these technological changes (among others) raises the question what the future of the traditional newspapers looks like (Franklin, 2008). Many wonder whether traditional journalism can survive in the digital world (Nichols, 2007; Mencher, 2006; Sturgis, 2012). This discussion is still ongoing, but newspapers have begun to adapt to the more competitive environment and are searching for the solution that will help save the newspapers. They tried to find the answer in commercialization and tabloidization. UNESCO (1980) explained the commercialization of the media in the following manner:

The content of communication – information or entertainment, or a mixture of the two – is treated as merchandise, marketed and sold in the same way as other commodities. (UNESCO, 1980)

While the previous definition is fairly neutral, others see this development in a more negative light; an example is McManus’ (2009) definition of commercialization of news:

I will define the commercialization of news as any action intended to boost profit that interferes with a journalist’s or news organization’s best effort to maximize public understanding of those issues and events that shape the community they claim to serve. (McManus, 2009)

By making the news a commercial product, breaking news is no longer the only focus, but ‘trivial’ news or ‘human interest aspects’ also became an important part of news making. Rather than mainly providing the news in an objective manner, the newspapers are now more market-oriented and cater to the customers’ wishes to up the sales. History shows that newspapers can
decide to sacrifice some of their objectivity and neutrality in order to create financial gain and ensure survivability (Harbers, 2014). It is important for newspapers to distinguish themselves from other news sources and give readers a reason to still pick up the paper instead of selecting one of the many online options. One way in which they started to commercialize is by creating tabloid newspapers. This phenomenon is called the 'tabloidization' of the news. Tabloidization is driven by not only the goal to inform the readers, but additionally the goal of providing entertainment (Zelizer, 2009). The original task of newspapers was the social responsibility to inform the citizens and protect the democracy (Hauttekeete, 2005). However, we have seen that the digital media is changing the traditional role of the media. Costera Meijer (2010) states that the news reader values exciting and engaging news. A known marketing strategy is to cater to the consumers' wishes, and this is exactly what tabloid newspapers aim to do. They seem to value the traditional news standards of objectivity and neutrality less, which enables them to focus on the wishes of the reader: providing exciting and engaging news.

Tabloidization is a collective term for several characteristics that one will find in the tabloid newspapers. A tabloid newspaper is generally a smaller format than broadsheet newspapers and it uses large and striking headlines as well as plenty of colorful images (Hauttekeete, 2005). While these characteristics can easily be noticed on first glance, the written content of the newspapers has changed as well. Today's newspapers contain more sensational news coverage. What exactly makes a certain type of news coverage more 'sensational' than the other?

2.2. Sensationalism

A term used to describe the use of sensation within news coverage is sensationalism. This expression was first used in the 19th century to describe the news reporting that aims to emotionally involve the reader (Wiltenburg, 2004; Grabe, Zhou & Barnett, 2001). Harbers (2014) states that even in later times, the term is still used to describe content that provokes the readers' interest. The term is often associated with infotainment (Graber, 1994) or tabloid news (Grabe, Zhou, Lang and Bolls, 2000). While all these terms are connected in a way, they have different meanings which can be confusing. Tabloidization is, as discussed in the previous paragraph, related to different characteristics of the newspaper when it comes to design and content. One of the goals of these tabloid newspapers is to not only inform but also entertain the reader, which one would call infotainment; a combination of the words information and entertainment. A way to reach this goal of entertaining the reader through a news story is through the use of sensationalism; presenting emotionally provoking, exciting and interesting content to attract the readers' attention. In short, sensationalism is a theoretical concept that consists of certain elements used within news coverage that are known to engage the reader (Hendriks Vettehen, 2007).

2.2.1. Sensationalism conceptualized

The concept of sensationalism can be divided into three different categories (Kleemans, 2007). The first category is the arousing content or basic needs content of a message (Hendriks Vettehen, Nuijten & Beentjes, 2005; Grabe, Lang & Zhao, 2003; Grabe, Zhou & Barnett, 2001). Certain topics are considered sensational and are likely to affect the reader on an emotional level, for example topics related to criminality, disasters, accidents, fears and reports on celebrities (Grabe, Zhou & Barnett, 2001).
The second category is related to the design or the form in which a message is presented unrelated to the text itself. An individual will select which message he or she wants to read based on intentional selection such as the topic the reader is interested in, but also on unintentional selection such as the form of a message. The eye-catching headlines and bright pictures (Asbreuk & de Moor, 2013) used by tabloid newspapers, are used to catch the readers' eye and draw their attention.

The third, and for this research most important, category is sensationalism embedded within the text itself. Kleemans (2007) refers to vivid storytelling to explain this category, but this is a very specific strategy. Overall, the category of sensationalism within the written text refers to the way in which a story is told, unrelated to the topic. A journalist can decide to write a news story in an objective and neutral manner, but one could also decide to make the text sensational through the use of a more subjective and emotional style. There are many ways to incorporate sensational elements into the text, for example the perspective in which a story is told or using (subjective) descriptive language can increase the tension that is built within a news story (Asbreuk & De Moor, 2007). Such techniques focus on personal experiences and the emotions of the people involved (Harbers, 2014). These strategies make the written text more vivid for the reader. Nisbett and Ross (1980) claim that vivid information has a greater impact on the reader due to its attractiveness and ability to attract the readers' attention. Vivid information is described as 'emotionally interesting, image-provoking, and proximate'. These elements can be used to engage the reader in the story that is being told. Sensationalism can thus be used to make the news more exciting and interesting for the reader. Unfortunately there is no accepted, complete description of the concept of textual sensationalism, but we know that sensationalism is applied to be able to emotionally engage the reader.

2.2.2. Sensation: wrong by definition?

Traditionally, it is said that a journalist’s focus should be on delivering the news to the reader in an objective and neutral manner (Sanders, 2009; Broersma, 2010; Wahl-Jorgensen, 2013; Hauttekeete, 2005). By informing the reader on the currently ongoing events in the world, the democracy will be stimulated (Hauttekeete, 2005). The citizens will be neutrally informed and able to form their own opinion on important matters. Emotion and personalization are seen as subjective elements and are therefore frowned upon from a traditional standpoint. It is thus a common thought that subjectivity in journalism is unacceptable. However, this is not necessarily a true fact. Rupar and Broersma (2010) found several journalistic story-telling techniques used in award-winning journalism that were valued positively, such as a delayed lead, human interest elements, realistic dialogue, scene by scene reconstruction, interior monologue and multiple narrators within the same text. Peters (2011) believes it is necessary to challenge the idea that emotion is not acceptable within news coverage. He states that when it comes to news coverage, emotion is not a new concept. In fact, emotion has always been present within news coverage. He continues to explain that merely the manner in which it is applied within news stories has changed. There is an increasing diversity in methods a journalist can apply to add a certain emotion to their writings. On top of that the focus on trying to engage the reader has increased. Peters argues that this phenomenon should be examined further prior to stating conclusions on the claimed negativity of emotion. He believes it could be possible to apply the usage of emotion in a way that would both be successful and ethically responsible. He also states that emotional content can help citizens to identify with situations, feelings and motives in news texts, which in turn will increase their engagement in complex matters of social and political importance.
(Peters, 2011; Wahl-Jorgensen, 2013). Pantti (2010) states that emotional story-telling can also increase the political and social knowledge of the audience, which can improve their understanding of the news. She continues to cleverly explain that interpreting and presenting emotions related to news happenings can be seen as an important part of traditional journalism’s aim of representing the truth. Emotions exist in everyone’s everyday lives and therefore deserve such representation; without these emotions, the ‘facts’ do not represent the complete truth. Wahl-Jorgensen (2012) demonstrated that the use of subjective language does not necessarily mean that the objectivity of an article is affected. She found that Pulitzer price-winning journalists often implement emotions of others within news stories. By doing so the journalist remains neutral and objective, as his or her own emotions are not expressed. We know that over time both quality and popular newspapers have become more sensational, but this does not necessarily mean that they apply the same strategies in a similar manner. There is a possibility that a quality newspaper incorporates emotion in a different way than a popular newspaper would do, due to the difference in ethics that was mentioned earlier and considering the knowledge that popular newspapers have embraced the human interest side of the news more fully (Harbers, 2014). That not all usages of emotion are equally successful was found by Harbers and Broersma (2014). They compared two journalistic styles; one was described as being a personal-engaging subjective style while the other was described as being a personal-ironic subjective style. Readers valued the engaging style over the ironic style. So, while the reader positively values the engagement of the reader through use of emotion, ironic comments from the journalist are not appreciated nearly as much. The use of irony resulted in readers doubting the truthfulness of the story. It indeed seems to be the case that there a different ways a journalist can incorporate emotion in their text and one should not generalize without additional research. It is important to explore the subject further to be able to determine if there is a way of incorporating emotion within news reporting, while respecting the traditional journalistic codes and ethics. That is why this study will combine various elements concerning textual strategies that can be used to incorporate sensational content and the distribution of responsibility for such elements. Not only will this create an image of the usage of sensational elements by both newspapers, it will also give insight in how the sensational elements are delivered to the reader.

2.3. Sensation in language

We have established in the previous paragraphs that sensationalism is often seen as a negative element according to the rules of traditional journalism, but many different studies suggest that there is an ethically correct and beneficial way to implement emotional or sensational elements in news texts. The aim of this study is to examine whether there is a difference in the way in which quality and popular newspapers incorporate sensational elements. To be able to do this, the next step is to find out which sensational, textual strategies a journalist can apply to create such engagement, and which (possibly ethically correct) ways of implementation exist.

2.3.1 Evoking sensation: emotions and attitudes

A way to engage the audience is through subjective, personalized and emotional storytelling (Pantti, 2010; Wahl-Jorgensen, 2012). This is said to create an emotional response from the reader, which is referred to as the ‘injunction to care’ (Frosh & Pinchevski, 2011). Wahl-Jorgensen (2013) found that Pulitzer prize-winning articles are subjective to a certain extent through the use of (generally negative) discourses of appraisal. Discourse of appraisal refers to
the writers’ expression of their approval or disapproval regarding various different situations, thoughts or words. These judgments serve the purpose of emotionally investing the reader in what was written. When it comes to emotional storytelling, Wahl-Jorgensen (2013) examined the ways in which journalists use emotion to create engagement within their stories. She analyzed many Pulitzer price-winning articles and found that these stories contain emotion. One could find this surprising considering the prize-winning articles are thought to be some of the highest quality articles and it is often thought that usage of emotion is ethically incorrect. Wahl-Jorgensen found that there were numerous uses of emotion words. These are words that refer to people’s emotions and their mental states such as ‘happy’, ‘scared’ or ‘angry’. By using such words, certain emotions are evoked in the reader. Emotion words can also occur in more detail, for example in emotional descriptions of situations, people or judgments. If a journalist speaks of a ‘frightening situation’ this would be related to the emotion of fear, an ‘unexpected event’ would lead to the emotion of shock. These emotions are recognizable for the reader and will increase their emotional investment in the story. Bednarek and Caple (2012) state that words containing emotion can boost the value of the news for the reader. They specifically mention emotion words related to negativity, impact or personalization. Wahl-Jorgensen’s results show that, even though emotion is present in the news stories, the journalists opted to assign these emotions to others. Journalists describe the emotions of others that play a role within the news story, and in some cases sources are directly quoted on their emotions. The journalists do not specifically describe their own emotions regarding certain events. One could ask themselves whether such trends would exist in the everyday and non-prize winning articles as well and whether there is a difference between the more traditional quality newspapers and the popular newspapers.

Another way in which journalists can attempt to engage the reader is through subjective storytelling and personalization. Pearce (2005) explains that the goal of personalization is to construct a relationship between the writer and reader of a story. Mazeland (2014) discusses a subcategory of personalization: stance. There are three different types of stance: epistemic stance, attitudinal stance and style of speaking stance. While all of these types are subjective in a way, they are not all focused on emotionally engaging a reader. The type that could do this is the attitudinal stance (Adams & Quintana-Toledo, 2013). This is because attitudinal stance is related to descriptions of attitudes, feelings and affective evaluations. This can be related to the concept of emotivity (Bednarek & Caple, 2012). The term emotivity is used within the news world to describe positive and negative evaluations. Wahl-Jorgensen (2013) found that journalists have a tendency to focus on negative emotions and evaluations. Attitudinal stance can be expressed through the use of various evaluative nouns (Biber, 2006), adjectives, adverbs and verbs (Biber & Finegan, 1989). A journalist could for example state that a certain situation was amazing, that he is hoping for a certain outcome, or that someone’s behavior was irritating. The journalist’s attitude towards these happenings (amazement, hope and irritation) is conveyed towards the reader through these descriptive words. This establishes a relationship between the reader and the journalist, thus creating engagement and emotional investment. Seeing as stance (as well as emotion words) is a subjective element, one would expect the popular newspapers to be more likely to incorporate such elements than the quality newspapers who strive to be objective and neutral.

### 2.3.2. Distribution of responsibility for sensation: quotation strategies

A possible, ethically correct manner of applying the usage of emotion could be by means of citing sources. Clever use of responsibility for content creates a possibility for journalists to add
emotion and personalization to their stories, while they themselves remain neutral (Sanders, 2009). One could say this is a smart strategy, because objectivity is considered a favorable quality in journalism, but emotional content has certain benefits as we have seen in previous paragraphs. To be able to write a story that is neutral from a speaker’s point of view, it would be wise for journalists to be aware of the way they incorporate the beneficial subjective elements into texts. Two different types of subjectivity can occur within news articles according to Vis, Sander and Spooren (2012); speaker subjectivity refers to the subjective elements belonging to the speaker/writer of a text. The second type of subjectivity refers to subjective elements that are uttered by others within a news story. As Wahl-Jorgensen (2013) found, it is common for journalists to assign emotions to individuals mentioned in news stories, or sources that are being cited. By utilizing this possibility the journalist conveys emotions regarding the news event while disregarding their own emotions; they avoid incorporating speaker subjectivity into the text.

Although assigning emotions to others results in the journalist theoretically remaining neutral, different quotation strategies differ in their level of objectivity and subjectivity (Lagerwerf, Schurink & Oegema, 2011). By using the more objective quotation strategies, a journalist can remain neutral while expressing another person’s emotions and opinions and thus adding a 'sensational' element to the written text. By using the more subjective quotation strategies, a journalist will lose some of his or her objectivity. The objective quotation strategies offer an opportunity for quality newspapers to remain neutral while incorporating sensational elements. Popular newspapers might not be as worried about remaining neutral and could embrace the subjective quotation strategies more fully as they are known to be more sensational. One would expect to see a difference between the objectivity levels of quotation strategies between the two newspaper types. There is little research combining sensational elements and the responsibility for sensational content, which makes this research innovative. The different quotation strategies will be explained and examples of the different quotation strategies on speech and thought will be given.

**Speech presentation**

The most objective way of presenting another person's words is by means of the free direct speech (FDS) and the direct speech (DS). These quotes are (virtually) exact copies of the sources’ words, commonly put within quotation marks to indicate that the words are unchanged.

*Example direct speech:* He said: "Yes, I was there."
*Example free direct speech:* He jumps up. "Yes, I was there." Or: He said: Yes, I was there.

A slightly more subjective method is through indirect speech (IS) or free indirect speech (FIS). While the journalist is still conveying the source’s information, the journalist gets to decide how these words are being presented. A reader can never be sure whether the words are actually the sources’ or whether the journalist interpreted these words in a manner that is not accurate.

*Example indirect speech:* He said he was there.
*Example free indirect speech:* He started talking. Yes, he was there.

Another quotation strategy that causes doubt is the embedded quote phenomena (Q). A word or small group of words can be cited directly through use of quotation marks, but can then be...
embedded in a sentence that is shaped by the journalist. This creates a possibility to place the sources' exact words in a context that does not match the original context.

Example embedded quote phenomena: He said that he was "there".

Finally the last, and most subjective, form of quoting is the narrator's report of a speech act (NRSA). This form consists of merely a reference by the journalist to a speech act of another person. This leaves the source with no input in neither the content of the text nor the format in which the words are placed.

Example narrator's report of a speech act: He admitted to this.

Thought presentation

It is important to note that a journalist can also cite sources' thoughts and not just speech, this can happen in a direct or indirect manner comparable to the speech forms (Leech & Short, 2007). Examples of the mental equivalents of the previously discussed speech acts will be given. The examples given are taken from Leech & Short's book, as they are great examples that ensure clarity and understanding.

First, the free direct thought (FDT) and direct thought (DT) are (almost) exact representations of the actual thoughts. This can be done through the first-person writing style or through use of quotation marks to show that the thoughts are unchanged.

Example direct thought: He wondered, 'does she still love me?'
Example free direct thought: Does she still love me?

Second, a slightly more subjective way or presenting someone's thoughts is through the free indirect thought (FIT) or the indirect thought (IT). Similar to the speech forms, the journalist is conveying the source's information, but decides on the presentation. It is not clear whether the thoughts are the sources' or whether it is merely the journalist's interpretation.

Example indirect thought: He wondered if she still loved him.
Example free indirect thought: Did she still love him?

Finally the narrator's report of a thought act (NRTA) is simply a reference to the mental act; the source has no control over the content of the mental act itself or the presentation of said content.

Example narrator's report of a thought act: He wondered about her love for him.

3. Method

3.1. The corpus

The aim of this research is to compare and examine the use of sensation within newspaper articles from quality and popular newspapers. These two types were selected because of the differences between them; quality journalism is typically considered objective and rational, whereas popular journalism is perceived as the more sensational and personalized category (Sparks, 2000; Connell, 1998). In order to compare these two newspaper types, articles from two different newspapers were analyzed; the quality newspaper 'New York Times' and the popular newspaper 'New York Post'. These newspapers are among the largest within their
category (Lulofs, 2013; Bednarek & Caple, 2012). New York Times highly values standards and ethics, such as trust and integrity, and uses professional journalism guidelines as one would expect from a quality newspaper. One could relate trust and integrity to the traditional standards of neutrality and honesty which are signs of quality journalism. They describe their own mission in the following manner:

> The core purpose of The New York Times is to enhance society by creating, collecting and distributing high-quality news and information. Producing content of the highest quality and integrity is the basis for our reputation and the means by which we fulfill the public trust and our customers’ expectations. (New York Times Company 2017)

New York Post describes itself in a manner that perfectly reflects the entertainment value popular newspapers strive to add to the news; the description focuses on breaking news and engaging fun content:

> We shine a bright light on the people and institutions that shape our readers’ lives; we break big stories and set the news agenda; and we offer engaging, fun and addictive content to the country and the world. (News Corp/New York Post 2017)

The articles were selected based on topics which enable a journalist to include emotion within the news report. Certain topics were found to be more sensational than others and are thus more likely to evoke the readers’ emotions (Grabe, Zhou & Barnett, 2001). This is the case with for example topics related to disasters, accidents, and fears, while emotional elements are less likely to be found when talking about, for example, the stock market. For this reason the topic of disasters was selected. On top of this selection, two different news genres were analyzed. First, the news articles, or hard news items, were selected for analysis. News articles aim to inform readers on current happenings and breaking events in the world. The news value is largely based on the immediacy and timeliness of breaking news (Shoemaker & Cohen, 2006; Patterson, 2000). Traditionally, journalists strive to be objective and neutral within these types of news stories and the articles are written in a formal style. Generally the writer will give information related to the who, what, when, where, why and how of the reported event. News articles can often be recognized through the ‘inverted pyramid style’ in which the writer will state the most important information at the beginning of the article (Asbreuk & De Moor, 2013; Pöttker, 2003). Second, the feature articles were analyzed. Feature articles are often referred to as soft news items. In feature articles the focus is not on the immediacy or timeliness of the news, but rather on the human interest aspects (Shoemaker & Cohen, 2006; Patterson, 2000). This genre gives the journalist more freedom to apply emotional storytelling techniques as it provides more in-depth information and other background material. Feature articles do not have to provide the most important information first and the writing style is more personalized. Instead of the ‘inverted pyramid style’ a commonly applied technique is for example the use of an anecdotal lead (Wahl-Jorgensen, 2013).

The expectation is that both newspapers will apply more sensational elements within the soft news articles than the hard news articles, seeing as soft news is a more emotional, personalized and human interest focused type of news and hard news articles are said to be objective and factual news stories. Ultimately 10 news articles and 10 feature articles from The New York Times, as well as 10 news articles and 10 feature articles belonging to the New York Post were analyzed. The articles add up to a total of 40 articles. This selection was made with the goal of creating a complete image of the usage of sensation in both a quality and a popular newspaper in
a more formal as well as an informal genre. While this is a case study focused on these two newspapers and it is not possible to state generalizations about all newspapers based on the results, it is fascinating since these are two of the most read newspapers in the USA. This means that the written stories selected for analysis reach and affect a large number of people.

3.2. Method of analysis

To be able to analyze the use of sensational elements within the selected news articles, an instrument of analysis was constructed. A review of current literature showed that the concept of sensation is manifested in a wide variety of linguistic constructions. The method of analysis is based on the relevant linguistic constructions that were examined within the literature review; emotion words and attitudinal stance. In addition, responsibility for content was analyzed as a means of establishing in what way the newspapers differ in their usage of objective and subjective quotation strategies when it comes to sensational elements.

The selected articles were analyzed and sensational elements were marked with color-codes (see appendix A and B for coded documents) based on a model which contains the following elements: (1) newspaper (The New York Times or The New York Post), (2) article genre (news article or feature article), (3) attitudinal stance (nouns, verbs, adverbs and adjectives) (4) emotion words and (5) responsibility for content (journalist, source or shared). The articles were marked by two coders to ensure inter-rater reliability. The second coder was the supervisor, dr. N.M. Stukker. After the coding of the articles by the main coder, the second coder would do the same. In case of disagreements a discussion would take place until agreement was reached, followed by an adjustment in the method of analysis to make the coding procedure more precise, specific and clear. This process of coding and checking repeated itself until no disagreements arose. When all the articles had been analyzed and marked accordingly, the data was processed statistically in order to identify trends and differences.

On top of the quantitative approach, a qualitative research approach was taken to identify certain notable trends and elements that the quantitative research did not cover. The conceptualization of the elements ‘emotion words’, ‘attitudinal stance’ and ‘responsibility for content’ will be explained in the following paragraphs.

3.2.1. Emotion words

Implementing the sensational element of emotion within a news article can make it more valuable for the readers (Bednarek & Caple, 2012). One way in which journalists can achieve this, is by using emotion words. Emotion words are words that refer to people's positive or negative mental states and emotions. These words evoke emotions in the reader and thus increase their emotional investment in the story. In order to analyze the use of emotion words in news articles the direct expressions of affect were marked. Martin and Rose (2007) describe expressions of affect as expressions of emotions and feelings. Expressions of affect exist in positive and negative forms, as well as direct and implicit forms. Direct expressions of affect can describe a variety of emotions. Often this is in the form of a description of a mental/emotional state; however, a physical expression of emotion is also included in this category (see table 1 for examples). Both types of direct expressions - the description of an emotional state and the physical expression of mental states - are emotion words. Implicit expressions of affect consist of descriptions of extraordinary behavior and metaphors. The term extraordinary behavior is used to describe the behavior of people which can indicate certain mental states, for example walking
back and forth as an expression of nerves. Context plays a vast role in recognizing implicit expressions of affect and they can be difficult to identify by lack thereof. Due to these difficulties, implicit expressions of affect will not be examined further in this research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct expressions of affect</th>
<th>Emotional state</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Happy (positive)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scared (negative)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Surprised (positive)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical expression</td>
<td>Tremble <em>(in fear)</em> (negative)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crying (negative)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laughing (positive)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 – Examples of the different types of direct expressions of affect.

According to D’andrade (1987) creating a complete conceptualization of the notions of emotions and feelings is quite challenging, as the terms can be quite abstract and overlap in certain ways. The term ‘feeling’ is much broader than the term ‘emotion’. Pain is a feeling, but not necessarily an emotion. Pain as a result of an injury is physical, but pain due to sadness or grief is mental and a feeling that expresses the underlying emotion. For this research merely feelings based on a mental state were marked as emotion words while purely physical feelings were excluded from being marked. This approach requires a context based analysis regarding the emotion words.

In order to accurately recognize the different mental states and emotions, one must first know which mental states exist. Shaver, Schwartz, Kirson and O’Connor (1987) focused their research on organizing the knowledge on emotions and emotion words by creating what they call the emotion hierarchy. This hierarchy consists of three different levels: the primary emotions, secondary emotions, and tertiary emotions. The primary emotions category consists of the six most basic emotions; love, joy, surprise, anger, sadness and fear. Secondary emotions and tertiary emotions are further explorations of the different primary emotions, as shown in table 2. The emotion words that were marked for this research are based on the collection of emotion words presented in the emotion hierarchy. All three levels of emotion words presented in table 2 as well as their synonyms, antonyms or closely related words were marked as emotion words for the purpose of this research. Additionally, the physical expressions of the presented mental states were marked as emotion words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary emotions</th>
<th>Secondary emotions</th>
<th>Tertiary emotions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Love</td>
<td>Affection</td>
<td>Adoration, affection, love, fondness, liking, attraction, caring, tenderness, compassion, sentimentality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lust</td>
<td>Arousal, desire, lust, passion, infatuation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Longing</td>
<td>Longing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joy</td>
<td>Cheerfulness</td>
<td>Amusement, bliss, cheerfulness, gaiety, glee, jolliness, joviality, joy, delight, enjoyment, gladness, happiness, jubilation, elation, satisfaction, ecstasy, euphoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zest</td>
<td>Enthusiasm, zeal, zest, excitement, thrill, exhilaration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contentment</td>
<td>Contentment, pleasure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pride</td>
<td>Pride, triumph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Optimism</td>
<td>Eagerness, hope, optimism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enthrallment</td>
<td>Enthrallment, rapture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relief</td>
<td>Relief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotion</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surprise</strong></td>
<td>Amazement, surprise, astonishment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anger</strong></td>
<td>Aggravation, irritation, agitation, annoyance, grouchiness, grumpiness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exasperation</td>
<td>Exasperation, frustration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rage</td>
<td>Anger, rage, outrage, fury, wrath, hostility, ferocity, bitterness, hate, loathing, scorn, spite, vengefulness, dislike, resentment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disgust</td>
<td>Disgust, revulsion, contempt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envy</td>
<td>Envy, jealousy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torment</td>
<td>Torment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sadness</strong></td>
<td>Agony, suffering, hurt, anguish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffering</td>
<td>Depression, despair, hopelessness, gloom, glumness, sadness, unhappiness, grief, sorrow, woe, misery, melancholy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sadness</td>
<td>Dismay, disappointment, displeasure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointment</td>
<td>Guilt, shame, regret, remorse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neglect</td>
<td>Alienation, isolation, neglect, loneliness, rejection, homesickness, defeat, dejection, insecurity, embarrassment, humiliation, insult</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sympathy</td>
<td>Pity, sympathy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fear</strong></td>
<td>Alarm, shock, fear, fright, horror, terror, panic, hysteria, mortification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horror</td>
<td>Anxiety, nervousness, tenseness, uneasiness, apprehension, worry, distress, dread</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 – The emotion hierarchy of primary, secondary and tertiary emotions as presented by Shaver, Schwartz, Kirson and O’Connor (1987).

As Wahl-Jorgensen (2013) found, journalists often assign emotions to others and to situations. The direct expressions of affect linked to both specific people as well as more abstract descriptions of sources or situations were marked for analysis. This means that for example a terrifying situation would be marked as emotion word. The emotion of terror is recognizable for the audience and as a result their emotional investment in the story will increase. So even though there is no specific mention of certain people feeling this emotion, there is a direct reference to the emotion of terror which is why this is considered an emotion word.

The following examples are a selection of emotion words that were found in the analyzed data:

1. "She declined to comment on potential charges in the case but said on CNN’s "State of the Union" that she considered the shooting both "an act of terror and an act of hate."" (New York Times - June 20, 2016)
2. "France responded with fury to the terror attacks on Paris, unleashing a series of airstrikes that destroyed an ISIS command post and a training camp in Syria on Sunday, officials said." (New York Post - November 16, 2015)
3. "‘He was always smiling, always happy,’ Olivier Dradin, a co-worker, said in an interview." (New York Times - March 24, 2016)
4. "Shock waves of confusion and fear would ripple for hours from the tense mass-shooting scene, in which 14 died and 17 others were injured." (New York Post - December 3, 2015)
3.2.2. Attitudinal stance

As discussed in the literature review, there are three different types of stance: epistemic stance, attitudinal stance and style of speaking stance (Mazeland, 2014). This research focuses solely on the attitudinal stance, since this type is related to feelings, emotions, attitudes and similar affective evaluations which can emotionally engage readers (Adams & Quintana-Toledo, 2013). At this point it must be made clear that attitudinal stance also includes emotions and feelings. This means that certain words will contain attitudinal stance and will be marked as an emotion word at the same time. In such cases the word is coded twice, once as containing attitudinal stance and once as emotion word. It is interesting to make a distinction between emotion words and attitudinal stance, even though they can be similar, because unlike emotion words, attitudinal stance contains an evaluation. While emotion words refer to mental states, they do not necessarily contain an evaluation. Attitudinal stance on the other hand always contains an evaluation and this concept is much broader than simply the emotions and feelings related to mental states. While the two categories may seem similar at times, there is unquestionably an important and interesting difference.

Attitudinal stance can be expressed through words that indicate attitudes, feelings and affective evaluations (Mazeland, 2014). Biber and Finegan (1989) explain that affective evaluations concern a large variety of emotions, feelings, emotional states, as well as the general attitude with which someone approaches life. Biber (2006) states that attitudinal stance is an expression of the evaluation of expectations. Biber and Finegan (1989) make a distinction between primary and secondary expressions of stance. Primary expressions of stance can be traced back to the writing or speaking source, for example: 'I am scared, it is scary'. Secondary expressions of stance refer to the attitude of another person, for example: 'she was scared, she found that scary'. Both Biber and Finegan (1989) and Biber (2006) decided to focus on primary expressions of stance. This research, however, will also analyze secondary expressions of stance. This will be done through analysis of quotation strategies to determine who is responsible for the stance expression. The reason for analyzing both primary and secondary expressions of stance is Wahl-Jorgensen’s (2013) research which showed that journalists often assign emotions to others. The journalists’ own emotions are left out of the picture. This would mean that on top of the primary expressions of stance (the journalists’ words or the sources’ words), secondary expressions would also be present in which the journalist describes emotions and feelings of others.

To be able to analyze the use of affective evaluations, Biber and Finegan (1989) make a distinction between three grammatical markers: (1) verbs, (2) adjectives and (3) adverbs. Biber (2006) added the (4) nouns to this mix. There are positive and negative variations of all the different grammatical markers. The words that will be marked as attitudinal stance are based on the examples of expressions of affect that can be found in the research articles written by Biber and Finegan (1989) and Biber (2006). The term of attitudinal stance however, is broader than merely the affect markers. Attitudinal stance transfers attitudes, evaluations and values concerning content from the writer to reader. This includes emotions and feelings, but also other judgments. Biber, Johansson, Leech, Conrad and Finegan (1999) found three main categories: expectations, evaluations and judgment of importance. Martin and White (2005) categorize attitudinal stance according to the following three elements: affect (emotion and feelings), judgments (moral evaluations) and appreciation (aesthetic appreciation/evaluation). Lastly, it is important to realize that the analysis of stance depends on context and it cannot be analyzed correctly without taking the context into consideration (Hunston, 2011).
The following list describes the different grammatical markers that can be used to express attitudinal stance. A number of examples have been included as clarification. The examples consist of affect markers found in the articles by Biber (2006) and Biber and Finegan (1989). The marked affect markers were based on this list, but also include synonyms, antonyms or other closely related words. Unfortunately, no such lists exist related to the other categories. Concerning the categories of judgment and appreciation the analysis depends on context. Words that express both positive and negative evaluations were marked as attitudinal stance. The following rule of thumb was kept in mind: if a certain description could be more neutral (meaning it is either positive or negative), it contains attitudinal stance. For example, the word disaster is a negative expression of a happening; the word ‘disaster’ itself contains a negative evaluation of the situation. Biber et al. (1999) refer to this evaluative coloring of words with the term ‘lexical marking of stance’. Mazeland (2014) states that knowledge of context, background, and moral systems is essential to be able to recognize these evaluations as attitudinal stance.

1. **Verbs that express attitudinal stance:**

   **Positive:** enjoy, hope like, love, wish, want, prefer, amazes, amuses, interests, surprises.
   
   **Negative:** detest, dislike, can’t stand, fear, hate, regret, annoys, bothers, irritates, pains, saddens.

2. **Adjectives that express attitudinal stance:**

   **Positive:** amazed, amused, happy, pleased, fortunate, lucky, preferable, surprising, thankful.
   
   **Negative:** odd, mad, irritated, disappointed, afraid, annoying, embarrassing, silly, strange, tragic.

   Adjective clauses are included within this category.

3. **Adverbs that express attitudinal stance:**

   **Positive:** amazingly, funnily, hopefully, luckily, preferably, thankfully, conveniently, curiously.
   
   **Negative:** annoyingly, disappointingly, disgustingly, sadly, shockingly, unfortunately, tragically.

   Adverbial clauses are included within this category.

4. **Nouns that express attitudinal stance.**

   **Positive:** the hope that, the view that, the wish that.
   
   **Negative:** the fear that, the hate for.

The previous examples merely consist of affect markers. The following examples were found within the analyzed data and include markers of attitudinal stance related to expressions of affect as well as judgment and appreciation.

(5) "Mr. Hollande has **warned** that more arrests will come as the authorities try to dismantle a network involved in the attacks that is much larger than originally **suspected**." (New York Times - March 20, 2016)

(6) "McCaul (R-Texas) said US investigators have been deployed to interview other Chechens in Russia, "and it’s **my** hope they can get some evidence of that“ influence." (New York Post - April 27, 2013)

(7) "President Obama was **roundly criticized** last week for **failing** to refer to Mateen as a radical Islamic terrorist." (New York Post, June 20, 2016)
"Polls had suggested that there was wide public support, but opponents said the proposal unfairly targeted French people with immigrant backgrounds." (New York Times - May 26, 2016)

"I saw her and was completely dumbfounded," said Kelsey Roberts, 28, an engineer who said Mrs. Clinton was an inspiration to her in a male-dominated field." (New York Times - June 27, 2016)

"Witnesses described a war zone - shocked victims were hobbling around without arms and legs, searching for help." (New York Post, April 16, 2013)

3.2.3. Responsibility for content

To determine who is responsible for the emotion words and attitudinal stance in both speech and thought, the strategies of quotation used by the journalist were analyzed. A distinction was made between three different possibilities: responsibility of the journalist, responsibility of the source or shared responsibility. Detailed information on the quotation strategies these categories consist of can be found in the literature review. The following examples of the various responsibility types were found in the analyzed dataset.

Responsibility of the journalist

One can speak of responsibility of the journalist when it is made clear that something is their own attitude or when a reference to a source is missing. In example 11 there is no direct or indirect reference to a source and this is thus marked as journalist’s responsibility.

"The perpetrators of November's bloody attack on Paris and other terror strikes in Belgium and France hailed from Molenbeek, a Brussels slum and hotbed for radical Islam, drugs and lawlessness." (New York Post - March 23, 2016)

Responsibility of the source

One can speak of responsibility of the source when the free direct speech/thought (FDS/FDT) or direct speech/thought (DS/DT) have been used. These are direct quotes and their mental equivalents. In example 12 the quotation marks and the reference to the source clearly indicate that it is a direct quote.

"Both in Paris and Brussels, we have seen the radicalization of individuals which has led to these cowardly attacks on civilians," a senior anti-terrorism official told The Post." (New York Post - March 23, 2016)

Shared responsibility

Shared responsibility consists of the quotation strategies indirect speech/thought (IS/IT), embedded quote phenomena (Q), the narrator’s report of speech/thought act (NRSA/NRTA) and the free indirect speech/thought (FIS/FIT).

For this research, not only the speech acts (or descriptions of thoughts and mental acts) are important, but also the emotions and attitudes. These elements will be treated as ‘expressions’ similar to the speech acts and thoughts. This way, a complete image can be created concerning the responsibility for emotion words and attitudinal stance. The following questions will be asked while determining the responsibility for content: ‘whose emotion is being described?’ and
‘whose attitude is being described?’ The analysis of responsibility for emotion and stance depends on context. If it is not clear whether a source or the journalist is responsible for certain words, it will be marked as shared responsibility. In such cases the average news consumer would not be able to determine the exact source of the words and one must take all of the different options into account; hence the shared responsibility.

In example 13 a reference is seen to a source that has been quoted in an indirect manner. Example 14 shows the usage of an embedded quote phenomena which can be recognized through the use of the quotation marks around a small group of words, embedded in an indirectly written sentence.

(13) Shared responsibility: "Bernard Cazeneuve, the French interior minister, said Saturday that he hoped Mr. Abdeslam could be delivered to France to face justice." (New York Times - March 2, 2016)

(14) Shared responsibility: "Mr. Scott called the denial “incredibly disappointing” and said the state would appeal." (New York Times - June 22, 2016)

4. Results

In total, 40 articles were analyzed; 10 news articles by New York Times, 10 feature articles by New York Times, 10 news articles by New York Post and 10 feature articles by New York Post. The articles that were selected for analysis differ in word count within the variables newspaper type and article type. To make accurate comparison of the found results possible, the results will both be shown in absolute numbers as well as the number of found cases per 1000 words. In the table 3, the different word counts per newspaper type, genre type and the combined totals are shown.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New York Times</th>
<th>New York Post</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>News articles</td>
<td>6,483</td>
<td>5,506</td>
<td>11,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feature articles</td>
<td>11,896</td>
<td>6,568</td>
<td>18,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18,379</td>
<td>12,074</td>
<td>30,453</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3 - Word counts per newspaper, article type and total numbers.

The differences between the newspapers, both article types, and the combination of newspaper type and genre type will be examined. The focus of this analysis will be on the differences in frequencies of use of emotion words, attitudinal stance and furthermore the different types of responsibility for these subjective elements. On top of the quantitative analysis, several notable qualitative observations will be discussed.

4.1. Differences between a quality newspaper and a popular newspaper

Table 4 shows that the usages of both emotion words and attitudinal stance are higher for New York Post (13 and 34.38) than New York Times (11.59 and 30.69). A Chi-square test showed no significant relation between the newspaper type and the usage of emotion words and attitudinal stance ($\chi^2(1) = 0.000, N = 1349, p = .989$).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Emotion words</th>
<th>Attitudinal stance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York Times</td>
<td>213 (11.59)</td>
<td>564 (30.69)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Post</td>
<td>157 (13)</td>
<td>415 (34.38)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 - Newspaper * emotion words and attitudinal stance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Journalist</th>
<th>Shared</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York Times</strong></td>
<td>45 (2.45)</td>
<td>488 (26.55)</td>
<td>244 (13.28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York Post</strong></td>
<td>74 (6.13)</td>
<td>256 (21.2)</td>
<td>242 (20.04)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5 - Newspaper * journalist responsibility, shared responsibility, source responsibility.

4.2. Differences between news articles and feature articles

Table 6 shows that the usage of emotion words is much higher in feature articles than in news articles (16.36 and 5.67). However, attitudinal stance is used more often in news articles than in feature articles (33.2 and 31.47). A Chi-square test showed a significant relation between news genre and usage of emotion and attitudinal stance ($\chi^2(1) = 58.925, N = 1349, p = .000$).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Emotion words</th>
<th>Attitudinal stance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>News article</strong></td>
<td>68 (5.67)</td>
<td>398 (33.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Feature article</strong></td>
<td>302 (16.36)</td>
<td>581 (31.47)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6 - News genre * emotion words and attitudinal stance.

Table 7 shows that the journalist’s own emotions and attitudes are shown slightly more often in feature articles than news articles (3.95 and 3.84). The usage of shared responsibility is fairly similar for both genres, but it is once again slightly higher in feature articles than news articles (24.7 and 24.02). Lastly, the purely source based responsibility is used more often in feature articles than news articles as well (19.17 and 11.01). A Chi-square test showed a significant relation between the variables of news genre and the different responsibility types for emotion and attitudinal stance ($\chi^2(2) = 18.317, N = 1349, p = .000$).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Journalist</th>
<th>Shared</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>News article</strong></td>
<td>46 (3.84)</td>
<td>288 (24.02)</td>
<td>132 (11.01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Feature article</strong></td>
<td>73 (3.95)</td>
<td>456 (24.7)</td>
<td>354 (19.17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7 - News genre * journalist responsibility, shared responsibility, source responsibility.

4.3. Differences between the combinations of newspaper type and news genre

While the observations in the previous paragraphs are interesting, combining the variables will give a much more detailed insight in the results. By combining the variables of newspaper type and news genre, it becomes possible to make more accurate observations, as this will give an insight in the specific results per news genre belonging to a certain newspaper. Comparing these different quantitative results will provide insights that the previous, more general observations could not give. These results will be discussed in two parts; part one will discuss the use of emotion words and attitudinal stance for the different combinations of newspaper and news genres, and part two will cover the use of different types of responsibility for these sensational elements.
Usage of emotion words and attitudinal stance per newspaper type and news genre

When combining the different newspaper types and news genres, the following results were found. Emotions words are used more in feature articles (New York Post: 18.27; New York Times: 15.3) than news articles (New York Post: 6.72; New York Times: 4.78) by both the New York Times and the New York Post. This corresponds with the previous observation that overall emotion words are used more often in feature articles than news articles. The data shows that New York Post uses more emotions words in both feature articles as well as news articles when compared to the New York Times.

Attitudinal stance is used more often in news articles (New York Post: 35.78; New York Times: 31) than feature articles (New York Post: 33.19; New York Times: 30.51) by both newspapers. The frequency in which attitudinal stance is found, is higher for New York Post than New York Times in both types of articles.

A Chi-square test showed that there is a significant relation between the variables emotion/stance and news genre for both newspapers, meaning that both newspapers’ usage of emotion and stance depends on the news genre. (New York Times: $\chi^2(1) = 32.818, N = 777, p = .000$; New York Post: $\chi^2(1) = 26.923, N = 572, p = .000$). When comparing the usage of emotion and attitudinal stance of both newspapers within the same news genre, a Chi-square test shows no significant relation in news articles ($\chi^2(1) = 0.561, N = 466, p = .454$) or feature articles ($\chi^2(1) = 0.412, N = 883, p = .521$). This means that the two types of newspapers do not differ significantly when it comes to the usage of emotion and attitudinal stance within the same news genres.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Emotion words</th>
<th>Attitudinal stance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York Times</strong></td>
<td>News article</td>
<td>31 (4.78)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feature article</td>
<td>182 (15.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York Post</strong></td>
<td>News article</td>
<td>37 (6.72)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feature article</td>
<td>120 (18.27)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8 - Combination of the variables newspaper * news genre * emotion words and attitudinal stance.

Usage of types of responsibility per newspaper type and news genre

Table 9 shows that the New York Times showcases the journalist's own opinions and emotions more often in feature articles (2.77) than news articles (1.85). New York Post showed a slightly higher number of journalist's own responsibility in news articles (6.18) than in feature articles (6.09). The usage of the journalists' responsibility is quite a bit higher for both articles types from the New York Post when compared to both articles of the New York Times.

When it comes to shared responsibility, the New York Times uses this type of responsibility more often in feature articles (27.74) than news articles (24.37). The opposite is true for the New York Post, a higher frequency or shared responsibility was found in news articles (23.61) than in feature articles (19.18). In fact, while the highest frequency was found in New York Times feature articles, the lowest was found in New York Post feature articles. The two higher counts belonged to the New York Times, while both of the lower counts belonged to the New York Post.

Lastly, the usage of source responsibility shows that both types of newspapers use this type of responsibility more often in feature articles (New York Times: 15.3; New York Post: 26.19) than...

Chi-square tests showed that there is no significant relation between the type of responsibility that is used and the article types for New York Times ($\chi^2(2) = 4.003, N = 777, p = .135$). However, such a relation does exist between the type of responsibility and the news genres for New York Post ($\chi^2(2) = 25.474, N = 572, p = .000$). The Chi-square tests also showed that there is a significant relation between the type of newspaper and the responsibility types within both genres (News article: $\chi^2(2) = 13.720, N = 466, p = .001$; Feature article: $\chi^2(2) = 46.231, N = 883, p = .000$). This means that the newspaper types differ significantly when it comes to the types of responsibility they use in both article types.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>News article</th>
<th>Feature article</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York Times</strong></td>
<td>12 (1.85)</td>
<td>33 (2.77)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>News article</strong></td>
<td>158 (24.37)</td>
<td>330 (27.74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source</strong></td>
<td>62 (9.56)</td>
<td>182 (15.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York Post</strong></td>
<td>34 (6.18)</td>
<td>130 (23.61)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>News article</strong></td>
<td>172 (26.19)</td>
<td>172 (26.19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Feature article</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9 - Combination of the variables newspaper * news genre * journalist responsibility, shared responsibility, source responsibility.

4.4. Further observations

Additional patterns became apparent while analyzing the different news and feature articles. These patterns will be explained using various examples found within the used dataset. While these observations do not directly provide an answer to the research question, they do add to the understanding of usage of emotion words and attitudinal stance in feature articles and news articles and provide interesting matter for thought concerning these topics. The meaning of the following observations will be discussed further in the discussion chapter.

The first notable observation is that journalists will often use a rather vague source as the 'person' responsible for certain emotions and attitudes. The named sources will for example be 'Americans', 'France', 'people with European connections' or even the very broad 'social media' which could refer to any number of people that use this medium. This is a strategy journalists use to apply the shared responsibility, without having a clear source to refer to. Within the context of this research it is an interesting observation that journalists will attempt to limit the subjectivity of certain emotion words and expressions of attitudinal stance by relating them to a non-specific source.

(15) "*Americans React to Paris Attacks With Empathy, Fear and Resolve*" (New York Times - November 21, 2015)

(16) "*France responded with fury to the terror attacks on Paris, unleashing a series of airstrikes that destroyed an ISIS command post and a training camp in Syria on Sunday, officials said.*" (New York Post - November 16, 2015)

(17) "*Many of the people who felt the most shaken by news of the attacks had European connections.*" (New York Times, November 21, 2015)

(18) "*Hope and Anguish Flood Social Media*" (New York Times - March 24, 2016)
Second, journalists and sources use words such as 'need', 'must', or 'have to', which seem to indicate a truth or certainty, when in reality it is often merely an opinion. Technically there is no need, however the journalist or source feels there is and uses a certainty word to express this (often strong) feeling. These words have not been classified as attitudinal stance for this specific study, as they did not fit the description of attitudinal stance that was used. However, the decision to mention it as an additional pattern was made since it is an interesting observation related to subjectivity; individuals state opinions by presenting them as certainties, which means that words that are not known as being subjective, are being used in a way that makes the expression opinionated. The usage of certainty words to express opinions and failing to recognize them as such could lead to an underestimation of the amount of opinions expressed within written articles.

(19) "The terrorist attacks in Brussels are further evidence the United States needs a crackdown on people entering the country, Donald Trump said Tuesday." (New York Post - March 23, 2016)
(20) "We must guarantee that no one can come in to commit any act." (New York Post- November 14, 2015)
(21) "But in the face of terror, we have to be united and will vanquish these terrorists." (New York Post- November 14, 2015)

Third, journalist can create distance from the uttered words that express an emotion or feeling, by using grammatical techniques such as the passive voice. By using these techniques, the journalists show that the words are not their own and in these cases the words are marked as shared responsibility. It must also be noted that often a shared responsibility can be marked as such based on knowledge of context or lexical markers. In the following examples it becomes clear through choice of words and knowledge of context that the journalist is not talking about his or her own views, but the views of others. In example 22 the journalist is not the person that is remembering the victims and in example 23 the journalist is not the one that is confused and debating watch lists. This means that in addition to the different quotation strategies, other lexical and grammatical markers can indicate that a journalists is not solely responsible for certain statements.

(22) "Victims, Ages 8 and 29, Remembered for Kindness and Laughter" (New York Times - April 17, 2013)
(23) "Debate and Confusion Over Tangle of Watch Lists" (New York Times- June 23, 2016)

Next, it must be noted that the word 'suspected' or 'suspect' has been marked as shared responsibility in all cases. This is because in all of these cases knowledge of context tells us that it was not the journalist, but officials that decided certain people became suspects and thus related to the negative adjective of suspected. The same is often true for the word 'emergency'; the journalist is not responsible for the decision to describe a situation as an emergency situation. In many cases officials declared the state of emergency and it then became a factual name to use for the situation. While the journalists are deciding to use these negatively loaded words in the articles, officials are responsible for identifying it as such in the first place, and it is thus marked as shared responsibility.
(24) "Meanwhile, an international manhunt was under way for a suspected eighth attacker, who escaped the three hours of carnage that killed 129 people at six sites in and around Paris on Friday." (New York Post - November 16, 2015)
(25) "Mr. Abdeslam was captured with another person suspected of being an accomplice, and both were taken to a Brussels hospital." (New York Times - March 20, 2016)
(26) "The state of emergency received broad approval in France in the months after the attacks, with polls showing that more than two-thirds of the public supported it." (New York Times - May 26, 2016)

A final observation concerns the overall genres and the differences between newspapers. While selecting articles for analysis it became apparent that the newspapers no longer strictly follow the genre rules. While news articles remain mostly factual and often contain the inverted pyramid style, these articles can also contain elements of different news genres such as interviews, commentary or the journalists’ own judgements and views. On top of this, the newspapers seem to differ in the style they apply to their articles. The New York Times has given itself a certain amount of freedom with genre variations, but seems to mostly still use the traditional techniques, whereas the New York Post has a very unique and prominent style, mostly when it comes to feature articles. Within their feature articles, the New York Post uses direct quotation strategies to express the feeling of 'closeness' and add to the human interest aspect of these stories. Some feature articles are almost entirely made up out of direct quotes and only very little explanation or other written text containing the journalist’s words. The New York Times more often uses traditional storytelling techniques to link to any direct quotes that are used within their feature articles. The way in which newspapers seem to develop their own styles and follow the traditional rules less could lead to challenges in identifying genres in the future.

5. Conclusion

The findings reported in the results chapter allow us to answer this research’s central question: "In what way do quality and popular newspapers incorporate textual sensational elements into their news articles, and can a difference be found?"

First, it became clear that a difference can certainly be found between the quality newspaper and the popular newspaper. Overall there was no significant difference between the usage of emotion words and attitudinal stance, but the newspapers differ significantly when it comes to quotation strategies. New York Post uses the journalist’s responsibility and source responsibility more often than New York Times. New York Times utilizes the possibilities of shared responsibility more frequently than the New York Post. The analyzed genres differ significantly as well, both when it comes to usage of emotion words and attitudinal stance as well as usage of responsibility types. Emotion words are used much more frequently in feature articles than news articles. Surprisingly, attitudinal stance is used slightly more often in news articles than feature articles. When it comes to quotation strategies the journalist’s responsibility and shared responsibility show small differences between genres; both show a slightly larger frequency of use in feature articles. Source responsibility shows a more substantial difference; it is used more in feature articles than news articles.

Combining the variables of newspaper type and news genre shows that the usage of emotion and attitudinal stance correlates with the news genre for both newspapers. No significant
difference was found between the newspapers when analyzing the use of emotion words and attitudinal stance within the same news genres. It was also found that New York Post uses different types of responsibility within the different types of news genres, but New York Times shows no such difference between the genres. Last, the newspapers itself do differ significantly when comparing their usage of responsibility types within both genres. The most striking difference is the usage of source responsibility in feature articles; New York Post uses this quotation strategy much more frequently within this genre than the New York Times does.

Overall it can be concluded there are certain differences between the newspapers and the way they incorporate the analyzed textual sensational elements within news articles and feature articles. Not all differences were as expected and certain differences that were expected based on existing literature were not found. A more in-depth analysis of these findings and conclusions can be found in the discussion chapter.

6. Discussion

In this section the different results and conclusions will be examined further in four different paragraphs: the difference between newspapers, the difference between news genres, the difference between the combination of newspapers and news genres, and further observations.

6.1. Differences between a quality newspaper and a popular newspaper

No significant difference was found between the quality newspaper and the popular newspaper when it comes to the frequency in which they use emotion words and attitudinal stance in their articles. This is surprising considering the more sensational and entertainment oriented style popular newspapers have according to research discussed in the literature review (Sparks, 2000; Connell, 1998; Hauttekeete, 2005; Zelizer, 2009) and the way in which they seem to have embraced the human interest aspect of the news more than quality newspapers have done (Harbers, 2014). While quality newspapers are known to highly value the traditional journalistic ethics and guidelines, the popular newspapers tend to have a higher entertainment value and offer more sensational content. The findings of this study suggest that quality newspapers may have also started adapting their textual style and are incorporating certain subjective elements to make the news more sensational.

Previous research has suggested that the quotation strategies could offer a possibility to incorporate sensational elements to be able to engage the audience, while remaining ethically correct due to the technical neutrality of the journalist (Lagerwerf, Schurink & Oegema, 2011; Sanders, 2009). Direct quotes are considered to be the most objective quoting strategy; in these cases, the source has the full responsibility for the expressed words. The other options are journalists’ responsibility in which there is no mention of a source and the journalist has full responsibility, and last the shared responsibility in which the words are a combination of the source’s and the journalist’s words. A more in-depth explanation of the different types of responsibility can be found in the method chapter and literature review. It was found that when it comes to quotation strategies used to express emotion words and expressions of attitudinal stance the New York Times uses shared responsibility more often than the New York Post, meaning that their journalists more often use the ‘middle-way’ of incorporating these subjective elements, but simultaneously distancing themselves from these elements through clever use of quotation strategies to be able to remain neutral. New York Post showcases the journalists’ own opinion more often than the New York Times, which once again suits the idea that popular
newspapers care less about the traditional value of complete objectivity and more often decide to incorporate subjective elements to entertain readers. However, the New York Post also uses direct quotation strategies more often than the New York Times. This quotation strategy was thought to be the most objective and possibly the most ethically correct way of incorporating emotional storytelling techniques, which makes this a surprising result. This can partially be explained by the style in which New York Post's feature articles are written. The New York Post adapted a highly unique, personalized and human interest focused style in which they quote numerous people involved in the news event. This causes them to partially let the witnesses tell the news story. These witnesses often have strong feelings related to the news happening, which are commonly articulated using emotion words and expressions of attitudinal stance. This means that, instead of using the source based quotation strategy as a tool to remain objective, the New York Post uses it as a tool to make a story feel more personal and ‘closer’ to the reader. Their technique in these articles is to let real people tell the news and increase the reader’s emotional investment in the story due to the personalized nature of the content.

6.2. Differences between news articles and feature articles

When we look at the differences between the two article types, it is very clear that emotion words are used much more frequently in feature articles than news articles, which was expected considering the more emotional and sensational nature of feature articles (Shoemaker & Cohen, 2006; Patterson, 2000) versus the factual nature of news articles. News articles are traditionally objective and neutral news stories written in a formal style. Feature articles focus more on human interest aspects and a journalist has more freedom to apply emotional storytelling techniques to engage the audience. Surprisingly, expressions of attitudinal stance are used more often in news articles than in feature articles. While this is unexpected, it can partially be explained through the nature of the words that are used in news articles reporting on the chosen topic of disasters. Attitudinal stance contains an evaluation of the situation, and many negative words such as disaster, emergency, suspect and others are used repeatedly to report the facts surrounding these negatively loaded news stories. Feature articles are often stories that focus on engaging the audience and emotionally investing the reader in the writings about an event and thus contain a high frequency of emotion words. News articles seem to more often convey an evaluation rather than merely emotions.

News articles and feature articles do not show a substantial difference when it comes to the journalist’s responsibility and shared responsibility. A Dutch study by Sanders (2009) showed that the more subjective quotation strategies were used more frequently in background articles and opinion pieces, while usage of these methods was largely avoided within news articles. A similar difference was not found in this study when it comes to the most subjective quotation strategy in feature articles as compared to news articles. This is surprising; we were expecting to find more of the journalists’ own opinions in feature articles since the rules of this genre are less strict and give journalists a chance to incorporate emotions and feelings into their writings. A larger difference was found when it comes to source responsibility, even though it is not the difference that was expected; the source responsibility is much higher in feature articles than in news articles. The expectation was that journalists could apply the strategy of using direct quotes in news stories to be able to incorporate sensational elements while remaining completely neutral and objective, but this does not seem to be the main use of the direct quotation strategy. Instead of using the direct quotes because of their objectivity level, journalists seem to use it to add to the subjectivity of feature articles. While this study did not
focus on testing this theory, this observation corresponds with observations made by Vis, Sanders and Spooren (2012). Once again one could explain this through the way the journalists use direct quotes of witnesses and others involved in news stories in which they express their feelings, thoughts and emotions. This strategy can make a news article more personalized which leads to an increased emotional investment in the story from a reader’s point of view.

6.3. Differences between the combinations of newspaper type and news genre

Combining the variables of newspaper type and news genre shows that for both newspapers the quantity in which journalists use emotion words and attitudinal stance correlates with the article type, but the usage of these subjective elements showed no significant difference between the newspapers within the same news genres. Both newspapers used emotion words more in feature articles than news articles, and the use of emotion words was higher for New York Post than New York Times in both genres. Both newspapers also use attitudinal stance more often in news articles than feature articles and once again the frequency of use is higher for New York Post in both genres. These findings are identical to what was discussed in the previous paragraphs. The extra information that was gained from combining the variables does tell us that overall the New York Post uses the two subjective elements more frequently than New York Times within both news articles and feature articles. This result was expected because it fits the popular newspapers image of being entertainment focused and thus more willing to incorporate sensational elements to be able to provide exciting and engaging news for the audience. The more traditional quality newspapers highly value objectivity and neutrality.

The way in which New York Post utilizes different responsibility types varies significantly within the two news genres; New York Times shows no such difference in quotation strategies between the genres meaning that the responsibility types are used in similar fashion in news articles and feature articles. New York Post uses the source responsibility much more often in feature articles than news articles. Once again the style they have adapted concerning the direct quotes to make feature articles more personalized can explain this result. Interestingly there is almost no difference for New York Post when it comes to journalist’s responsibility within both news genres. This responsibility type is used in the same quantity in factual news articles as well as the more emotional feature articles. Combining the variables shows that the frequency in which journalist’s responsibility is used is much higher in both genres for New York Post. The quality newspaper New York Times seems to actively avoid specifically describing the journalists’ own emotions and attitudes and uses this very subjective quotation strategy less often than the popular newspaper.

Last, the way in which both newspapers utilize the different types of responsibility does differ significantly within both genres. New York Post uses journalists’ responsibility and source responsibility much more frequently in both genre types than New York Times. New York Times uses shared responsibility more often in both news genres, but the biggest difference shows in the feature articles. While New York Post uses source responsibility in feature articles to make the reading experience more personalized, the New York Times seems to favor the shared responsibility strategy to tell emotional stories. In fact, while the highest frequency of shared responsibility was found in New York Times feature articles, the lowest was found in New York Post feature articles. This shows that both newspapers differ when it comes to their writing strategy concerning feature articles. Perhaps the use of shared responsibility is an effort by New York Times to remain neutral and follow the traditional journalism rules within a news genre.
that gives a journalist more emotional freedom and offers possibilities to apply emotional storytelling techniques. A quality newspaper can use this strategy of shared responsibility to remain ethically responsible while still giving the reader the engaging news they are asking for (Costera Meijer, 2010; Lagerwerf, Schurink & Oegema, 2011; Sanders, 2009). A surprising observation is that both newspapers use source responsibility more often in feature articles than news articles. Source responsibility is thought to be the most objective and factual, and could make a news article appear more objective. It seems however that both types of newspaper commonly use this quotation strategy to incorporate personal, sensational elements and increase the reader's emotional investment within feature articles.

6.4. Further observations

On top of the quantitative results, several qualitative observations were made. The first notable observation is that journalists often rely on non-specific sources when it comes to shared responsibility. Occasionally, the vagueness of the sources does not make it clear whether the mentioned source is undoubtedly responsible for the uttered words and opinions. Technically, the journalist remains neutral because the emotions and attitudes are linked to the vague sources. Referencing such non-specific sources could thus be an interesting tool that can be applied to be able to remain neutral and ethically responsible in the current sensation-based news environment. Other tools include usage of grammatical and lexical markers to indicate that the words are not the journalist's own emotions and attitudes. On other occasions, the understanding that emotion words and expressions of attitudinal stance are linked to a source depends on knowledge of context. Since responsibility was one of the main focal points of this research, such cases became apparent while analyzing the data. It is important to note that everyday readers might not realize such utterances are not the journalist’s own and it could thus be a risky strategy to utilize.

A second observation concerns certain lexical markers that are frequently used by journalists and sources which appear to indicate certainty, while in reality they merely express an opinion. Words such as 'need', 'must' or 'have to' seem to refer to a truth, but are in some cases actually used to voice a strong opinion or feeling. While this research did not focus on such cases, it is important to be aware of the possibility to disguise opinions as truths. Failure to recognize opinions as such could lead to an underestimation of the number of subjective elements within written news texts.

Finally, throughout the selection process of articles for the dataset it became apparent that newspapers no longer strictly follow the rules or characteristics that are unique to each of the news genres. News genres seem to blend together quite frequently; it is not uncommon for one genre type to contain elements that one would commonly find within different genre types. The most striking observation was made when comparing the feature articles of the two newspapers. New York Times mostly seems to follow traditional genre rules with small exceptions here and there, but New York Post has developed its own style. This style includes the usage of numerous direct quotes to make a feature article more personalized. In certain cases, the journalist only adds a very small number of words; an article can be almost entirely made up out of direct quotes. The fact that distinguishing journalistic genres based on their traditional characteristics is becoming more difficult, could affect the way in which research in the journalistic field will be executed in the future.
6.5. Limitations of the present study and recommendations for future research

Analysis of attitudinal stance is dependent on interpretation and knowledge of context and textual elements. To make the analysis as reliable as possible, the articles have been analyzed thoroughly numerous times by the main coder and second coder. It must be noted that this research was based on a dataset consisting of one quality newspaper and one popular newspaper. While the results are an accurate reflection of the differences between these two newspapers that are among the most read within the United States, caution is advised when it comes to generalizing the results to much larger datasets. Even though the selected newspapers are among the largest within their respective categories, further research could focus on expanding the dataset to cover multiple quality and popular newspapers to produce more generalizable results.

Further research concerning the usage of certainty words to express opinions could add to a more complete understanding of the ways in which subjective elements are incorporated within written news texts. Additionally, future research could focus on creating a complete model encompassing all possible grammatical and lexical markers with which attitudinal stance could be expressed. Different types of attitudinal stance could be explained and examined further in order to add to Biber (2006) and Biber and Finegan's (1989) research on the topic of affect markers and attitudinal stance. Broadening the current knowledge base by explaining not merely affect markers, but additionally markers of judgment and appreciation with an in-depth and exhaustive approach would add to the understanding of attitudinal stance as a more complete concept.

The observation was made that journalists seem to use the direct quotes to add to the subjectivity level of the articles, as it promotes a feeling of closeness and personalization in order to increase emotional engagement levels. A similar observation was made by Vis, Sanders and Spooren (2012). Future research could test this theory and examine the reason behind the use of objective quotation strategies in feature articles or similar genres that give a journalist more freedom when it comes to incorporating sensational elements. This could provide an answer to the question what prompts a journalist to use direct quotes in the more sensational genres.

A final interesting question for future research is whether journalists use the strategy of referring to a non-specific source to be able to implement their own attitudes and emotions in their written articles, without being responsible for such statements. It was found that journalists often attempt to lower the subjectivity level of sensational elements such as emotion words and expressions of attitudinal stance by linking them to a non-specific source. Research could focus on uncovering whether the attitudes and emotions that are presented using this strategy correspond with the journalist's own views. The answer to this question would provide a better understanding of what motivates a journalist to use this non-specific source strategy and additionally, it would give an insight in the objectivity or subjectivity level of this strategy.
Bibliography


Harbers, F. (2014). *Between Personal Experience and Detached Information. The development of reporting and the reportage in Great Britain, the Netherlands and France, 1880-2005*. [S.l.]: [S.n.]


Appendix

Appendix A: Emotion words and attitudinal stance – marked articles

Appendix B: Types of responsibility – marked articles
Appendix A: Emotion words and attitudinal stance – marked articles

- News articles New York Times
- News articles New York Post
- Feature articles New York Times
- Feature articles New York Post

**Attitudinal stance is marked with a yellow background color**

Emotion words are marked with an orange text color
Gunman's Calls to Police to Be Partially Released

BYLINE: By NICHOLAS FANDOS

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 8

LENGTH: 580 words

WASHINGTON -- The Justice Department will release partial transcripts of conversations between the police and the Orlando gunman from the night he carried out a deadly attack at a gay nightclub, Attorney General Loretta Lynch said on Sunday.

The transcripts, expected to be released on Monday, will include three calls between the gunman, Omar Mateen, and negotiators who spoke with him as the massacre was unfolding.

Law enforcement officials will also provide a detailed timeline of those calls.

Ms. Lynch said the calls should shed light on the motivation behind Mr. Mateen's decision to walk into the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Fla., on June 12 and carry out an attack in which 49 people were fatally shot before he was killed by the police.

The announcement came as Ms. Lynch, the nation's top law enforcement official, made rare appearances on five major Sunday morning news programs to discuss the investigation as it entered its second week.

She declined to comment on potential charges in the case but said on CNN's "State of the Union" that she considered the shooting both "an act of terror and an act of hate."

Ms. Lynch said the transcripts would not include portions of the calls that would risk "revictimizing" those affected by the shooting or could "further this man's propaganda," including Mr. Mateen's pledge of allegiance to the Islamic State.

"As we have said earlier, he talked about his pledges of allegiance to a terrorist group," Ms. Lynch said on CNN.

"He talked about his motivations for why he was claiming at that time he was committing this horrific act. He talked about American policy in some ways."

Ms. Lynch frequently found herself defending aspects of the F.B.I.'s current investigation into the shooting, as well as earlier ones into Mr. Mateen, which have drawn scrutiny for failing to anticipate his actions.
Mr. Mateen was twice under investigation by the F.B.I., once beginning in 2013 after boasting to co-workers that he had ties to terrorist groups and again the following year in connection with a Florida man who tried to carry out a suicide bombing in Syria.

She said that though he had raised suspicions, there was not evidence at the time to suggest Mr. Mateen would actually carry out any attacks.

Asked on ABC's "This Week" if she thought there was anything that federal authorities could have done differently leading up to the attack, Ms. Lynch said that her department was still "looking at that."

"You know, this is an ongoing investigation," she said.

"We are going back and scrubbing every contact we had with this killer."

Ms. Lynch also faced questions about a Democratic proposal, endorsed by the Justice Department, that would bar those on federal terrorism watch lists from purchasing firearms.

The Republican-controlled Senate is expected to vote on Monday on that and on other competing proposals.

None of the proposed amendments are expected to pass, but they have exposed some division within the law enforcement community over how to address cases like that of Mr. Mateen.

Ms. Lynch is scheduled to travel to Orlando on Tuesday to review the investigation in person and receive briefings from investigators and federal prosecutors.

She will also meet with emergency workers, victims of the shooting and their family members.

"The L.G.B.T. and Latino community has come under fire before, but never in as horrific a manner as this," Ms. Lynch said on ABC's "This Week."
Older Brother Died of Gunshot Wounds and Blunt Trauma, Death Certificate Says

BYLINE: By JESS BIDGOOD

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 20

LENGTH: 453 words

WORCESTER, Mass. -- Tamerlan Tsarnaev, the 26-year-old man who the authorities say is one of two brothers who carried out the Boston Marathon bombing, died of gunshot wounds and blunt trauma, according to his death certificate.

A copy of the document, signed by Dr. Henry M. Nields, the chief medical examiner for Massachusetts, was on file at Graham Putnam & Mahoney Funeral Parlors, where Mr. Tsarnaev's body is being kept.

Mr. Tsarnaev died after an exchange of gunfire with police officers following a pursuit on April 18, not long after the Federal Bureau of Investigation released grainy surveillance photographs showing him and his brother, Dzhokhar, at the marathon.

Law enforcement officials say the two placed the explosives that killed three people and wounded more than 260.

The night of the shootout, the authorities say, the Tsarnaev brothers shot and killed a campus police officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sean A. Collier, and then stole a car in Boston, which they eventually drove to nearby Watertown, Mass.

There, officials say, the brothers threw explosives and exchanged gunfire with the police before Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, climbed back into the car and drove off, apparently hitting his older brother. The younger brother was apprehended the next evening in Watertown and is being held at a federal medical prison in Devens, Mass.

The certificate says Tamerlan Tsarnaev's cause of death was "gunshot wounds of torso and extremities" and also cites "blunt trauma to head and torso." It says Mr. Tsarnaev was "shot by police then run over and dragged by motor vehicle." He was pronounced dead on April 19 at 1:35 a.m. after being taken to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. The death was ruled a homicide.

The certificate says an autopsy has been performed, but Peter A. Stefan, the owner of the funeral home, said he expected another to take place before the burial.
He said he had been contacted by lawyers for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who told him that they **wanted** to have a second autopsy performed.

As of Saturday morning, Mr. Stefan said he had not found a cemetery that would accept the body. He said he was seeking help from state and federal authorities.

"If you don’t **want** to bury the body, give me another option," Mr. Stefan said with some **frustration**. "What am I going to do?"

Mr. Stefan has been widely **criticized** for accepting Mr. Tsarnaev's body, and on Saturday his funeral parlor was guarded by a police detail.

But the funeral home also received at least a dozen calls from individuals **wanting** to make donations to assist with the burial, Mr. Stefan said. The funeral home said individuals should instead donate to the bombing’s victims through the One Fund Boston.
Amid Unease in Brussels, Main Airport Is Still Closed

BYLINE: By AURELIEN BREEDEN; Nicola Clark contributed reporting from Paris.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 6

LENGTH: 593 words

PARIS -- Concerns over security at Brussels Airport have delayed its reopening, the airport operator said on Friday, more than a week after two suicide bombers heavily damaged the departure terminal.

Florence Muls, a spokeswoman for the airport, said that it was unclear whether it would be able to open on Saturday morning.

"We are still waiting for a green light from the federal police," Ms. Muls said, adding that airport security was not directly managed by the airport authorities. She said the reopening would depend on the outcome of labor negotiations between unions representing police officers at the airport and the Interior Ministry.

The unions have been discussing their security concerns with senior management in the Belgian federal police before and after the terrorist attack on March 22, in which two suicide bombers detonated explosives in the departure hall just before 8 a.m. The unions have threatened not to go back to work if their requests for additional safety measures are not addressed.

The Belgian government met on Friday to discuss the reopening of the airport, which is several miles northeast of Brussels, in Zaventem. But officials said afterward that they would wait for the negotiations between unions and police officials to succeed before setting a date for the reopening.

"For us, security is paramount, but we have to find solutions at the negotiating table with police unions," the deputy prime minister, Kris Peeters, said after the meeting. "I hope that we are going to find solutions as quickly as possible."

In a statement on Thursday, the airport authority said that the airport was "technically ready" to resume commercial flights, using a temporary setup for passenger check-ins. Ms. Muls said that the airport would be able to process 800 departing passengers an hour, about 20 percent of its normal capacity.

The airport has been closed since the attacks that killed 32 people and injured hundreds.
A third suicide bomber attacked the Maelbeek subway station in Brussels, near the European Union headquarters, more than an hour after the airport bombings. Subway service in the Belgian capital is still disrupted.

On Wednesday, a group of police officers working at the airport wrote an open letter expressing deep concern about the absence of security checks for nontravelers entering the airport and about the number of baggage handlers and other staff members suspected of having criminal records or of being sympathetic to the Islamic State.

Vincent Gilles, the head of Belgium's largest police union, said on Thursday that repeated requests for increased security at the airport before the attacks went unheeded and that a request made in December to install a security check outside the entrance to the airport terminal had been rebuffed.

Arnaud Feist, the chief executive of Brussels Airport, told the Belgian broadcasting company RTBF on Friday that setting up checks at entrances would only move the threat outside the building.

"A fairly compact grouping of people standing in line might be more problematic than people who are spread out in the airport," he said.

He also said he was not aware of any airport workers with criminal records or who were sympathetic to the Islamic State.

Separately, news agencies reported on Friday that an Italian court had approved the extradition to Belgium of an Algerian man who was arrested last week in Salerno and accused of forging documents used by people involved in the March 22 attacks in Brussels and the Paris attacks in November.
Paris Suspect Claims He 'Backed Out' of Stadium Bombing, Prosecutor Says

BYLINE: By AURELIEN BREEDEN and ALISSA J. RUBIN

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 13

LENGTH: 557 words

BRUSSELS -- Salah Abdeslam, believed to be the only direct participant in the November attacks in Paris who is still alive, told investigators on Saturday after being captured a day earlier that he wanted to detonate his suicide vest at the Stade de France soccer stadium on the night of the attacks but "backed out," said the lead terrorism prosecutor in France.

Three of the attackers detonated their vests there, but killed just one person and themselves on Nov. 13 during a match between France and Germany.

The prosecutor, François Molins, warned against putting too much stock in anything Mr. Abdeslam said at such an early stage. "These first statements leave unanswered a whole series of questions that Salah Abdeslam will have to answer," he said.

At a hearing before a judge in Belgium on Saturday, Mr. Abdeslam made it clear that he would fight extradition to France, said his lawyer, Sven Mary.

Mr. Mary spoke to journalists after he and Mr. Abdeslam met with a Belgian magistrate who was to decide whether to issue a formal arrest warrant against Mr. Abdeslam, who is accused of playing a key role in the Nov. 13 attacks on a concert, cafes and a stadium that killed 130 people.

Later Saturday, the magistrate issued the warrant, the federal prosecutor's office said.

Mr. Abdeslam was captured with another person suspected of being an accomplice, and both were taken to a Brussels hospital. They were discharged early Saturday, Yvan Mayeur, the Brussels mayor, said on Twitter.

Mr. Abdeslam, a French citizen, is subject to a European arrest warrant issued by France. His seizure in the Brussels neighborhood of Molenbeek after he spent four months on the run brought relief to people who had seen his wanted poster all over two countries for months.

Bernard Cazeneuve, the French interior minister, said Saturday that he hoped Mr. Abdeslam could be delivered to France to face justice. He spoke after President François Hollande held an emergency security meeting in Paris.
Mr. Hollande has warned that more arrests will come as the authorities try to dismantle a network involved in the attacks that is much larger than originally suspected. The Islamic State, also known as ISIS or ISIL, claimed responsibility for the Paris attacks.

There are worries in Belgium about more attacks, in part because in one of the Brussels apartments where Mr. Abdeslam’s fingerprints were found, the police found an ISIS flag as well as a large amount of ammunition. The flag is often used as a prop in martyrdom videos filmed by participants in attacks before an operation.

Mr. Cazeneuve called Mr. Abdeslam’s arrest a "major blow" to the Islamic State group in Europe, but warned that the threat of new attacks was "extremely high."

Belgium's prime minister, Charles Michel, also said that "the fight is not over," and the government announced that the nation’s terrorism alert level was unchanged at three on a four-point scale. Interpol, the world police body, urged greater vigilance at all of Europe's borders to catch any of Mr. Abdeslam's accomplices or those planning new attacks if they try to flee Europe.

A Belgian prosecutor, Eric Van der Sypt, said that with an arrest warrant, Mr. Abdeslam would have to appear before a pretrial court that would decide whether he stays in jail for up to a month.
Obama Calls Attack a Case of Homegrown Extremism

BYLINE: By JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 18

LENGTH: 734 words

WASHINGTON -- President Obama said Monday that while the gunman in the Orlando massacre had declared allegiance to the Islamic State and appeared to have been inspired by extremist information on the internet, there was no clear evidence that he had been part of a wider plot directed by the terrorist group.

"As far as we can tell right now, this is certainly an example of the kind of homegrown extremism that all of us have been so concerned about for a very long time," Mr. Obama said, speaking in the Oval Office after a briefing with law enforcement, counterterrorism and Homeland Security officials.

Mr. Obama said the mass shooting in Orlando -- which he will visit on Thursday to pay his respects to victims' families, the White House announced on Monday night -- was being investigated as an act of terrorism. The president said the attack on Sunday by Omar Mateen, who killed 49 people and wounded more than 50, was similar to last year's rampage in San Bernardino, Calif., in which the perpetrators claimed allegiance to the Islamic State beforehand but had no direct connection to it.

The president said of Mr. Mateen that "we see no clear evidence that he was directed externally" by the Islamic State, although he declared fealty to the group "at the last minute."

Still, Mr. Obama said the attack underscored the Islamic State's power to inspire hateful acts.

"One of the biggest challenges we are going to have is this kind of propaganda and perversions of Islam that you see generated on the internet, and the capacity for that to seep into the minds of troubled individuals, or weak individuals, and seeing them motivated then to take actions against people here in the United States and elsewhere in the world," Mr. Obama said.

Law enforcement officials were scrutinizing the material Mr. Mateen had come across online to better understand his path to murder, the president said.

Mr. Obama, anguished by the latest mass shooting during his tenure -- a period in which Congress has rejected calls to enact tougher gun rules -- said the Orlando massacre should prompt Americans to "think about the risks that we are willing to take by being so lax in how we make very powerful firearms available to people in this country."
"We make it very easy for individuals who are troubled, or disturbed, or want to engage in violent acts to obtain very powerful weapons very easily, and it's a problem," Mr. Obama said. He noted that it appeared Mr. Mateen had carried out the rampage with guns obtained legally, including an assault rifle he took out of the store the day it was purchased.

But the attack highlighted how the politics of gun control has thwarted the president's determination to enact stricter measures.

The White House said Mr. Obama would be a "forceful advocate" for Congress to tighten gun restrictions. He supports legislation to bar firearms sales to people placed on "no-fly" lists because of suspected terrorism links and to require background checks for purchases at gun shows.

But his aides strongly suggested that the president was out of options to impose additional limits on his own.

"The president is quite intensely frustrated that we haven't seen the kind of congressional action that we know would have an impact" on mass shootings, said Josh Earnest, the White House press secretary. "The responsibility right now lies with Congress."

Mr. Obama also said the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which has faced some criticism for failing to stop the attack even though Mr. Mateen had been investigated in recent years for potential links to terrorist groups, had acted appropriately.

The White House declined to respond to suggestions from Donald J. Trump, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, on Monday that Mr. Obama had refused to acknowledge Islamic terrorism and might have ulterior motives for doing so.

"When you are focused on something as big as safeguarding the country and combating violent extremism," Mr. Earnest said of the president, "it's important not to get distracted by things that are so small."

He said Mr. Obama's record "speaks for itself, and that record includes a lot of dead terrorists."

Follow The New York Times's politics and Washington coverage on Facebook and Twitter, and sign up for the First Draft politics newsletter.
Police in Brussels Find Ties to Radical Islam After Raid

BYLINE: By AURELIEN BREEDEN

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 665 words

PARIS -- The man who was killed during a counterterrorism raid was an Algerian with potential links to radical Islam, Belgian prosecutors said on Wednesday. Two other suspects from Tuesday's raid, which left four police officers wounded, remain on the run, the prosecutors said.

The man, Mohamed Belkaid, a 35-year-old who was in Belgium illegally, tried to open fire on police officers and was shot and killed by a special-forces sniper, according to Eric van der Sijpt, a spokesman for the federal prosecutor's office.

The raid took place around 2:15 p.m. Tuesday at a building on the Rue du Dries in the Forest section of Brussels. Six police officers -- four Belgian and two French -- went to the building as part of the investigation into the Nov. 13 terrorist attacks in Paris and in St.-Denis, France.

''From the moment the door of the flat was opened, at least two persons, armed with a riot gun and a Kalashnikov, opened fire toward them,'' Mr. van der Sijpt said. ''In the short but very intense shootout, three of the six officers suffered slight injuries, among them a French female police officer.''

He added, ''The police officers present at the scene returned fire immediately and were able to retreat safely.''

A fourth officer sustained a head wound during subsequent gunfire between the police and the suspects, Mr. van der Sijpt said.

Mr. Belkaid was killed during the shooting. In the apartment where he died, the police found a flag of the Islamic State, 11 cartridge clips and numerous shell casings, Mr. van der Sijpt said; near his body, they found a book on the Salafist school of Islam and a Kalashnikov rifle.

Mr. Belkaid was not previously known to the police, except for one case of theft in 2014. It was unclear whether he had any connection to the Nov. 13 attacks, which killed 130 people.

The Belgian federal prosecutor's office said in a statement Wednesday afternoon that two men who were arrested after the raid had been released without charges.
One of them had been taken to a hospital in Halle, about eight miles southwest of Forest, on Tuesday evening, by a man who then fled when the police arrived. The other was arrested after an overnight search in a house in Forest.

More houses in Forest were searched on Tuesday, Mr. van der Sijpt said. Two full Kalashnikov cartridge clips and an article of black clothing were found near a house on the Rue de l'Eau, and a Kalashnikov rifle was found inside.

Searches in two more houses on the Rue de l'Eau, in about 30 enclosed parking spaces and in a storage facility did not yield any results, Mr. van der Sijpt said. Neither did a house search in Sint-Pieters-Leeuw, southwest of Brussels, the prosecutor's office said.

After a national security meeting on Wednesday, Prime Minister Charles Michel of Belgium announced that the country's terrorism alert would remain at its second-highest level.

Earlier on Wednesday, Mr. Michel told RTL radio that the police had not expected an "armed, violent reaction" to the raid on Tuesday.

"I think that there was a surprise, because according to the federal prosecutor's office, there was no need to mobilize the special forces for this raid," Mr. Michel said, "which shows that we were not expecting to find resistance, and certainly not resistance of that nature."

The Belgian authorities have conducted more than 100 home searches and arrested 58 people in connection with the November attacks, Mr. van der Sijpt said, adding that 23 people had been arrested in connection with related investigations.

The French and Belgian authorities have detained nearly a dozen men suspected of helping the Paris attackers either before or after the Nov. 13 assaults, but are still seeking others.

The chief fugitive is Salah Abdeslam, a 26-year-old French citizen who is believed to have participated in the Paris attacks. Mr. Abdeslam, who was born in Brussels to parents who had emigrated from Morocco, fled to Belgium immediately after the attacks.
French President Drops Proposal to Revoke Citizenship in Terrorism Cases

BYLINE: By ADAM NOSSITER; Aurelien Breeden contributed reporting.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 585 words

PARIS -- President François Hollande of France announced on Wednesday that he was withdrawing a proposal to strip French citizenship from dual nationals convicted of terrorism, ending a monthslong debate that convulsed his governing Socialist Party, dominated political discussion after the November terrorist attacks, and led to the resignation of the justice minister.

The idea, originally endorsed by right-wing parties and adopted by Mr. Hollande three days after the deadly attacks on Nov. 13, drew furious opposition on the left in France, even though all sides agreed it was largely symbolic and would have little practical effect in combating terrorism.

But the proposal highlighted a growing split within the Socialist Party, between those who favored a tough law-and-order approach in the wake of the attacks that killed 130 people, and those worried that the government would be impinging on civil liberties.

Critics on the left complained that the plan would create two classes of citizens, saying it recalled the dark days of the World War II collaborationist government in France, which rendered hundreds of Jews stateless.

France is still under a state of emergency imposed after the attacks, and the police have conducted thousands of raids and put hundreds of suspects under house arrest.

Last week, after the Brussels bombings on March 22, officials identified a possible terrorist attack in the "advanced stages" of planning, according to the French interior minister, Bernard Cazeneuve, and announced the arrest of a suspect with links to one of the November attackers.

On Wednesday, Mr. Hollande said he was pulling back from the citizenship proposal that had become the most intensely debated measure in a bill to overhaul the Constitution. The reversal is likely to reinforce among many voters what pollsters say is Mr. Hollande's reputation for indecision.

Mr. Hollande blamed members of the right-wing opposition, which controls the Senate, for his decision.
"I take note that part of the opposition is against all constitutional revision," he said. "I deplore, profoundly, this attitude, because we must do all we can, under the current serious conditions, to avoid divisions."

Mr. Hollande also abandoned a proposal to create a constitutional provision for declaring a state of emergency, even though it had garnered broad support across the political spectrum.

Mr. Hollande's government had slightly backtracked on the citizenship proposal in January, largely to mollify his critics on the left, in deciding that the bill would not contain any language explicitly referring to dual citizens.

The lower house, the National Assembly, where Socialists are in the majority, approved an amended bill that extended the measure to all French citizens, regardless of how many passports they held.

But the Senate insisted on sticking to the original idea and restricting the proposal to people with dual citizenship, with its leaders saying that the creation of stateless individuals was a "red line" they would not cross. With a presidential election scheduled next year, analysts interpreted the move as a way of dealing yet another blow to an already weakened Mr. Hollande.

Under French law, the National Assembly has the last word when disagreements arise with the Senate over regular legislation. But modifying the Constitution requires the approval of both houses, on an identical version of a bill, before they can convene as a Congress in Versailles to vote on it.
France Broadens Authorities' Powers to Fight Terror

BYLINE: By AURELIEN BREEDEN

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 6

LENGTH: 809 words

The French Parliament on Wednesday approved a law that gives the police and judicial authorities new powers to detain terrorism suspects, put people under house arrest and use deadly force to stop attacks.

The Senate, France’s upper house of Parliament, approved the bill by a show of hands. The National Assembly, the lower house, had already approved it.

The measure is the latest in a series of legislative changes that the government of President François Hollande has pushed through to give the authorities greater policing powers after the deadly terrorist attacks in Paris last year, sometimes prompting debates over civil liberties.

Here is a summary of new powers introduced by the law, and other recent changes and proposals designed to increase the authorities’ antiterrorism powers.

Police Authority

The law approved on Wednesday gives the police the ability to hold someone without access to a lawyer for up to four hours to check his or her identification if they suspect that person of connections to terrorism. Even before the law was approved, the police could detain terrorism suspects for up to 144 hours without charges.

The new law also gives police officers more leeway to use deadly force against someone they believe is committing a deadly attack, and authorizes them to buy weapons in sting operations to combat weapons trafficking.

The law also allows the government to put someone returning from a "terrorist theater of operation," like Syria or Iraq, under house arrest for up to a month.

The bill has distressed some judges and human rights groups. They say the government is trying to institutionalize exceptional measures that were made possible when a state of emergency was declared after last year’s attacks -- and later extended by Parliament.

Surveillance
Under the law **approved** on Wednesday, the police and prosecutors now have access to electronic eavesdropping technology that had been available only to intelligence agencies, which were granted enhanced capabilities after the attacks in January 2015 at the Paris offices of a satirical newspaper, Charlie Hebdo, and a kosher supermarket.

Prosecutors were also granted new powers, similar to those of investigative judges, including the ability to tap phones, use hidden cameras and analyze electronic communications

The new law gives prisons greater authority to search inmates, and it allows them to put microphones and cameras in prison cells with the authorization of a prosecutor.

In addition, the new law makes it illegal to regularly consult websites that promote terrorism, except for legitimate academic or journalistic activities. Offenders would **risk** up to two years in prison and a fine of up to 30,000 euros, or about $33,500.

Critics **worry** that these limits and new surveillance powers go well beyond fighting terrorism.

**Citizenship**

No government proposal since the terrorist attacks in November had **raised as much alarm** among civil libertarians as one that would have stripped French citizenship from people with dual citizenship who have been convicted of terrorism-related crimes.

On March 30, President Hollande announced he was withdrawing that proposal.

Polls had suggested that there was wide public **support**, but opponents said the proposal **unfairly** targeted French people with immigrant backgrounds.

The measure highlighted a growing split in Mr. Hollande’s Socialist Party among those who **favored** a tough law-and-order approach in the wake of the attacks in November that killed 130 people, and those **worried** that the government would be **impinging** on civil liberties.

**Emergency Powers**

The French Parliament voted last week to extend the current state of **emergency** for another two months, until the end of July.

This is the third time the government has extended the state of **emergency** declared by the president after the attacks in and around Paris. The state of emergency enables the French authorities to conduct police raids without warrants (although the latest two-month extension has left that provision out) and put suspects under house arrest without prior judicial authorization. The authorities can also ban public demonstrations, shut down websites and disband groups deemed a **threat** to public order by the government.

The government had been pushing to make the power to declare a state of emergency part of the French Constitution, which would have made it more difficult for successive governments to change how that power is wielded, but the proposal was dropped in March with the citizenship proposal.

The state of **emergency** received broad **approval** in France in the months after the attacks, with polls showing that more than two-thirds of the public **supported** it.
Human rights groups have protested, and some Muslims believe that they are being unfairly singled out by the expanded police measures.
WASHINGTON -- The shooting rampage at a nightclub in Orlando, Fla., has focused new attention on the vast but murky terror watch lists that the government has used with mixed results to identify potential security threats.

At the time of the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, there were just 16 names on the government's so-called no-fly list. Today, that number stands at about 81,000, officials said, and the largest of the watch lists has 1.5 million names on it, all but a small fraction of them foreigners.

One of the names on the F.B.I.'s terrorism watch list as of early 2014 was Omar Mateen, the shooter in the Orlando attack. But when the F.B.I. dropped its investigation into his suspected terrorist sympathies, his name came off the list, and he was legally allowed to go into a Florida gun store this month and buy a semiautomatic assault rifle used in the killings.

That sequence of events has set off a round of debate in Congress over the law allowing someone on the list to buy a gun. But four bills aimed at plugging the "terror gap" and blocking people on terrorism watch lists from buying guns failed to gain passage this week.

Another proposal, led by Senator Susan Collins, Republican of Maine, and Senator Heidi Heitkamp, Democrat of North Dakota, appeared likely to meet the same fate as early as Thursday.

From 2005 to 2015, nearly 2,500 people who appeared on the F.B.I.'s terrorism watch list attempted to buy a firearm, and 91 percent of the sales were approved, a study by the Government Accountability Office found.

The recent proposals to stop people on the watch lists from being able to buy guns have faced resistance from an unlikely group of opponents, including the National Rifle Association and the American Civil Liberties Union.

"We're as appalled as anyone else about the attack in Orlando," said Hina Shamsi, the director of the A.C.L.U.'s National Security Project. "But it's our position that there is no bar on Congress in the reasonable regulation of guns. They could do something without an overly broad, unreliable watch list solution."
The A.C.L.U., representing Muslim-Americans and others who said they had wrongly been put on the no-fly list, won a ruling in federal court in Oregon two years ago that found the list was unconstitutional because of the high risk of errors and the difficulty of being taken off it. That lawsuit is continuing.

"There certainly has been some improvement in the process since these watch lists were first put into place, but we still don't think the safeguards are adequate," Ms. Shamsi said.

Under guidelines for the biggest of the terror lists, known as TIDE, or Terrorist Identities Datamart Environment, those placed on the list are "known or appropriately suspected" of being involved in terrorist activity. Of the 1.5 million names on the TIDE list, residents of the United States account for only about 15,000.

In one of the most recent internal reviews of the watch list system, the Justice Department inspector general found in a 2014 report that improvements in the F.B.I.'s watch list system had made it "more complete, accurate and current" after problems in getting people on and off the list.

Earlier reviews found that as many as 15 percent of suspects in active terrorism investigations were not on the F.B.I. watch list, and that other people were improperly kept on it even after investigations into their suspected terrorism ties were closed. Both these problems appeared to have been significantly reduced or eliminated by the time of the 2014 review.

Counterterrorism officials have described the watch lists as a cornerstone of their efforts to detect possible terrorists before they can strike. But the watch lists' effectiveness has been spotty.

Just as Mr. Mateen was put on a watch list before the Orlando shooting, Tamerlan Tsarnaev -- one of the brothers in the Boston Marathon bombings in 2013 -- had also been placed on several versions of the list a few years earlier.

The "underwear bomber," Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who tried to detonate a bomb on a Detroit-bound plane in 2009, was also on one version of the terrorism watch list but was allowed to board the plane in Amsterdam. That near-disaster led to wide changes in the system and an expansion of the lists.

But the very next year, Faisal Shahzad, who tried to detonate a car bomb in Times Square in Manhattan, was allowed to board a plane for Dubai a day after the attempted bombing even though he had been put on a no-fly list. He was apprehended while the plane was at the gate.

In the wake of the Orlando shootings, Justice Department officials said they were considering a new policy to alert F.B.I. investigators if someone who was once on a terrorism watch list, like Mr. Mateen, attempts to buy a gun.

By itself, the placement on a watch list would not be grounds to stop a firearms purchase. But F.B.I. investigators could then search the buyer's file to look for other legal prohibitions -- like a criminal conviction, drug use or mental health issue -- that could allow them to stop the sale.
U.S. Offers Florida Help With Costs in Massacre

BYLINE: By FRANCES ROBLES; Richard Pérez-Peña contributed reporting from New York.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 13

LENGTH: 690 words

ORLANDO, Fla. -- After denying the state of Florida’s petition for $5 million in emergency funding to cover costs associated with the massacre at a popular gay nightclub, the Obama administration announced Tuesday that it would offer $1 million to help pay for police overtime.

Attorney General Loretta Lynch visited Orlando on Tuesday, nine days after Omar Mateen, who pledged allegiance to the Islamic State, opened fire at the Pulse nightclub. Ms. Lynch met with some of the wounded and relatives of the 49 people killed in the attack, as well as with top law enforcement officials in the region.

Ms. Lynch said the Department of Justice would make $1 million available to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement so local jurisdictions could cover the overtime costs associated with the killings.

"We will move quickly to make the award as soon as possible," she said, adding that the administration was also providing counseling resources for traumatized officers and medics.

"We are also making federal emergency funds and victim compensation funding available to cover, for example, family travel expense, medical, mental health expenses and other costs related to this tragedy," she added.

Her announcement came after Gov. Rick Scott criticized the administration for declining his application for $5 million of Department of Homeland Security emergency funding.

In a letter on Monday, the administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, W. Craig Fugate, told the governor that the request, made the day after the shooting, had been denied because the appeal did not explain how the incident was beyond the capability of the state and local governments. The request also did not demonstrate how federal funds could help protect lives and property, the letter said.

"An emergency declaration is not appropriate for this incident," Mr. Fugate wrote in the letter, which was released by the governor’s office.
Records show that FEMA has approved the vast majority of emergency funding requests made after hurricanes and other disasters, but that no state has applied in the wake of a mass shooting.

Mr. Scott called the denial "incredibly disappointing" and said the state would appeal.

"It is unthinkable that President Obama does not define this as an emergency," Mr. Scott, a Republican, said in a statement. "We are committing every state resource possible to help the victims and the community heal, and we expect the same from the federal government."

Sheriff Jerry L. Demings of Orange County said he learned about the $1 million at the news conference when Ms. Lynch announced it. His department was still trying to determine how much had been spent, he said.

"One million dollars?" he said. "You know what? It's a start."

Sheriff Demings confirmed that Mr. Mateen, a 29-year-old security guard, had visited the nightclub several hours before the 2 a.m. shooting spree. He appeared to have stepped outside for some period of time and returned just before firing on the patrons, he said.

He declined to give any more details. Ms. Lynch also declined to provide any new information on the case.

She said the agency would reveal more information later, including results of firearms testing to determine whether any victims had been killed by police bullets. She also said she would eventually release the audio tape of Mr. Mateen's 911 call.

The administration was criticized Monday for releasing a partial transcript of just one of his calls, which deleted references Mr. Mateen made to the Islamic State and its leader. A few hours later, the Department of Justice released a version without the redactions.

Ms. Lynch’s visit to Orlando came as the downtown area surrounding the Pulse nightclub began returning to normalcy.

"There is no doubt that this was a shattering attack," Ms. Lynch said. "But the message of Orlando goes far beyond one night of unspeakable terror. The message of Orlando that I have seen today -- and what the American people have seen in the wake of this horrific assault -- is a message of determination to remove hatred and intolerance from our midst."
WASHINGTON - The terrorist attacks in Brussels are further evidence the United States needs a crackdown on people entering the country, Donald Trump said Tuesday.

"I would close up our borders to people until we figure out what is going on," Trump said on Fox News.

"They could be ISIS, they could be ISIS-related. We just don't learn."

Calling Brussels an "armed camp" and a "horror show," Trump also said that terrorist suspects, including alleged Paris attacker Salah Abdeslam, be water-boarded or otherwise tortured to get leads that might prevent future attacks.

Later, he clarified that he doesn’t want to ban everyone from coming into the country, saying only those with "absolute perfect" documentation should be allowed in - and, for now, no Muslims.

Trump also told Fox Business News that it’s time to end the visa waiver program, which allows visitors from friendly countries, including Belgium and France, to enter the United States without visas for 90 days.

"Yes, it’s time to stop that, absolutely," said Trump, who also called for stepped-up mosque surveillance.

His principal GOP rival, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, also talked tough.

"We need to immediately halt the flow of refugees from countries with a significant al Qaeda or ISIS presence," Cruz said in a statement.

"We need to empower law enforcement to patrol and secure Muslim neighborhoods before they become radicalized."

Cruz later said in New York that that if he were president, he would resurrect the controversial monitoring program that targeted Muslims under former Mayor Mike Bloomberg and exPolice Commissioner Ray Kelly.
"You would continue the proactive policing that we saw here in New York," Cruz said. "You would reinstate the program."

Asked on CNN whether he would support Cruz's plan, Trump, a rare detente with his bitter rival, responded: "Yes, I would. I think that's a good idea."

NYPD Commissioner Bill Bratton, however, was furious at Cruz's proposal.

"I would remind the senator that he lives in the United States of America, and the statements he made today is why he's not gonna become the president of this country," Bratton said.

"We don't need a president that doesn't respect the values that form the foundation of this country."

Meanwhile, Ohio Gov. John Kasich and Democratic contender Bernie Sanders called for unity with allied countries to defeat ISIS, along with increased intelligence gathering.

Hillary Clinton described Trump's call for closing the borders "unrealistic," but urged an increased police presence at soft targets, such as airport lobbies.
Terror in Brussels Ghettos 'breeding grounds' for jihadis

BYLINE: Jamie Schram, Chris Perez and Bob Fredericks

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 8

LENGTH: 354 words

Muslim ghettos in Paris and Brussels are incubators of Islamic extremism where cops fear to tread, crime and unemployment are rampant and radical imams aggressively recruit young men to wage jihad against the West, experts said Tuesday.

The perpetrators of November's bloody attack on Paris and other terror strikes in Belgium and France hailed from Molenbeek, a Brussels slum and hotbed for radical Islam, drugs and lawlessness.

Others, including Said and Chérif Kouachi, the brothers who carried out the Charlie Hebdo massacre in January 2015, lived in the banlieues, desolate, run-down Parisian suburbs of mosques and decrepit high-rise apartment buildings built decades ago.

"Both in Paris and Brussels, we have seen the radicalization of individuals which has led to these cowardly attacks on civilians," a senior anti-terrorism official told The Post. "Unfortunately, these poor neighborhoods in which they live act as breeding grounds for terrorism because many of these people feel as if they have no other options or hope."

Salah Abdeslam, 26, a conspirator of the November Paris attacks, which left 130 innocent victims dead, was tracked last week to an apartment in Molenbeek, where his accomplices also lived. Roughly 500,000 Muslims are believed to live in Belgium. The Brussels ghetto has a 30 percent unemployment rate, and hundreds of young radicalized Muslim men have traveled to Syria to wage jihad, according to Belgian authorities.

"These ghettos are called 'no-go zones,'" said Soeren Kern, a senior fellow at the Gatestone Institute, a New York-based think tank.

The "no-go zones," he added, are not formal designations by law enforcement but areas that are not considered safe for non-Muslims - even cops and firefighters.

Meanwhile, critics blasted the European Union's free-movement laws, saying they let ISIS strike in the heart of Europe with impunity.

"There are 94 returned jihadists living in Molenbeek," said Mike Hookem of Britain's Independence Party. "This fact alone should alert people to the fact that open borders are putting the lives of European citizens at risk."
The mother of the men who bombed the Boston Marathon was placed on a US terror watch list 18 months before the attack and is now being eyed for potentially radicalizing her oldest son, officials said yesterday.

Zubeidat Tsarnaeva and her now-dead son, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, were put on the list in 2011 after Russian officials informed the CIA that the two ethnic Chechens were Islamic extremists who may pose a threat to their native Russia, officials said.

Officials have disclosed that Tamerlan's name was listed, raising questions about whether authorities should have eyed him more closely before the April 15 attack that killed three and injured 260.

The presence of his mother's name on the list, which should have flagged her travel to and from the United States, is now drawing similar questions.

Both mother and son were looked at for terror ties six months before they landed on the watch list because Russian officials were concerned about them.

But the FBI closed the cases after finding no evidence.

Yesterday, a top congressman said Zubeidat is now the focus of a House investigation into whether she turned Tamerlan, 26, into a radical jihadist who enlisted his brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, for the bombings.

Zubeidat, "in my judgment, has a role in his radicalization process in terms of her influence over him [and] fundamental views of Islam," said House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Michael McCaul.

McCaul (R-Texas) said US investigators have been deployed to interview other Chechens in Russia, "and it's my hope they can get some evidence of that" influence.

Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-Md.), a top member of the House Intelligence Committee, said Zubeidat "is a person of interest that we're looking at to see if she helped radicalize her son, or had contacts with other people or other terrorist groups."

Zubeidat has adamantly denied that either Tamerlan or Dzhokhar committed the marathon attack - despite Dzhokhar telling investigators they bombed the finish line to avenge US wars against Muslims in Iraq and Afghanistan.
Yesterday, she denied being a terrorist, but said her presence on the list wasn't surprising. "It's all lies and hypocrisy," she told The Associated Press from the Russian republic of Dagestan. "I'm sick and tired of all this nonsense that they make up about me and my children."

"People know me as a regular person, and I've never been mixed up in any criminal intentions, especially any link to terrorism."

Zubeidat, who has not been charged with a terror act, is wanted in Massachusetts for jumping bail on a shoplifting rap.

Tamerlan was slain April 19 in a police shootout. He had killed an MIT cop as he and Dzhokhar fled in a stolen Mercedes loaded with six homemade bombs they planned to set off in Times Square.

Dzhokhar, shot in his neck and elsewhere, was caught 20 hours later hiding in a boat stored in a back yard in Watertown, Mass.

Late Thursday, Dzhokhar moved from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston to the Federal Medical Center at Fort Devens, a facility 40 miles away that treats federal prisoners.

His presence at Beth Israel upset some bombing victims who were being treated there.

Yesterday, investigators scoured a landfill in New Bedford, Mass., near the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, which Dzhokhar attended.

CNN reported they were looking for his laptop and other evidence that he had suggested had been dumped there.

Also yesterday, The Daily Beast reported Dzhokhar had told investigators he and Tamerlan were influenced by Internet sermons of the US-born preacher Anwar al-Awlaki, who was killed in a US drone strike in Yemen in 2011.
The FBI on Monday will release a partial transcript of Omar Mateen's negotiations with police from inside the Orlando nightclub where he slaughtered 49 people - but the feds will redact "his pledges to ISIS," US Attorney General Loretta Lynch said Sunday.

"I say partial, because we're not going to be, for example, broadcasting his pledges of allegiance. We are trying not to re-victimize those who went through that horror," Lynch said on ABC's "This Week."

President Obama was Roundly criticized last week for failing to refer to Mateen as a radical Islamic terrorist.

Lynch also said Sunday that Mateen - a closeted gay man, according witnesses and men who said he hit on them - made no mention of disdain for homosexuals in his phone conversations with cops while holed up in the Pulse club.

"These are the calls with the Orlando PD negotiating team who were trying to ascertain who he was, where he was and why he was doing this, all the while the rescue operations were continuing," Lynch said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Mateen was killed by police in a shootout.

Lynch said she will fly to Orlando Tuesday to be briefed on the investigation that is now focused on Mateen's wife, Noor Salman.

Salman could be hit with a host of criminal charges, including aiding and abetting, sources have told The Post.

Lynch said authorities were reviewing two earlier FBI investigations into Mateen, but signaled that the agency had conducted thorough examinations in both cases, which were eventually closed without charges being filed against him.

"The FBI did everything it could to see [if he] was he about to carry out anything," she told "This Week."

"This was about two years ago, and I can assure you that had he indicated he was going to take action, that they would have stayed on that investigation."
But a Florida gun-shop owner, Robbie Abell, said he alerted the FBI that a suspicious man later identified as Mateen had tried to purchase 1,000 rounds of ammunition and body armor from his store weeks before the massacre.

During a press conference last week, Abell said his employee turned Mateen away and immediately called the FBI, but federal agents never showed up to investigate.

The House Homeland Security Committee will be "conducting oversight hearings" to see if the FBI could have done more, said the committee's chairman, Rep. Michael McCaul.

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump weighed in on the issue, saying it was a "shame" the authorities didn't follow up on Abell's tip about Mateen.

"I'm a big fan of the FBI, but they had a little bit of a bad day," Trump said on "This Week."
Election 2016 NRA: Guns are not the answer Wait, what? Yeah, they rip Don's Rx

BYLINE: Marisa Schultz

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 7

LENGTH: 542 words

Donald Trump's suggestion that armed clubgoers could have prevented the worst mass shooting in modern US history "defies common sense," according to the National Rifle Association - which is backing the tycoon for president but on Sunday had two of its top officials taking rare exception with him.

"No one thinks that people should go into a nightclub drinking and carrying firearms," Chris Cox, executive director of the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action, told ABC's "This Week." "That defies common sense. It also defies the law."

Trump had fired up a Texas rally Friday by saying that if people at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando "had guns strapped ... right to their waist or right to their ankle," it would have been a "beautiful sight" to see them shoot "the son of a bitch."

Cox's remarks Sunday echoed those of President Obama, who said last Thursday in Orlando that the notion that armed clubgoers could have averted the tragedy "defies common sense."

NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre said Sunday that pistol-packing revelers are not a good idea.

"I don't think you should have firearms where people are drinking," LaPierre told CBS's "Face the Nation." He later tweeted, "I want to clarify my comment: if you're going to carry, don't drink. OK to carry in restaurants that serve alcohol."

The NRA endorsed Trump in May, and the mogul has run on a platform of protecting gun owners and the Second Amendment and arming the law-abiding citizens to stop bad guys.

After Omar Mateen slaughtered 49 people at Pulse, Trump announced that he wanted to meet with the NRA. He urged the powerful gun lobby to agree to banning people on terrorism watch lists from buying guns.

"We have to make sure that people that are terrorists or have even an inclination toward terrorism cannot buy weapons, guns," he told "This Week."

But LaPierre said such a ban would have had no effect in Orlando, since Mateen's name had been removed from the list.
"NRA didn't take the guy's name off the list. The federal government did, FBI did, largely because of . . . some politically correct policies that I think I have been talking about earlier," he told "Face the Nation."

Cox, who said the group has "conversations" with Trump often and confirmed a planned meeting, danced around whether the NRA and the mogul saw eye-to-eye on a watch-list ban, saying the FBI should investigate anyone on its radar who tries to buy a gun.

"If there's a reason to believe in probable cause that they're engaged in terrorist activity, they ought to not only be prevented from getting a firearm, they ought to be arrested," Cox said.

"We want to make sure the terrorists don't have access to firearms. We also want to make sure that law-abiding Americans have the common-sense ability to protect themselves when the government is failing."

The Senate will vote on a series of gun-control measures Monday.

The NRA has given its blessing to a proposal by Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) that would allow authorities to block gun sales to a person on the terror watch list if they can show probable cause within three days. The Justice Department backs legislation by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) calling for an outright ban on sales to suspected terrorists.
HE PLEDGED ALLEGIANCE TO CENSORED Bam ban lifted on Orlando transcript's 'ISIS'  

BYLINE: David K. Li  

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 7  

LENGTH: 585 words

Faced with mounting criticism for redacting references to radical Islam from the transcripts of Omar Mateen's 911 calls amid his Orlando massacre, the Obama administration on Monday afternoon finally relented.

Even though authorities have made no secret of the fact that Mateen pledged his allegiance to ISIS in slaughtering 49 people and wounding another 53 inside a gay nightclub last week, 911 transcripts initially released by the FBI awkwardly worked around mentions of the terror group and its leader.

In the initial release, mentions of ISIS and leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi were replaced by "(omitted)," which Attorney General Loretta Lynch tried to explain a day earlier, by saying the redaction was done in deference to the victims' families.

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) and other national lawmakers were quick to pounce on the seemingly nonsensical cuts.

"Selectively editing this transcript is preposterous," Ryan said shortly after Mateen's partial comments to 911 operators were released.

"We know the shooter was a radical Islamist extremist inspired by ISIS. We also know he intentionally targeted the LGBT community."

Ryan called on the Obama administration to come clean - and the Republican leader got his way about five hours later.

In the chilling transcript, Mateen claimed he was under God's orders to kill people at the Pulse nightclub in the early-morning hours of June 12.

He also invoked the Islamic State and al-Baghdadi, both of which were blanked out of the earlier versions.

"In the name of God the merciful, the beneficent [Arabic]," Mateen said during his call at about 2:35 a.m. "Praise be to God, and prayers as well as peace be upon the prophet of [Arabic]. I let you know, I'm in Orlando and I did the shootings."
The operator then asked Mateen his name.

"My name is I pledge of allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi of the Islamic State," Mateen responded.

"I pledge allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi may God protect him [Arabic], on behalf of the Islamic State."

As Mateen carried out his carnage in Orlando, the Queens-born terrorist warned the 911 operator that there would be "more of this type of action" in the coming days, FBI agents said.

Shots were first fired at 2:02 a.m., and Mateen first called 911 at about 2:35 a.m. Hostage negotiators called Mateen at 2:48 a.m., 3:03 a.m. and 3:24 a.m.

During the calls, Mateen demanded that American forces leave Iraq and Syria, explaining that was why he was "out here right now," according to the FBI.

When a negotiator asked what he had done, Mateen responded: "No, you already know what I did."

Mateen also said he had placed bombs in his car, which he could detonate at any time.

"There is some vehicle outside that has some bombs, just to let you know," Mateen said. "You people are gonna get it, and I'm gonna ignite it if they try to do something stupid."

Mateen's car was later found and there were no bombs, according to the feds.

FBI agents also said they have not found any direct connections between Mateen and overseas terrorists.

Excerpt from Orlando gunman Omar Mateen's 911 call

REDACTED:

"My name is I pledge of allegiance to [omitted] ... I pledge allegiance to [omitted] may God protect him [Arabic], on behalf of [omitted]."

UNCENSORED:

"My name is I pledge of allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi of the Islamic State ... I pledge allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, may God protect him [Arabic], on behalf of the Islamic State."
France responded with fury to the terror attacks on Paris, unleashing a series of airstrikes that destroyed an ISIS command post and a training camp in Syria on Sunday, officials said.

The "massive" operation pounded sites in and around the ISIS stronghold of Raqqa, and involved 12 aircraft - including 10 fighter jets - launched simultaneously from bases in Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, a French official said.

The air fleet dropped 20 bombs in total. One target was used as a "command post, jihadist recruitment center and arms and munitions depot," the French Defense Ministry said in a statement.

A second target "held a terrorist training camp," it said.

ISIS insisted it suffered no casualties and said the 20 targets were "abandoned sites," the Guardian reported.

Meanwhile, an international manhunt was under way for a suspected eighth attacker, who escaped the three hours of carnage that killed 129 people at six sites in and around Paris on Friday.

The suspect breezed past cops who stopped him near the Belgian border Saturday morning.

The French National Police released a photo of Salah Abdeslam, 26, whose brother, Ibrahim, 31, blew himself up with a suicide vest at the Comptoir Voltaire cafe.

A third brother, Mohamed, was among seven suspects arrested in Brussels following the attacks.

An arrest warrant described Salah as very dangerous. Anyone spotting him was warned, "Do not intervene yourself."

Four French officials told The Associated Press that cops questioned and released Salah hours after the attacks, when he and two other people were stopped while traveling together in a car.
The bungle came even though Salah had been identified as the person who rented a Volkswagen Polo hatchback that was used in the attacks, the AP reported.

Officials were also seeking an unidentified suspect who may have been "directly involved" in the attacks, The Washington Post reported.

In other developments:

n President Obama huddled with Russian leader Vladimir Putin during the Group of 20 summit in Turkey. A White House official said they agreed on the need for "UN-mediated negotiations . . . as well as a cease-fire" to help end the Syrian civil war, which has let ISIS flourish.

n The identities of another Paris attacker emerged: Bilal Hafdi, who The Washington Post said fought for ISIS in Syria. Another suicide bomber, age 20, was also identified by French authorities, but his name wasn’t released.

n The terrorist who sneaked into Europe with desperate Syrian refugees was identified as Ahmad Almohammad, whose passport was found on the body of a bomber outside the Stade de France soccer stadium.

n France arrested three people early Monday in a series of anti-terror raids in Toulouse, Grenoble, Calais and a suburb of Paris, according to the Daily Mail.

n Isis images from the Bataclan theater siege appeared on social media. Photos posted on Instagram showed dozens of bodies lying in pools of blood on the concert hall’s red-smeared concrete floor. A South African woman wrote on Facebook that she survived by playing dead for more than an hour.

n The Post learned that screeners at JFK and Newark airports were among those who failed to detect weapons and bombs in recent tests by the Department of Homeland Security. A law-enforcement source said the revelations "should frighten everyone."

n British security experts told The Times of London that the attacks may have been the result of a "major failure by European intelligence services" after a man was arrested with a cache of weapons when he was stopped by Bavarian police while driving through Germany to France.

It’s not clear if the man is connected to the plot, but officials wonder whether the proper security protocols followed his arrest.

n A German newspaper discovered a series of tweets that appeared briefly before the attacks and hinted at bloodshed.

"Soon in the center of Paris, God willing" user @JIHAD_FOR_IS tweeted in English just 19 hours before the attacks began, according to the Bild newspaper. The tweet was accompanied by two emojis - an explosion and a fire.

It was also revealed that top-level Iraqi intelligence officials warned the US-led coalition against ISIS about the looming threat of "bombings or assassinations or hostage taking" just one day before the Paris attacks.
A dispatch sent by Iraqi intelligence and obtained by the AP said ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi had ordered an attack "in the coming days" on coalition countries fighting against the group.

A Paris memorial erupted in panic when crowds fled the Place de Republique, apparently over the sound of firecrackers.

A CNN video showed mourners trampling a display of flowers and candles while fleeing. Britain’s Channel 4 posted video of streams of people interrupting a reporter as he conducted a live broadcast.

Cops responded with guns drawn and helicopters before calm was restored.

Red, white and blue streaked the interior of the Cathedral of Notre Dame as André Cardinal Vingt-Trois, archbishop of Paris, led a memorial Mass for the families of victims and survivors.

"We pray for hope, not hate," the cardinal said in his sermon.

He said the French must meet "the violence of men" without hatred, urging mourners and Parisians not to "provoke aggression" and instead remember the dead.
President Obama is so paranoid about linking terrorists to the Muslim faith that when French President François Hollande used the phrase "Islamist terrorism" at a meeting in Washington, White House officials posted their official press video with audio of the words cut out completely.

The 8-minute clip was posted on the White House Web site and showed Hollande discussing the global terror threat at a Nuclear Security Summit meeting with Obama and advisers Thursday.

The White House's transcript of the event shows the French leader declared at the 4:49 minute mark that "the roots of terrorism, Islamist terrorism, is in Syria and in Iraq."

But rather than include Hollande's remark in its entirety, the Obama administration posted footage in which his interpreter's English translation of the words "Islamist terrorism" was missing.

The audio gap was first reported by the Media Research Center, a media watchdog.

After initially posting the video without the edits, the White House took it down and uploaded it again with the interpreter's voice muted, the MRC reported.

The nonprofit group reported that the White House's official MP3 recording of the meeting was also censored, but that the transcript was not.

"Thanks, of course, Ministry of Propaganda offices at WH for going ahead and simply posting the proof!" a user wrote in a comment on the White House's YouTube page.

Another wrote: "Nice backtracking, White House. You tried to censor Hollande and you know it."

Obama - who has come under fire for refusing to say "radical Islam" or "Islamic terrorist" - made three mentions of terrorism throughout Thursday's meeting, uttering the phrases "hands of terrorism," "scourge of terrorism" and "counterterrorism."

A White House official said the audio gap was the result of a technical error that happened to come as Hollande was uttering the controversial words.
"Nothing was edited out," the official told The Post. "A technical issue with the audio during the recording of President Hollande's remarks led to a brief drop in the audio recording of the English interpretation. As soon as this was brought to our attention, we posted an updated video online with the complete audio, which is consistent with the written transcript."

As of 6 p.m. Friday, the White House had posted footage with the words "Islamic terrorism" included.

Obama has stayed away from the phrase and others like it to avoid tying the world's 1.6 billion Muslims to terrorism.

He has been blasted by Republicans for the practice, with one of his biggest critics being Ted Cruz, who took aim at Obama after last month's Brussels terror attacks.

"Radical Islam is at war with us," the Republican presidential candidate wrote on Facebook. "For over seven years we have had a president who refuses to acknowledge this reality. And the truth is, we can never hope to defeat this evil so long as we refuse to even name it."
Terror in Paris Hell unleashed in City of Light * 120 killed in bloody onslaught * Horror at concert, soccer match

BYLINE: Jamie Schram, Isabel Vincent and Bob Fredericks

SECTION: Late City Final; Pg. 2

LENGTH: 761 words

Terrorists killed at least 120 people and wounded hundreds of other innocents in coordinated shooting and suicide-bomb attacks in Paris late Friday that included a mass execution at a rock concert, authorities said.

The carnage began at about 10 p.m. Paris time, with one group of jihadis attacking venues packed with people in a night-life district and another targeting a soccer stadium where President Francois Hollande was watching France play Germany, French police said.

Paris police prefect Michel Cadot said all eight attackers were believed dead, with seven having blown themselves up and one killed by responders. Authorities were trying to determine whether they had accomplices.

In all, the well-planned strikes targeted six locations in Paris:

n At the Bataclan theater, gunmen opened fire at the packed crowd that gathered to see the American rock band Eagles of Death Metal. The terrorist screamed, "This is for Syria!" and "Allahu akbar!"

The black-clad killers picked off wounded victims one at a time, as witnesses described the horror on social media.

Then the gunmen threw grenades into the audience before detonating their explosive vests when police stormed in. They killed at least 87 concert-goers.

n The same attackers had first sprayed several nearby cafes with automatic-weapons fire from the street, killing several diners and wounding many others at Le Petit Cambodge Cambodian restaurant in the 10th arrondissement.

Dozens of shots were fired, said witnesses, who described the scene as a "nightmare," with bodies in the street and police and ambulances rushing to their aid, the Liberation paper reported.

n They also strafed Le Carillon bar near the concert.
"We were listening to music when we thought we heard shots. A few seconds later, we were in a scene out of a war," one of a dozen doctors from the Saint-Louis Hospital told Le Monde.

"There was blood everywhere. We tried to go as quickly as possible. The wounded were evacuated. I did not see the assailants."

n At least 18 people were killed by gunfire at La Belle Equipe cafe in the 11th arrondissement.

n At the same time, a second team consisting of a suicide bomber and gunmen targeted the area outside Stade de France, where 80,000 fans watched the home team defeat the Germans in a "friendly" match.

Hollande was hustled away by his security detail.

n A shooting was also reported at Les Halles shopping center.

In an address broadcast around the world, Hollande said of the massacre: "It's a horror."

"Two decisions will be taken: A state of emergency will be decreed, which means certain places will be closed, traffic may be banned and searches may also take place throughout the Paris region," he said.

A citywide curfew was put into effect in Paris for the first time since 1944.

"The second decision I have taken is to close the borders. We must guarantee that no one can come in to commit any act. And at the same time, those who may have committed crimes can be arrested if they try to leave the country," he said.

The shattered nation's leader vowed to defeat the terrorists.

"Who are these criminals? Who are these terrorists who are attacking us? My heart goes out to the victims and their families. We will come together. France is strong," Hollande said.

"What the terrorists want is for us to be scared. But in the face of terror, we have to be united and will vanquish these terrorists.

"Long live the republic, and long live France."

At the White House, President Obama said, "This is not just an attack on Paris or the people of France, it was an attack on humanity."

He said the US would provide any assistance France needs, calling the country "our oldest ally."

"This is a heartbreaking situation. Obviously, those of us in the United States know what it’s like. We've gone through these kinds of episodes ourselves. Whenever these kinds of attacks happened, we've always been able to count on the French people to stand with us.

"We intend to be there with them in that same fashion."

Obama later spoke to Hollande on the phone and offered the condolences of the American people.
Le Carillon and the Bataclan are among the best-known venues in eastern Paris, and are in the same general neighborhood as the Charlie Hebdo offices, which were raided by jihadis in a deadly attack last January.
Terror in Paris Savages hailed from Belgium's 'terrorist town'

BYLINE: Bruce Golding

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 3

LENGTH: 392 words

Two more of the seven terrorists who died during a wave of carnage across Paris were identified on Sunday - while a Muslim neighborhood in Belgium emerged as a staging area for the deadly attacks.

Belgian prosecutors said at least two men from the Molenbeek section of Brussels were among the killers who blew themselves up during three hours of bloodshed on Friday.

Ibrahim Abdeslam, 31, detonated his explosive vest at the Comptoir Voltaire cafe, along the same road where world leaders marched to protest January's terror attack on the satirical Charlie Hebdo magazine.

Abdeslam, who is believed to have taken part in the shooting spree at the Bataclan theater, also rented a black SEAT car with Belgian license plates that was used during the attacks and in which cops discovered three Kalashnikov assault rifles when they found the car in the eastern suburb of Montreuil.

Another suicide bomber was identified Sunday as Bilal Hadfi, with The Washington Post saying investigators had confirmed Hadfi fought for ISIS in Syria.

The French Justice Ministry said a third man, age 20, blew himself up outside the Stade de France soccer stadium, but didn't release his name.

Authorities previously identified Ismail Omar Mostefai, 29, as one of the Bataclan theater killers, based on prints lifted from his severed finger.

Mostefai reportedly spent several months in Syria this past winter, and had been on a French terrorist watch list since 2010.

Both Abdeslam and Hadfi lived in Molenbeek, the same Brussels neighborhood where terrorist Ahmedy Coulibaly got the weapons he used in the Charlie Hebdo slayings.

Another terrorist, Ayoub El-Khazzani, is also believed to have bought weapons in Molenbeek, which he later used during a failed August attack aboard a high-speed train in France.

And the al Qaeda assassins who killed anti-Taliban commander Ahmed Shah Massoud ahead of the Sept. 11 attacks also stayed for a time in Molenbeek.
Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel admitted that the neighborhood was a "gigantic problem."

"In the last few months, many initiatives have been launched in the fight against radicalization, but there should be a greater crackdown," Michel said.

"We are going to work more intensely with the local authorities. The federal government is ready to provide more means."
Paris Terrorist Attacks Kill Over 100; France Declares State of Emergency

BYLINE: By LIZ ALDERMAN and JIM YARDLEY; Liz Alderman reported from Paris, and Jim Yardley from Rome. Andrew Higgins and Adam Nossiter contributed reporting from Paris, and Kimiko De Freytas-Tamura from London.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 1041 words

PARIS -- The night was chilly but thick with excitement as the big match between France's national soccer team and archrival Germany was underway at the national stadium in a northern suburb of Paris. President François Hollande watched with the crowd as the French players pushed the ball across midfield.

Then came the sharp, unmistakable crack of an explosion, overwhelming the roar of the crowd. A stunned moment passed. Players and spectators seemed confused, and eventually the awful realization swept through the stadium: Terror, for the second time this year, had struck Paris.

The symmetry could not be more jarring. A Parisian year that began with the bloodshed and chaos of the terrorist attacks at the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo and later at a Jewish grocery now had an even deadlier coda: With events still fluid and exact details unclear, the authorities said more than 100 people had been killed in a series of attacks across Paris. And dozens of people were taken hostage at a Parisian theater.

The urgent, bleating screech of sirens filled the evening air as police cruisers raced through the streets, uncertain if more mayhem was to come. Taxis ferried people home without charge as the police advised residents to stay inside. Ambulances screamed down the boulevards, as a stunned and confused French capital was again left to wonder: Why us? Once again?

"Paris has been hit again by terror tonight," Deputy Mayor Patrick Klugman said on Twitter.

For three days in January, Paris was gripped with fear as the police searched for Chérif and Saïd Kouachi after the two brothers attacked the Charlie Hebdo offices, a manhunt that ended with the Kouachis dying in a shootout. The terror only deepened when a third terrorist, Amedy Coulibaly, attacked a Jewish grocery, killing customers, before the police stormed the building and killed him.
Those attacks left France **reeling** for months, dredging up sadness and fury and horror. They also stirred a national debate over freedom of expression and the state of French Islam, a topic that has divided France like few others and seems certain to intensify now.

The attackers' names, or whether they are linked to radical Islamist groups, are not yet known. But some witnesses described militants shouting "God is **great**" in Arabic before opening fire.

France was already in a foul temper, with the economy stagnant and far-right politicians **stoking** anti-immigrant sentiment, especially Marine Le Pen, the leader of the National Front. Ms. Le Pen has **mocked** Mr. Hollande as weak and stirred French nationalism by vowing to close borders. With regional elections scheduled for Dec. 16, Ms. Le Pen seems certain to keep rising in the polls.

"Of course Le Pen is going to capitalize on this," said Laurence Bagot, 45, a French entrepreneur. "She has already been using rhetoric like closing borders and increasing national security. Now that's actually happening."

The French authorities, sharply **criticized** for failing to monitor the homegrown jihadists who had been known to security officials, vowed to tighten scrutiny of **suspected** terror cells and protect the country. Ms. Bagot said the attacks seemed to occur after French security was lowered months after the Charlie Hebdo attacks.

"It feels like we've created a monster, where the terrorists know better than our own security forces how to maneuver," she said. "These people are agile, young, have no morals and no limits."

On Friday night, the usual Parisian **reverie** was replaced by chaos. At the Stade de France, spectators described a sense of panic as the explosions shook the stadium and quickly undermined whatever **confidence** had returned in the months since the attack on the magazine.

"Of course I'm afraid for the future," said Tony Vandelle, 31, who attended the France-Germany match with his brother. "With all the strikes in Syria, we're not safe anymore."

"Already France was traumatized when Charlie Hebdo happened, including our children, who still talk about it at school," he added. "This is taking things to another level. To see something like this again so soon is frightening for the future."

Karim Laruelle and his brother, Smaen, described hearing three explosions. "It sounded like firecrackers," Karim Laruelle said. "We did not really know what was happening until we started getting texts from our families telling us the shootings had happened elsewhere in Paris.

"They wanted to know if we were safe."

It was a question that resonated in every corner of the city. At the junction of Folie-Méricourt and Oberkampf, roughly 150 yards from the Bataclan theater, where a rock concert had become a hostage scene, the sound of shooting echoed from the direction of the theater: single shots followed by automatic fire and a series of loud bangs.
Besides the assaults at the Bataclan and the stadium, the attackers chose several of Paris's busiest nightlife streets and intersections, including the Boulevard Voltaire, the Boulevard Beaumarchais and the Rue de Charonne.

A man calling himself Leo, who lives near the Rue de Charonne, told Europe 1, a radio network, that his wife was among the first to help victims near the Petit Cambodge restaurant -- describing the scene as a "massacre" and "apocalyptic."

His wife told him that bodies were "littered on the ground."

At the Bataclan, a reporter named Julien Pearce told Europe 1 that two men entered the theater with guns blazing.

"The men shot at the audience, which lasted for about 10 minutes, with one shot lasting three or four seconds," he said. "They shot, recharged their guns, and shot again, even aiming at those already lying on the ground. I saw about 10 bodies lying on the ground, but couldn't tell whether they were injured or dead."

The day had begun with ominous warnings: bomb threats at the German soccer team's hotel and at Gare de Lyon, one of the city's train stations. Trains coming into the station were halted or rerouted as officers combed the building for explosives. The hotel was also searched. Time passed.

Then the police reopened the station. It was a bomb scare. They happen fairly often in Paris. The city resumed its rhythms, unaware of what was to come.
Hope and Anguish Flood Social Media

BYLINE: By KATIE ROGERS; Dan Bilefsky, Hannah Olivennes, Russell Goldman and Matthew Rosenberg contributed reporting.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 11

LENGTH: 1016 words

In the hours after the deadly suicide bombings in Brussels on Tuesday, relatives and friends of Léopold Hecht, a Belgian college student, were hoping that he would emerge safely from the chaos. Without his cellphone, maybe, and perhaps in a hospital bed, but safe.

Without reliable cellular reception and with the city locked down, loved ones turned to social media. On Twitter and Facebook, they distributed photographs of Mr. Hecht, a sandy-haired law student at Saint-Louis University in Brussels who enjoyed skiing and acting.

"For those who haven't seen it, we're still in search of Léopold Hecht," a relative, Hadrien Hecht, wrote on Facebook on Tuesday afternoon. "If you have any info, contact me."

After several hours, an update appeared: Mr. Hecht, 20, was in a hospital.

But on Wednesday morning, Pierre Jadoul, the president of Saint-Louis University, announced that he had died.

Classmates mourn slain law student Leopold Hecht, "It's so unjust...He was brilliant, kind" #BrusselsAttacks pic.twitter.com/ekmccPnjkC -- Cassandra Vinograd (@CassVinograd) March 23, 2016

The death of Mr. Hecht, one of the 31 people killed in the bombings, illustrates how both hope and misinformation can flourish in the echo chamber of social media after a terrorist attack. For the families and friends of those who died and of some of the additional 300 who were hurt, the hours have been marked by constant communication but relatively little useful information.

"Pray for my best friend and her brother that were at the Brussels airport during the attacks," Alexa Eskinazi, a friend of a brother and sister who have not been heard from since they arrived at the airport, wrote on Facebook on Tuesday. "We still have not heard any news."

The authorities have asked for time to identify the victims, a process slowed in part, they say, by the condition of some bodies. But because the attacks occurred in the de facto capital of the European Union and the home of NATO's headquarters, more than the usual language and
cultural barriers were present. People from as many as 40 nationalities were caught in the 
attacks, according to Didier Reynders, Belgium's foreign minister.

"It's just waiting, which is heartbreaking" - sister of partner of David Dixon, Briton missing in 

Corners of social media became virtual bulletin boards. In one Facebook group, Bruxelles-profil 
Recherche Famille, messages arrived every few minutes on Wednesday.

Among the missing is Raghavendran Ganesan, an Indian citizen thought to have been 
commuting to his job at an information technology company at the time of the subway bombing 
that also took place Tuesday, according to a Facebook post by his sister. The sister, 
Chandrasekar Ganesan, said she had been trying to call him. "Sometimes it appears to ring, and 
sometimes it is busy," she wrote.

S. Inbasekar, a representative of the Indian Embassy in Brussels, said in an email that officials 
were still trying to find Mr. Ganesan by checking hospitals.

https://t.co/m441RHyyp Alexander and Sascha Pinczowski - missing in Brussels 
pic.twitter.com/E45Dx7hVcO -- Crystal (@WingsofCrystal) March 23, 2016

Friends and relatives of David Dixon, a Briton living in Brussels, spent the day posting photos of 
him on social media. Mr. Dixon, who normally took the subway to work, sent a text to an aunt to 
say he was safe after the airport was bombed, the BBC reported. He is a contractor for Euroclear, 
a financial services company.

"We are in touch with his partner and continue to coordinate with the authorities in locating 
David," Tristan Peniston-Bird, a Euroclear spokesman, wrote in an email on Wednesday.

Those close to Mr. Dixon must also grapple with news inquiries from around the globe. Emily 
Sutcliffe, a niece of Mr. Dixon's partner, Charlotte Sutcliffe, wrote an open message to journalists: 
"We would appreciate all help in finding David Dixon and reuniting him with my Aunty and his 
son. There is no comment from me or any of my family that can help in the search, that's in the 
hands of Belgian authorities."

The social media search continued on Wednesday for Alex and Sascha Pinczowski, siblings 
believed to have arrived at the airport on Tuesday on a flight from New York. On Facebook, 
family and friends, including Ms. Eskinazi, posted several notices.

Also at the airport were Stephanie and Justin Shults, an American couple working as 
accountants in Brussels, who had just dropped off Ms. Shults's mother, Carolyn Moore, for a 
flight home to Kentucky. Soon after Ms. Moore entered the security line, the bombs detonated.

"She was not injured in the blast, but chaos ensued and she couldn't find Justin or Stephanie," 
said Levi Sutton, a half brother of Mr. Shults.

"We tried calling the embassy, the Red Cross, hospitals," he added. "We're unable to get any 
information. It's frustrating."
Family hasn’t heard from Nashville couple Justin and Stephanie Shults since the Brussels attacks. pic.twitter.com/GKSqCmmBmp -- Rebecca Schleicher (@NC5_RSchleicher) March 22, 2016

Mark C. Toner, a deputy spokesman for the State Department, said in a statement that about a dozen Americans had been wounded, but that the department was not aware of any Americans who had been killed.

"We must emphasize that a number of U.S. citizens remain unaccounted for, and the Kingdom of Belgium has not yet released nationality information for reported fatalities," he said.

Other deaths have been confirmed through Facebook. Olivier Delespesse was killed in the subway bombing, according to a post from his employer, the Federation of Wallonia-Brussels.

"He was always smiling, always happy," Olivier Dradin, a co-worker, said in an interview. "He was very playful, and someone who was deeply interested in people -- the opposite of the kind of person who remains cold and unapproachable behind a desk."

On Tuesday, Fernando Tapia Coral confirmed the death of his sister, Adelma Tapia Ruiz, a Peruvian who had twin daughters.
Held Hostage in the Restroom, and Playing Dead to Stay Alive

BYLINE: By JACK HEALY and MARC SANTORA; Jack Healy reported from Orlando, and Marc Santora from New York. John Eligon contributed reporting from Orlando. Kitty Bennett contributed research.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 1560 words

ORLANDO, Fla. -- As the sound of gunfire in the nightclub grew louder, a patron named Orlando and a female friend took cover in a cramped bathroom stall, contorting their bodies on top of the toilet so their feet could not be seen. The gunman burst into the bathroom, went straight to the stall next to them and shot the people inside.

"People were screaming, begging for their lives," Orlando, 52, said in a telephone interview, asking that his last name not be used out of fear of retaliation from terrorist sympathizers.

The gunman, Omar Mateen, was silent, then left the bathroom.

"He went out and started shooting outside again," Orlando said.

For three sickening hours on Sunday morning, a life-or-death game of deception played out in a bathroom where the assailant holed up with hostages after killing dozens of people inside the Pulse nightclub. Orlando and his friend desperately tried to avoid becoming two more victims.

Orlando said he listened as the gunman warned his hostages not to text anyone, took their cellphones, called 911 to calmly pledge his allegiance to the Islamic State, spoke about a need to stop American bombing in Syria and threatened greater bloodshed if the police moved in.

Orlando described moments of surreal quiet as the siege went on and the killer fiddled with his weapon and used the sink and the hand dryer. Mr. Mateen checked on the bodies around him, Orlando said. At one point, Orlando switched positions and played dead, and he felt something poking him. He believed it was the gunman, checking to see if he was dead.

Around 5 a.m., the police blew a hole in the wall, enabling some of the hostages to escape, and officers engaged in a fatal final confrontation with the assailant.

Much of Orlando’s account corresponds with new information released by the police on Monday, other witness accounts and video evidence, which combined to paint a chilling picture of the hostage crisis that unfolded after the attack.
The first bursts of gunfire, around 2 a.m., were captured on video by 25-year-old Amanda Alvear, the footage uploaded to Snapchat.

In the video, she is recording herself and others as they dance to the last song of the evening at the popular gay club. Then she turns the camera toward her own face. She is staring into the lens as the first few shots are heard. They do not seem to scare her. But as they continue, unrelenting, roughly 20 rounds, the video abruptly ends. She was listed among the dead on Monday.

Just before the shooting began, 28-year-old Ashley Summers and her friends went to their bartender, Kate, at Pulse's back bar to order one more round -- a vodka, soda and lime for Ms. Summers; a vodka and Red Bull for one friend; and a specialty drink for the other.

One of Ms. Summers' friends was polishing the credit card receipt with all sorts of pleasantries for the bartender -- "sexy kitten," "muah," "you the best" -- when the popping started. For 15 seconds, through the pulsing of the salsa music, they thought it might have been firecrackers, Ms. Summers said in an interview. But they eventually figured out it was gunshots. Ms. Summers said a friend pulled her to the ground. They felt glass shattering over their heads.

They were near a back exit and crawled out. Concerned about what might be behind the seven-foot-high white privacy fence out back, they turned left, into a storage area. But they heard more gunshots coming from that direction, so they went back out onto the patio and used some furniture to vault over the fence. They dashed to safety.

"At that point it was shock, it was disbelief, it was fear, but it was urgency," said Ms. Summers, a ballroom dance instructor. "There was knowing that we had to get out of there."

Soon after Mr. Mateen first opened fire, he was confronted by an armed security guard who was an off-duty police officer, said John Mina, the Orlando police chief, at a news conference Monday morning. They exchanged gunfire. The security guard was then joined by an unknown number of police officers, the first to arrive on the scene.

During these early rounds of gunfire, the police said, many patrons were able to escape. But the assailant retreated deeper into the club, eventually barricading himself in the bathroom, where some patrons had gone to hide.

When the shots erupted, Norman Casiano dropped to his knees and crawled to what was apparently a different bathroom, seeking safety in a stall where many people were already crammed together. He tried to call 911, then his mother, shouting, "Mom mom mom mom!" into the phone before the call dropped.

As Mr. Casiano, 25, and the others huddled together, a wounded man staggered into the bathroom and dropped to the floor. They urged him to try to stay quiet. At one point, as the gunman approached, Mr. Casiano said, he could hear shells clattering to the floor and the gun reloading. Then Mr. Mateen entered the bathroom.

"Just firing, firing, firing," Mr. Casiano said in an interview at his parents' apartment, about two hours after he was released from the hospital on Monday afternoon.
He was hit once in the back and felt a hot pulse of pain tear into him, as if his leg had been severed. He ended up being shot twice in the back, both bullets passing through his body, he said.

Mr. Casiano said the gunman did not say anything, but laughed as people begged him not to shoot and assured him that they did not know who he was and had not seen his face.

"All I heard was a laugh," Mr. Casiano said. "He laughed like an evil laugh, something that's just going to be imprinted in my head forever." It was, he said, "a laugh of like, 'Ha, I did it.'"

When the gunman left the bathroom, Mr. Casiano tried to urge others to leave, he said, and was able to slip away and escape. He said he was in a hospital bed by about 3 a.m., two hours before the siege ended.

Orlando's escape took much longer. Hiding with his friend, he could hear the gunman drawing closer, the sound of each round getting louder.

As he and his friend positioned themselves on the toilet, Orlando said, he also braced one foot against the stall door.

Around this time, Mina Justice was asleep at home when she received a text from her 30-year-old son, Eddie Justice, she told reporters. He was also hiding in a bathroom at the club.

"Mommy I love you," the first message read. It came in at 2:06 a.m. "In club they shooting."

Only two minutes later, he wrote, "I'm gonna die."

Another 30 minutes would pass before he sent a text begging for help.

"Call them mommy," he pleaded.

"Hurry," he wrote. "He's in the bathroom with us."

Orlando said he never looked Mr. Mateen in the eye, but recalled his calm voice. At one point, after noticing that some of the hostages in the bathroom were texting, the gunman ordered them to surrender their phones.

He spoke again, according to Orlando, asking the hostages, "Are you guys black?"

"He said, 'I don't have an issue with the blacks,'" Orlando said.

Early in the siege, the gunman called 911 to pledge his allegiance to the Islamic State, Chief Mina said.

"He was cool and calm when he was making those phone calls to us," he said.

Orlando could hear the gunman speaking on the phone, presumably to the police. He spoke about how America should stop bombing the Islamic State.

"He got mad and hung up," Orlando said. He never heard Mr. Mateen mention gay people -- he spoke only about the Islamic State and Syria, and about the damage he still intended to do.
The gunman made several calls, and at one point, Orlando said, he told whoever was on the other line that there were people in the club with bombing vests as well as three snipers outside, ready to take out officers if they advanced on the club.

"Our negotiators were talking with him, and there were no shots at that time," Chief Mina said. "But there was talk about bomb vests, about explosives, throughout, and there were statements made about imminent loss of life."

Near the end of the siege, Mr. Mateen began to shoot the hostages in the bathroom, Orlando said.

By some miracle, he said, he once again avoided detection, but a person in the neighboring stall was not so lucky. A man who had just been shot crawled under the stall, grasping at both Orlando's and his companion's legs, pulling them down -- and exposing their hiding spot. They played dead, "my face against the toilet bowl," he said.

In those moments, Orlando's phone would not stop ringing, as friends called to see if he was safe. He was worried that the rings would draw attention and give him away.

As the final battle with the police began, Orlando could hear the gunman loading his weapon, at one point shouting, "I've got plenty of bullets."

Then there were explosions and chaos.

The police had blown a hole in the bathroom wall, but Orlando said his muscles were so cramped he could barely move. "My shoulders got caught," he said. "A cop grabbed me and pulled me out through the hole."

His female friend was also rescued. When he looked at his clothes, he was covered in blood, but it was not his own. He does not know if anyone else made it out of the bathroom alive.

Mr. Justice, whose last text to his mother was just before 3 a.m., did not survive. His death was confirmed by the Orlando authorities early Monday morning.
Friends Were Last to Arrive Before the Shooting Began

BYLINE: By LIZETTE ALVAREZ

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 12

LENGTH: 590 words

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Hanging out at home with a friend last Saturday, Demetrice Naulings decided there was still night enough to party. It was a snap decision. So he and his friends headed to Pulse, the gay nightclub where he often worked as a host, arriving just before 2 a.m. He was the last person to walk into the club -- a decision that matters him still.

"We never even got a drink," said Mr. Naulings, 34. Shots rang out from the next room. Pop pop pop pop, to the sound of the loud, syncopated music.

Everyone kept dancing until the next volley of shots. He heard screams, pandemonium. The people around him dived for the floor.

And then the music stopped. The gunman had shot at the D.J. booth and the chandelier in front of it. The lights went off for a bit and then came back on. Next to him was one of his best friends, Eddie Justice.

"You could hear complete silence," said Mr. Naulings, a hair stylist with a fondness for hats. "In the silence, you could hear bullets hitting the ground. You could hear a clip being taken out and hitting the floor and him putting a new one back in."

Then the bullets sped through the air in the next room again, and another moment of silence.

"It was devastating," he said. "You don't know whether you will lose your life. Should I run to the exit? What do I do next? You think he may be coming here. So people started to run."

They ran as a pack into the women's bathroom. "But we said, 'We are going to die here,' " Mr. Naulings said. "So me and Eddie just ran," he said.

They went into a narrow hallway, hidden away, that led to a side door that Mr. Naulings, familiar with the layout, knew opened to the outside. "People were climbing and stumbling and pushing," Mr. Naulings said. "They could see the door; like 90 people were pushing towards it."

In the mayhem of the hallway, Mr. Naulings lost sight of Mr. Justice. Still, the bullets flew. One penetrated the wall and hit a young woman who was frantically trying to get out. "She fell and people just stumbled over her in the pain of the moment," he said.
Suddenly, with the pressure of dozens of people pushing on it, the door burst open and the crowd poured out. Mr. Naulings ran into a bartender shot in the shoulder. He started looking frantically for his friends, Mr. Justice and another buddy. Mr. Naulings figured Mr. Justice had stayed behind and was in the men’s bathroom.

He reached out to him on Snapchat: "Where are you? The police are outside. Send me a message back."

Five minutes later, he saw a response from Mr. Justice. "I've been shot. I'm going into shock. Please tell them to hurry up. Call the police."

His other friend was also in the bathroom. He was hiding behind a dead body. At one point, the gunman poked a girl right next to him. She flinched, and he shot her.

Mr. Naulings found himself hugging everyone -- strangers, friends, co-workers. "I didn't think this was a slaughterhouse," he said. "It was a safe zone."

Later, he heard that Mr. Justice had died, desperately texting his mother as the killer stalked the building. "He meant everything to me," Mr. Naulings said of his friend. "He didn't just die for nothing."

Mr. Naulings never saw the gunman. He only heard the bullets, the shouts, the killer reloading. It lingers as a terrible soundtrack he can't keep out of his head. He's not sure when or if it will stop.

"It's like the boogeyman, when you are in your closet or under the bed," Mr. Naulings said. "You can't see him but you can hear him."

"It was a safe zone."
BRUSSELS -- Simon O'Connor, a European Commission official, had parked his car and was about to walk toward the departure terminal, en route to Rome for work. Salomé Corbo, an actress from Montreal, was at the Air Canada counter, about to check her luggage. Elouan Preaud and his wife, Angelina Centeno, were having breakfast, waiting to board an American Airlines flight to her native Colombia.

Then came the blasts.

The first one tore through the check-in area at Brussels Airport just before 8 a.m. on Thursday. Another followed, seconds later, near a Starbucks.

Mr. Preaud and his wife, who is pregnant, hit the ground as people screamed, "Get down, get down!" After the second explosion, he looked up to see a giant fan -- part of an air-conditioning unit -- that had landed near them. They had been eating at a Délifrance, talking about Salah Abdeslam, the terrorism suspect who was arrested in Brussels on Friday after a four-month global manhunt.

"In 10 seconds, everything changed," Mr. Preaud said. "It was an apocalypse. There was blood everywhere."

Ms. Corbo, like other witnesses, said the second blast was stronger than the first.

"I felt myself pushed forward as if by a force of air," she said in a phone interview. "People dove to the ground. Parts of the ceiling fell in. There were some injured people lying on the ground. I saw a foot that had been blown off."

Mr. O'Connor, the European Commission official, described hearing "two deeply rumbling crashes" as he approached the terminal from the parking lot.

"I saw the glass side of the terminal blown out, a lot of agitated people streaming out," he said in a phone interview. "There were people with blood on their faces, people with injuries on the ground outside the terminal building. It was the kind of stuff you hope to never see."
Nearly seven miles away, in the heart of Brussels -- as paramedics, police officers and other emergency workers were still evacuating hundreds of passengers at the airport and taking scores of injured people away for treatment -- a bomb went off on a subway train as it departed the crowded Maelbeek station. It was 9:11 a.m., just after the height of the morning rush.

"The train was coming into Maelbeek station," said Brian Carroll, 31, a communications consultant from Washington, who was on the train heading to a conference downtown. "There was suddenly a loud explosion. There was smoke everywhere. Everyone dropped to the ground. People were screaming and crying. I was on the ground.

"My immediate reaction was, 'We are getting attacked by terrorists,' " he continued. "For all I knew, there was a gunman going from car to car and shooting people."

After a couple of minutes, Mr. Carroll pried open a door of the subway car. "I thought to myself, 'I've got to get out of here,' " he recalled. "I headed toward an exit. There was smoke and soot everywhere. There was glass everywhere. It was like running through a cloud of dust."

He eventually joined a friend near the Berlaymont, the headquarters of the European Commission, the executive arm of the European Union. "I'm a bit shaken up, but I'm O.K.," he said.

Both the airport terminal and the subway station became scenes of carnage. Roughly 10 people were killed at the airport and 20 at the subway station, while 200 others were injured, officials said Tuesday evening, cautioning that the death toll could rise.

Among the dozen or so witnesses interviewed on Tuesday, a theme recurred with striking consistency. None said they had thought an accident occurred. All of them said they had immediately thought of terror, specifically the Nov. 13 terrorist attacks in and around Paris, which killed 130 people and were largely plotted in Brussels.

"We were scared that there were people with guns coming," said Johannie Hoedenaeken, a traveler who, like Mr. Preaud and Ms. Centeno, was eating at the Délifrance when the airport explosions occurred. "That's what happened in Paris. I really thought I was going to die."

Mr. Carroll, the visitor from Washington, said he had followed news coverage about Belgium's fractured governance and its response to the Paris attacks.

"This has been going on for a while, and the whole world is looking at Belgium," he said. "All of us have doubts that the Belgian government can manage this situation. There are so many competing language groups. The police don't cooperate well together."

But amid the chaos, there were acts of altruism.

"A kid came out bleeding a lot," said Ilaria Ruggiano, who was traveling with her mother and five others. "I tried to help him with a tissue, but it was not enough."

Ms. Corbo, the actress, credited a security guard for escorting her and other passengers to a secure area on the tarmac.

"There was a lot of humanity amid all the horror," she said. "We received water. I was hungry, and a stranger offered me some nuts. People were helping each other."
Even in their shock, people sought to alert or protect others.

"A lady was crying and yelling at me in French," said Murat Uneranuez, who was in the restaurant of the Sheraton Hotel across from the airport terminal, preparing for a conference of fraud examiners, when the blasts occurred. "She was panicked. I said, 'I am sorry, I don't speak French.' She switched to English and, speaking with a heavy accent, said: 'Don't go out, don't go out there. There are explosions.' She was still crying and yelling and was obviously in shock.

In the early evening, Belgian officials released a photo of three men captured from surveillance cameras, saying that two were suicide bombers and that they were looking for the third -- who may have had a bomb that failed to go off. All three looked calm. Like many of their victims, they were pushing airport luggage carts.
War Zone at Mile 26: 'So Many People Without Legs'

BYLINE: By TIM ROHAN; Reporting was contributed by John Eligon and Mary Pilon in Boston, and Steve Eder, Kirk Semple and Andrew W. Lehren in New York.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 1101 words

BOSTON -- About 100 feet from the end of the 26.2-mile Boston Marathon, explosions shook the street and sent runners frantically racing for cover. The marathon finish line, normally a festive area of celebration and exhaustion, was suddenly like a war zone.

"These runners just finished and they don't have legs now,'' said Roupen Bastajian, 35, a Rhode Island state trooper and former Marine. "So many of them. There are so many people without legs. It's all blood. There's blood everywhere. You got bones, fragments. It's disgusting."

Had Mr. Bastajian run a few strides slower, as he did in 2011, he might have been among the dozens of victims wounded in Monday's bomb blasts. Instead, he was among the runners treating other runners, a makeshift emergency medical service of exhausted athletes.

"We put tourniquets on," Mr. Bastajian said. "I tied at least five, six legs with tourniquets."

The Boston Marathon, held every year on Patriots' Day, a state holiday, is usually an opportunity for the city to cheer with a collective roar. But the explosions turned an uplifting day into a nightmarish swirl of bloodied streets and torn-apart limbs as runners were toppled, children on the sidelines were maimed, and a panicked city watched its iconic athletic spectacle destroyed.

The timing of the explosions -- around 2:50 p.m. -- was especially devastating because they happened when a high concentration of runners in the main field were arriving at the finish line on Boylston Street. In last year's Boston Marathon, for example, more than 9,100 crossed the finish line -- 42 percent of all finishers -- in the 30 minutes before and after the time of the explosions.

This year, more than 23,000 people started the race in near-perfect conditions. Only about 17,580 finished.

Three people were killed and more than 100 were injured, officials said.

Deirdre Hatfield, 27, was steps away from the finish line when she heard a blast. She saw bodies flying out into the street. She saw a couple of children who appeared lifeless. She saw people without legs.
"When the bodies landed around me I thought: Am I burning? Maybe I'm burning and I don't feel it," Ms. Hatfield said. "If I blow up, I just hope I won't feel it."

She looked inside a Starbucks to her left, where she thought a blast might have occurred. "What was so eerie, you looked in you knew there had to be 100 people in there, but there was no sign of movement," she said.

Ms. Hatfield wondered where another explosion might occur. She turned down a side street and ran to the hotel where she had agreed to meet her boyfriend and family after the race.

Amid the chaos, the authorities directed runners and onlookers to the area designated for family members meeting runners at the end of the race. It was traditionally a place of panting pride, sweaty hugs and exhausted relief.

But on Monday, it became a place of dread, as news of the attack spread through the crowd and people awaited word. One woman screamed over the din toward the streets roped off for runners: "Lisa! Lisa!"

Some saw the explosions as clouds of white smoke. To others, they looked orange -- a fireball that nearly reached the top of a nearby traffic light. Groups of runners, including a row of women in pink and neon tank tops and a man in a red windbreaker -- kept going a few paces at least, as if unsure of what they were seeing.

Some runners stopped in the middle of the street, confused and frightened. Others turned around and started running back the way they came.

"It is kind of ironic that you just finished running a marathon and you want to keep running away," said Sarah Joyce, 21, who had just finished her first marathon when she heard the blast.

Bruce Mendelsohn, 44, was at a party in a third-floor office above where the bombs went off. His brother, Aaron, had finished the race earlier.

"There was a very loud boom, and three to five seconds later there was another one," said Mr. Mendelsohn, an Army veteran who works in public relations. He ran outside. "There was blood smeared in the streets and on the sidewalk," he said.

Mr. Mendelsohn could not be sure how many people had been killed or wounded, but among the bodies he said he saw women, children and runners. The wounds, he said, appeared to be "lower torso."

As Melissa Fryback, 42, was heading into the home stretch, she realized she was on pace for one of her best times ever. She steered herself for the last three miles and finished in 3 hours 44 minutes. She met up with her boyfriend, and the two had made it about two blocks from the finish line when they heard the blasts.

"I can't help but wonder that if I hadn't pushed like that, it could have been me," she said.

Boston hospitals struggled to keep up with the flow of patients. Massachusetts General Hospital admitted 29 patients, 8 of them in critical condition; several of them needed amputations, a spokesman said.
Late Monday night, Brigham and Women's Hospital said it had seen 31 patients who were wounded in the explosions, ranging from a 3-year-old to patients in their 60s. As many as 10 were listed in serious condition, and 2 were in critical condition.

The Rev. Brian Jordan, a Franciscan priest based in Brooklyn, said he was in Boston to say a pre-race Mass near the starting line for a group of about 100 friends who were running. The group included Boston firefighters, Massachusetts State Police officers and several Army soldiers recently returned from Iraq.

Father Jordan, a veteran runner of 21 Boston Marathons himself, was about a block away from the blasts when they occurred, heading toward the course to watch his friends finish the race.

"I never heard that type of sound before," he said by telephone. "It was like cannons."

He said he made his way through the fleeing crowd toward the explosions. "I saw some blood," he said.

He realized he could be more effective wearing his Franciscan habit, so he returned to the firehouse and donned the brown robe of his order, and then headed back out into the streets.

"All I could do was try to calm people down," Father Jordan said. "Marathons are supposed to bring people together."

Jeff Constantine, 46, ended his first marathon a mile from the finish. It took 10 minutes to find out why. He was planning to finish the race at almost exactly the time that the bomb went off.

"If I didn't freeze up, if I hadn't been slow, I would have been right there," he said.

His family had traffic to thank. They were running late after watching Mr. Constantine run up Heartbreak Hill, the race's most challenging stretch, and never made it to the finish line.
Victims, Ages 8 and 29, Remembered for Kindness and Laughter

BYLINE: By BINYAMIN APPELBAUM and JOHN ELIGON; Kitty Bennett and Michael Roston contributed research.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 14

LENGTH: 952 words

BOSTON -- Martin Richard and Krystle Campbell, two of three people killed Monday at the Boston Marathon, shared something in common with most of those injured by the blasts. They were there to watch others. They were not supposed to be the subjects of a newspaper story.

Ms. Campbell, 29, who went almost every year to watch the runners cross the finish line, was standing with a friend. Martin, 8, was standing with his family.

On the campus of Boston University, administrators said Tuesday afternoon that the third person killed was a graduate student. The Chinese Consulate in New York said that the victim was a Chinese citizen but that it was not disclosing her name at the request of her family. The university said she was watching the race close to the finish line with two friends, one of whom was in stable condition at Boston Medical Center.

On Tuesday, mourners dropped flowers on the front steps of the gray two-story Victorian home where Martin lived with his family in the Dorchester section of Boston.

Martin's mother, Denise, and sister, Jane, 6, were badly injured by the blast. His older brother Henry, 12, and his father, Bill, also survived the explosions, said a spokesman for the family.

It was a shocking and turn for a family that was well liked and active in the community -- one that ate four-cheese pizza and meatballs several nights a week at a local Italian restaurant. They attended St. Ann Parish Neponset, a Roman Catholic church. Bill Richard was president of the board of St. Mark's Area Main Street, a community revitalization organization.

The operator of a clock at the center of the neighborhood froze the hands at 2:50 on Tuesday, the time of the first blast.

"Bad things happen, I understand that," said Suzanne Morrison, a close friend of the family. "But why three times over that family endured what they endured yesterday, that's something I'll never be able to process."

Martin was kindhearted and had an infectious smile," Ms. Morrison said. She said he had spent a school year in the same class as one of her daughters.
"He was the one boy that all the girls had a crush on," Ms. Morrison said. "He didn't shun the girls. He would play with them. He was just a great, great kid."

Mr. Richard released a statement, thanking "our family and friends, those we know and those we have never met, for their thoughts and prayers. I ask that you continue to pray for my family as we remember Martin."

Martin was a third grader at Neighborhood House Charter School. He was frequently in front of his house playing sports with his brother and sister, whom a neighbor described as a tomboy. A red bicycle helmet sat on the front lawn on Tuesday and there was a basketball hoop and hockey goal in the driveway.

"Very active, very normal American kids," said a neighbor, Jane Sherman, 64, describing the Richard children.

Martin would always tell her hi, Ms. Sherman said, but he was afraid of her Rottweiler, Audra Rose.

About 10:30 on Monday night, Ms. Sherman said, she saw Mr. Richard walking into his house, looking 'white as a sheet.' She asked him what was wrong but he did not answer. She then went to his house and asked a family friend who was at the Richard home what had happened. "He said, 'Martin is dead.'"

Ms. Campbell's family initially was told that she was merely injured, according to her grandmother Lillian Campbell. Her identity was confused with that of a friend who had been standing with her. Ms. Campbell's parents learned their daughter had died only when they entered the other woman's hospital room, Lillian Campbell said.

"We're heartbroken at the death of our daughter," her mother, Patty Campbell, who could barely be understood through her tears, said in a statement she read on the porch of the family's Medford home on Tuesday afternoon. "She was a wonderful person. She was sweet and kind and friendly and she was always smiling."

Ms. Campbell worked long days and nights as a restaurant manager, most recently for Jimmy's Steer House in Arlington, but friends said she never lost her sense of humor.

"She made everyone feel special, and in her line of work, it's really hard," said Laurie Jackson Cormier, who ran a park where Ms. Campbell managed a restaurant for a number of years. "They work so damn hard, and you don't often come across everyone who has that attitude."

Ms. Campbell grew up in Medford, graduating from the local public high school in 2001. She started working as a waitress in high school, and worked her way up to a job as the manager of Hingham branch of the Summer Shack, a popular chain of Boston seafood restaurants.

At the end of the summer season at the Summer Shack in 2009, she organized a hot dog eating contest to rid the restaurant of hundreds of unsold sausages.

"I figured it's the last weekend of the season, so why not have some people come out and stuff their face?" she told The Boston Globe.
Ms. Campbell lived with her grandmother for almost two years, caring for her after a medical procedure, before moving recently to Arlington and taking a new restaurant job on the other side of the surf and turf divide.

Lillian Campbell said her granddaughter called several times a week and came to see her most weeks. They had a cup of tea and "lots of laughs about foolish things."

"Every time she comes in the house to see anybody it's a hug and a kiss, and that's how she left," Lillian Campbell said.

"'Love you, Nana,' that's what she said."

Cate Seely, who met Ms. Campbell once in the past, ran the marathon on Monday. On Tuesday, wearing her marathon jacket, she walked up to the Campbell family home with the red rose she received after finishing the race and left it on the front steps.
Americans React to Paris Attacks With Empathy, Fear, and Resolve

BYLINE: By JACK HEALY and RICHARD FAUSSET; Jack Healy reported from Denver, and Richard Fausset from Raleigh, Miss. Reporting was contributed by Fernanda Santos from Phoenix; Mitch Smith from Chicago; Alan Blinder from Charleston, W.Va.; Frances Robles from Miami; Jess Bidgood from Boston; Ian Lovett from Los Angeles; Kirk Johnson from Seattle; and Eli Rosenberg, Ryan McCarthy, Nate Schweber, John Surico, John Broder, Emily Steel, Stephen Cooper and Jaimie Abir from New York.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 11

LENGTH: 1539 words

DENVER -- It made parents worry for their children studying abroad. It sent a shiver of fear into plans for vacations to France. Cafes and nightclubs in Miami and Los Angeles felt newly vulnerable, not so different from the bloody scenes unfolding on people's phones and televisions. For Americans accustomed to tuning out foreign conflicts, it brought the world crashing in.

Few terrorist attacks in foreign lands have seized the attention of this country like the carnage in the streets of Paris, a city an ocean away but glittering in the memories of countless American honeymoons, junior years abroad and bucket-list vacations.

In the last week, the attacks have pushed global terrorism and the Islamic State to the front lines of worry for many Americans who have taken to social media in record numbers to track wall-to-wall coverage of a cosmopolitan city transformed into a war zone.

It all felt so familiar, people said in more than three dozen interviews across America -- as though it could easily have been a restaurant or bar in their neighborhood.

"It's incredibly scary," said Katy Neusteter, who works for an environmental advocacy group in Boulder, Colo., and is flying to Paris next week for a climate conference. She said each new email exchange or videoconference with colleagues now began with a somber mention of the latest unsettling news.

Dorcas Guest-Nelson, a part-time nurse in Phoenix, said that her eldest son, Jay, 20, had just been to Paris and that she had cousins who lived in London.

"I feel France is more similar to us," she said. "When I think about Africa, I think about coups and genocide, about crazy dictators and who's in charge. I'm not saying that I wasn't affected by what happened in Kenya -- those were innocent people, too," she said, referring to the attack in
April by Shabab militants that killed 147 people at a Kenyan university. "But France was
different," she said. "It was, like, I could have been there. My son could have been there. I could be the one sitting outside on a cafe and getting sprayed by bullets."

The attacks shook Americans who know France intimately as well as those who had only seen pictures of the Eiffel Tower.

Across the country, people attended solidarity marches for France, bathed public buildings in the French tricolor and pondered whether they should cancel their travel plans.

In Mississippi, Baptist congregants altered their morning rituals to pray for victims in a place many had never visited. In Utah, public safety officials released a video about how to recognize the eight signs of terrorism.

The attacks are already reshaping debate over immigration and border security, vaulting foreign conflicts to the center of the presidential race. In a poll by Bloomberg Politics taken just after the attacks, Americans said that terrorism and the Islamic State were now the most pressing issues facing the country, replacing their concern about jobs and the economy.

People said they were paying attention now because the Islamic State's rampage in Paris felt somehow closer to home, than the yearslong slaughter of thousands of Syrians and Iraqis, the recent suicide bombings in Beirut or the bombing of a Russian passenger jet.

In Raleigh, Miss., Randy Clayton, 51, said the Paris attacks showed the Islamic State to be "really aggressive." He added, "Right now, I don't think you can say anywhere that you are safe, with the climate of the world the way it is."

Mr. Clayton, the pastor of students and family life at the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, was watching the news in an effort to understand how it might affect his family. He said his oldest son was in an honors program at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Miss., and had been considering signing up for a semester or year of study abroad. "Before, I was really encouraging him to," said Mr. Clayton. "But my wife and I last night, we were talking about it, and are really not too excited about it."

Several church members, including the interim pastor, Gerald Gordon, said they were watching the news from Paris intently. They knew that a place like Raleigh would not be on anyone's list of targets for terrorism. But they did not reject the possibility that other, more populated places in Mississippi might be. Some mentioned the arrest, in August, of two Mississippi State students who authorities said had been trying to join the Islamic State.

"We are very concerned," said Ann Butler, 58, a fourth-grade science teacher. "Because we just feel like it's a matter of time before it's going to happen here. We believe our borders are not secure enough."

Beth Crumpton, 76, a retired schoolteacher, said that she supported the effort by Gov. Phil Bryant and other governors around the country to block the resettlement of Syrian refugees. "It's not because I'm a raving rebel from the South," she said. "It's because we don't have time to check them out."
People had other questions. Where would the Islamic State strike next? Could any American cities be targeted? American officials have said there is no credible intelligence that the Islamic State or any other group is plotting an attack inside the country. Would the attacks lead the United States military deeper into another conflict in the Middle East?

"It will get much worse before it gets better," said Douglas Whitcomb, the owner of a food service business from Long Island who was visiting his son in Massachusetts. "Because the free world has not adequately come up with a strategy to deal with this. You cannot placate madness."

Among posts by major Internet and media companies, Paris has been the only news event to register among the year’s Top 20 stories, as measured by likes, shares, and other actions on Facebook and Twitter, according to data from TrackMaven, a marketing analytics tool, that was analyzed by The New York Times. The rest of the top stories of the year were entertainment-related, memes or viral stories. Similarly, viewership of television news spiked the first night of the attacks and stayed high through the week.

Not everyone expressed worry, or was even paying special attention. They had been spectators to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the marathon bombing in Boston, bombings in London and Madrid and too many mass shootings in the United States to list.

In Seattle, Robb Crowe, 54, a social worker, said he was more worried about a rise in muggings and assaults in his Capitol Hill neighborhood. He had avoided learning too much about Paris.

"It’s kind of like, ‘not again,’ " he said. "There have been so many incidents over the last year, I’m just kind of overwhelmed by it."

The attacks also stirred anger and hatred. In Englewood, Colo., vandals threw a rock through the sign of Isis Books & Gifts, a 35-year-old business named for the Egyptian god. Muslim groups said they had tallied a rash of threats and vandalism in the days after the attacks, including an Eiffel Tower symbol spray-painted onto the side of a Nebraska mosque.

When members of the Islamic Center of Pflugerville, outside of Austin, Tex., arrived for morning prayers on Monday, they saw pages of the Quran covered with feces littering the entrance. It was the first vandalism there since the mosque opened in a strip mall three years ago.

"We had our guard down," said Faisal Naeem, a board member at the mosque. "We were like, ‘It’s not going to happen.’ But that concept of an oasis is no longer there."

Many of the people who felt the most shaken by news of the attacks had European connections. French expatriates said they watched the aftermath of the attacks on French channels on cable TV and scoured social media to see if friends and family were safe. Janet Poth, an owner of a French bistro in Denver, raised three sons in Paris and planned to fly back in two weeks. She said the attacks would not deter her.

"It is a city that I absolutely love," she said. She had been in France when 12 people were killed in an attack on the offices of Charlie Hebdo, the satirical newspaper. "You’re thinking, ‘Is there going to be a third? Is it going to continue?’ " 
Julie Curtiss, 33, a painter from Paris who now lives in Brooklyn, said the killings deeply unsettled her because the victims were her peers. Last Friday, she anxiously scrolled through Facebook as her friends in the neighborhood of the attack all checked in as safe, except for one classmate. He had gone to the Bataclan concert hall, and died there.

"It feels like the beginning of something bigger, a war that doesn't have frontiers, something that doesn't have barriers," she said.

While travel businesses expressed concern about a decline in tourism, not one person in interviews intended to cancel travel plans to Europe or steer clear of Paris. Richard and Diana Newton, a retired couple who live part of the year in Seattle and part of the year in Spain, and said they were not going to change plans to fly to Spain in February for a three-month stay in Valencia.

"You can't say to yourself, 'Hey, I'm going to sit in my chair and watch TV,' " Mr. Newton said. "And you don't stop walking the street because you might get mugged."
Clinton Surprises and Delights by Attending Pride Parade in Orlando's Shadow

BYLINE: By MATT FLEGENHEIMER; Thomas Kaplan contributed reporting.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 10

LENGTH: 985 words

It is difficult to surprise at New York City's pride parade -- that pulsing kaleidoscope of pink unicorn horns and rainbow undergarments, bejeweled miniature dogs and glitter-specked revelers who seemed to have misplaced their shoes.

But around 1:45 p.m. Sunday, beneath a virtually cloudless sky, something was afoot on Christopher Street.

Lights flashed. Officers stirred. Sirens pierced the Cher soundtrack wafting over Greenwich Village.

Soon, a van door opened.

''Hillaryyyyyyyyy!' someone hollered from the sidewalk. And so began a very low-speed chase along the city's foremost corridor of gay rights.

For four blocks or so -- beginning steps from the Stonewall Inn, the nexus of the modern gay rights movement -- Hillary Clinton led a mayor, a governor, a phalanx of aides, a crush of reporters and several beleaguered security personnel on a 15-minute stroll.

It was an unannounced appearance for Mrs. Clinton, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, two weeks after the massacre at Pulse, a gay nightclub in Orlando. The tragedy colored the proceedings across several floats and marching groups, lurking like an unwelcome guest.

Some attendees dressed in white, with the names and faces of victims displayed on placards hanging from their necks.

''We Are Orlando,'' a sign read.

''One Pulse,'' said another.

Mrs. Clinton did not speak at the event, smiling and waving and occasionally venturing to the police barricades to shake hands.
But her presence resonated, attendees said, communicating a measure of solidarity in a wrenching moment. "It was a nonverbal confirmation of her support," said Micah Feinberg, 35.

Women with rainbow leis around their necks reached for her. Residents overhead pointed cellphones from their open windows. A large rainbow flag flapped against a fire escape.

"She's right here," a woman said, to no one in particular. "Right here."

When Mrs. Clinton, moving west, reached Bleecker Street, a group rained confetti from a rooftop.

"The next president of the United States!" shouted a man with a microphone. "Make some nooooo-oooooiise."

Mrs. Clinton waved toward another guest in a rainbow one-piece bathing suit. Moments later, as a "Hillary" chant began to build, she stopped to acknowledge the crowd.

Throughout the walk, she was joined by a horde of dignitaries eager to share in her spotlight. These included Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio, who remain engaged in a protracted feud, and the Rev. Al Sharpton, who quickly positioned himself beside Mrs. Clinton and took care not to relinquish his perch.

By about 2 p.m., Mrs. Clinton was hustled into a waiting vehicle, waving once more before heading for a flight to Indiana. (In a speech there hours later, she addressed Britain's vote to leave the European Union, arguing it reaffirmed the need for "steady, experienced leadership" in the presidential race.)

Paradegoers remained tickled by her home-state cameo.

"I saw her and was completely dumbfounded," said Kelsey Roberts, 28, an engineer who said Mrs. Clinton was an inspiration to her in a male-dominated field.

Mrs. Clinton has marched in the parade before, participating as far back as 2000 during her run for the United States Senate. Her appearance on Sunday came as her Republican opponent, Donald J. Trump, continues to make the case that he is the true champion of gay rights in the presidential race.

In the wake of the Orlando shooting, Mr. Trump has said he is the candidate most able to keep gay and lesbian Americans safe from hate crimes.

While Mrs. Clinton remains likely to command the vast majority of support from gay voters, she has had a complicated history with gay rights.

As secretary of state, she focused often on international gay rights, urging countries to accept gays and lesbians during a 2011 speech in Geneva. She has since denounced Russia's treatment of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people, and in March 2013, she endorsed same-sex marriage both "personally and as a matter of policy and law."

But while much of Mrs. Clinton's donor base includes gay and lesbian supporters, some have questioned the deliberate pace of her evolution. There are also old wounds from her husband's
administration, which enacted the military policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and the Defense of Marriage Act barring federal recognition of same-sex marriages.

Mrs. Clinton inspired fresh criticism this year after the death of Nancy Reagan, mistakenly praising Mrs. Reagan's "low-key advocacy" concerning H.I.V./AIDS despite the Reagans' lengthy public silence on the disease. Mrs. Clinton quickly apologized.

The crowd on Sunday included a handful of skeptics.

"She did it strictly so that we would relate the image of her with the image of pride," said Lexi Avidani, 24, from Long Island. "And she doesn't support it."

Most, though, were more effusive.

Wearing a shirt that read, "SPOILER ALERT: HILLARY WINS," Matt McDermott, 26, marveled at the progress of gay civil rights.

"A year ago, we passed marriage equality in the Supreme Court, and a year later, a major party nominee is walking in the pride parade in New York," he said. "So things change quickly."

Loretta Tassotti, 55, said Mrs. Clinton's gesture demonstrated that she was "not afraid."

"This is not a Trump kind of party," she added.

Ms. Roberts, the engineer, suggested the significance ran deeper.

The Orlando victims were so young, she said, that it was essential for presidential candidates to participate in the parade.

Ms. Roberts looked out again on the parade route, where a collection of mourners drew near. She reconsidered the question of Mrs. Clinton's appearance.

"How could you not come?" she asked.

Find out what you need to know about the 2016 presidential race today, and get politics news updates via Facebook, Twitter and the First Draft newsletter.
Survivors Relive Horror: 'He Shoots Toward My Head'

BYLINE: By JACK HEALY and JOHN ELIGON; Reporting was contributed by Les Neuhaus, Sheryl Gay Stolberg and Wendy Thompson from Orlando, and Richard Pérez-Peña from New York.

ORLANDO, Fla. -- The night was a getaway. A young woman fresh out of high school was on vacation with her cousin and close friend, dancing without a care. It was Latin night at the gay nightclub. She had suggested that the three come here and was so excited that she sprang onto a stage to dance as strangers tossed dollar bills her way.

The night was a reunion. Two old friends who had drifted apart bumped into each other in the swirl of salsa and hip-hop beats on the dance floor. They apologized, hugged, made plans to have lunch the next day. As they got ready to leave, one of them joked about being so young, the span of years lying before them.

The night was a party. At the back bar, another three friends sipped their final drinks of the night -- vodka, soda and lime, a vodka and Red Bull -- and scrawled playful notes to the bartender on their receipt. "Sexy Kitten." "You the best."

The night was ending. Just before 2 a.m., a D.J. on the club patio was spinning reggae to wind things down. Then, a noise. Firecrackers? The D.J. lowered the volume.

'Boom, Boom, Boom'

Jeannette McCoy was standing at the bar when the room exploded. "Boom, boom, boom," she said.

She was hit with a flurry of debris as bullets tore into walls and plaster. A woman next to her was shot, and Ms. McCoy, 37, ran for the patio, climbing over people, tripping over them as they crouched to avoid the spray of bullets, trying somehow to brace her body to take the bullet she feared was coming her way.

When she got outside, she ran to the front of the club, now crowded with police officers and scores of the wounded. "And I’m screaming at them to go in the building," she said. She found a friend, Juan, who had been shot in the leg. She took off her shirt and used it to stanch the bleeding.
'He Shoots the Girl Next to Me'

Angel Colon was hit three times in the leg as he raced for the door. He fell and was trampled by fleeing patrons as he tried to get back up. His left leg was shattered. All he could do was lie on the floor, hearing screams and bangs as the gunman left the room. When he returned, he started shooting people on the floor to make sure they were dead.

"I look over, and he shoots the girl next to me," Mr. Colon said, speaking to reporters at Orlando Regional Medical Center this week, where he was being treated. "And I'm just there laying down, and I'm thinking: 'I'm next. I'm dead.' So I don't know how, but by the glory of God, he shoots toward my head but it hits my hand, and then he shoots me again and it hits the side of my hip. I had no reaction. I was just prepared to just stay there, laying down so he won't know that I'm alive."

The gunman turned his attention to arriving police officers, exchanging gunfire before backing off to another room. One officer dragged Mr. Colon through broken glass to the street and then to a nearby Wendy's.

"I wish I could remember his face or his name," Mr. Colon said of the officer. "I'm grateful for him."

'Love U'

Eighty miles away in Spring Hill, Fla., Santos Rodriguez was up late playing Rainbow Six Siege, a first-person shooter video game, when his phone lit up with texts from his older brother, Jeff.

"I beenx shot at club.... dying i love u."

"Dead bodies on top of me.... tell everyone i love hrm."

"Huh?" Santos replied.

Their was a relationship of sarcasm, Santos said. Always cracking jokes. This had to be another one.

But Jeff, who was bleeding, persisted.

"***love u."

Santos, 29, searched the internet and saw it was no joke. He woke his parents, told his wife to watch the children, and raced to Orlando, skimming across the dark freeway at 100 miles per hour.

It wasn't until 7 that night that the family found out that Jeff Rodriguez, 37, had survived.

'God Forgive Me'

As Leydiana Puyarena raced from the gunshots, people fell around her, some tugging at her feet and pulling off her shoes.

Ms. Puyarena, 33, saw a woman standing frozen, looking back toward the shots. She grabbed the woman, and they ducked into one of the bathrooms in the club, the one closest to the back
patio. She tried to listen over the panicked noise of the 15 people in the bathroom, telling the others to calm down or they would all die.

She sat on the toilet, huddled with the bloodied group. She heard gunshots. She heard the gunman screaming in what sounded like a foreign language. She heard the gunshots getting closer.

"God forgive me for everything that I've done," she prayed. "Take care of my kids, please."

The gunman never came into their bathroom, she said, and after about half an hour, Ms. Puyarena said she looked to a man next to her, and they decided to try to run. But as they got up to leave, she said, a police officer banged on the bathroom door. The officer rushed them out through a back exit.

It was only after she was outside that an officer pointed out her bloody left calf, and she realized she had been shot. Only then did the pain set in.

'I Don't Want to Die'

Stanley Almodovar III, 23, was shot three times, staggered out of the club and fell to the ground. He was one of 49 people killed.

When Norman Casiano, 25, heard the shots, he dropped to the floor and crawled toward the two bathrooms at the back of the club. He crammed himself into a handicapped stall with maybe 20 others.

A young man stumbled into the bathroom, bleeding, and groped toward the stall. Mr. Casiano tried to pull him in underneath the partition, but there were just so many people and the young man was in such pain. Mr. Casiano tried to reassure him, saying that maybe the gunman wouldn't find them in the bathroom.

"He looks me in the eye and said, 'I don't want to die, I don't want to die,' " Mr. Casiano said.

Then the gunman was in the bathroom. He laughed.

"I just hear one solid gunshot, and you see the boy, just completely, you saw the life leave him."

He started shooting at the stall. Two shots pierced Mr. Casiano. Another cut down a young woman who had been standing next to him. People begged him to stop, to spare them, trying to assure him they hadn't seen his face. He reached his gun over the stall wall and shot into the cluster of people.

As the screaming died down, people slumped to the floor. Some were playing dead. Others were not playing.

When the gunman left the bathroom, Mr. Casiano knew it was time to go. He climbed out of the stall, stepping on bodies to make it out. He saw flashlights from police officers who were trying to penetrate the club and rescue people. He escaped. It was less than an hour into the three-hour siege.

'It's Not Real to Me'
Akyra Monet Murray, 18, was celebrating her high school graduation on a weeklong vacation from Philadelphia with her cousin, Tiara Parker, and her close friend, Patience Carter, both 20.

Ms. Murray, a basketball point guard who wanted to study criminology, and Ms. Carter, a New York University student, had made it out of the club. But when they realized that Ms. Parker was not with them, they went back in for her. "I told her, 'Let's get Tiara; we've got to get Tiara,' " Ms. Carter said at a news conference at Florida Hospital Orlando, recalling her words to Ms. Murray.

When they realized their way out was blocked, the three retreated to the cramped bathroom, struggling to fit their bodies inside an overcrowded stall.

The gunman entered the bathroom, grumbling that his gun had jammed, Ms. Parker said in an interview. Some of the people around her thought they could seize the opportunity and rush him, but as they tried to open the stall door, he began shooting, hitting the three young women and many others.

Ms. Carter fell to the floor, her femur shattered by a bullet.

Over the course of the siege, the gunman asked his hostages if they knew about the shooting last year in South Carolina in which a white man had killed nine African-Americans inside a prominent black church, Ms. Parker said. He got on the phone with the authorities, pledged his allegiance to the Islamic State and said he had enough bombs to "light up a city block," Ms. Parker said. Then he asked about race; the three women are black.

"He asked if there are any black people in here; I was too afraid to answer," Ms. Carter said. "But there was an African-American man in the stall where most of my body was, and he said, 'Yes, there are about 6 or 7 of us.' And the gunman responded by saying: 'You know, I don't have a problem with black people. This is about my country; you guys have suffered enough.'"

All through this, the three women devised a signal to show one another they were still alive. They began patting one another on the arm, scratching a wrist, grasping a hand and waiting for an answered grip. For three hours, pat pat. Pat pat. A Morse code of silent touches.

"Every time a phone rang or a text message went off, he would say, 'Give it up, where is it?' " Ms. Carter said. When someone else's phone rang, he demanded to have it. She slid hers out from the stall, hoping to appease him. Finally, right before the police burst in, there was another round of gunfire. Someone shielded Ms. Carter's body with his or her own, taking a bullet to spare her.

Ms. Murray was bleeding, and the last time Ms. Parker saw her was as the police broke through the walls of the bathroom and pulled Ms. Parker away. As they left the club, she said she pleaded with them to take Ms. Murray out first. On Monday morning, the family learned she was listed among the dead.

Ms. Carter, racked with guilt, is second-guessing herself. "If I would have just told Akyra to stay outside," she said, her voice trailing off.

Ms. Parker knows everything that happened is all too real, but sometimes it does not feel quite that way. Ms. Murray's things are still in their vacation condo. The family is still in this palm-fringed world they had dreamed of visiting for the past six months.
"I want her to just walk through that front door," Ms. Parker said. "I didn't expect her to leave me like this. It's not real to me. I know it. But I don't believe it."
The youngest fatality in the Boston Marathon bombing was an adorable 8-year-old boy who dreamed of world peace.

A heartbreaking photo of little Martin Richard, taken last spring, shows the gap-toothed child proudly holding a poster with two hand-drawn hearts and a peace sign and the words, "No more hurting people. Peace."

The "sweet" little boy had made the poster in class after the shooting of Trayvon Martin in Florida.

His teacher in Dorchester, Mass., yesterday posted the photo on Facebook, where it quickly became a symbol of what was lost in the horrific bombing that killed three and injured more than 170.

"This is something [his parents] will never recover from," said the Richards' next-door neighbor, Jane Sherman.

"He went to the marathon with his family, and he never made it home."

Martin had been eating ice cream and standing near the finish line with his family when the first bomb went off.

The terrified family was trying to hop over the race barriers to safety when the second blast occurred, killing Martin.

His sister, Jane, 6, is in danger of losing a leg from the attack, and their mother, Denise, was hit in the head by the explosion and had to undergo surgery.

Doctors removed ball bearings from father Bill Richard's leg. Only Martin's older brother, Henry, 12, ran fast enough to get out of harm's way.
"They were looking in the crowd as the runners were coming to see if they could identify some of their friends when the bomb hit," said Rep. Steven Lynch (D-Mass.), who has known the Richards for 25 years.

Bill Richard was supposed to run the race but dropped out because of an injury, his friends and neighbors said.

The devastated father yesterday asked for continued support for his family as they recover.

"My dear son Martin has died from injuries sustained in the attack on Boston. My wife and daughter are both recovering from serious injuries," Bill Richard wrote in an e-mail.

"We thank our family and friends, those we know and those we have never met, for their thoughts and prayers. I ask that you continue to pray for my family as we remember Martin."

The family's anguished neighbors remembered Martin as a spirited boy with a million-dollar smile who loved the outdoors, just like his father.

"He is a boy's boy," Sherman said. "He liked riding his bicycle, playing basketball and soccer with his friends. Mr. Richard took them skiing on the weekends."

Bill Richard was an active member of the merchants association of historic Dorchester. Denise Richard works as a librarian at the Neighborhood House Charter School, where Martin was in third grade and his sister in first.

"The parents were always with the children," Sherman said.

Martin's dream for peace was being carried on by his young classmates, who stopped by the home to drop off a soccer ball they all signed for the family.

"He would always try to work things out. Even if it wasn't his business, he would try to make things better," said a 9-year-old boy, Andres.

"I would compare him to ice cream because he was nice and sweet,"

Andres' twin brother, Alejandro, added, "He would bring us joy and laughter. He would try to turn a sad moment into a happy moment."
Terror at the Marathon 'I heard this bang - then chaos. You could see the panic'.

BYLINE: Leonard Greene

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 1304 words

Body parts, bloody streets and broken glass marked the end of Boston's most celebrated event yesterday.

In one moment, cheers filled the crisp New England air for the runners who willed themselves across the Boston Marathon's finish line.

Seconds later, two deafening explosions shattered the festive spirit, creating mass panic that sent athletes and spectators sprinting for their lives.

"There were people all over the ground," said Roupen Bastajian, 35, a state trooper from Smithfield, RI, who had just finished the race.

"We started grabbing tourniquets and started tying legs. At least 25 to 30 people have at least one leg missing, or an ankle missing, or two legs missing," he said, helping victims while still wrapped in his post-race heat blanket.

Thick, acrid smoke filled the Back Bay neighborhood. Ambulances clogged the streets and sirens wailed.

"You could smell it - it smelled like a giant firecracker," Beck Dangler, who was on a fifth-floor patio overlooking the finish line, told NBC News.

"Then there was immediate pandemonium... and then the immediate scatter."

Witnesses described a war zone - shocked victims were hobbling around without arms and legs, searching for help.

One of the three dead was an 8-year-old child. More than 130 were injured.

"They just started bringing people in with no limbs," said runner Tim Davey, of Richmond, Virginia.

Davey said he and his wife, Lisa, tried to shield their children's eyes from the gruesome scene inside a medical tent, but "they saw a lot."
"They just kept filling up with more and more casualties," Lisa Davey said. "Most everybody was conscious. They were very dazed."

First responders and doctors quickly turned the runner medical tent - meant to care for exhausted marathoners - into a triage center, pulling ball bearings from the explosives out of bloody flesh and preparing legs for amputation.

"We all went running over there and started to bring people into the medical tent," said one doctor.

"It was not good. Very bad. Like a war zone. 9/11 immediately came to mind."

The mangled victims were then loaded in to ambulances.

"There are people who are really, really bloody. They were pulling them into the medical tent," said runner Laura McLean, of Toronto.

"It was very fortunate those medical tents were there," Don West, a freelance photographer who was covering the marathon, told The Post.

"They took a lot of people there. Without those tents a lot of people may not have gotten immediate medical attention. There was a massive response. The first responders came very quickly and en masse."

At first, many of the tens of thousands of spectators thought the blasts were part of the night's ceremonies. Most people near the explosion just froze, unsure of what to do.

"All of a sudden I heard this bang that sounded like a cannon," Rachel Sibley, 22, who was at the finish line waiting for a friend, told ABC News.

"You could see people looking up at the sky like there were fireworks, like a celebratory bang. The whole crowd waited for a moment, and then the second one went off. It was terrifying and absolute chaos.

"You could see the panic in people's faces. It was absolutely terrifying."

Friends and family members who were waiting for runners at the packed finish line panicked, desperately wondering if their loved ones were among the casualties.

"I was expecting my husband any minute," said Cherie Falgoust.

"I don't know what this building is. It just blew. Just a big bomb, a loud boom, and then glass everywhere. Something hit my head. I don't know what it was. I just ducked."

Her husband survived.

"My friend was right there, and I can't get in touch with them. I just started running. We heard a noise and heard the glass shatter. Everyone was running in different directions," Andrea George, 39, who was watching across the street from the blast, told the Globe.

"It was the scariest thing I ever saw."
One Massachusetts woman, Brighid Wall, 35, of Duxbury, told how she and her husband threw their children to the ground, lay on top of them and got another man to lay on top of them.

"Don't get up, don't get up!" they screamed.

"My ears are zinging. Their ears are zinging," Wall said. "It was so forceful. It knocked us to the ground."

After a minute or so without another explosion, Wall said, she and her family headed to a Starbucks and out the back door through an alley.

Around them, the windows of the bars and restaurants were blown out.

She said she saw six to eight people bleeding profusely, including one man who was kneeling, dazed, with blood coming down his head.

Another person was on the ground covered in blood and not moving.

At Massachusetts General Hospital, Alasdair Conn, chief of emergency services, said, "This is something I've never seen in my 25 years here . . . this amount of carnage in the civilian population. This is what we expect from war."

Thousands of marathon participants still running when the blasts went off were halted by police, clogging main streets.

"I saw barriers fly and I knew that it was not right so I stopped," runner Whitney Hunter, who was about 300 yards away from the blasts, told NBC News.

"My wife was right across the street. She saw people laying in the road."

And the MBTA subway ground to a halt, preventing riders and spectators from getting away from the scene.

"You heard this huge noise and a rumble, and then two . . . transit police started yelling at everyone to get out of the station," Amanda Fahkredine, 25, told ABC News.

"They didn't seem to know what was going on."

Marathoners began hobbling up the stairs at the Arlington subway station, she said, and back into the war zone.

"We heard it, and we had no idea if there was a train crash or car accident. It wasn't like anything that I've ever heard or felt before. It was like an earthquake sounding like a car crash."

Runners who were unscathed marveled at their good luck.

Bill Iffrig, 78, from Washington State, was 15 feet from the finish line when the blast knocked him to the floor. The chaotic moment was caught by a photographer in the dramatic image above.

"The force from it just turned my whole body to jelly, and I went down," Iffrig told the Seattle Times.
"I thought, 'This is probably it for me.'"

Iffrig, who is listed as one of the nation's best long-distance runners in his age group, managed to escape with only a scraped knee and decided to get up and finish the race.

"Somebody came by with a wheelchair, but I said, 'I'm fine.' I wanted to finish."

Michigan's Greg Meyer, the 1983 Boston men's champion, was running with his sons Danny and Jay.

"I grabbed my medal, went to the VIP tent to get my clothes and boom," Meyer told the Boston Herald.

"I told Danny, who was struggling the last three miles. I said, Thank God you kept running because the three of us would have been there right about then.' We all ran the whole way together."

The National Guard set up a staging area at Boston Commons - a stark turn of events for the annual race, which is held on the Patriots' Day holiday, celebrating the first battles of the American revolution.

Revelers attending post-race parties in an office building just above the blast site said the explosion knocked them to the floor.

"There was like a flash, then a giant boom. The concussion blew me off the couch onto the ground," said Bruce Mendelsohn.

The former Army medic rushed outside and found blood, glass and debris everywhere and began applying pressure to "gruesome" wounds.

"This stuff is more like Baghdad and Bombay than Boston," said Mendelsohn, who works at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"It was pretty terrifying."
Terror in Brussels Blast - & then silence NY sibs vanish amid call to family

BYLINE: Kate Sheehy and Philip Messing

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 9

LENGTH: 496 words

New York siblings Sascha and Alexander Pinczowski called their family from Brussels Airport Tuesday morning to let them know they had arrived safely for their trip home.

Suddenly, there was a loud explosion and the line went dead - and their worried relatives have not heard from them since.

"We are looking for Alexander Pinczowski and his sister Sascha. They are missing in the Brussels airport attack. Please contact if you have seen them or know about their whereabouts. Please share!!" a friend wrote in a Facebook posting.

Another post on the site said the Pinczowskis' mother, who acquaintances said hailed from Greece, was anxiously awaiting word of her children.

"Their mother is worried sick since she can't get hold of them since this morning, when they were checking in at Zaventem airport," wrote Mafalda De Andrade Vasconcelos, referring to the city just outside Brussels where the airport is located. "If you have friends that work in hospitals or emergency centres, please share with them."

Sascha - a Manhattan resident who graduated from Marymount Manhattan College and speaks five languages - and her brother have a father who works in Maastricht in the Netherlands.

Sascha recently was an intern at the Chelsea production and design company Shiraz Events.

"She was an awesome chick," said Florecia Sadler, a producer at the company. She said Sascha was born in Greece and raised near Belgium in Holland.

Sadler said Sascha's résumé says she has degree in business administration from Vesalius College in Brussels and a hospitality-management degree from Hotelschool Den Haag in the Netherlands.

She had told her boss she was en route to Greece to deal with an immigration issue.

"She was definitely a problem-solver," Sadler said. "She liked to have a good time - and had a lot of friends... She was very determined and fun. She was a pleasure to have around."
Alexander's girlfriend, meanwhile, pleaded for help on social media.

"Please help find my boyfriend and his sister," the woman, Cameron Cain, tweeted. "They were in the departure hall at time. Please help."

At least nine other Americans were reported injured in the blasts, sources told The Post.

They include an Air Force lieutenant colonel along with his family, including four children and another adult, and three Mormon missionaries from Utah.

The missionaries were identified as Richard Norby, 66, Joseph Empey, 20, and Mason Wells, 19.

Wells had been a block from the finish line of the Boston Marathon when terrorists bombed it in 2013 and in France at the same time as the attacks there last year, his father told ABC News.

After the airport blasts, passengers ran screaming for cover.

"It was a horror. I saw at least seven people dead. There was blood. People had lost legs. You could see their bodies but no legs," said airport security worker Alphonse Youla.
Terror in Brussels US woman's boyfriend missing amid the chaos

BYLINE: Sophia Rosenbaum

SECTION: Late City Final; Pg. 6

LENGTH: 294 words

A Georgia woman who was looking forward to spending Easter weekend with her long-distance boyfriend from Belgium says she hasn't heard from him since he arrived at Brussels Airport shortly before the bombs went off.

"Bart told me that he would get in touch with me every step of the way," Emily Eisenman, 21, told the "Today" show. "His last words on the phone call [were], 'I love you.' "

Eisenman met Bart Migom at a fitness retreat in the United States last year. He was planning to spend the next two weeks with her and her family for the holiday.

He was scheduled to take a 10:30 a.m. flight to Atlanta, and had just gotten off the train to the airport when the terrorists struck.

"It feels like we're in a nightmare," Eisenman's mother, Gaydell, told The Post.

They got a call Thursday afternoon from Migom's parents in Belgium, who told them that authorities said there were only two wounded people who could possibly be him.

"He is a great person and we haven't given up hope. We're hoping he'll still show up," Gaydell said.

Meanwhile, Sascha and Alexander Pinczowski, the siblings who were at the airport on their way home to New York, were still missing Thursday. Their family was not optimistic.

"The Dutch minister of foreign affairs released an official list of survivors from the attacks," said a statement by their mom, Marjan Pinczowski.

"Sander and Sascha's names were not on that list.

"We thank you all for your support during these past few days, and . . . have taken great strength from it. We will share any information we receive regarding final closure as soon as we can . . .

"Thank you for being the best of friends to Sander and Sascha."

More than 150 people are in Belgian hospitals, with 61 in intensive care.
"He's coming. I'm gonna die."

That's what a 30-year-old man texted his mother while trapped inside the Orlando, Florida, nightclub where at least 50 people were killed early Sunday.

"Mommy I love you. In the club they shooting," Mina Justice said her son, Eddie, wrote from a women's bathroom at Pulse, shortly before he was fatally shot by gunman Omar Mateen.

"Call them mommy. Now. I'm tell I'm bathroom. He's coming. I'm gonna die. he has us, and he's in here with us," Eddie Justice texted, according to his mom.

That was the final text he sent his mother, she said.

She had briefly talked to him on the phone minutes earlier.

"I could hear a lot of people crying," in the background, she told the local Fox TV station.

The mom said her son hurriedly told her, "He has us, and he's fixin' to kill us."

"That was it," she added.

Mina Justice spent Sunday unsure about the fate of her son, only to learn the worst when cops listed his name among the first to be confirmed dead.

Another woman, Christine Leinonen, sobbed outside the Orlando Regional Medical Center on Sunday afternoon while waiting to hear from her son, Christopher, 32.

"They said there's a lot of dead bodies in the club and that it's a crime scene … so it could be hours and hours before we find out," Leinonen told ABC News.

Leinonen said Christopher's boyfriend, Juan Guerrero, had been seen with "multiple gunshot [wounds] and was being taken by the ambulance."

"I haven't heard anything," she said. "I have been here since 4 o'clock in the morning. I have been waiting by the emergency room to see if anybody gets called in."

It was later revealed Guerrero had been one of the people killed.
"He was always this amazing person, [and] he was like a big brother to me," said Juan's cousin, Robert Guerrero.

"He was never the type to go out to parties. He would rather stay home and care for his niece and nephew."

Modal Trigger

Christine Leinonen reacts outside the Orlando Regional Medical Center. Photo: Getty Images

Juan Guerrero had come out as gay only about two years ago because he was worried how his family might react, his cousin said.

"They were very accepting," Robert Guerrero recalled. "As long as he was happy, they were OK with it."

Robert Guerrero said his cousin worked as a telemarketer and had recently started taking courses at the University of Central Florida.

Officials began releasing the names of the dead as family members were notified.

Edward Sotomayor Jr., a manager at a premiere gay travel agency, was also killed.

"One of the saddest days of my life," Sotomayor’s friend and owner of the travel agency, Al Ferguson, wrote on Facebook. "I will try to start to find the good in all of this."

Sotomayor had sent his boss a video from inside the club just minutes before the shooting took place. On the video, Sotomayor is on the dance floor with a friend.

"I didn't come over from his urging," Ferguson wrote. "I could have been there with them and done something. Something."

Sotomayor’s cousin, David Sotomayor, said Edward was a caring, energetic man who often traveled to promote the company’s events.

"He was just always part of the fun," said David, a drag queen who goes by the stage name Jade and appeared on the TV reality show "RuPaul’s Drag Race."

"You never think that's going to be the last time you speak to him. It's just heartbreaking to know it just can happen anytime," he said.

On his Facebook page, the adventurous Edward Sotomayor Jr. had written, "Up Up and AWAY . . . . I'm Always on the go."

Also killed in the rampage was Stanley Almodovar, a pharmacy technician who posted a video of himself singing on Snapchat before heading to the club.

"I wish had that to remember him forever," Almodovar’s mother, Rosalie Ramos, told the Orlando Sentinel.

The 23-year-old man, originally from Springfield, Mass., had been living in Clermont, Fla., according to his Facebook profile.
"Completely in [shock]," Karla Rentas wrote on his Facebook page. "I can't believe you are one of the victims. You are a beautiful human been [sic]. didn’t deserve to leave us so soon."

Another friend said Almodovar "made an impact on everyone."

"Rest in peace Baby Boy," friend Caitlin Rodrigues said. "I'll never forget the times we've had together may you rest in paradise"
ISIS vs. US Playing dead to stay alive Amazing tales of survival

BYLINE: Kevin Sheehan, Kevin Fasick and Danika Fears

SECTION: All Editions; Pg. 7

LENGTH: 459 words

Omar Mateen finished off some of his victims at point-blank range as they lay already wounded on the floor - but others tricked him and survived by playing dead.

"I hear him come back, and he's shooting everyone that's already dead on the floor - making sure they're dead," recalled Angel Colon, who was recovering at Orlando Regional Medical Center on Tuesday after being shot in the leg by the club-massacre madman.

"I can hear the shotguns closer, and I look over, and he shoots the girl next to me, and I'm just there laying down. I'm thinking, 'I'm next, I'm dead,' " Colon said.

Mateen pumped two bullets into Colon, but missed his head both times.

"I had no reaction. I was just prepared to just stay there laying down so he won't know that I'm alive, and he's just doing this for another five, 10 minutes," Colon said. "He's just shooting all over the place."

At one point, Colon said, he could hear Mateen in a gunfight with responding cops, who eventually got inside and rescued him.

"I wish I can remember [the police officer's] face or his name because to this day I'm grateful for him," Colon said of the cop who pulled him to safety.

Felipe "Tony" Marrero said he, too, was forced to play dead.

"This sounds horrible and morbid, but I saw how [Mateen] was blowing up people's heads," he told NBC News.

"So the only way that I could have a chance to survive was making it seem like I didn't have a head, so I picked up the sofa that was over there."

But even that didn't spare him from getting shot.

"Apparently, he saw that I didn't have much blood, so he still shot me in the back," Marrero, 32, said.

Another survivor, 20-year-old Patience Carter, said Mateen wanted to spare black people during the mass shooting.
"I don't have a problem with black people," Carter heard the killer say as she hid in a club bathroom. "This is about my country. You guys suffered enough."

Meanwhile, tales of heroism continued to emerge.

Imran Yousuf, a Marine sergeant who served in Afghanistan, was working as a bouncer at the Pulse nightclub Sunday when he was able to tap into his military training to rescue dozens of people.

Yousuf said that when he recognized the sound of a "high-power" gun going off, he kicked in a door that allowed about 70 people to escape.

"There was only one choice: Either we all stay there and we all die, or I could take a chance, and I jumped over the latch and we got everyone that we can out of there," he told CBS News. "I wish I could have saved more."

The off-duty cop working security at the club - and who first exchanged gunfire with Mateen around 2 a.m. - was identified as Orlando Officer Adam Gruler.
ISIS vs. US New York's tragic loss 3 from city killed in carnage

BYLINE: Abigail Gepner and Sophia Rosenbaum

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 6

LENGTH: 473 words

A Williamsburg health-care worker celebrating his friend's birthday.

A Queens native working her way through college.

A mother of 11 from Brooklyn who spent her final moments tearing up the dance floor.

The Orlando massacre claimed the lives of at least three people with ties to the Big Apple.

Gertrude Merced said Monday that she was struggling to accept the death of her son, Enrique Rios Jr., 25, who left their Siegel Street home in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, on Friday to spend the weekend in Florida for a buddy's birthday.

"I still have the hope I'm going to see him again one day, and I'm going to hold on to that," Merced said as she left their apartment to catch a flight to Orlando to claim her son's body.

"I'm forever going to miss my son."

Merced said Rios, a home-health-aide coordinator, had a heart for the elderly and devoted his life to caring for his grandma.

"His motto was, 'Listen, you can do it. If you want to do it, do it,' " she said.

Brenda McCool - a Brooklyn-born single mother of 11 fighting two types of cancer - also died in the carnage at the Pulse nightclub.

McCool, 49, had posted online a dimly lit video of her doing the salsa with a friend at 12:04 a.m. Sunday, two hours before the shooting started.

The 41-second clip, which has been viewed more than 24,000 times, shows McCool sashaying across the dance floor as neon lights flash around her and her dance partner.

"She now leaves 11 children alone on this earth who's in need of dire help from anyone," Farrell Marshall, who identified himself as her fifth-oldest son, wrote on a GoFundMe page.

"All I ask is for prayers and whatever you can to help me and brothers sisters to be able to pick up the pieces where she left off. You will forever be in our hearts. Always. I truly love you so much MOM!"
Mercedez Flores, 26, who grew up in Ozone Park, Queens, also was dancing with friends at the nightclub before the shooting.

Her brother, Cesar, said he woke Monday to learn she was among the dead.

"It is **not fair** that such a **tortiff** act of **hate** would take the life of a **beautiful** soul," he wrote on Facebook. "No words can describe **the pain** my family is going through."

As of Monday, 53 victims were still in hospitals, with five in **grave** condition, including a 29-year-old Long Island woman.

Marissa Delgado of Glen Cove was hit with up to a dozen bullets, according to relatives’ posts on Facebook.

"She lost a lot of blood, **Please** everyone pray for my baby girl that's my twin," her mother, Lisa, posted along with a photo of Delgado.

A GoFundMe page set up for the victims and their families by Equality Florida, a state LGBT civil-rights organization, raised more than $2.3 million in 24 hours, making it the "largest and fastest-growing" fund-raiser ever on the site, according to a spokesman.
TERRORIST Tears for the victims Tales of dead & hurt

BYLINE: Sophia Rosenbaum, Laura Italiano and Joe Tacopino

SECTION: Sports Extra; Pg. 8

LENGTH: 452 words

Shooting victim Bennetta Betbadal fled "Islamic extremism and the persecution of Christians" in Iran during her youth - but in a cruel twist of fate was gunned down during Wednesday's San Bernardino rampage.

"It is the ultimate irony that her life would be stolen from her that day by what appears to be the same type of extremism that she fled so many years ago," a statement from her family read. Betbadal, 46, was a devout Roman Catholic and initially settled in New York City after the Iranian Revolution in 1979. She eventually moved to California and raised a family.

"Benneta was proud to work for the people of San Bernardino County," the statement read. "She loved her job, her community, and her country. Her greatest love, however, was for her husband, her children and her large extended family."

Another victim ran the coffee shop at the Inland Regional Center, where he was dropped off Wednesday by his boyfriend.

Daniel Kaufman, 42, and his partner, Ryan Reyes, were texting back and forth until 10:37 a.m., Reyes recalled to the Los Angeles Times on Thursday. One text was about a new friend Kaufman had made at a comic-book shop. That was the last Reyes would ever hear from him.

Reyes spent the next torturous day, 22 hours in total, waiting for news.

At one point, his hopes rose with the misinformation that Kaufman had merely been shot in the arm and would survive.

Then, Thursday morning, he found out Kaufman was one of the 14 slain victims of Wednesday's mass shooting in San Bernardino, Calif.

Officials on Thursday released names of the dead. They ranged in age from 26 to 60 and included 45-year-old Shannon Johnson, 26-year-old Aurora Godoy and Sierra Clayborn, 27.

Like many families, Clayborn's sisters got the dreaded phone call Thursday morning, nearly a day after the shooting, telling her she was dead.

"I'm heartbroken," Becky Conrad Robinson, who identified herself as Clayborn's adoptive mother, wrote on Facebook.
Damian Meins, 58, was remembered as a "bright light" by his employer, Juan Perez, who sent an e-mail to fellow employees of the Riverside County Transportation & Land Management Agency to inform them of his senseless death.

Nat Berhe, a fifth-round NFL draft pick for the Giants last year and a San Bernardino native, grieved the loss of his cousin Isaac Amanios, who was killed in the attack. "He was a great human being," Berhe wrote. "Thoughts and prayers are with my family back in CA."

The other slain victims were Robert Adams, 40, Harry Bowman, 46, Juan Espinoza, 50, Tin Nguyen, 31, Nicholas Thalasinos, 52, Yvette Velasco, 27, and Michael Wetzel, 37.

Twenty-one people were wounded in the attack.
Terror in Paris Concert hall gory house of 'slaughter'

BYLINE: Danika Fears, Joe Tacopino and Laura Italiano

SECTION: Late City Final; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 967 words

First the black-clad terrorists strafed the audience randomly; then they stood over the prone and writhing victims one by one and finished the job.

Witnesses to the chaos at a sold-out rock concert in Paris described a scene of cruelty and carnage, with estimates of at least 87 dead.

The horror played out live on Twitter.

"Ils abattent tout le monde," bleeding concert-goer Benjamin Cazenoves tweeted from inside Le Bataclan theater, where he was among dozens who were taken hostage.

Translation: "They are slaughtering everyone!"

"I am still inside Bataclan," Cazenoves tweeted next as bullets continued to fly.

"First level. Seriously hurt!" Cazenoves tweeted shortly after 5 p.m. New York time. "They slaughtered everyone. One by one. 1st floor quickly!!!!"


More than 1,000 concert-goers had been watching the show by the California-based band Eagles of Death Metal.

"It was carnage. It looked like a battlefield. There was blood everywhere," concert-goer Marc Coupris told The Guardian.

"There were bodies everywhere. I was at the far side of the hall when shooting began.

"There seemed to be at least two gunmen. They shot from the balcony. I saw my final hour unfurl before me,

"I thought this was the end. I thought I'm finished, I'm finished. I was terrified."

The theater is just five blocks from the offices of Charlie Hebdo satirical magazine, where Islamic terrorists killed 12 people last January.

Escaping hostages told France Info radio that the young men, who were toting AK-47 assault rifles, shouted "Allahu Akbar" as they opened fire.
"I was in the audience and I heard what sounded like a firecracker," Jerome Boucer told The Guardian.

"It was loud but the gig was very loud and I thought it was something that was part of the show. I think lots of people did, too.

"Then they started firing. I saw what I thought was at least two people, then I fled.

"The exits were clearly marked and I just ran. There were wounded, there was a lot of blood. Blood everywhere."

French station BFM-TV said that one of the gunmen at the theater also shouted: "It's for Syria."

And a woman in the audience, identified only as Yasmin, told BFM, "I saw two guys. The biggest one said: 'What are you doing in Syria? You're going to pay now.' Then he opened fire.

"I saw bodies falling all around me. I was shot in the foot. It was carnage, I've never seen so many dead people around," she said.

When SWAT units finally stormed the theater, three of the attackers began hurling grenades at the audience before detonating explosive suicide belts.

"Three of them blew themselves up and a fourth, who was also wearing a belt, was hit by police fire and blew up as he fell," one source told The Telegraph.

Police brought out at least 100 hostages from the concert hall, many of whom were badly injured, CNN reported.

Witnesses recalled a scene of horror - with some terrified concert-goers hiding out in an attic, according to Le Monde. Some witnesses told the newspaper that terrorists were firing from the balcony onto the audience below.

"It was chaos," one survivor wrote on the site of Le Figaro. "I hear noises like exploding firecrackers. I see the singer remove his guitar. I turn, I see a guy armed with an automatic weapon that shoots into the air," she wrote.

"Everyone folds to the floor."

Two hours later, victims were still reaching out to the outside world via social media.

"Ten minutes of gunshots in a small concert room. It was horrible," escaped hostage and French radio reporter Julien Pearce told CNN journalist Michael Holmes, who tweeted the exchange.

"People yelled, screamed and everybody lay on the floor," Pearce said.

"And lay for 10 minutes. Ten minutes, and horrific minutes... The terrorists were very calm, very determined."

Desperate people inside the venue were trampling each other as they tried to escape the mayhem, he said.

One of the terrorists looked around 20 years old, Pearce said.
Managing to run out through a stage door as the gunmen reloaded, Pearce saw some two dozen bodies lying in the street, he said.

He ran into a teenage girl who was bleeding from two gunshot wounds in her leg.

"I grabbed her, and I put her on my back and we ran," he said, adding that he put her in a taxi and told the driver to take her to the hospital.

Others had their own tales of horror.

"I followed some people who were running out through a door to the right of the stage," Frederic Nowak told The Telegraph.

"It led to stairs but all the doors off the stairs were locked. We were stuck there for about ten minutes. There were thirty or forty people there. Then we went further up the stairs and arrived at the roof.

"We got out through a window and we saw a man whose apartment was in the building next door waving to us. We made out way over the rooftop and he let us in through his attic window. We stayed there until we heard the past police raiding the venue a while later."

All of the Eagles of Death Metal members survived the attack, a rep told People magazine.

Michael Dorio, the brother of drummer Julian Dorio said, "He had been performing and heard the gunshots. The whole band heard the gunshots before they saw anything and stopped playing, hit the deck and kind of went backstage and exited as fast as they could."

There were reports that two people working with the band were shot, one fatally.

"We are still currently trying to determine the safety and whereabouts of all our band and crew," read a message posted on the Eagles of Death Metal’s Facebook page earlier in the evening. Additional reporting by Elizabeth Ruby and Ben Feuerherd
MURDER MISSION 'They opened fire for 30 seconds, then reloaded'

BYLINE: David K. Li and Laura Italiano

SECTION: Metro; Pg. 9

LENGTH: 582 words

One minute, an office holiday party was in full swing.

The next minute, the doors of the county health-services department at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino were flung open.

Two people strode inside, dressed all in black, wearing black face masks and carrying "big ol' guns," one witness told the Los Angeles Times - and started firing.

"Everyone dropped to the floor," Denise Peraza, 27, told relatives in a phone call from her hospital bed, the Times reported.

"It was during a holiday party," Peraza said.

"The guys opened fire for 30 seconds, randomly, then paused to reload and began firing again."

Peraza scurried for cover under a desk, but was still shot once in the lower back. There were five minutes, she guessed, of silence before the doors swung open again.

It was law-enforcement officers this time - a crowd of them.

"Anyone who can move, leave immediately, and find cover behind vehicles," the cops told the frightened, bloody group.

The survivors were then helped into the beds of pickup trucks and driven to safety.

Shock waves of confusion and fear would ripple for hours from the tense mass-shooting scene, in which 14 died and 17 others were injured.

Even the number of shooters was initially unclear.

Parents, spouses and neighbors waited in fear as the center was swarmed by ambulances and police cars, and nearby buildings and schools went on lockdown.

Cellphones became a vital lifeline between victims and their worried family members.

A text from his daughter chilled Tom Carrillo's heart.
Someone was shooting, the terrified woman texted from inside her office in the Inland Regional Center.

"Dad shooting at my work. Shot people," his daughter Holly typed.

"In office waiting for cops to catch him. Pray for us."
The frantic dad responded, "Hide now."

"I am," Holly typed back.

"Cops on the way," he typed.

"We are locked in an office," she wrote back.

Shot in his leg and shoulder, Kevin Ortiz, a county environmental inspector, still managed to call both his father and his new bride of only two weeks, telling them, "I love you."

"I've been shot three times. I'm in pain. Don't worry there's a policeman with me," he told his wife, Dyana Ortiz, 23 - before the line went dead.

"He said, 'I love you,' " Dyana Ortiz told the Los Angeles Times.

"And I said, 'I love you. '"

He and other survivors had hidden behind locked doors and barricades, so fearful that police needed battering rams to get in.

It would take four hours for officials to find the shooters' getaway vehicle, a black SUV, two miles east of the incident.

Meanwhile, relatives gathered outside nearby hospitals throughout the afternoon, awaiting word.

"She's alive, that's all I know," Peraza's sister, Kathy Hotetz, 37, said as she waited outside the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for word of her condition.

For Carrillo, the eventual, precious good news on his daughter was worth the wait.

"My friend's daughter and my daughter both work there. It's just heartbreaking," he told The Sun of San Bernardino.

"My daughter is OK," he said. "My friend's daughter is OK."

Gabriel Torres also received good news, again, by cellphone. His wife, Carina, a social worker at the center, had to hide under a desk for a half-hour, but was uninjured, he told The Press-Enterprise of Riverside.

"It feels really good that she is alive - it has renewed my faith in Christ," Torres said.
Appendix B: Types of responsibility – marked articles

- News articles New York Times
- News articles New York Post
- Feature articles New York Times
- Feature articles New York Post

Responsibility of the journalist is marked with a red background color.

Responsibility of the source is marked with a green background color.

Shared responsibility is marked with a yellow background color.
Gunman’s Calls to Police to Be Partially Released

BYLINE: By NICHOLAS FANDOS

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 8

LENGTH: 580 words

WASHINGTON -- The Justice Department will release partial transcripts of conversations between the police and the Orlando gunman from the night he carried out a deadly attack at a gay nightclub, Attorney General Loretta Lynch said on Sunday.

The transcripts, expected to be released on Monday, will include three calls between the gunman, Omar Mateen, and negotiators who spoke with him as the massacre was unfolding.

Law enforcement officials will also provide a detailed timeline of those calls.

Ms. Lynch said the calls should shed light on the motivation behind Mr. Mateen's decision to walk into the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Fla., on June 12 and carry out an attack in which 49 people were fatally shot before he was killed by the police.

The announcement came as Ms. Lynch, the nation's top law enforcement official, made rare appearances on five major Sunday morning news programs to discuss the investigation as it entered its second week.

She declined to comment on potential charges in the case but said on CNN's "State of the Union" that she considered the shooting both "an act of terror and an act of hate."

Ms. Lynch said the transcripts would not include portions of the calls that would risk "revictimizing" those affected by the shooting or could "further this man's propaganda," including Mr. Mateen's pledge of allegiance to the Islamic State.

"As we have said earlier, he talked about his pledges of allegiance to a terrorist group," Ms. Lynch said on CNN.

"He talked about his motivations for why he was claiming at that time he was committing this horrific act. He talked about American policy in some ways."

Ms. Lynch frequently found herself defending aspects of the F.B.I.'s current investigation into the shooting, as well as earlier ones into Mr. Mateen, which have drawn scrutiny for failing to anticipate his actions.
Mr. Mateen was twice under investigation by the F.B.I., once beginning in 2013 after boasting to co-workers that he had ties to terrorist groups and again the following year in connection with a Florida man who tried to carry out a suicide bombing in Syria.

She said that though he had raised suspicions, there was not evidence at the time to suggest Mr. Mateen would actually carry out any attacks.

Asked on ABC's "This Week" if she thought there was anything that federal authorities could have done differently leading up to the attack, Ms. Lynch said that her department was still "looking at that."

"You know, this is an ongoing investigation," she said.

"We are going back and scrubbing every contact we had with this killer."

Ms. Lynch also faced questions about a Democratic proposal, endorsed by the Justice Department, that would bar those on federal terrorism watch lists from purchasing firearms.

The Republican-controlled Senate is expected to vote on Monday on that and on other competing proposals.

None of the proposed amendments are expected to pass, but they have exposed some division within the law enforcement community over how to address cases like that of Mr. Mateen.

Ms. Lynch is scheduled to travel to Orlando on Tuesday to review the investigation in person and receive briefings from investigators and federal prosecutors.

She will also meet with emergency workers, victims of the shooting and their family members.

"The L.G.B.T. and Latino community has come under fire before, but never in as horrific a manner as this," Ms. Lynch said on ABC's "This Week."
Older Brother Died of Gunshot Wounds and Blunt Trauma, Death Certificate Says

BYLINE: By JESS BIDGOOD

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 20

LENGTH: 453 words

WORCESTER, Mass. -- Tamerlan Tsarnaev, the 26-year-old man who the authorities say is one of two brothers who carried out the Boston Marathon bombing, died of gunshot wounds and blunt trauma, according to his death certificate.

A copy of the document, signed by Dr. Henry M. Nields, the chief medical examiner for Massachusetts, was on file at Graham Putnam & Mahoney Funeral Parlors, where Mr. Tsarnaev's body is being kept.

Mr. Tsarnaev died after an exchange of gunfire with police officers following a pursuit on April 18, not long after the Federal Bureau of Investigation released grainy surveillance photographs showing him and his brother, Dzhokhar, at the marathon.

Law enforcement officials say the two placed the explosives that killed three people and wounded more than 260.

The night of the shootout, the authorities say, the Tsarnaev brothers shot and killed a campus police officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sean A. Collier, and then stole a car in Boston, which they eventually drove to nearby Watertown, Mass.

There, officials say, the brothers threw explosives and exchanged gunfire with the police before Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, climbed back into the car and drove off, apparently hitting his older brother. The younger brother was apprehended the next evening in Watertown and is being held at a federal medical prison in Devens, Mass.

The certificate says Tamerlan Tsarnaev's cause of death was "gunshot wounds of torso and extremities" and also cites "blunt trauma to head and torso." It says Mr. Tsarnaev was "shot by police then run over and dragged by motor vehicle." He was pronounced dead on April 19 at 1:35 a.m. after being taken to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. The death was ruled a homicide.

The certificate says an autopsy has been performed, but Peter A. Stefan, the owner of the funeral home, said he expected another to take place before the burial.
He said he had been contacted by lawyers for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who told him that they wanted to have a second autopsy performed.

As of Saturday morning, Mr. Stefan said he had not found a cemetery that would accept the body. He said he was seeking help from state and federal authorities.

"If you don’t want to bury the body, give me another option," Mr. Stefan said with some frustration. "What am I going to do?"

Mr. Stefan has been widely criticized for accepting Mr. Tsarnaev's body, and on Saturday his funeral parlor was guarded by a police detail.

But the funeral home also received at least a dozen calls from individuals wanting to make donations to assist with the burial, Mr. Stefan said. The funeral home said individuals should instead donate to the bombing’s victims through the One Fund Boston.
Amid Unease in Brussels, Main Airport Is Still Closed

BYLINE: By AURELIEN BREEDEN; Nicola Clark contributed reporting from Paris.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 6

LENGTH: 593 words

PARIS -- Concerns over security at Brussels Airport have delayed its reopening, the airport operator said on Friday, more than a week after two suicide bombers heavily damaged the departure terminal.

Florence Muls, a spokeswoman for the airport, said that it was unclear whether it would be able to open on Saturday morning.

"We are still waiting for a green light from the federal police," Ms. Muls said, adding that airport security was not directly managed by the airport authorities. She said the reopening would depend on the outcome of labor negotiations between unions representing police officers at the airport and the Interior Ministry.

The unions have been discussing their security concerns with senior management in the Belgian federal police before and after the terrorist attack on March 22, in which two suicide bombers detonated explosives in the departure hall just before 8 a.m. The unions have threatened not to go back to work if their requests for additional safety measures are not addressed.

The Belgian government met on Friday to discuss the reopening of the airport, which is several miles northeast of Brussels, in Zaventem. But officials said afterward that they would wait for the negotiations between unions and police officials to succeed before setting a date for the reopening.

"For us, security is paramount, but we have to find solutions at the negotiating table with police unions," the deputy prime minister, Kris Peeters, said after the meeting. "I hope that we are going to find solutions as quickly as possible."

In a statement on Thursday, the airport authority said that the airport was "technically ready" to resume commercial flights, using a temporary setup for passenger check-ins. Ms. Muls said that the airport would be able to process 800 departing passengers an hour, about 20 percent of its normal capacity.

The airport has been closed since the attacks that killed 32 people and injured hundreds.
A third suicide bomber attacked the Maelbeek subway station in Brussels, near the European Union headquarters, more than an hour after the airport bombings. Subway service in the Belgian capital is still disrupted.

On Wednesday, a group of police officers working at the airport wrote an open letter expressing deep concern about the absence of security checks for nontravelers entering the airport and about the number of baggage handlers and other staff members suspected of having criminal records or of being sympathetic to the Islamic State.

Vincent Gilles, the head of Belgium's largest police union, said on Thursday that repeated requests for increased security at the airport before the attacks went unheeded and that a request made in December to install a security check outside the entrance to the airport terminal had been rebuffed.

Arnaud Feist, the chief executive of Brussels Airport, told the Belgian broadcasting company RTBF on Friday that setting up checks at entrances would only move the threat outside the building.

"A fairly compact grouping of people standing in line might be more problematic than people who are spread out in the airport," he said.

He also said he was not aware of any airport workers with criminal records or who were sympathetic to the Islamic State.

Separately, news agencies reported on Friday that an Italian court had approved the extradition to Belgium of an Algerian man who was arrested last week in Salerno and accused of forging documents used by people involved in the March 22 attacks in Brussels and the Paris attacks in November.
Paris Suspect Claims He 'Backed Out' of Stadium Bombing, Prosecutor Says

BYLINE: By AURELIEN BREEDEN and ALISSA J. RUBIN

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 13

LENGTH: 557 words

BRUSSELS -- Salah Abdeslam, believed to be the only direct participant in the November attacks in Paris who is still alive, told investigators on Saturday after being captured a day earlier that he wanted to detonate his suicide vest at the Stade de France soccer stadium on the night of the attacks but "backed out," said the lead terrorism prosecutor in France.

Three of the attackers detonated their vests there, but killed just one person and themselves on Nov. 13 during a match between France and Germany.

The prosecutor, François Molins, warned against putting too much stock in anything Mr. Abdeslam said at such an early stage. "These first statements leave unanswered a whole series of questions that Salah Abdeslam will have to answer," he said.

At a hearing before a judge in Belgium on Saturday, Mr. Abdeslam made it clear that he would fight extradition to France, said his lawyer, Sven Mary.

Mr. Mary spoke to journalists after he and Mr. Abdeslam met with a Belgian magistrate who was to decide whether to issue a formal arrest warrant against Mr. Abdeslam, who is accused of playing a key role in the Nov. 13 attacks on a concert, cafes and a stadium that killed 130 people.

Later Saturday, the magistrate issued the warrant, the federal prosecutor's office said.

Mr. Abdeslam was captured with another person suspected of being an accomplice, and both were taken to a Brussels hospital. They were discharged early Saturday, Yvan Mayeur, the Brussels mayor, said on Twitter.

Mr. Abdeslam, a French citizen, is subject to a European arrest warrant issued by France. His seizure in the Brussels neighborhood of Molenbeek after he spent four months on the run brought relief to people who had seen his wanted poster all over two countries for months.

Bernard Cazeneuve, the French interior minister, said Saturday that he hoped Mr. Abdeslam could be delivered to France to face justice. He spoke after President François Hollande held an emergency security meeting in Paris.
Mr. Hollande has warned that more arrests will come as the authorities try to dismantle a network involved in the attacks that is much larger than originally suspected. The Islamic State, also known as ISIS or ISIL, claimed responsibility for the Paris attacks.

There are worries in Belgium about more attacks, in part because in one of the Brussels apartments where Mr. Abdeslam's fingerprints were found, the police found an ISIS flag as well as a large amount of ammunition. The flag is often used as a prop in martyrdom videos filmed by participants in attacks before an operation.

Mr. Cazeneuve called Mr. Abdeslam's arrest a "major blow" to the Islamic State group in Europe, but warned that the threat of new attacks was "extremely high."

Belgium's prime minister, Charles Michel, also said that "the fight is not over," and the government announced that the nation's terrorism alert level was unchanged at three on a four-point scale. Interpol, the world police body, urged greater vigilance at all of Europe's borders to catch any of Mr. Abdeslam's accomplices or those planning new attacks if they try to flee Europe.

A Belgian prosecutor, Eric Van der Sypt, said that with an arrest warrant, Mr. Abdeslam would have to appear before a pretrial court that would decide whether he stays in jail for up to a month.
WASHINGTON -- President Obama said Monday that while the gunman in the Orlando massacre had declared allegiance to the Islamic State and appeared to have been inspired by extremist information on the internet, there was no clear evidence that he had been part of a wider plot directed by the terrorist group.

"As far as we can tell right now, this is certainly an example of the kind of homegrown extremism that all of us have been so concerned about for a very long time," Mr. Obama said, speaking in the Oval Office after a briefing with law enforcement, counterterrorism and Homeland Security officials.

Mr. Obama said the mass shooting in Orlando -- which he will visit on Thursday to pay his respects to victims' families, the White House announced on Monday night -- was being investigated as an act of terrorism. The president said the attack on Sunday by Omar Mateen, who killed 49 people and wounded more than 50, was similar to last year's rampage in San Bernardino, Calif., in which the perpetrators claimed allegiance to the Islamic State beforehand but had no direct connection to it.

The president said of Mr. Mateen that "we see no clear evidence that he was directed externally" by the Islamic State, although he declared fealty to the group "at the last minute."

Still, Mr. Obama said the attack underscored the Islamic State's power to inspire hateful acts.

"One of the biggest challenges we are going to have is this kind of propaganda and perversions of Islam that you see generated on the internet, and the capacity for that to seep into the minds of troubled individuals, or weak individuals, and seeing them motivated then to take actions against people here in the United States and elsewhere in the world," Mr. Obama said.

Law enforcement officials were scrutinizing the material Mr. Mateen had come across online to better understand his path to murder, the president said.

Mr. Obama, anguishè by the latest mass shooting during his tenure -- a period in which Congress has rejected calls to enact tougher gun rules -- said the Orlando massacre should prompt Americans to "think about the risks that we are willing to take by being so lax in how we make very powerful firearms available to people in this country."
"We make it very easy for individuals who are troubled, or disturbed, or want to engage in violent acts to obtain very powerful weapons very easily, and it’s a problem," Mr. Obama said. He noted that it appeared Mr. Mateen had carried out the rampage with guns obtained legally, including an assault rifle he took out of the store the day it was purchased.

But the attack highlighted how the politics of gun control has thwarted the president’s determination to enact stricter measures.

The White House said Mr. Obama would be a "forceful advocate" for Congress to tighten gun restrictions. He supports legislation to bar firearms sales to people placed on "no-fly" lists because of suspected terrorism links and to require background checks for purchases at gun shows.

But his aides strongly suggested that the president was out of options to impose additional limits on his own.

"The president is quite intensely frustrated that we haven't seen the kind of congressional action that we know would have an impact" on mass shootings, said Josh Earnest, the White House press secretary. "The responsibility right now lies with Congress."

Mr. Obama also said the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which has faced some criticism for failing to stop the attack even though Mr. Mateen had been investigated in recent years for potential links to terrorist groups, had acted appropriately.

The White House declined to respond to suggestions from Donald J. Trump, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, on Monday that Mr. Obama had refused to acknowledge Islamic terrorism and might have ulterior motives for doing so.

"When you are focused on something as big as safeguarding the country and combating violent extremism," Mr. Earnest said of the president, "it’s important not to get distracted by things that are so small."

He said Mr. Obama's record "speaks for itself, and that record includes a lot of dead terrorists."

Follow The New York Times's politics and Washington coverage on Facebook and Twitter, and sign up for the First Draft politics newsletter.
Police in Brussels Find Ties to Radical Islam After Raid

BYLINE: By AURELIEN BREEDEN

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 665 words

PARIS -- The man who was killed during a counterterrorism raid was an Algerian with potential links to radical Islam, Belgian prosecutors said on Wednesday. Two other suspects from Tuesday's raid, which left four police officers wounded, remain on the run, the prosecutors said.

The man, Mohamed Belkaid, a 35-year-old who was in Belgium illegally, tried to open fire on police officers and was shot and killed by a special-forces sniper, according to Eric van der Sijpt, a spokesman for the federal prosecutor's office.

The raid took place around 2:15 p.m. Tuesday at a building on the Rue du Dries in the Forest section of Brussels. Six police officers -- four Belgian and two French -- went to the building as part of the investigation into the Nov. 13 terrorist attacks in Paris and in St.-Denis, France.

"From the moment the door of the flat was opened, at least two persons, armed with a riot gun and a Kalashnikov, opened fire toward them," Mr. van der Sijpt said. "In the short but very intense shootout, three of the six officers suffered slight injuries, among them a French female police officer."

He added, "The police officers present at the scene returned fire immediately and were able to retreat safely."

A fourth officer sustained a head wound during subsequent gunfire between the police and the suspects, Mr. van der Sijpt said.

Mr. Belkaid was killed during the shooting. In the apartment where he died, the police found a flag of the Islamic State, 11 cartridge clips and numerous shell casings, Mr. van der Sijpt said; near his body, they found a book on the Salafist school of Islam and a Kalashnikov rifle.

Mr. Belkaid was not previously known to the police, except for one case of theft in 2014. It was unclear whether he had any connection to the Nov. 13 attacks, which killed 130 people.

The Belgian federal prosecutor's office said in a statement Wednesday afternoon that two men who were arrested after the raid had been released without charges.
One of them had been taken to a hospital in Halle, about eight miles southwest of Forest, on Tuesday evening, by a man who then fled when the police arrived. The other was arrested after an overnight search in a house in Forest.

More houses in Forest were searched on Tuesday, Mr. van der Sijpt said. Two full Kalashnikov cartridge clips and an article of black clothing were found near a house on the Rue de l’Eau, and a Kalashnikov rifle was found inside.

Searches in two more houses on the Rue de l’Eau, in about 30 enclosed parking spaces and in a storage facility did not yield any results, Mr. van der Sijpt said. Neither did a house search in Sint-Pieters-Leeuw, southwest of Brussels, the prosecutor’s office said.

After a national security meeting on Wednesday, Prime Minister Charles Michel of Belgium announced that the country's terrorism alert would remain at its second-highest level.

Earlier on Wednesday, Mr. Michel told RTL radio that the police had not expected an "armed, violent reaction" to the raid on Tuesday.

"I think that there was a surprise, because according to the federal prosecutor's office, there was no need to mobilize the special forces for this raid," Mr. Michel said, "which shows that we were not expecting to find resistance, and certainly not resistance of that nature."

The Belgian authorities have conducted more than 100 home searches and arrested 58 people in connection with the November attacks, Mr. van der Sijpt said, adding that 23 people had been arrested in connection with related investigations.

The French and Belgian authorities have detained nearly a dozen men suspected of helping the Paris attackers either before or after the Nov. 13 assaults, but are still seeking others.

The chief fugitive is Salah Abdeslam, a 26-year-old French citizen who is believed to have participated in the Paris attacks. Mr. Abdeslam, who was born in Brussels to parents who had emigrated from Morocco, fled to Belgium immediately after the attacks.
French President Drops Proposal to Revoke Citizenship in Terrorism Cases

BYLINE: By ADAM NOSSITER; Aurelien Breeden contributed reporting.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 585 words

PARIS -- President François Hollande of France announced on Wednesday that he was withdrawing a proposal to strip French citizenship from dual nationals convicted of terrorism, ending a monthslong debate that convulsed his governing Socialist Party, dominated political discussion after the November terrorist attacks, and led to the resignation of the justice minister.

The idea, originally endorsed by right-wing parties and adopted by Mr. Hollande three days after the deadly attacks on Nov. 13, drew furious opposition on the left in France, even though all sides agreed it was largely symbolic and would have little practical effect in combating terrorism.

But the proposal highlighted a growing split within the Socialist Party, between those who favored a tough law-and-order approach in the wake of the attacks that killed 130 people, and those worried that the government would be impinging on civil liberties.

Critics on the left complained that the plan would create two classes of citizens, saying it recalled the dark days of the World War II collaborationist government in France, which rendered hundreds of Jews stateless.

France is still under a state of emergency imposed after the attacks, and the police have conducted thousands of raids and put hundreds of suspects under house arrest.

Last week, after the Brussels bombings on March 22, officials identified a possible terrorist attack in the "advanced stages" of planning, according to the French interior minister, Bernard Cazeneuve, and announced the arrest of a suspect with links to one of the November attackers.

On Wednesday, Mr. Hollande said he was pulling back from the citizenship proposal that had become the most intensely debated measure in a bill to overhaul the Constitution. The reversal is likely to reinforce among many voters what pollsters say is Mr. Hollande's reputation for indecision.

Mr. Hollande blamed members of the right-wing opposition, which controls the Senate, for his decision.
"I take note that part of the opposition is against all constitutional revision," he said. "I deplore profoundly this attitude, because we must do all we can, under the current serious conditions, to avoid divisions."

Mr. Hollande also abandoned a proposal to create a constitutional provision for declaring a state of emergency, even though it had garnered broad support across the political spectrum.

Mr. Hollande's government had slightly backtracked on the citizenship proposal in January, largely to mollify his critics on the left, in deciding that the bill would not contain any language explicitly referring to dual citizens.

The lower house, the National Assembly, where Socialists are in the majority, approved an amended bill that extended the measure to all French citizens, regardless of how many passports they held.

But the Senate insisted on sticking to the original idea and restricting the proposal to people with dual citizenship, with its leaders saying that the creation of stateless individuals was a "red line" they would not cross. With a presidential election scheduled next year, analysts interpreted the move as a way of dealing yet another blow to an already weakened Mr. Hollande.

Under French law, the National Assembly has the last word when disagreements arise with the Senate over regular legislation. But modifying the Constitution requires the approval of both houses, on an identical version of a bill, before they can convene as a Congress in Versailles to vote on it.
The French Parliament on Wednesday approved a law that gives the police and judicial authorities new powers to detain terrorism suspects, put people under house arrest and use deadly force to stop attacks.

The Senate, France’s upper house of Parliament, approved the bill by a show of hands. The National Assembly, the lower house, had already approved it.

The measure is the latest in a series of legislative changes that the government of President François Hollande has pushed through to give the authorities greater policing powers after the deadly terrorist attacks in Paris last year, sometimes prompting debates over civil liberties.

Here is a summary of new powers introduced by the law, and other recent changes and proposals designed to increase the authorities’ antiterrorism powers.

### Police Authority

The law approved on Wednesday gives the police the ability to hold someone without access to a lawyer for up to four hours to check his or her identification if they suspect that person of connections to terrorism. Even before the law was approved, the police could detain terrorism suspects for up to 144 hours without charges.

The new law also gives police officers more leeway to use deadly force against someone they believe is committing a deadly attack, and authorizes them to buy weapons in sting operations to combat weapons trafficking.

The law also allows the government to put someone returning from a "terrorist theater of operation," like Syria or Iraq, under house arrest for up to a month.

The bill has distressed some judges and human rights groups. They say the government is trying to institutionalize exceptional measures that were made possible when a state of emergency was declared after last year’s attacks -- and later extended by Parliament.

### Surveillance
Under the law approved on Wednesday, the police and prosecutors now have access to electronic eavesdropping technology that had been available only to intelligence agencies, which were granted enhanced capabilities after the attacks in January 2015 at the Paris offices of a satirical newspaper, Charlie Hebdo, and a kosher supermarket.

Prosecutors were also granted new powers, similar to those of investigative judges, including the ability to tap phones, use hidden cameras and analyze electronic communications.

The new law gives prisons greater authority to search inmates, and it allows them to put microphones and cameras in prison cells with the authorization of a prosecutor.

In addition, the new law makes it illegal to regularly consult websites that promote terrorism, except for legitimate academic or journalistic activities. Offenders would risk up to two years in prison and a fine of up to 30,000 euros, or about $33,500.

Critics worry that these limits and new surveillance powers go well beyond fighting terrorism.

Citizenship

No government proposal since the terrorist attacks in November had raised as much alarm among civil libertarians as one that would have stripped French citizenship from people with dual citizenship who have been convicted of terrorism-related crimes.

On March 30, President Hollande announced he was withdrawing that proposal.

Polls had suggested that there was wide public support, but opponents said the proposal unfairly targeted French people with immigrant backgrounds.

The measure highlighted a growing split in Mr. Hollande’s Socialist Party among those who favored a tough law-and-order approach in the wake of the attacks in November that killed 130 people, and those worried that the government would be impinging on civil liberties.

Emergency Powers

The French Parliament voted last week to extend the current state of emergency for another two months, until the end of July.

This is the third time the government has extended the state of emergency declared by the president after the attacks in and around Paris. The state of emergency enables the French authorities to conduct police raids without warrants (although the latest two-month extension has left that provision out) and put suspects under house arrest without prior judicial authorization. The authorities can also ban public demonstrations, shut down websites and disband groups deemed a threat to public order by the government.

The government had been pushing to make the power to declare a state of emergency part of the French Constitution, which would have made it more difficult for successive governments to change how that power is wielded, but the proposal was dropped in March with the citizenship proposal.

The state of emergency received broad approval in France in the months after the attacks, with polls showing that more than two-thirds of the public supported it.
Human rights groups have \textit{protested}, and some Muslims believe that they are being \textit{unfairly} singled out by the expanded police measures.
WASHINGTON -- The shooting rampage at a nightclub in Orlando, Fla., has focused new attention on the vast but murky terror watch lists that the government has used with mixed results to identify potential security threats.

At the time of the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, there were just 16 names on the government's so-called no-fly list. Today, that number stands at about 81,000, officials said, and the largest of the watch lists has 1.5 million names on it, all but a small fraction of them foreigners.

One of the names on the F.B.I.'s terrorism watch list as of early 2014 was Omar Mateen, the shooter in the Orlando attack. But when the F.B.I. dropped its investigation into his suspected terrorist sympathies, his name came off the list, and he was legally allowed to go into a Florida gun store this month and buy a semiautomatic assault rifle used in the killings.

That sequence of events has set off a round of debate in Congress over the law allowing someone on the list to buy a gun. But four bills aimed at plugging the "terror gap" and blocking people on terrorism watch lists from buying guns failed to gain passage this week.

Another proposal, led by Senator Susan Collins, Republican of Maine, and Senator Heidi Heitkamp, Democrat of North Dakota, appeared likely to meet the same fate as early as Thursday.

From 2005 to 2015, nearly 2,500 people who appeared on the F.B.I.'s terrorism watch list attempted to buy a firearm, and 91 percent of the sales were approved, a study by the Government Accountability Office found.

The recent proposals to stop people on the watch lists from being able to buy guns have faced resistance from an unlikely group of opponents, including the National Rifle Association and the American Civil Liberties Union.

"We're as appalled as anyone else about the attack in Orlando," said Hina Shamsi, the director of the A.C.L.U.'s National Security Project. "But it's our position that there is no bar on Congress in the reasonable regulation of guns. They could do something without an overly broad, unreliable watch list solution."
The A.C.L.U., representing Muslim-Americans and others who said they had wrongly been put on the no-fly list, won a ruling in federal court in Oregon two years ago that found the list was unconstitutional because of the high risk of errors and the difficulty of being taken off it. That lawsuit is continuing.

"There certainly has been some improvement in the process since these watch lists were first put into place, but we still don't think the safeguards are adequate," Ms. Shamsi said.

Under guidelines for the biggest of the terror lists, known as TIDE, or Terrorist Identities Datamart Environment, those placed on the list are "known or appropriately suspected" of being involved in terrorist activity. Of the 1.5 million names on the TIDE list, residents of the United States account for only about 15,000.

In one of the most recent internal reviews of the watch list system, the Justice Department inspector general found in a 2014 report that improvements in the F.B.I.'s watch list system had made it "more complete, accurate and current" after problems in getting people on and off the list.

Earlier reviews found that as many as 15 percent of suspects in active terrorism investigations were not on the F.B.I. watch list, and that other people were improperly kept on it even after investigations into their suspected terrorism ties were closed. Both these problems appeared to have been significantly reduced or eliminated by the time of the 2014 review.

Counterterrorism officials have described the watch lists as a cornerstone of their efforts to detect possible terrorists before they can strike. But the watch lists' effectiveness has been spotty.

Just as Mr. Mateen was put on a watch list before the Orlando shooting, Tamerlan Tsarnaev -- one of the brothers in the Boston Marathon bombings in 2013 -- had also been placed on several versions of the list a few years earlier.

The "underwear bomber," Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who tried to detonate a bomb on a Detroit-bound plane in 2009, was also on one version of the terrorism watch list but was allowed to board the plane in Amsterdam. That near-disaster led to wide changes in the system and an expansion of the lists.

But the very next year, Faisal Shahzad, who tried to detonate a car bomb in Times Square in Manhattan, was allowed to board a plane for Dubai a day after the attempted bombing even though he had been put on a no-fly list. He was apprehended while the plane was at the gate.

In the wake of the Orlando shootings, Justice Department officials said they were considering a new policy to alert F.B.I. investigators if someone who was once on a terrorism watch list, like Mr. Mateen, attempts to buy a gun.

By itself, the placement on a watch list would not be grounds to stop a firearms purchase. But F.B.I. investigators could then search the buyer's file to look for other legal prohibitions -- like a criminal conviction, drug use or mental health issue -- that could allow them to stop the sale.
U.S. Offers Florida Help With Costs in Massacre

BYLINE: By FRANCES ROBLES; Richard Pérez-Peña contributed reporting from New York.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 13

LENGTH: 690 words

ORLANDO, Fla. -- After denying the state of Florida’s petition for $5 million in emergency funding to cover costs associated with the massacre at a popular gay nightclub, the Obama administration announced Tuesday that it would offer $1 million to help pay for police overtime.

Attorney General Loretta Lynch visited Orlando on Tuesday, nine days after Omar Mateen, who pledged allegiance to the Islamic State, opened fire at the Pulse nightclub. Ms. Lynch met with some of the wounded and relatives of the 49 people killed in the attack, as well as with top law enforcement officials in the region.

Ms. Lynch said the Department of Justice would make $1 million available to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement so local jurisdictions could cover the overtime costs associated with the killings.

"We will move quickly to make the award as soon as possible," she said, adding that the administration was also providing counseling resources for traumatized officers and medics.

"We are also making federal emergency funds and victim compensation funding available to cover, for example, family travel expense, medical, mental health expenses and other costs related to this tragedy," she added.

Her announcement came after Gov. Rick Scott criticized the administration for declining his application for $5 million of Department of Homeland Security emergency funding.

In a letter on Monday, the administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, W. Craig Fugate, told the governor that the request, made the day after the shooting, had been denied because the appeal did not explain how the incident was beyond the capability of the state and local governments. The request also did not demonstrate how federal funds could help protect lives and property, the letter said.

"An emergency declaration is not appropriate for this incident," Mr. Fugate wrote in the letter, which was released by the governor’s office.
Records show that FEMA has approved the vast majority of emergency funding requests made after hurricanes and other disasters, but that no state has applied in the wake of a mass shooting.

Mr. Scott called the denial "incredibly disappointing" and said the state would appeal.

"It is unthinkable that President Obama does not define this as an emergency," Mr. Scott, a Republican, said in a statement. "We are committing every state resource possible to help the victims and the community heal, and we expect the same from the federal government."

Sheriff Jerry L. Demings of Orange County said he learned about the $1 million at the news conference when Ms. Lynch announced it. His department was still trying to determine how much had been spent, he said.

"One million dollars?" he said. "You know what? It's a start."

Sheriff Demings confirmed that Mr. Mateen, a 29-year-old security guard, had visited the nightclub several hours before the 2 a.m. shooting spree. He appeared to have stepped outside for some period of time and returned just before firing on the patrons, he said.

He declined to give any more details. Ms. Lynch also declined to provide any new information on the case.

She said the agency would reveal more information later, including results of firearms testing to determine whether any victims had been killed by police bullets. She also said she would eventually release the audio tape of Mr. Mateen's 911 call.

The administration was criticized Monday for releasing a partial transcript of just one of his calls, which deleted references Mr. Mateen made to the Islamic State and its leader. A few hours later, the Department of Justice released a version without the redactions.

Ms. Lynch’s visit to Orlando came as the downtown area surrounding the Pulse nightclub began returning to normalcy.

"There is no doubt that this was a shattering attack," Ms. Lynch said. "But the message of Orlando goes far beyond one night of unspeakable terror. The message of Orlando that I have seen today -- and what the American people have seen in the wake of this horrific assault -- is a message of determination to remove hatred and intolerance from our midst."
WASHINGTON - The terrorist attacks in Brussels are further evidence the United States needs a crackdown on people entering the country, Donald Trump said Tuesday.

"I would close up our borders to people until we figure out what is going on," Trump said on Fox News.

"They could be ISIS, they could be ISIS-related. We just don't learn."

Calling Brussels an "armed camp" and a "horror show," Trump also said that terrorist suspects, including alleged Paris attacker Salah Abdeslam, be water-boarded or otherwise tortured to get leads that might prevent future attacks.

Later, he clarified that he doesn't want to ban everyone from coming into the country, saying only those with "absolute perfect" documentation should be allowed in - and, for now, no Muslims.

Trump also told Fox Business News that it’s time to end the visa waiver program, which allows visitors from friendly countries, including Belgium and France, to enter the United States without visas for 90 days.

"Yes, it's time to stop that, absolutely," said Trump, who also called for stepped-up mosque surveillance.

His principal GOP rival, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, also talked tough.

"We need to immediately halt the flow of refugees from countries with a significant al Qaeda or ISIS presence," Cruz said in a statement.

"We need to empower law enforcement to patrol and secure Muslim neighborhoods before they become radicalized."

Cruz later said in New York that that if he were president, he would resurrect the controversial monitoring program that targeted Muslims under former Mayor Mike Bloomberg and exPolice Commissioner Ray Kelly.
"You would continue the proactive policing that we saw here in New York," Cruz said. "You would reinstate the program."

Asked on CNN whether he would support Cruz's plan, Trump, a rare detente with his bitter rival, responded, responded: "Yes, I would. I think that's a good idea."

NYPD Commissioner Bill Bratton, however, was furious at Cruz's proposal.

"I would remind the senator that he lives in the United States of America, and the statements he made today is why he's not gonna become the president of this country," Bratton said.

"We don't need a president that doesn't respect the values that form the foundation of this country."

Meanwhile, Ohio Gov. John Kasich and Democratic contender Bernie Sanders called for unity with allied countries to defeat ISIS, along with increased intelligence gathering.

Hillary Clinton described Trump's call for closing the borders "unrealistic," but urged an increased police presence at soft targets, such as airport lobbies.
Terror in Brussels Ghettos 'breeding grounds' for jihadis

BYLINE: Jamie Schram, Chris Perez and Bob Fredericks

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 8

LENGTH: 354 words

Muslim ghettos in Paris and Brussels are incubators of Islamic extremism where cops fear to tread, crime and unemployment are rampant and radical imams aggressively recruit young men to wage jihad against the West, experts said Tuesday.

The perpetrators of November's bloody attack on Paris and other terror strikes in Belgium and France hailed from Molenbeek, a Brussels slum and hotbed for radical Islam, drugs and lawlessness.

Others, including Said and Chérif Kouachi, the brothers who carried out the Charlie Hebdo massacre in January 2015, lived in the banlieues, desolate, run-down Parisian suburbs of mosques and decrepit high-rise apartment buildings built decades ago.

"Both in Paris and Brussels, we have seen the radicalization of individuals which has led to these cowardly attacks on civilians," a senior anti-terrorism official told The Post. "Unfortunately, these poor neighborhoods in which they live act as breeding grounds for terrorism because many of these people feel as if they have no other options or hope."

Salah Abdeslam, 26, a conspirator of the November Paris attacks, which left 130 innocent victims dead, was tracked last week to an apartment in Molenbeek, where his accomplices also lived. Roughly 500,000 Muslims are believed to live in Belgium. The Brussels ghetto has a 30 percent unemployment rate, and hundreds of young radicalized Muslim men have traveled to Syria to wage jihad, according to Belgian authorities.

"These ghettos are called 'no-go zones,'" said Soeren Kern, a senior fellow at the Gatestone Institute, a New York-based think tank.

The "no-go zones," he added, are not formal designations by law enforcement but areas that are not considered safe for non-Muslims - even cops and firefighters.

Meanwhile, critics blasted the European Union’s free-movement laws, saying they let ISIS strike in the heart of Europe with impunity.

"There are 94 returned jihadists living in Molenbeek," said Mike Hookem of Britain's Independence Party. "This fact alone should alert people to the fact that open borders are putting the lives of European citizens at risk."
Boston Bombers Mad mom on terror list, too

BYLINE: Dan Mangan

SECTION: Sports + Late City Final; Pg. 8

LENGTH: 624 words

The mother of the men who bombed the Boston Marathon was placed on a US terror watch list 18 months before the attack - and is now being eyed for potentially radicalizing her oldest son, officials said yesterday.

Zubeidat Tsarnaeva and her now-dead son, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, were put on the list in 2011 after Russian officials informed the CIA that the two ethnic Chechens were Islamic extremists who may pose a threat to their native Russia, officials said.

Officials have disclosed that Tamerlan's name was listed, raising questions about whether authorities should have eyed him more closely before the April 15 attack that killed three and injured 260.

The presence of his mother's name on the list, which should have flagged her travel to and from the United States, is now drawing similar questions.

Both mother and son were looked at for terror ties six months before they landed on the watch list because Russian officials were concerned about them.

But the FBI closed the cases after finding no evidence.

Yesterday, a top congressman said Zubeidat is now the focus of a House investigation into whether she turned Tamerlan, 26, into a radical jihadist who enlisted his brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, for the bombings.

Zubeidat, "in my judgment, has a role in his radicalization process in terms of her influence over him [and] fundamental views of Islam," said House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Michael McCaul.

McCaul (R-Texas) said US investigators have been deployed to interview other Chechens in Russia, "and it's my hope they can get some evidence of that" influence.

Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-Md.), a top member of the House Intelligence Committee, said Zubeidat "is a person of interest that we're looking at to see if she helped radicalize her son, or had contacts with other people or other terrorist groups."
Zubeidat has adamantly denied that either Tamerlan or Dzhokhar committed the marathon attack - despite Dzhokhar telling investigators they bombed the finish line to avenge US wars against Muslims in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Yesterday, she denied being a terrorist, but said her presence on the list wasn’t surprising.

"It's all lies and hypocrisy," she told The Associated Press from the Russian republic of Dagestan. "I’m sick and tired of all this nonsense that they make up about me and my children."

"People know me as a regular person, and I've never been mixed up in any criminal intentions, especially any link to terrorism."

Zubeidat, who has not been charged with a terror act, is wanted in Massachusetts for jumping bail on a shoplifting rap.

Tamerlan was slain April 19 in a police shootout. He had killed an MIT cop as he and Dzhokhar fled in a stolen Mercedes loaded with six homemade bombs they planned to set off in Times Square.

Dzhokhar, shot in his neck and elsewhere, was caught 20 hours later hiding in a boat stored in a back yard in Watertown, Mass.

Late Thursday, Dzhokhar moved from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston to the Federal Medical Center at Fort Devens, a facility 40 miles away that treats federal prisoners.

His presence at Beth Israel upset some bombing victims who were being treated there.

Yesterday, investigators scoured a landfill in New Bedford, Mass., near the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, which Dzhokhar attended.

CNN reported they were looking for his laptop and other evidence that he had suggested had been dumped there.

Also yesterday, The Daily Beast reported Dzhokhar had told investigators he and Tamerlan were influenced by Internet sermons of the US-born preacher Anwar al-Awlaki, who was killed in a US drone strike in Yemen in 2011.
Election 2016 AG Lynch is playing censor on Fla. fiend's ISIS pledge

BYLINE: Marisa Schultz, , Jamie Schram and

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 6

LENGTH: 444 words

The FBI on Monday will release a partial transcript of Omar Mateen's negotiations with police from inside the Orlando nightclub where he slaughtered 49 people - but the feds will redact "his pledges" to ISIS, US Attorney General Loretta Lynch said Sunday.

"I say partial, because we're not going to be, for example, broadcasting his pledges of allegiance. We are trying not to re-victimize those who went through that horror," Lynch said on ABC's "This Week."

President Obama was roundly criticized last week for failing to refer to Mateen as a radical Islamic terrorist.

Lynch also said Sunday that Mateen - a closeted gay man, according witnesses and men who said he hit on them - made no mention of disdain for homosexuals in his phone conversations with cops while holed up in the Pulse club.

"These are the calls with the Orlando PD negotiating team who were trying to ascertain who he was, where he was and why he was doing this, all the while the rescue operations were continuing," Lynch said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Mateen was killed by police in a shootout.

Lynch said she will fly to Orlando Tuesday to be briefed on the investigation that is now focused on Mateen's wife, Noor Salman.

Salman could be hit with a host of criminal charges, including aiding and abetting, sources have told The Post.

Lynch said authorities were reviewing two earlier FBI investigations into Mateen, but signaled that the agency had conducted thorough examinations in both cases, which were eventually closed without charges being filed against him.

"The FBI did everything it could to see [if he] was he about to carry out anything," she told "This Week."

"This was about two years ago, and I can assure you that had he indicated he was going to take action, that they would have stayed on that investigation."
But a Florida gun-shop owner, Robbie Abell, said he alerted the FBI that a suspicious man later identified as Mateen had tried to purchase 1,000 rounds of ammunition and body armor from his store weeks before the massacre.

During a press conference last week, Abell said his employee turned Mateen away and immediately called the FBI, but federal agents never showed up to investigate.

The House Homeland Security Committee will be “conducting oversight hearings” to see if the FBI could have done more, said the committee’s chairman, Rep. Michael McCaul.

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump weighed in on the issue, saying it was a “shame” the authorities didn’t follow up on Abell’s tip about Mateen.

"I’m a big fan of the FBI, but they had a little bit of a bad day," Trump said on "This Week."
Election 2016 NRA: Guns are not the answer Wait, what? Yeah, they rip Don's Rx

BYLINE: Marisa Schultz

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 7

LENGTH: 542 words

Donald Trump's suggestion that armed clubgoers could have prevented the worst mass shooting in modern US history "defies common sense," according to the National Rifle Association - which is backing the tycoon for president but on Sunday had two of its top officials taking rare exception with him.

"No one thinks that people should go into a nightclub drinking and carrying firearms," Chris Cox, executive director of the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action, told ABC's "This Week." "That defies common sense. It also defies the law."

Trump had fired up a Texas rally Friday by saying that if people at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando "had guns strapped . . . right to their waist or right to their ankle," it would have been a "beautiful sight" to see them shoot "the son of a bitch."

Cox's remarks Sunday echoed those of President Obama, who said last Thursday in Orlando that the notion that armed clubgoers could have averted the tragedy "defies common sense."

NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre said Sunday that pistol-packing revelers are not a good idea.

"I don't think you should have firearms where people are drinking," LaPierre told CBS's "Face the Nation." He later tweeted, "I want to clarify my comment: if you're going to carry, don't drink. OK to carry in restaurants that serve alcohol."

The NRA endorsed Trump in May, and the mogul has run on a platform of protecting gun owners and the Second Amendment and arming the law-abiding citizens to stop bad guys.

After Omar Mateen slaughtered 49 people at Pulse, Trump announced that he wanted to meet with the NRA. He urged the powerful gun lobby to agree to banning people on terrorism watch lists from buying guns.

"We have to make sure that people that are terrorists or have even an inclination toward terrorism cannot buy weapons, guns," he told "This Week."

But LaPierre said such a ban would have had no effect in Orlando, since Mateen's name had been removed from the list.
"NRA didn’t take the guy's name off the list. The federal government did, FBI did, largely because of . . . some politically correct policies that I think I have been talking about earlier," he told "Face the Nation."

Cox, who said the group has "conversations" with Trump often and confirmed a planned meeting, danced around whether the NRA and the mogul saw eye-to-eye on a watch-list ban, saying the FBI should investigate anyone on its radar who tries to buy a gun.

"If there's a reason to believe in probable cause that they're engaged in terrorist activity, they ought to not only be prevented from getting a firearm, they ought to be arrested," Cox said.

"We want to make sure the terrorists don't have access to firearms. We also want to make sure that law-abiding Americans have the common-sense ability to protect themselves when the government is failing."

The Senate will vote on a series of gun-control measures Monday.

The NRA has given its blessing to a proposal by Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) that would allow authorities to block gun sales to a person on the terror watch list if they can show probable cause within three days. The Justice Department backs legislation by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) calling for an outright ban on sales to suspected terrorists.
HE PLEDGED ALLEGIANCE TO CENSORED Bam ban lifted on Orlando transcript's 'ISIS'

BYLINE: David K. Li

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 7

LENGTH: 585 words

Faced with mounting criticism for redacting references to radical Islam from the transcripts of Omar Mateen's 911 calls amid his Orlando massacre, the Obama administration on Monday afternoon finally relented.

Even though authorities have made no secret of the fact that Mateen pledged his allegiance to ISIS in slaughtering 49 people and wounding another 53 inside a gay nightclub last week, 911 transcripts initially released by the FBI awkwardly worked around mentions of the terror group and its leader.

In the initial release, mentions of ISIS and leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi were replaced by "(omitted)," which Attorney General Loretta Lynch tried to explain a day earlier, by saying the redaction was done in deference to the victims' families.

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) and other national lawmakers were quick to pounce on the seemingly nonsensical cuts.

"Selectively editing this transcript is preposterous," Ryan said shortly after Mateen's partial comments to 911 operators were released.

"We know the shooter was a radical Islamist extremist inspired by ISIS. We also know he intentionally targeted the LGBT community."

Ryan called on the Obama administration to come clean - and the Republican leader got his way about five hours later.

In the chilling transcript, Mateen claimed he was under God's orders to kill people at the Pulse nightclub in the early-morning hours of June 12.

He also invoked the Islamic State and al-Baghdadi, both of which were blanked out of the earlier versions.

"In the name of God the merciful, the beneficent [Arabic]," Mateen said during his call at about 2:35 a.m. "Praise be to God, and prayers as well as peace be upon the prophet of [Arabic]. I let you know, I'm in Orlando and I did the shootings."
The operator then asked Mateen his name.

"My name is I pledge of allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi of the Islamic State," Mateen responded.

"I pledge allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi may God protect him [Arabic], on behalf of the Islamic State."

As Mateen carried out his carnage in Orlando, the Queens-born terrorist warned the 911 operator that there would be "more of this type of action" in the coming days, FBI agents said.

Shots were first fired at 2:02 a.m., and Mateen first called 911 at about 2:35 a.m. Hostage negotiators called Mateen at 2:48 a.m., 3:03 a.m. and 3:24 a.m.

During the calls, Mateen demanded that American forces leave Iraq and Syria, explaining that was why he was "out here right now," according to the FBI.

When a negotiator asked what he had done, Mateen responded: "No, you already know what I did."

Mateen also said he had placed bombs in his car, which he could detonate at any time.

"There is some vehicle outside that has some bombs, just to let you know," Mateen said. "You people are gonna get it, and I'm gonna ignite it if they try to do something stupid."

Mateen's car was later found and there were no bombs, according to the feds.

FBI agents also said they have not found any direct connections between Mateen and overseas terrorists.

Excerpt from Orlando gunman Omar Mateen's 911 call

REDACTED:

"My name is I pledge of allegiance to [omitted] ... I pledge allegiance to [omitted] may God protect him [Arabic], on behalf of [omitted]."

UNCENSORED:

"My name is I pledge of allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi of the Islamic State ... I pledge allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, may God protect him [Arabic], on behalf of the Islamic State."
France responded with fury to the terror attacks on Paris, unleashing a series of airstrikes that destroyed an ISIS command post and a training camp in Syria on Sunday, officials said.

The "massive" operation pounded sites in and around the ISIS stronghold of Raqqa, and involved 12 aircraft - including 10 fighter jets - launched simultaneously from bases in Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, a French official said.

The air fleet dropped 20 bombs in total. One target was used as a "command post, jihadist recruitment center and arms and munitions depot," the French Defense Ministry said in a statement.

A second target "held a terrorist training camp," it said.

ISIS insisted it suffered no casualties and said the 20 targets were "abandoned sites," the Guardian reported.

Meanwhile, an international manhunt was under way for a suspected eighth attacker, who escaped the three hours of carnage that killed 129 people at six sites in and around Paris on Friday.

The suspect breezed past cops who stopped him near the Belgian border Saturday morning.

The French National Police released a photo of Salah Abdeslam, 26, whose brother, Ibrahim, 31, blew himself up with a suicide vest at the Comptoir Voltaire cafe.

A third brother, Mohamed, was among seven suspects arrested in Brussels following the attacks.

An arrest warrant described Salah as very dangerous. Anyone spotting him was warned, "Do not intervene yourself."

Four French officials told The Associated Press that cops questioned and released Salah hours after the attacks, when he and two other people were stopped while traveling together in a car.
The bungle came even though Salah had been identified as the person who rented a Volkswagen Polo hatchback that was used in the attacks, the AP reported.

Officials were also seeking an unidentified suspect who may have been "directly involved" in the attacks, The Washington Post reported.

In other developments:

n President Obama huddled with Russian leader Vladimir Putin during the Group of 20 summit in Turkey. A White House official said they agreed on the need for "UN-mediated negotiations . . . as well as a cease-fire" to help end the Syrian civil war, which has let ISIS flourish.

n The identities of another Paris attacker emerged: Bilal Hafdi, who The Washington Post said fought for ISIS in Syria. Another suicide bomber, age 20, was also identified by French authorities, but his name wasn’t released.

n The terrorist who sneaked into Europe with desperate Syrian refugees was identified as Ahmad Almohammad, whose passport was found on the body of a bomber outside the Stade de France soccer stadium.

n France arrested three people early Monday in a series of anti-terror raids in Toulouse, Grenoble, Calais and a suburb of Paris, according to the Daily Mail.

n Grisly images from the Bataclan theater siege appeared on social media. Photos posted on Instagram showed dozens of bodies lying in pools of blood on the concert hall’s red-smears concrete floor. A South African woman wrote on Facebook that she survived by playing dead for more than an hour.

n The Post learned that screeners at JFK and Newark airports were among those who failed to detect weapons and bombs in recent tests by the Department of Homeland Security. A law-enforcement source said the revelations "should frighten everyone."

n British security experts told The Times of London that the attacks may have been the result of a "major failure by European intelligence services" after a man was arrested with a cache of weapons when he was stopped by Bavarian police while driving through Germany to France.

It’s not clear if the man is connected to the plot, but officials wonder whether the proper security protocols followed his arrest.

n A German newspaper discovered a series of tweets that appeared briefly before the attacks and hinted at bloodshed.

"Soon in the center of Paris, God willing" user @JIHAD_FOR_IS tweeted in English just 19 hours before the attacks began, according to the Bild newspaper. The tweet was accompanied by two emojis - an explosion and a fire.

It was also revealed that top-level Iraqi intelligence officials warned the US-led coalition against ISIS about the looming threat of "bombings or assassinations or hostage taking" just one day before the Paris attacks.
A dispatch sent by Iraqi intelligence and obtained by the AP said ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi had ordered an attack "in the coming days" on coalition countries fighting against the group.

A Paris memorial erupted in panic when crowds fled the Place de Republique, apparently over the sound of firecrackers.

A CNN video showed mourners trampling a display of flowers and candles while fleeing. Britain’s Channel 4 posted video of streams of people interrupting a reporter as he conducted a live broadcast.

Cops responded with guns drawn and helicopters before calm was restored.

Red, white and blue streaked the interior of the Cathedral of Notre Dame as André Cardinal Vingt-Trois, archbishop of Paris, led a memorial Mass for the families of victims and survivors.

"We pray for hope, not hate," the cardinal said in his sermon.

He said the French must meet "the violence of men" without hatred, urging mourning Parisians not to "provoke aggression" and instead remember the dead.
President Obama is so paranoid about linking terrorists to the Muslim faith that when French President François Hollande used the phrase “Islamist terrorism” at a meeting in Washington, White House officials posted their official press video with audio of the words cut out completely.

The 8-minute clip was posted on the White House Web site and showed Hollande discussing the global terror threat at a Nuclear Security Summit meeting with Obama and advisers Thursday.

The White House’s transcript of the event shows the French leader declared at the 4:49 minute mark that "the roots of terrorism, Islamist terrorism, is in Syria and in Iraq."

But rather than include Hollande's remark in its entirety, the Obama administration posted footage in which his interpreter's English translation of the words "Islamist terrorism" was missing.

The audio gap was first reported by the Media Research Center, a media watchdog.

After initially posting the video without the edits, the White House took it down and uploaded it again with the interpreter's voice muted, the MRC reported.

The nonprofit group reported that the White House's official MP3 recording of the meeting was also censored, but that the transcript was not.

"Thanks of course, Ministry of Propaganda offices at WH for going ahead and simply posting the proof!" a user wrote in a comment on the White House's YouTube page.

Another wrote: "Nice backtracking, White House. You tried to censor Hollande and you know it."

Obama - who has come under fire for refusing to say "radical Islam" or "Islamic terrorist" - made three mentions of terrorism throughout Thursday's meeting, uttering the phrases "hands of terrorism," "scourge of terrorism" and "counterterrorism."

A White House official said the audio gap was the result of a technical error that happened to come as Hollande was uttering the controversial words.
"Nothing was edited out," the official told The Post. "A technical issue with the audio during the recording of President Hollande's remarks led to a brief drop in the audio recording of the English interpretation. As soon as this was brought to our attention, we posted an updated video online with the complete audio, which is consistent with the written transcript."

As of 6 p.m. Friday, the White House had posted footage with the words "Islamic terrorism" included.

Obama has stayed away from the phrase and others like it to avoid tying the world's 1.6 billion Muslims to terrorism.

He has been blasted by Republicans for the practice, with one of his biggest critics being Ted Cruz, who took aim at Obama after last month's Brussels terror attacks.

"Radical Islam is at war with us," the Republican presidential candidate wrote on Facebook. "For over seven years we have had a president who refuses to acknowledge this reality. And the truth is, we can never hope to defeat this evil so long as we refuse to even name it."
Terror in Paris: Hell unleashed in City of Light * 120 killed in bloody onslaught * Horror at concert, soccer match

BYLINE: Jamie Schram, Isabel Vincent and Bob Fredericks

SECTION: Late City Final; Pg. 2

LENGTH: 761 words

Terrorists killed at least 120 people and wounded hundreds of other innocents in coordinated shooting and suicide-bomb attacks in Paris late Friday that included a mass execution at a rock concert, authorities said.

The carnage began at about 10 p.m. Paris time, with one group of jihadis attacking venues packed with people in a night-life district and another targeting a soccer stadium where President Francois Hollande was watching France play Germany, French police said.

Paris police prefect Michel Cadot said all eight attackers were believed dead, with seven having blown themselves up and one killed by responders. Authorities were trying to determine whether they had accomplices.

In all, the well-planned strikes targeted six locations in Paris:

n At the Bataclan theater, gunmen opened fire at the packed crowd that gathered to see the American rock band Eagles of Death Metal. The terrorist screamed, "This is for Syria!" and "Allahu akbar!"

The black-clad killers picked off wounded victims one at a time, as witnesses described the horror on social media.

Then the gunmen threw grenades into the audience before detonating their explosive vests when police stormed in. They killed at least 87 concert-goers.

n The same attackers had first sprayed several nearby cafes with automatic-weapons fire from the street, killing several diners and wounding many others at Le Petit Cambodge Cambodian restaurant in the 10th arrondissement.

Dozens of shots were fired, said witnesses, who described the scene as a "nightmare," with bodies in the street and police and ambulances rushing to their aid, the Liberation paper reported.

n They also strafed Le Carillon bar near the concert.
"We were listening to music when we thought we heard shots. A few seconds later, we were in a scene out of a war," one of a dozen doctors from the Saint-Louis Hospital told Le Monde.

"There was blood everywhere. We tried to go as quickly as possible. The wounded were evacuated. I did not see the assailants.''

n At least 18 people were killed by gunfire at La Belle Equipe cafe in the 11th arrondissement.

n At the same time, a second team consisting of a suicide bomber and gunmen targeted the area outside Stade de France, where 80,000 fans watched the home team defeat the Germans in a "friendly" match.

Hollande was hustled away by his security detail.

n A shooting was also reported at Les Halles shopping center.

In an address broadcast around the world, Hollande said of the massacre: "It's a horror."

"Two decisions will be taken: A state of emergency will be decreed, which means certain places will be closed, traffic may be banned and searches may also take place throughout the Paris region," he said.

A citywide curfew was put into effect in Paris for the first time since 1944.

"The second decision I have taken is to close the borders. We must guarantee that no one can come in to commit any act. And at the same time, those who may have committed crimes can be arrested if they try to leave the country," he said.

The shattered nation's leader vowed to defeat the terrorists.

"Who are these criminals? Who are these terrorists who are attacking us? My heart goes out to the victims and their families. We will come together. France is strong," Hollande said.

"What the terrorists want is for us to be scared. But in the face of terror, we have to be united and will vanquish these terrorists.

"Long live the republic, and long live France."

At the White House, President Obama said, "This is not just an attack on Paris or the people of France, it was an attack on humanity."

He said the US would provide any assistance France needs, calling the country "our oldest ally."

"This is a heartbreaking situation. Obviously, those of us in the United States know what it's like. We've gone through these kinds of episodes ourselves. Whenever these kinds of attacks happened, we've always been able to count on the French people to stand with us.

"We intend to be there with them in that same fashion."

Obama later spoke to Hollande on the phone and offered the condolences of the American people.
Le Carillon and the Bataclan are among the best-known venues in eastern Paris, and are in the same general neighborhood as the Charlie Hebdo offices, which were raided by jihadis in a deadly attack last January.
Terror in Paris Savages hailed from Belgium's 'terrorist town'

BYLINE: Bruce Golding

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 3

LENGTH: 392 words

Two more of the seven terrorists who died during a wave of carnage across Paris were identified on Sunday - while a Muslim neighborhood in Belgium emerged as a staging area for the deadly attacks.

Belgian prosecutors said at least two men from the Molenbeek section of Brussels were among the killers who blew themselves up during three hours of bloodshed on Friday.

Ibrahim Abdeslam, 31, detonated his explosive vest at the Comptoir Voltaire cafe, along the same road where world leaders marched to protest January's terror attack on the satirical Charlie Hebdo magazine.

Abdeslam, who is believed to have taken part in the shooting spree at the Bataclan theater, also rented a black SEAT car with Belgian license plates that was used during the attacks and in which cops discovered three Kalashnikov assault rifles when they found the car in the eastern suburb of Montreuil.

Another suicide bomber was identified Sunday as Bilal Hadfi, with The Washington Post saying investigators had confirmed Hadfi fought for ISIS in Syria.

The French Justice Ministry said a third man, age 20, blew himself up outside the Stade de France soccer stadium, but didn't release his name.

Authorities previously identified Ismail Omar Mostefai, 29, as one of the Bataclan theater killers, based on prints lifted from his severed finger.

Mostefai reportedly spent several months in Syria this past winter, and had been on a French terrorist watch list since 2010.

Both Abdeslam and Hadfi lived in Molenbeek, the same Brussels neighborhood where terrorist Ahmedy Coulibaly got the weapons he used in the Charlie Hebdo slayings.

Another terrorist, Ayoub El-Khazzani, is also believed to have bought weapons in Molenbeek, which he later used during a failed August attack aboard a high-speed train in France.

And the al Qaeda assassins who killed anti-Taliban commander Ahmed Shah Massoud ahead of the Sept. 11 attacks also stayed for a time in Molenbeek.
Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel admitted that the neighborhood was a "gigantic problem."

"In the last few months, many initiatives have been launched in the fight against radicalization, but there should be a greater crackdown," Michel said.

"We are going to work more intensely with the local authorities. The federal government is ready to provide more means."
PARIS -- The night was chilly but thick with excitement as the big match between France's national soccer team and archrival Germany was underway at the national stadium in a northern suburb of Paris. President François Hollande watched with the crowd as the French players pushed the ball across midfield.

Then came the sharp, unmistakable crack of an explosion, overwhelming the roar of the crowd. A stunned moment passed. Players and spectators seemed confused, and eventually the awful realization swept through the stadium: Terror, for the second time this year, had struck Paris.

The symmetry could not be more jarring. A Parisian year that began with the bloodshed and chaos of the terrorist attacks at the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo and later at a Jewish grocery now had an even deadlier coda: With events still fluid and exact details unclear, the authorities said more than 100 people had been killed in a series of attacks across Paris. And dozens of people were taken hostage at a Parisian theater.

The urgent, bleating screech of sirens filled the evening air as police cruisers raced through the streets, uncertain if more mayhem was to come. Taxis ferried people home without charge as the police advised residents to stay inside. Ambulances screamed down the boulevards, as a stunned and confused French capital was again left to wonder: Why us? Once again?

"Paris has been hit again by terror tonight," Deputy Mayor Patrick Klugman said on Twitter.

For three days in January, Paris was gripped with fear as the police searched for Chérif and Saïd Kouachi after the two brothers attacked the Charlie Hebdo offices, a manhunt that ended with the Kouachis dying in a shootout. The terror only deepened when a third terrorist, Amedy Coulibaly, attacked a Jewish grocery, killing customers, before the police stormed the building and killed him.
Those attacks left France **reeling** for months, dredging up **sadness** and **fury** and **horror**. They also stirred a national debate over freedom of expression and the state of French Islam, a topic that has divided France like few others and seems certain to intensify now.

The attackers' names, or whether they are linked to radical Islamist groups, are not yet known. But some witnesses described militants shouting "God is **great**" in Arabic before opening fire.

France was already in a **foul temper**, with the economy stagnant and far-right politicians **stoking** anti-immigrant sentiment, especially Marine Le Pen, the leader of the National Front. Ms. Le Pen has **mocked** Mr. Hollande as **weak** and stirred French nationalism by vowing to close borders. With regional elections scheduled for Dec. 16, Ms. Le Pen seems certain to keep rising in the polls.

"Of course Le Pen is going to capitalize on this," said Laurence Bagot, 45, a French entrepreneur. "She has already been using rhetoric like closing borders and increasing national security. Now that's actually happening."

The French authorities, sharply **criticized** for failing to monitor the homegrown jihadists who had been known to security officials, vowed to tighten scrutiny of **suspected** terror cells and protect the country. Ms. Bagot said the attacks seemed to occur after French security was lowered months after the Charlie Hebdo attacks.

"It feels like we've created a **monster**, where the terrorists know **better** than our own security forces how to maneuver," she said. "These people are **agile**, young, have **no morals** and no limits."

On Friday night, the usual Parisian **reverie** was replaced by **chaos**.

At the Stade de France, spectators described a sense of **panic** as the explosions shook the stadium and quickly undermined whatever **confidence** had returned in the months since the attack on the magazine.

"Of course I'm **afraid** for the future," said Tony Vandelle, 31, who attended the France-Germany match with his brother. "With all the strikes in Syria, we're not safe anymore."

"Already France was **traumatized** when Charlie Hebdo happened, including our children, who still talk about it at school," he added. "This is taking things to another level. To see something like this again so soon is **frightening** for the future."

Karim Laruelle and his brother, Smaen, described hearing three explosions. "It sounded like firecrackers," Karim Laruelle said. "We did not really know what was happening until we started getting texts from our families telling us the shootings had happened elsewhere in Paris."

"They **wanted** to know if we were safe."

It was a question that resonated in every corner of the city. At the junction of Folie-Méricourt and Oberkampf, roughly 150 yards from the Bataclan theater, where a rock concert had become a hostage scene, the sound of shooting echoed from the direction of the theater: single shots followed by automatic fire and a series of loud bangs.
Besides the assaults at the Bataclan and the stadium, the attackers chose several of Paris's busiest nightlife streets and intersections, including the Boulevard Voltaire, the Boulevard Beaumarchais and the Rue de Charonne.

A man calling himself Leo, who lives near the Rue de Charonne, told Europe 1, a radio network, that his wife was among the first to help victims near the Petit Cambodge restaurant -- describing the scene as a "massacre" and "apocalyptic."

His wife told him that bodies were "littered on the ground."

At the Bataclan, a reporter named Julien Pearce told Europe 1 that two men entered the theater with guns blazing.

"The men shot at the audience, which lasted for about 10 minutes, with one shot lasting three or four seconds," he said. "They shot, recharged their guns, and shot again, even aiming at those already lying on the ground. I saw about 10 bodies lying on the ground, but couldn't tell whether they were injured or dead."

Then the police reopened the station. It was a bomb scare. They happen fairly often in Paris. The city resumed its rhythms, unaware of what was to come.
Hope and Anguish Flood Social Media

BYLINE: By KATIE ROGERS; Dan Bilefsky, Hannah Olivennes, Russell Goldman and Matthew Rosenberg contributed reporting.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 11

LENGTH: 1016 words

In the hours after the deadly suicide bombings in Brussels on Tuesday, relatives and friends of Léopold Hecht, a Belgian college student, were hoping that he would emerge safely from the chaos. Without his cellphone, maybe, and perhaps in a hospital bed, but safe.

Without reliable cellular reception and with the city locked down, loved ones turned to social media. On Twitter and Facebook, they distributed photographs of Mr. Hecht, a sandy-haired law student at Saint-Louis University in Brussels who enjoyed skiing and acting.

"For those who haven't seen it, we're still in search of Léopold Hecht," a relative, Hadrien Hecht, wrote on Facebook on Tuesday afternoon. "If you have any info, contact me."

After several hours, an update appeared: Mr. Hecht, 20, was in a hospital.

But on Wednesday morning, Pierre Jadoul, the president of Saint-Louis University, announced that he had died.

Classmates mourn slain law student Leopold Hecht, "It's so unjust...He was brilliant, kind" BrusselsAttacks pic.twitter.com/ekmccPnjkC -- Cassandra Vinograd (@CassVinograd) March 23, 2016

The death of Mr. Hecht, one of the 31 people killed in the bombings, illustrates how both hope and misinformation can flourish in the echo chamber of social media after a terrorist attack. For the families and friends of those who died and of some of the additional 300 who were hurt, the hours have been marked by constant communication but relatively little useful information.

"Pray for my best friend and her brother that were at the Brussels airport during the attacks," Alexa Eskinazi, a friend of a brother and sister who have not been heard from since they arrived at the airport, wrote on Facebook on Tuesday. "We still have not heard any news."

The authorities have asked for time to identify the victims, a process slowed in part, they say, by the condition of some bodies. But because the attacks occurred in the de facto capital of the European Union and the home of NATO's headquarters, more than the usual language and
cultural barriers were present. People from as many as 40 nationalities were caught in the attacks, according to Didier Reynders, Belgium's foreign minister.

"It's just waiting, which is heartbreaking" - sister of partner of David Dixon, Briton missing in #BrusselsAttacks pic.twitter.com/rsn8LTkMGT -- BBC Radio 4 Today (@BBCr4today) March 23, 2016

Corners of social media became virtual bulletin boards. In one Facebook group, Bruxelles-profil Recherche Famille, messages arrived every few minutes on Wednesday.

Among the missing is Raghavendran Ganesan, an Indian citizen thought to have been commuting to his job at an information technology company at the time of the subway bombing that also took place Tuesday, according to a Facebook post by his sister. The sister, Chandrasekar Ganesan, said she had been trying to call him. "Sometimes it appears to ring, and sometimes it is busy," she wrote.

S. Inbasekar, a representative of the Indian Embassy in Brussels, said in an email that officials were still trying to find Mr. Ganesan by checking hospitals.

https://t.co/m441ruHyyp Alexander and Sascha Pinczowski - missing in Brussels pic.twitter.com/E45Dx7hVcO -- Crystal (@WingsofCrystal) March 23, 2016

Friends and relatives of David Dixon, a Briton living in Brussels, spent the day posting photos of him on social media. Mr. Dixon, who normally took the subway to work, sent a text to an aunt to say he was safe after the airport was bombed, the BBC reported. He is a contractor for Euroclear, a financial services company.

"We are in touch with his partner and continue to coordinate with the authorities in locating David," Tristan Peniston-Bird, a Euroclear spokesman, wrote in an email on Wednesday.

Those close to Mr. Dixon must also grapple with news inquiries from around the globe. Emily Sutcliffe, a niece of Mr. Dixon's partner, Charlotte Sutcliffe, wrote an open message to journalists: "We would appreciate all help in finding David Dixon and reuniting him with my Aunty and his son. There is no comment from me or any of my family that can help in the search, that's in the hands of Belgian authorities.''

The social media search continued on Wednesday for Alex and Sascha Pinczowski, siblings believed to have arrived at the airport on Tuesday on a flight from New York. On Facebook, family and friends, including Ms. Eskinazi, posted several notices.

Also at the airport were Stephanie and Justin Shults, an American couple working as accountants in Brussels, who had just dropped off Ms. Shults's mother, Carolyn Moore, for a flight home to Kentucky. Soon after Ms. Moore entered the security line, the bombs detonated.

"She was not injured in the blast, but chaos ensued and she couldn't find Justin or Stephanie," said Levi Sutton, a half brother of Mr. Shults.

"We tried calling the embassy, the Red Cross, hospitals," he added. '"We're unable to get any information. It's frustrating.'"
Family hasn’t heard from Nashville couple Justin and Stephanie Shults since the Brussels attacks. pic.twitter.com/GKSqCmmBmp -- Rebecca Schleicher (@NC5_RSchleicher) March 22, 2016

Mark C. Toner, a deputy spokesman for the State Department, said in a statement that about a dozen Americans had been wounded, but that the department was not aware of any Americans who had been killed.

"We must emphasize that a number of U.S. citizens remain unaccounted for, and the Kingdom of Belgium has not yet released nationality information for reported fatalities," he said.

Other deaths have been confirmed through Facebook. Olivier Delespesse was killed in the subway bombing, according to a post from his employer, the Federation of Wallonia-Brussels.

"He was always smiling, always happy," Olivier Dradin, a co-worker, said in an interview. "He was very playful, and someone who was deeply interested in people -- the opposite of the kind of person who remains cold and unapproachable behind a desk."

On Tuesday, Fernando Tapia Coral confirmed the death of his sister, Adelma Tapia Ruiz, a Peruvian who had twin daughters.
Held Hostage in the Restroom, and Playing Dead to Stay Alive

BYLINE: By JACK HEALY and MARC SANTORA; Jack Healy reported from Orlando, and Marc Santora from New York. John Eligon contributed reporting from Orlando. Kitty Bennett contributed research.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 1560 words

ORLANDO, Fla. — As the sound of gunfire in the nightclub grew louder, a patron named Orlando and a female friend took cover in a cramped bathroom stall, contorting their bodies on top of the toilet so their feet could not be seen. The gunman burst into the bathroom, went straight to the stall next to them and shot the people inside.

"People were screaming, begging for their lives," Orlando, 52, said in a telephone interview, asking that his last name not be used out of fear of retaliation from terrorist sympathizers.

The gunman, Omar Mateen, was silent, then left the bathroom.

"He went out and started shooting outside again," Orlando said.

For three sickening hours on Sunday morning, a life-or-death game of deception played out in a bathroom where the assailant holed up with hostages after killing dozens of people inside the Pulse nightclub. Orlando and his friend desperately tried to avoid becoming two more victims.

Orlando said he listened as the gunman warned his hostages not to text anyone, took their cellphones, called 911 to calmly pledge his allegiance to the Islamic State, spoke about a need to stop American bombing in Syria and threatened greater bloodshed if the police moved in.

Orlando described moments of surreal quiet as the siege went on and the killer fiddled with his weapon and used the sink and the hand dryer. Mr. Mateen checked on the bodies around him, Orlando said. At one point, Orlando switched positions and played dead, and he felt something poking him. He believed it was the gunman, checking to see if he was dead.

Around 5 a.m., the police blew a hole in the wall, enabling some of the hostages to escape, and officers engaged in a fatal final confrontation with the assailant.
Much of Orlando's account corresponds with new information released by the police on Monday, other witness accounts and video evidence, which combined to paint a chilling picture of the hostage crisis that unfolded after the attack.

The first bursts of gunfire, around 2 a.m., were captured on video by 25-year-old Amanda Alvear, the footage uploaded to Snapchat.

In the video, she is recording herself and others as they dance to the last song of the evening at the popular gay club. Then she turns the camera toward her own face. She is staring into the lens as the first few shots are heard. They do not seem to faze her. But as they continue, unrelenting, roughly 20 rounds, the video abruptly ends. She was listed among the dead on Monday.

Just before the shooting began, 28-year-old Ashley Summers and her friends went to their bartender, Kate, at Pulse's back bar to order one more round -- a vodka, soda and lime for Ms. Summers; a vodka and Red Bull for one friend; and a specialty drink for the other.

One of Ms. Summers's friends was polishing the credit card receipt with all sorts of pleasantries for the bartender -- "sexy kitten," "muah," "you the best" -- when the popping started. For 15 seconds, through the pulsing of the salsa music, they thought it might have been firecrackers, Ms. Summers said in an interview. But they eventually figured out it was gunshots. Ms. Summers said a friend pulled her to the ground. They felt glass shattering over their heads.

They were near a back exit and crawled out. Concerned about what might be behind the seven-foot-high white privacy fence out back, they turned left, into a storage area. But they heard more gunshots coming from that direction, so they went back out onto the patio and used some furniture to vault over the fence. They dashed to safety.

"At that point it was shock, it was disbelief, it was fear, but it was urgency," said Ms. Summers, a ballroom dance instructor. "There was knowing that we had to get out of there.''

Soon after Mr. Mateen first opened fire, he was confronted by an armed security guard who was an off-duty police officer, said John Mina, the Orlando police chief, at a news conference Monday morning. They exchanged gunfire. The security guard was then joined by an unknown number of police officers, the first to arrive on the scene.

During these early rounds of gunfire, the police said, many patrons were able to escape. But the assailant retreated deeper into the club, eventually barricading himself in the bathroom, where some patrons had gone to hide.

When the shots erupted, Norman Casiano dropped to his knees and crawled to what was apparently a different bathroom, seeking safety in a stall where many people were already crammed together. He tried to call 911, then his mother, shouting, "Mom mom mom mom!" into the phone before the call dropped.

As Mr. Casiano, 25, and the others huddled together, a wounded man staggered into the bathroom and dropped to the floor. They urged him to try to stay quiet. At one point, as the gunman approached, Mr. Casiano said, he could hear shells clattering to the floor and the gun reloading. Then Mr. Mateen entered the bathroom.
"Just firing, firing, firing," Mr. Casiano said in an interview at his parents' apartment, about two hours after he was released from the hospital on Monday afternoon.

He was hit once in the back and felt a hot pulse of pain tear into him, as if his leg had been severed. He ended up being shot twice in the back, both bullets passing through his body, he said.

Mr. Casiano said the gunman did not say anything, but laughed as people begged him not to shoot and assured him that they did not know who he was and had not seen his face.

"All I heard was a laugh," Mr. Casiano said. "He laughed like an evil laugh, something that's just going to be imprinted in my head forever." It was, he said, "a laugh of like, 'Ha, I did it.'"

When the gunman left the bathroom, Mr. Casiano tried to urge others to leave, he said, and was able to slip away and escape. He said he was in a hospital bed by about 3 a.m., two hours before the siege ended.

Orlando’s escape took much longer. Hiding with his friend, he could hear the gunman drawing closer, the sound of each round getting louder.

As he and his friend positioned themselves on the toilet, Orlando said, he also braced one foot against the stall door.

Around this time, Mina Justice was asleep at home when she received a text from her 30-year-old son, Eddie Justice, she told reporters. He was also hiding in a bathroom at the club.

"Mommy I love you," the first message read. It came in at 2:06 a.m. "In club they shooting."

Only two minutes later, he wrote, "I'm gonna die."

Another 30 minutes would pass before he sent a text begging for help.

"Call them mommy," he pleaded.

"Hurry," he wrote. "He's in the bathroom with us."

Orlando said he never looked Mr. Mateen in the eye, but recalled his calm voice. At one point, after noticing that some of the hostages in the bathroom were texting, the gunman ordered them to surrender their phones.

He spoke again, according to Orlando, asking the hostages, "Are you guys black?"

"He said, 'I don't have an issue with the blacks,'" Orlando said.

Early in the siege, the gunman called 911 to pledge his allegiance to the Islamic State, Chief Mina said.

"He was cool and calm when he was making those phone calls to us," he said.

Orlando could hear the gunman speaking on the phone, presumably to the police. He spoke about how America should stop bombing the Islamic State.
"He got mad and hung up," Orlando said. He never heard Mr. Mateen mention gay people -- he spoke only about the Islamic State and Syria, and about the damage he still intended to do.

The gunman made several calls, and at one point, Orlando said, he told whoever was on the other line that there were people in the club with bombing vests as well as three snipers outside, ready to take out officers if they advanced on the club.

"Our negotiators were talking with him, and there were no shots at that time," Chief Mina said. "But there was talk about bomb vests, about explosives, throughout, and there were statements made about imminent loss of life."

Near the end of the siege, Mr. Mateen began to shoot the hostages in the bathroom, Orlando said.

By some miracle, he said, he once again avoided detection, but a person in the neighboring stall was not so lucky. A man who had just been shot crawled under the stall, grasping at both Orlando’s and his companion's legs, pulling them down -- and exposing their hiding spot. They played dead, "my face against the toilet bowl," he said.

In those moments, Orlando’s phone would not stop ringing, as friends called to see if he was safe. He worried that the rings would draw attention and give him away.

As the final battle with the police began, Orlando could hear the gunman loading his weapon, at one point shouting, "I've got plenty of bullets."

Then there were explosions and chaos.

The police had blown a hole in the bathroom wall, but Orlando said his muscles were so cramped he could barely move. "My shoulders got caught," he said. "A cop grabbed me and pulled me out through the hole."

His female friend was also rescued. When he looked at his clothes, he was covered in blood, but it was not his own. He does not know if anyone else made it out of the bathroom alive.

Mr. Justice, whose last text to his mother was just before 3 a.m., did not survive. His death was confirmed by the Orlando authorities early Monday morning.
Friends Were Last to Arrive Before the Shooting Began

BYLINE: By LIZETTE ALVAREZ

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 12

LENGTH: 590 words

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Hanging out at home with a friend last Saturday, Demetrice Naulings decided there was still night enough to party. It was a snap decision. So he and his friends headed to Pulse, the gay nightclub where he often worked as a host, arriving just before 2 a.m. He was the last person to walk into the club -- a decision that shatters him still.

"We never even got a drink," said Mr. Naulings, 34. Shots rang out from the next room. Pop pop pop pop, to the sound of the loud, syncopated music. Everyone kept dancing until the next volley of shots. He heard screams, pandemonium. The people around him dived for the floor.

And then the music stopped. The gunman had shot at the D.J. booth and the chandelier in front of it. The lights went off for a bit and then came back on. Next to him was one of his best friends, Eddie Justice.

"You could hear complete silence," said Mr. Naulings, a hair stylist with a fondness for hats. "In the silence, you could hear bullets hitting the ground. You could hear a clip being taken out and hitting the floor and him putting a new one back in."

Then the bullets sped through the air in the next room again, and another moment of silence.

"It was devastating," he said. "You don't know whether you will lose your life. Should I run to the exit? What do I do next? You think he may be coming here. So people started to run."

They ran as a pack into the women's bathroom. "But we said, 'We are going to die here,' " Mr. Naulings said. "So me and Eddie just ran," he said.

They went into a narrow hallway, hidden away, that led to a side door that Mr. Naulings, familiar with the layout, knew opened to the outside. "People were climbing and stumbling and pushing," Mr. Naulings said. "They could see the door; like 90 people were pushing towards it."

In the mayhem of the hallway, Mr. Naulings lost sight of Mr. Justice. Still, the bullets flew. One penetrated the wall and hit a young woman who was frantically trying to get out. "She fell and people just stumbled over her in the panic of the moment," he said.
Suddenly, with the pressure of dozens of people pushing on it, the door burst open and the crowd poured out. Mr. Naulings ran into a bartender shot in the shoulder. He started looking frantically for his friends, Mr. Justice and another buddy. Mr. Naulings figured Mr. Justice had stayed behind and was in the men's bathroom.

He reached out to him on Snapchat: "Where are you? The police are outside. Send me a message back."

Five minutes later, he saw a response from Mr. Justice. "I've been shot. I'm going into shock. Please tell them to hurry up. Call the police."

His other friend was also in the bathroom. He was hiding behind a dead body. At one point, the gunman poked at a girl right next to him. She flinched, and he shot her.

Mr. Naulings found himself hugging everyone -- strangers, friends, co-workers. "I didn't think this was a slaughterhouse," he said. "It was a safe zone."

Later, he heard that Mr. Justice had died, desperately texting his mother as the killer stalked the building. "He meant everything to me," Mr. Naulings said of his friend. "He didn't just die for nothing."

Mr. Naulings never saw the gunman. He only heard the bullets, the shouts, the killer reloading. It lingers as a horrific soundtrack he can't keep out of his head. He's not sure when or if it will stop.

"It's like the boogeyman, when you are in your closet or under the bed," Mr. Naulings said. "You can't see him but you can hear him."
Blasts Instantly Make Survivors Think of Paris Terror

BYLINE: By DAN BILEFSKY, JAMES KANTER and ANITA RAGHAVAN

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; Foreign Desk; Pg. 9

LENGTH: 972 words

BRUSSELS -- Simon O'Connor, a European Commission official, had parked his car and was about to walk toward the departure terminal, en route to Rome for work. Salomé Corbo, an actress from Montreal, was at the Air Canada counter, about to check her luggage. Elouan Preaud and his wife, Angelina Centeno, were having breakfast, waiting to board an American Airlines flight to her native Colombia.

Then came the blasts.

The first one tore through the check-in area at Brussels Airport just before 8 a.m. on Thursday. Another followed, seconds later, near a Starbucks.

Mr. Preaud and his wife, who is pregnant, hit the ground as people screamed, "Get down, get down!" After the second explosion, he looked up to see a giant fan -- part of an air-conditioning unit -- that had landed near them. They had been eating at a Délifrance, talking about Salah Abdeslam, the terrorism suspect who was arrested in Brussels on Friday after a four-month global manhunt.

"In 10 seconds, everything changed," Mr. Preaud said. "It was an apocalypse. There was blood everywhere."

Ms. Corbo, like other witnesses, said the second blast was stronger than the first.

"I felt myself pushed forward as if by a force of air," she said in a phone interview. "People dove to the ground. Parts of the ceiling fell in. There were some injured people lying on the ground. I saw a foot that had been blown off."

Mr. O'Connor, the European Commission official, described hearing "two deeply rumbling crashes" as he approached the terminal from the parking lot.

"I saw the glass side of the terminal blown out, a lot of agitated people streaming out," he said in a phone interview. "There were people with blood on their faces, people with injuries on the ground outside the terminal building. It was the kind of stuff you hope to never see."
Nearly seven miles away, in the heart of Brussels -- as paramedics, police officers and other emergency workers were still evacuating hundreds of passengers at the airport and taking scores of injured people away for treatment -- a bomb went off on a subway train as it departed the crowded Maelbeek station. It was 9:11 a.m., just after the height of the morning rush.

"The train was coming into Maelbeek station," said Brian Carroll, 31, a communications consultant from Washington, who was on the train heading to a conference downtown. "There was suddenly a loud explosion. There was smoke everywhere. Everyone dropped to the ground. People were screaming and crying. I was on the ground.

"My immediate reaction was, 'We are getting attacked by terrorists,'" he continued. "For all I knew, there was a gunman going from car to car and shooting people."

After a couple of minutes, Mr. Carroll pried open a door of the subway car. "I thought to myself, 'I've got to get out of here,'" he recalled. "I headed toward an exit. There was smoke and soot everywhere. There was glass everywhere. It was like running through a cloud of dust."

He eventually joined a friend near the Berlaymont, the headquarters of the European Commission, the executive arm of the European Union. "I'm a bit shaken up, but I'm O.K."

Both the airport terminal and the subway station became scenes of carnage. Roughly 10 people were killed at the airport and 20 at the subway station, while 200 others were injured, officials said Tuesday evening, cautioning that the death toll could rise.

Among the dozen or so witnesses interviewed on Tuesday, a theme recurred with striking consistency. None said they had thought an accident occurred. All of them said they had immediately thought of terror, specifically the Nov. 13 terrorist attacks in and around Paris, which killed 130 people and were largely plotted in Brussels.

"We were scared that there were people with guns coming," said Johannie Hoedenaeken, a traveler who, like Mr. Preaud and Ms. Centeno, was eating at the Délifrance when the airport explosions occurred. "That's what happened in Paris. I really thought I was going to die."

Mr. Carroll, the visitor from Washington, said he had followed news coverage about Belgium's fractured governance and its response to the Paris attacks.

"This has been going on for a while, and the whole world is looking at Belgium," he said. "All of us have doubts that the Belgian government can manage this situation. There are so many competing language groups. The police don't cooperate well together."

But amid the chaos, there were acts of altruism.

"A kid came out bleeding a lot," said Ilaria Ruggiano, who was traveling with her mother and five others. "I tried to help him with a tissue, but it was not enough."

Ms. Corbo, the actress, credited a security guard for escorting her and other passengers to a secure area on the tarmac.

"There was a lot of humanity amid all the horror," she said. "We received water. I was hungry, and a stranger offered me some nuts. People were helping each other."
Even in their shock, people sought to alert or protect others.

"A lady was crying and yelling at me in French," said Murat Ueranuez, who was in the restaurant of the Sheraton Hotel across from the airport terminal, preparing for a conference of fraud examiners, when the blasts occurred. "She was panicked. I said, 'I am sorry, I don't speak French.' She switched to English and, speaking with a heavy accent, said: 'Don't go out, don't go out there. There are explosions.' She was still crying and yelling and was obviously in shock."

In the early evening, Belgian officials released a photo of three men captured from surveillance cameras, saying that two were suicide bombers and that they were looking for the third -- who may have had a bomb that failed to go off. All three looked calm. Like many of their victims, they were pushing airport luggage carts.
BOSTON -- About 100 feet from the end of the 26.2-mile Boston Marathon, explosions shook the street and sent runners frantically racing for cover. The marathon finish line, normally a festive area of celebration and exhaustion, was suddenly like a war zone.

"These runners just finished and they don't have legs now," said Roupen Bastajian, 35, a Rhode Island state trooper and former Marine. "So many of them. There are so many people without legs. It's all blood. There's blood everywhere. You got bones, fragments. It's disgusting."

Had Mr. Bastajian run a few strides slower, as he did in 2011, he might have been among the dozens of victims wounded in Monday's bomb blasts. Instead, he was among the runners treating other runners, a makeshift emergency medical service of exhausted athletes.

"We put tourniquets on," Mr. Bastajian said. "I tied at least five, six legs with tourniquets."

The Boston Marathon, held every year on Patriots' Day, a state holiday, is usually an opportunity for the city to cheer with a collective roar. But the explosions turned an uplifting day into a nightmarish swirl of bloodied streets and torn-apart limbs as runners were toppled, children on the sidelines were maimed, and a panicked city watched its iconic athletic spectacle destroyed.

The timing of the explosions -- around 2:50 p.m. -- was especially devastating because they happened when a high concentration of runners in the main field were arriving at the finish line on Boylston Street. In last year's Boston Marathon, for example, more than 9,100 crossed the finish line -- 42 percent of all finishers -- in the 30 minutes before and after the time of the explosions.

This year, more than 23,000 people started the race in near-perfect conditions. Only about 17,580 finished.

Three people were killed and more than 100 were injured, officials said.

Deirdre Hatfield, 27, was steps away from the finish line when she heard a blast. She saw bodies flying out into the street. She saw a couple of children who appeared lifeless. She saw people without legs.
"When the bodies landed around me I thought: Am I burning? Maybe I’m burning and I don’t feel it,” Ms. Hatfield said. "If I blow up, I just hope I won’t feel it."

She looked inside a Starbucks to her left, where she thought a blast might have occurred. "What was so eerie, you looked in you knew there had to be 100 people in there, but there was no sign of movement," she said.

Ms. Hatfield wondered where another explosion might occur. She turned down a side street and ran to the hotel where she had agreed to meet her boyfriend and family after the race.

Amid the chaos, the authorities directed runners and onlookers to the area designated for family members meeting runners at the end of the race. It was traditionally a place of panting pride, sweaty hugs and exhausted relief.

But on Monday, it became a place of dread, as news of the attack spread through the crowd and people awaited word. One woman screamed over the din toward the streets roped off for runners: "Lisa! Lisa!"

Some saw the explosions as clouds of white smoke. To others, they looked orange -- a fireball that nearly reached the top of a nearby traffic light. Groups of runners, including a row of women in pink and neon tank tops and a man in a red windbreaker -- kept going a few paces at least, as if unsure of what they were seeing.

Some runners stopped in the middle of the street, confused and frightened. Others turned around and started running back the way they came.

"It is kind of ironic that you just finished running a marathon and you want to keep running away," said Sarah Joyce, 21, who had just finished her first marathon when she heard the blast.

Bruce Mendelsohn, 44, was at a party in a third-floor office above where the bombs went off. His brother, Aaron, had finished the race earlier.

"There was a very loud boom, and three to five seconds later there was another one," said Mr. Mendelsohn, an Army veteran who works in public relations. He ran outside. "There was blood smeared in the streets and on the sidewalk," he said.

Mr. Mendelsohn could not be sure how many people had been killed or wounded, but among the bodies he said he saw women, children and runners. The wounds, he said, appeared to be "lower torso."

As Melissa Fryback, 42, was heading into the home stretch, she realized she was on pace for one of her best times ever. She steeled herself for the last three miles and finished in 3 hours 44 minutes. She met up with her boyfriend, and the two had made it about two blocks from the finish line when they heard the blasts.

"I can't help but wonder that if I hadn't pushed like that, it could have been me," she said.

Boston hospitals struggled to keep up with the flow of patients. Massachusetts General Hospital admitted 29 patients, 8 of them in critical condition; several of them needed amputations, a spokesman said.
Late Monday night, Brigham and Women's Hospital said it had seen 31 patients who were wounded in the explosions, ranging from a 3-year-old to patients in their 60s. As many as 10 were listed in serious condition, and 2 were in critical condition.

The Rev. Brian Jordan, a Franciscan priest based in Brooklyn, said he was in Boston to say a pre-race Mass near the starting line for a group of about 100 friends who were running. The group included Boston firefighters, Massachusetts State Police officers and several Army soldiers recently returned from Iraq.

Father Jordan, a veteran runner of 21 Boston Marathons himself, was about a block away from the blasts when they occurred, heading toward the course to watch his friends finish the race.

"I never heard that type of sound before," he said by telephone. "It was like cannons."

He said he made his way through the fleeing crowd toward the explosions. "I saw some blood," he said.

He realized he could be more effective wearing his Franciscan habit, so he returned to the firehouse and donned the brown robe of his order, and then headed back out into the streets.

"All I could do was try to calm people down," Father Jordan said. "Marathons are supposed to bring people together."

Jeff Constantine, 46, ended his first marathon a mile from the finish. It took 10 minutes to find out why. He was planning to finish the race at almost exactly the time that the bomb went off.

"If I didn't freeze up, if I hadn't been slow, I would have been right there," he said.

His family had traffic to thank. They were running late after watching Mr. Constantine run up Heartbreak Hill, the race's most challenging stretch, and never made it to the finish line.
Victims, Ages 8 and 29, Remembered for Kindness and Laughter

BYLINE: By BINYAMIN APPELBAUM and JOHN ELIGON; Kitty Bennett and Michael Roston contributed research.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 14

LENGTH: 952 words

BOSTON -- Martin Richard and Krystle Campbell, two of three people killed Monday at the Boston Marathon, shared something in common with most of those injured by the blasts. They were there to watch others. They were not supposed to be the subjects of a newspaper story.

Ms. Campbell, 29, who went almost every year to watch the runners cross the finish line, was standing with a friend. Martin, 8, was standing with his family.

On the campus of Boston University, administrators said Tuesday afternoon that the third person killed was a graduate student. The Chinese Consulate in New York said that the victim was a Chinese citizen but that it was not disclosing her name at the request of her family. The university said she was watching the race close to the finish line with two friends, one of whom was in stable condition at Boston Medical Center.

On Tuesday, mourners dropped flowers on the front steps of the gray two-story Victorian home where Martin lived with his family in the Dorchester section of Boston.

Martin's mother, Denise, and sister, Jane, 6, were badly injured by the blast. His older brother Henry, 12, and his father, Bill, also survived the explosions, said a spokesman for the family.

It was a shockingly sad turn for a family that was well-liked and active in the community -- one that ate four-cheese pizza and meatballs several nights a week at a local Italian restaurant. They attended St. Ann Parish Neponset, a Roman Catholic church. Bill Richard was president of the board of St. Mark's Area Main Street, a community revitalization organization.

The operator of a clock at the center of the neighborhood froze the hands at 2:50 on Tuesday, the time of the first blast.

"Bad things happen, I understand that," said Suzanne Morrison, a close friend of the family. "But why three times over that family endured what they endured yesterday, that's something I'll never be able to process."

Martin was kindhearted and had an infectious smile," Ms. Morrison said. She said he had spent a school year in the same class as one of her daughters.
"He was the one boy that all the girls had a crush on," Ms. Morrison said. "He didn't shun the girls. He would play with them. He was just a great, great kid."

Mr. Richard released a statement, thanking "our family and friends, those we know and those we have never met, for their thoughts and prayers. I ask that you continue to pray for my family as we remember Martin."

Martin was a third grader at Neighborhood House Charter School. He was frequently in front of his house playing sports with his brother and sister, whom a neighbor described as a tomboy. A red bicycle helmet sat on the front lawn on Tuesday and there was a basketball hoop and hockey goal in the driveway.

"Very active, very normal American kids," said a neighbor, Jane Sherman, 64, describing the Richard children.

Martin would always tell her hi, Ms. Sherman said, but he was afraid of her Rottweiler, Audra Rose.

About 10:30 on Monday night, Ms. Sherman said, she saw Mr. Richard walking into his house, looking "white as a sheet." She asked him what was wrong but he did not answer. She then went to his house and asked a family friend who was at the Richard home what had happened.

"He said, 'Martin is dead.'"

Ms. Campbell's family initially was told that she was merely injured, according to her grandmother Lillian Campbell. Her identity was confused with that of a friend who had been standing with her. Ms. Campbell's parents learned their daughter had died only when they entered the other woman's hospital room, Lillian Campbell said.

"We're heartbroken at the death of our daughter," her mother, Patty Campbell, who could barely be understood through her tears, said in a statement she read on the porch of the family's Medford home on Tuesday afternoon. "She was a wonderful person. She was sweet and kind and friendly and she was always smiling."

Ms. Campbell worked long days and nights as a restaurant manager, most recently for Jimmy's Steer House in Arlington, but friends said she never lost her sense of humor.

"She made everyone feel special, and in her line of work, it's really hard," said Laurie Jackson Cormier, who ran a park where Ms. Campbell managed a restaurant for a number of years. "They work so damn hard, and you don't often come across everyone who has that attitude."

Ms. Campbell grew up in Medford, graduating from the local public high school in 2001. She started working as a waitress in high school, and worked her way up to a job as the manager of Hingham branch of the Summer Shack, a popular chain of Boston seafood restaurants.

At the end of the summer season at the Summer Shack in 2009, she organized a hot dog eating contest to rid the restaurant of hundreds of unsold sausages.

"I figured it's the last weekend of the season, so why not have some people come out and stuff their face?" she told The Boston Globe.
Ms. Campbell lived with her grandmother for almost two years, caring for her after a medical procedure, before moving recently to Arlington and taking a new restaurant job on the other side of the surf and turf divide.

Lillian Campbell said her granddaughter called several times a week and came to see her most weeks. They had a cup of tea and "lots of laughs about foolish things."

"Every time she comes in the house to see anybody it's a hug and a kiss, and that's how she left," Lillian Campbell said.

"'Love you, Nana,' that's what she said."

Cate Seely, who met Ms. Campbell once in the past, ran the marathon on Monday. On Tuesday, wearing her marathon jacket, she walked up to the Campbell family home with the red rose she received after finishing the race and left it on the front steps.
Americans React to Paris Attacks With Empathy, Fear and Resolve

BYLINE: By JACK HEALY and RICHARD FAUSSET; Jack Healy reported from Denver, and Richard Fausset from Raleigh, Miss. Reporting was contributed by Fernanda Santos from Phoenix; Mitch Smith from Chicago; Alan Blinder from Charleston, W.Va.; Frances Robles from Miami; Jess Bidgood from Boston; Ian Lovett from Los Angeles; Kirk Johnson from Seattle; and Eli Rosenberg, Ryan McCarthy, Nate Schweber, John Surico, John Broder, Emily Steel, Stephen Cooper and Jaimie Abir from New York.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 11

LENGTH: 1539 words

DENVER -- It made parents worry for their children studying abroad. It sent a shiver of fear into plans for vacations to France. Cafes and nightclubs in Miami and Los Angeles felt newly vulnerable, not so different from the bloody scenes unfolding on people's phones and televisions. For Americans accustomed to tuning out foreign conflicts, it brought the world crashing in.

Few terrorist attacks in foreign lands have seized the attention of this country like the carnage in the streets of Paris, a city an ocean away but glittering in the memories of countless American honeymoons, junior years abroad and bucket-list vacations.

In the last week, the attacks have pushed global terrorism and the Islamic State to the front lines of worry for many Americans who have taken to social media in record numbers to track wall-to-wall coverage of a cosmopolitan city transformed into a war zone.

It all felt so familiar, people said in more than three dozen interviews across America -- as though it could easily have been a restaurant or bar in their neighborhood.

"It's incredibly scary," said Katy Neusteter, who works for an environmental advocacy group in Boulder, Colo., and is flying to Paris next week for a climate conference. She said each new email exchange or videoconference with colleagues now began with a somber mention of the latest unsettling news.

Dorcas Guest-Nelson, a part-time nurse in Phoenix, said that her eldest son, Jay, 20, had just been to Paris and that she had cousins who lived in London.

"I feel France is more similar to us," she said. "When I think about Africa, I think about coups and genocide, about crazy dictators and who's in charge. I'm not saying that I wasn't affected by what happened in Kenya -- those were innocent people, too," she said, referring to the attack in
April by Shabab militants that killed 147 people at a Kenyan university. "But France was
different," she said. "It was, like, I could have been there. My son could have been there. I could
be the one sitting outside on a cafe and getting sprayed by bullets."

The attacks shook Americans who know France intimately as well as those who had only seen
pictures of the Eiffel Tower.

Across the country, people attended solidarity marches for France, bathed public buildings in
the French tricolor and pondered whether they should cancel their travel plans.

In Mississippi, Baptist congregants altered their morning rituals to pray for victims in a place
many had never visited. In Utah, public safety officials released a video about how to recognize
the eight signs of terrorism.

The attacks are already reshaping debate over immigration and border security, vaulting
foreign conflicts to the center of the presidential race. In a poll by Bloomberg Politics taken just
after the attacks, Americans said that terrorism and the Islamic State were now the most
pressing issues facing the country, replacing their concern about jobs and the economy.

People said they were paying attention now because the Islamic State's rampage in Paris felt
scarier, somehow closer to home, than the yearslong slaughter of thousands of Syrians and
Iraqis, the recent suicide bombings in Beirut or the bombing of a Russian passenger jet.

In Raleigh, Miss., Randy Clayton, 51, said the Paris attacks showed the Islamic State to be "really
aggressive." He added, "Right now, I don't think you can say anywhere that you are safe, with
the climate of the world the way it is."

Mr. Clayton, the pastor of students and family life at the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, was
watching the news in an effort to understand how it might affect his family. He said his oldest
son was in an honors program at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Miss., and had been
considering signing up for a semester or year of study abroad. "Before, I was really encouraging
him to," said Mr. Clayton. "But my wife and I last night, we were talking about it, and are really
not too excited about it."

Several church members, including the interim pastor, Gerald Gordon, said they were watching
the news from Paris intently. They knew that a place like Raleigh would not be on anyone's list
of targets for terrorism. But they did not reject the possibility that other, more populated places
in Mississippi might be. Some mentioned the arrest, in August, of two Mississippi State students
who authorities said had been trying to join the Islamic State.

"We are very concerned," said Ann Butler, 58, a fourth-grade science teacher. "Because we just
feel like it's a matter of time before it's going to happen here. We believe our borders are not
secure enough."

Beth Crumpton, 76, a retired schoolteacher, said that she supported the effort by Gov. Phil
Bryant and other governors around the country to block the resettlement of Syrian refugees.
"It's not because I'm a raving rebel from the South," she said. "It's because we don't have time to
check them out."
People had other questions. Where would the Islamic State strike next? Could any American cities be targeted? American officials have said there is no credible intelligence that the Islamic State or any other group is plotting an attack inside the country. Would the attacks lead the United States military deeper into another conflict in the Middle East?

"It will get much worse before it gets better," said Douglas Whitcomb, the owner of a food service business from Long Island who was visiting his son in Massachusetts. "Because the free world has not adequately come up with a strategy to deal with this. You cannot placate madness."

Among posts by major Internet and media companies, Paris has been the only news event to register among the year's Top 20 stories, as measured by likes, shares, and other actions on Facebook and Twitter, according to data from TrackMaven, a marketing analytics tool, that was analyzed by The New York Times. The rest of the top stories of the year were entertainment-related, memes or viral stories. Similarly, viewership of television news spiked the first night of the attacks and stayed high through the week.

Not everyone expressed worry, or was even paying special attention. They had been spectators to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the marathon bombing in Boston, bombings in London and Madrid and too many mass shootings in the United States to list.

In Seattle, Robb Crowe, 54, a social worker, said he was more worried about a rise in muggings and assaults in his Capitol Hill neighborhood. He had avoided learning too much about Paris.

"It's kind of like, 'not again,' " he said. "There have been so many incidents over the last year, I'm just kind of overwhelmed by it."

The attacks also stirred anger and hatred. In Englewood, Colo., vandals threw a rock through the sign of Isis Books & Gifts, a 35-year-old business named for the Egyptian god. Muslim groups said they had tallied a rash of threats and vandalism in the days after the attacks, including an Eiffel Tower symbol spray-painted onto the side of a Nebraska mosque.

When members of the Islamic Center of Pflugerville, outside of Austin, Tex., arrived for morning prayers on Monday, they saw pages of the Quran covered with feces littering the entrance. It was the first vandalism there since the mosque opened in a strip mall three years ago.

"We had our guard down," said Faisal Naeem, a board member at the mosque. "We were like, 'It's not going to happen.' But that concept of an oasis is no longer there."

Many of the people who felt the most shaken by news of the attacks had European connections. French expatriates said they watched the aftermath of the attacks on French channels on cable TV and scoured social media to see if friends and family were safe. Janet Poth, an owner of a French bistro in Denver, raised three sons in Paris and planned to fly back in two weeks. She said the attacks would not deter her.

"It is a city that I absolutely love," she said. She had been in France when 12 people were killed in an attack on the offices of Charlie Hebdo, the satirical newspaper. "You're thinking, 'Is there going to be a third? Is it going to continue?'"
Julie Curtiss, 33, a painter from Paris who now lives in Brooklyn, said the killings deeply unsettled her because the victims were her peers. Last Friday, she anxiously scrolled through Facebook as her friends in the neighborhood of the attack all checked in as safe, except for one classmate. He had gone to the Bataclan concert hall, and died there.

"It feels like the beginning of something bigger, a war that doesn't have frontiers, something that doesn't have barriers," she said.

While travel businesses expressed concern about a decline in tourism, not one person in interviews intended to cancel travel plans to Europe or steer clear of Paris. Richard and Diana Newton, a retired couple who live part of the year in Seattle and part of the year in Spain, and said they were not going to change plans to fly to Spain in February for a three-month stay in Valencia.

"You can't say to yourself, 'Hey, I'm going to sit in my chair and watch TV,'" Mr. Newton said. "And you don't stop walking the street because you might get mugged."
Clinton **Surprises** and **Delights** by Attending **Pride** Parade in Orlando's Shadow

**BYLINE:** By MATT FLEGENHEIMER; Thomas Kaplan contributed reporting.

**SECTION:** Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 10

**LENGTH:** 985 words

It is difficult to surprise at New York City's pride parade -- that pulsing kaleidoscope of pink unicorn horns and rainbow undergarments, bejeweled miniature dogs and glitter-specked revelers who seemed to have misplaced their shoes.

But around 1:45 p.m. Sunday, beneath a virtually cloudless sky, something was afoot on Christopher Street.

Lights flashed. Officers stirred. Sirens pierced the Cher soundtrack wafting over Greenwich Village.

Soon, a van door opened.

''Hillaryyyyyyyyyyyy!' someone hollered from the sidewalk. And so began a very low-speed chase along the city's foremost corridor of gay rights.

For four blocks or so -- beginning steps from the Stonewall Inn, the nexus of the modern gay rights movement -- Hillary Clinton led a mayor, a governor, a phalanx of aides, a crush of reporters and several beleaguered security personnel on a 15-minute stroll.

It was an unannounced appearance for Mrs. Clinton, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, two weeks after the massacre at Pulse, a gay nightclub in Orlando. The tragedy colored the proceedings across several floats and marching groups, lurking like an unwelcome guest.

Some attendees dressed in white, with the names and faces of victims displayed on placards hanging from their necks.

''We Are Orlando,'' a sign read.

''One Pulse,'' said another.

Mrs. Clinton did not speak at the event, smiling and waving and occasionally venturing to the police barricades to shake hands.
But her presence resonated, attendees said, communicating a measure of solidarity in a wrenching moment. "It was a nonverbal confirmation of her support," said Micah Feinberg, 35.

Women with rainbow leis around their necks reached for her. Residents overhead pointed cellphones from their open windows. A large rainbow flag flapped against a fire escape.

"She’s right here," a woman said, to no one in particular. "Right here."

When Mrs. Clinton, moving west, reached Bleecker Street, a group rained confetti from a rooftop.

"The next president of the United States!" shouted a man with a microphone. "Make some nooo - ooooise."

Mrs. Clinton waved toward another guest in a rainbow one-piece bathing suit. Moments later, as a "Hillary" chant began to build, she stopped to acknowledge the crowd.

Throughout the walk, she was joined by a horde of dignitaries eager to share in her spotlight. These included Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio, who remain engaged in a protracted feud, and the Rev. Al Sharpton, who quickly positioned himself beside Mrs. Clinton and took care not to relinquish his perch.

By about 2 p.m., Mrs. Clinton was hustled into a waiting vehicle, waving once more before heading for a flight to Indiana. (In a speech there hours later, she addressed Britain's vote to leave the European Union, arguing it reaffirmed the need for "steady, experienced leadership" in the presidential race.)

Paradegoers remained tickled by her home-state cameo.

"I saw her and was completely dumbfounded," said Kelsey Roberts, 28, an engineer who said Mrs. Clinton was an inspiration to her in a male-dominated field.

Mrs. Clinton has marched in the parade before, participating as far back as 2000 during her run for the United States Senate. Her appearance on Sunday came as her Republican opponent, Donald J. Trump, continues to make the case that he is the true champion of gay rights in the presidential race.

In the wake of the Orlando shooting, Mr. Trump has said he is the candidate most able to keep gay and lesbian Americans safe from hate crimes.

While Mrs. Clinton remains likely to command the vast majority of support from gay voters, she has had a complicated history with gay rights.

As secretary of state, she focused often on international gay rights, urging countries to accept gays and lesbians during a 2011 speech in Geneva. She has since denounced Russia's treatment of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people, and in March 2013, she endorsed same-sex marriage both "personally and as a matter of policy and law."

But while much of Mrs. Clinton's donor base includes gay and lesbian supporters, some have questioned the deliberate pace of her evolution. There are also old wounds from her husband's
administration, which enacted the military policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and the Defense of Marriage Act barring federal recognition of same-sex marriages.

Mrs. Clinton inspired fresh criticism this year after the death of Nancy Reagan, mistakenly praising Mrs. Reagan's "low-key advocacy" concerning H.I.V./AIDS despite the Reagans' lengthy public silence on the disease. Mrs. Clinton quickly apologized.

The crowd on Sunday included a handful of skeptics.

"She did it strictly so that we would relate the image of her with the image of pride," said Lexi Avidani, 24, from Long Island. "And she doesn't support it."

Most, though, were more effusive.

Wearing a shirt that read, "SPOILER ALERT: HILLARY WINS," Matt McDermott, 26, marveled at the progress of gay civil rights.

"A year ago, we passed marriage equality in the Supreme Court, and a year later, a major party nominee is walking in the pride parade in New York," he said. "So things change quickly."

Loretta Tassotti, 55, said Mrs. Clinton's gesture demonstrated that she was 'not afraid.'

"This is not a Trump kind of party," she added.

Ms. Roberts, the engineer, suggested the significance ran deeper.

The Orlando victims were so young, she said, that it was essential for presidential candidates to participate in the grief.

Ms. Roberts looked out again on the parade route, where a collection of mourners drew near. She reconsidered the question of Mrs. Clinton's appearance.

"How could you not come?" she asked.

Find out what you need to know about the 2016 presidential race today, and get politics news updates via Facebook, Twitter and the First Draft newsletter.
SURVIVORS RELIVE HORROR: 'HE SHOOTS TOWARD MY HEAD'

BYLINE: By JACK HEALY and JOHN ELIGON; Reporting was contributed by Les Neuhaus, Sheryl Gay Stolberg and Wendy Thompson from Orlando, and Richard Pérez-Peña from New York.

SECTION: Section A; Column 0; National Desk; Pg. 13

LENGTH: 1694 words

ORLANDO, Fla. -- The night was a getaway. A young woman fresh out of high school was on vacation with her cousin and close friend, dancing without a care. It was Latin night at the gay nightclub. She had suggested that the three come here and was so excited that she sprang onto a stage to dance as strangers tossed dollar bills her way.

The night was a reunion. Two old friends who had drifted apart bumped into each other in the swirl of salsa and hip-hop beats on the dance floor. They apologized, hugged, made plans to have lunch the next day. As they got ready to leave, one of them joked about being so young, the span of years lying before them.

The night was a party. At the back bar, another three friends sipped their final drinks of the night -- vodka, soda and lime, a vodka and Red Bull -- and scrawled playful notes to the bartender on their receipt. "Sexy Kitten." "You the best."

The night was ending. Just before 2 a.m., a D.J. on the club patio was spinning reggae to wind things down. Then, a noise. Firecrackers? The D.J. lowered the volume.

Gunshots.

'Boom, Boom, Boom'

Jeannette McCoy was standing at the bar when the room exploded. "Boom, boom, boom," she said.

She was hit with a flurry of debris as bullets tore into walls and plaster. A woman next to her was shot, and Ms. McCoy, 37, ran for the patio, climbing over people, tripping over them as they crouched to avoid the spray of bullets, trying somehow to brace her body to take the bullet she feared was coming her way.

When she got outside, she ran to the front of the club, now crowded with police officers and scores of the wounded. "And I’m screaming at them to go in the building," she said. She found a friend, Juan, who had been shot in the leg. She took off her shirt and used it to stanch the bleeding.
'He Shoots the Girl Next to Me'

Angel Colon was hit three times in the leg as he raced for the door. He fell and was trampled by fleeing patrons as he tried to get back up. His left leg was shattered. All he could do was lie on the floor, hearing screams and bangs as the gunman left the room. When he returned, he started shooting people on the floor to make sure they were dead.

'I look over, and he shoots the girl next to me,' Mr. Colon said, speaking to reporters at Orlando Regional Medical Center this week, where he was being treated. 'And I’m just there laying down, and I’m thinking: ‘I’m next. I’m dead.’ So I don’t know how, but by the glory of God, he shoots toward my head but it hits my hand, and then he shoots me again and it hits the side of my hip. I had no reaction. I was just prepared to just stay there, laying down so he won’t know that I’m alive.'

The gunman turned his attention to arriving police officers, exchanging gunfire before backing off to another room. One officer dragged Mr. Colon through broken glass to the street and then to a nearby Wendy's.

'I wish I could remember his face or his name,' Mr. Colon said of the officer. 'I’m grateful for him.'

'Love U'

Eighty miles away in Spring Hill, Fla., Santos Rodriguez was up late playing Rainbow Six Siege, a first-person shooter video game, when his phone lit up with texts from his older brother, Jeff.

'I beenx shot at club.... dying i love u.'

'Dead bodies on top of me... tell everyone i love hrm.'

'Huh?' Santos replied.

Their was a relationship of sarcasm, Santos said. Always cracking jokes. This had to be another one.

But Jeff, who was bleeding, persisted.

'Love u.'

Santos, 29, searched the internet and saw it was no joke. He woke his parents, told his wife to watch the children, and raced to Orlando, skimming across the dark freeway at 100 miles per hour.

It wasn't until 7 that night that the family found out that Jeff Rodriguez, 37, had survived.

'God Forgive Me'

As Leydiana Puyarena raced from the gunshots, people fell around her, some tugging at her feet and pulling off her shoes.

Ms. Puyarena, 33, saw a woman standing frozen, looking back toward the shots. She grabbed the woman, and they ducked into one of the bathrooms in the club, the one closest to the back
patio. She tried to listen over the **panicked** noise of the 15 people in the bathroom, telling the others to **calm down** or they would all die.

She sat on the toilet, huddled with the bloodied group. She heard gunshots. She heard the gunman screaming in what sounded like a foreign language. She heard the gunshots getting closer.

"God forgive me for everything that I've done," she **prayed.** "Take care of my kids, **please.**"

The gunman never came into their bathroom, she said, and after about half an hour, Ms. Puyarena said she looked to a man next to her, and they decided to try to run. But as they got up to leave, she said, a police officer banged on the bathroom door. The officer rushed them out through a back exit.

It was only after she was outside that an officer pointed out her bloody left calf, and she realized she had been shot. Only then did the pain set in.

'I Don't **Want** to Die'

Stanley Almodovar III, 23, was shot three times, staggered out of the club and fell to the ground. He was one of 49 people killed.

When Norman Casiano, 25, heard the shots, he dropped to the floor and crawled toward the two bathrooms at the back of the club. He cramped himself into a handicapped stall with maybe 20 others.

A young man stumbled into the bathroom, bleeding, and groped toward the stall. Mr. Casiano tried to pull him in underneath the partition, but there were just so many people and the young man was in such pain. Mr. Casiano tried to **reassure** him, saying that maybe the gunman wouldn't find them in the bathroom.

"He looks me in the eye and said, 'I don't **want** to die, I don't **want** to die,'" Mr. Casiano said.

Then the gunman was in the bathroom. He **laughed.**

"I just hear one solid gunshot, and you see the boy, just completely, you saw the life leave him."

He started shooting at the stall. Two shots pierced Mr. Casiano. Another cut down a young woman who had been standing next to him. People **begged** him to stop, to spare them, trying to assure him they hadn't seen his face. He reached his gun over the stall wall and shot into the cluster of people.

As the **screaming** died down, people slumped to the floor. Some were playing dead. Others were not playing.

When the gunman left the bathroom, Mr. Casiano knew it was time to go. He climbed out of the stall, stepping on bodies to make it out. He saw flashlights from police officers who were trying to penetrate the club and rescue people. He escaped. It was less than an hour into the three-hour siege.

'It's Not Real to Me'
Akyra Monet Murray, 18, was celebrating her high school graduation on a weeklong vacation from Philadelphia with her cousin, Tiara Parker, and her close friend, Patience Carter, both 20.

Ms. Murray, a basketball point guard who wanted to study criminology, and Ms. Carter, a New York University student, had made it out of the club. But when they realized that Ms. Parker was not with them, they went back in for her. "I told her, 'Let's get Tiara; we've got to get Tiara,' " Ms. Carter said at a news conference at Florida Hospital Orlando, recalling her words to Ms. Murray.

When they realized their way out was blocked, the three retreated to the cramped bathroom, struggling to fit their bodies inside an overcrowded stall.

The gunman entered the bathroom, grumbling that his gun had jammed, Ms. Parker said in an interview. Some of the people around her thought they could seize the opportunity and rush him, but as they tried to open the stall door, he began shooting, hitting the three young women and many others.

Ms. Carter fell to the floor, her femur shattered by a bullet.

Over the course of the siege, the gunman asked his hostages if they knew about the shooting last year in South Carolina in which a white man had killed nine African-Americans inside a prominent black church, Ms. Parker said. He got on the phone with the authorities, pledged his allegiance to the Islamic State and said he had enough bombs to "light up a city block," Ms. Parker said. Then he asked about race; the three women are black.

"He asked if there are any black people in here; I was too afraid to answer," Ms. Carter said. "But there was an African-American man in the stall where most of my body was, and he said, 'Yes, there are about 6 or 7 of us.' And the gunman responded by saying: 'You know, I don't have a problem with black people. This is about my country; you guys have suffered enough.'"

All through this, the three women devised a signal to show one another they were still alive. They began patting one another on the arm, scratching a wrist, grasping a hand and waiting for an answered grip. For three hours, pat pat. Pat pat. A Morse code of silent touches.

"Every time a phone rang or a text message went off, he would say, 'Give it up, where is it?" Ms. Carter said. When someone else's phone rang, he demanded to have it. She slid hers out from the stall, hoping to appease him. Finally, right before the police burst in, there was another round of gunfire. Someone shielded Ms. Carter's body with his or her own, taking a bullet to spare her.

Ms. Murray was bleeding, and the last time Ms. Parker saw her was as the police broke through the walls of the bathroom and pulled Ms. Parker away. As they left the club, she said she pleaded with them to take Ms. Murray out first. On Monday morning, the family learned she was listed among the dead.

Ms. Carter, racked with guilt, is second-guessing herself. "If I would have just told Akyra to stay outside," she said, her voice trailing off.

Ms. Parker knows everything that happened is all too real, but sometimes it does not feel quite that way. Ms. Murray's things are still in their vacation condo. The family is still in this palm-fringed world they had dreamed of visiting for the past six months.
"I want her to just walk through that front door," Ms. Parker said. "I didn't expect her to leave me like this. It's not real to me. I know it. But I don't believe it."
Terror at the Marathon Boy slain but dream lives Littlest victim's lasting memory will be precious cry for peace

BYLINE: Lorena Mongelli and Beth DeFalco

The youngest fatality in the Boston Marathon bombing was an adorable 8-year-old boy who dreamed of world peace.

A heartbreaking photo of little Martin Richard, taken last spring, shows the gap-toothed child proudly holding a poster with two hand-drawn hearts and a peace sign and the words, "No more hurting people. Peace."

The "sweet" little boy had made the poster in class after the shooting of Trayvon Martin in Florida.

His teacher in Dorchester, Mass., yesterday posted the photo on Facebook, where it quickly became a symbol of what was lost in the horrific bombing that killed three and injured more than 170.

"This is something [his parents] will never recover from," said the Richards' next-door neighbor, Jane Sherman.

"He went to the marathon with his family, and he never made it home."

Martin had been eating ice cream and standing near the finish line with his family when the first bomb went off.

The terrified family was trying to hop over the race barriers to safety when the second blast occurred, killing Martin.

His sister, Jane, 6, is in danger of losing a leg from the attack, and their mother, Denise, was hit in the head by the explosion and had to undergo surgery.

Doctors removed ball bearings from father Bill Richard's leg. Only Martin's older brother, Henry, 12, ran fast enough to get out of harm's way.
"They were looking in the crowd as the runners were coming to see if they could identify some of their friends when the bomb hit," said Rep. Steven Lynch (D-Mass.), who has known the Richards for 25 years.

Bill Richard was supposed to run the race but dropped out because of an injury, his friends and neighbors said.

The devastated father yesterday asked for continued support for his family as they recover.

"My dear son Martin has died from injuries sustained in the attack on Boston. My wife and daughter are both recovering from serious injuries," Bill Richard wrote in an e-mail.

"We thank our family and friends, those we know and those we have never met, for their thoughts and prayers. I ask that you continue to pray for my family as we remember Martin."

The family's anguished neighbors remembered Martin as a spirited boy with a million-dollar smile who loved the outdoors, just like his father.

"He is a boy's boy," Sherman said. "He liked riding his bicycle, playing basketball and soccer with his friends. Mr. Richard took them skiing on the weekends."

Bill Richard was an active member of the merchants association of historic Dorchester. Denise Richard works as a librarian at the Neighborhood House Charter School, where Martin was in third grade and his sister in first.

"The parents were always with the children," Sherman said.

Martin's dream for peace was being carried on by his young classmates, who stopped by the home to drop off a soccer ball they all signed for the family.

"He would always try to work things out. Even if it wasn’t his business, he would try to make things better," said a 9-year-old boy, Andres.

"I would compare him to ice cream because he was nice and sweet."

Andres' twin brother, Alejandro, added, "He would bring us joy and laughter. He would try to turn a sad moment into a happy moment."
Terror at the Marathon 'I heard this bang - then chaos. You could see the panic'

BYLINE: Leonard Greene

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 1304 words

Body parts, bloody streets and broken glass marked the end of Boston's most celebrated event yesterday.

In one moment, cheers filled the crisp New England air for the runners who willed themselves across the Boston Marathon's finish line.

Seconds later, two deafening explosions shattered the festive spirit, creating mass panic that sent athletes and spectators sprinting for their lives.

"There were people all over the ground," said Roupen Bastajian, 35, a state trooper from Smithfield, RI, who had just finished the race.

"We started grabbing tourniquets and started tying legs. At least 25 to 30 people have at least one leg missing, or an ankle missing, or two legs missing," he said, helping victims while still wrapped in his post-race heat blanket.

Thick, acrid smoke filled the Back Bay neighborhood. Ambulances clogged the streets and sirens wailed.

"You could smell it - it smelled like a giant firecracker," Beck Dangler, who was on a fifth-floor patio overlooking the finish line, told NBC News.

"Then there was immediate pandemonium . . . and then the immediate scatter."

Witnesses described a war zone - shocked victims were hobbling around without arms and legs, searching for help.

One of the three dead was an 8-year-old child. More than 130 were injured.

"They just started bringing people in with no limbs," said runner Tim Davey, of Richmond, Virginia.

Davey said he and his wife, Lisa, tried to shield their children's eyes from the gruesome scene inside a medical tent, but "they saw a lot."
"They just kept filling up with more and more casualties," Lisa Davey said. "Most everybody was conscious. They were very dazed."

First responders and doctors quickly turned the runner medical tent - meant to care for exhausted marathoners - into a triage center, pulling ball bearings from the explosives out of bloody flesh and preparing legs for amputation.

"We all went running over there and started to bring people into the medical tent," said one doctor.

"It was not good. Very bad. Like a war zone. 9/11 immediately came to mind."

The mangled victims were then loaded in to ambulances.

"There are people who are really, really bloody. They were pulling them into the medical tent," said runner Laura McLean, of Toronto.

"It was very fortunate those medical tents were there," Don West, a freelance photographer who was covering the marathon, told The Post.

"They took a lot of people there. Without those tents a lot of people may not have gotten immediate medical attention. There was a massive response. The first responders came very quickly and en masse."

At first, many of the tens of thousands of spectators thought the blasts were part of the night’s ceremonies. Most people near the explosion just froze, unsure of what to do.

"All of a sudden I heard this bang that sounded like a cannon," Rachel Sibley, 22, who was at the finish line waiting for a friend, told ABC News.

"You could see people looking up at the sky like there were fireworks, like a celebratory bang. The whole crowd waited for a moment, and then the second one went off. It was terrifying and absolute chaos.

"You could see the panic in people's faces. It was absolutely terrifying."

Friends and family members who were waiting for runners at the packed finish line panicked, desperately wondering if their loved ones were among the casualties.

"I was expecting my husband any minute," said Cherie Falgoust.

"I don't know what this building is. It just blew. Just a big bomb, a loud boom, and then glass everywhere. Something hit my head. I don't know what it was. I just ducked."

Her husband survived.

"My friend was right there, and I can't get in touch with them. I just started running. We heard a noise and heard the glass shatter. Everyone was running in different directions," Andrea George, 39, who was watching across the street from the blast, told the Globe.

"It was the scariest thing I ever saw."
One Massachusetts woman, Brighid Wall, 35, of Duxbury, told how she and her husband threw their children to the ground, lay on top of them and got another man to lay on top of them.

"Don't get up, don't get up!" they screamed.

"My ears are zinging. Their ears are zinging," Wall said. "It was so forceful. It knocked us to the ground."

After a minute or so without another explosion, Wall said, she and her family headed to a Starbucks and out the back door through an alley.

Around them, the windows of the bars and restaurants were blown out.

She said she saw six to eight people bleeding profusely, including one man who was kneeling, dazed, with blood coming down his head.

Another person was on the ground covered in blood and not moving.

At Massachusetts General Hospital, Alasdair Conn, chief of emergency services, said, "This is something I've never seen in my 25 years here . . . this amount of carnage in the civilian population. This is what we expect from war."

Thousands of marathon participants still running when the blasts went off were halted by police, clogging main streets.

"I saw barriers fly and I knew that it was not right so I stopped," runner Whitney Hunter, who was about 300 yards away from the blasts, told NBC News.

"My wife was right across the street. She saw people laying in the road."

And the MBTA subway ground to a halt, preventing riders and spectators from getting away from the scene.

"You heard this huge noise and a rumble, and then two . . . transit police started yelling at everyone to get out of the station," Amanda Fahkredine, 25, told ABC News.

"They didn't seem to know what was going on."

Marathoners began hobbling up the stairs at the Arlington subway station, she said, and back into the war zone.

"We heard it, and we had no idea if there was a train crash or car accident. It wasn't like anything that I've ever heard or felt before. It was like an earthquake sounding like a car crash."

Runners who were unscathed marveled at their good luck.

Bill Iffrig, 78, from Washington State, was 15 feet from the finish line when the blast knocked him to the floor. The chaotic moment was caught by a photographer in the dramatic image above.

"The force from it just turned my whole body to jelly, and I went down," Iffrig told the Seattle Times.
"I thought, 'This is probably it for me.' "

Iffrig, who is listed as one of the nation’s best long-distance runners in his age group, managed to escape with only a scraped knee and decided to get up and finish the race.

"Somebody came by with a wheelchair, but I said, 'I'm fine.' I wanted to finish."

Michigan's Greg Meyer, the 1983 Boston men's champion, was running with his sons Danny and Jay.

"I grabbed my medal, went to the VIP tent to get my clothes and boom," Meyer told the Boston Herald.

"I told Danny, who was struggling the last three miles. I said, Thank God you kept running because the three of us would have been there right about then. We all ran the whole way together."

The National Guard set up a staging area at Boston Commons - a stark turn of events for the annual race, which is held on the Patriots’ Day holiday, celebrating the first battles of the American revolution.

Revelers attending post-race parties in an office building just above the blast site said the explosion knocked them to the floor.

"There was like a flash, then a giant boom. The concussion blew me off the couch onto the ground," said Bruce Mendelsohn.

The former Army medic rushed outside and found blood, glass and debris everywhere and began applying pressure to "gruesome" wounds.

"This stuff is more like Baghdad and Bombay than Boston," said Mendelsohn, who works at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"It was pretty terrifying."
Terror in Brussels Blast - & then silence NY sibs vanish amid call to family

BYLINE: Kate Sheehy and Philip Messing

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 9

LENGTH: 496 words

New York siblings Sascha and Alexander Pinczowski called their family from Brussels Airport Tuesday morning to let them know they had arrived safely for their trip home. Suddenly, there was a loud explosion and the line went dead - and their worried relatives have not heard from them since.

"We are looking for Alexander Pinczowski and his sister Sascha. They are missing in the Brussels airport attack. Please contact if you have seen them or know about their whereabouts. Please share!!!" a friend wrote in a Facebook posting.

Another post on the site said the Pinczowskis' mother, who acquaintances said hailed from Greece, was anxiously awaiting word of her children.

"Their mother is worried sick since she can't get hold of them since this morning, when they were checking in at Zaventem airport," wrote Mafalda De Andrade Vasconcelos. referring to the city just outside Brussels where the airport is located. "If you have friends that work in hospitals or emergency centres, please share with them."

Sascha - a Manhattan resident who graduated from Marymount Manhattan College and speaks five languages - and her brother have a father who works in Maastricht in the Netherlands.

Sascha recently was an intern at the Chelsea production and design company Shiraz Events.

"She was an awesome chick," said Florecia Sadler, a producer at the company. She said Sascha was born in Greece and raised near Belgium in Holland.

Sadler said Sascha's résumé says she has degree in business administration from Vesalius College in Brussels and a hospitality-management degree from Hotelschool Den Haag in the Netherlands.

She had told her boss she was en route to Greece to deal with an immigration issue.

"She was definitely a problem-solver," Sadler said. "She liked to have a good time - and had a lot of friends . . . She was very determined and fun. She was a pleasure to have around."
Alexander’s girlfriend, meanwhile, pleaded for help on social media.

"Please help find my boyfriend and his sister," the woman, Cameron Cain, tweeted. "They were in the departure hall at time. Please help."

At least nine other Americans were reported injured in the blasts, sources told The Post.

They include an Air Force lieutenant colonel along with his family, including four children and another adult, and three Mormon missionaries from Utah.

The missionaries were identified as Richard Norby, 66, Joseph Empey, 20, and Mason Wells, 19.

Wells had been a block from the finish line of the Boston Marathon when terrorists bombed it in 2013 and in France at the same time as the attacks there last year, his father told ABC News.

After the airport blasts, passengers ran screaming for cover.

"It was a horror. I saw at least seven people dead. There was blood. People had lost legs. You could see their bodies but no legs," said airport security worker Alphonse Youla.
Terror in Brussels US woman's boyfriend missing amid the chaos

BYLINE: Sophia Rosenbaum

SECTION: Late City Final; Pg. 6

LENGTH: 294 words

A Georgia woman who was looking forward to spending Easter weekend with her long-distance boyfriend from Belgium says she hasn't heard from him since he arrived at Brussels Airport shortly before the bombs went off.

"Bart told me that he would get in touch with me every step of the way," Emily Eisenman, 21, told the "Today" show. "His last words on the phone call [were], 'I love you.'"

Eisenman met Bart Migom at a fitness retreat in the United States last year. He was planning to spend the next two weeks with her and her family for the holiday.

He was scheduled to take a 10:30 a.m. flight to Atlanta, and had just gotten off the train to the airport when the terrorists struck.

"It feels like we're in a nightmare," Eisenman's mother, Gaydell, told The Post.

They got a call Thursday afternoon from Migom's parents in Belgium, who told them that authorities said there were only two wounded people who could possibly be him.

"He is a great person and we haven't given up hope. We're hoping he'll still show up," Gaydell said.

Meanwhile, Sascha and Alexander Pinczowski, the siblings who were at the airport on their way home to New York, were still missing Thursday. Their family was not optimistic.

"The Dutch minister of foreign affairs released an official list of survivors from the attacks," said a statement by their mom, Marjan Pinczowski.

"Sander and Sascha's names were not on that list.

"We thank you all for your support during these past few days, and . . . have taken great strength from it. We will share any information we receive regarding final closure as soon as we can . . .

"Thank you for being the best of friends to Sander and Sascha."

More than 150 people are in Belgian hospitals, with 61 in intensive care.
"He's coming. I'm gonna die."

That's what a 30-year-old man texted his mother while trapped inside the Orlando, Florida, nightclub where at least 50 people were killed early Sunday.

"Mommy I love you. In the club they shooting," Mina Justice said her son, Eddie, wrote from a women's bathroom at Pulse, shortly before he was fatally shot by gunman Omar Mateen.

"Call them mommy. Now. I'm tell I'm bathroom. He's coming. I'm gonna die. he has us, and he's in here with us," Eddie Justice texted, according to his mom.

That was the final text he sent his mother, she said.

She had briefly talked to him on the phone minutes earlier.

"I could hear a lot of people crying" in the background, she told the local Fox TV station.

The mom said her son hurriedly told her, "He has us, and he's fixin' to kill us."

"That was it," she added.

Mina Justice spent Sunday unsure about the fate of her son, only to learn the worst when cops listed his name among the first to be confirmed dead.

Another woman, Christine Leinonen, sobbed outside the Orlando Regional Medical Center on Sunday afternoon while waiting to hear from her son, Christopher, 32.

"They said there's a lot of dead bodies in the club and that it's a crime scene ... so it could be hours and hours before we find out," Leinonen told ABC News.

Leinonen said Christopher's boyfriend, Juan Guerrero, had been seen with "multiple gunshot [wounds] and was being taken by the ambulance."

"I haven't heard anything," she said. "I have been here since 4 o'clock in the morning. I have been waiting by the emergency room to see if anybody gets called in."
It was later revealed Guerrero had been one of the people killed.

"He was always this amazing person, [and] he was like a big brother to me," said Juan's cousin, Robert Guerrero.

"He was never the type to go out to parties. He would rather stay home and care for his niece and nephew."

Robert Guerrero said his cousin worked as a telemarketer and had recently started taking courses at the University of Central Florida.

Officials began releasing the names of the dead as family members were notified.

Edward Sotomayor Jr., a manager at a premiere gay travel agency, was also killed.

"One of the saddest days of my life," Sotomayor's friend and owner of the travel agency, Al Ferguson, wrote on Facebook. "I will try to start to find the good in all of this."

Sotomayor had sent his boss a video from inside the club just minutes before the shooting took place. On the video, Sotomayor is on the dance floor with a friend.

"I didn't come over from his urging," Ferguson wrote. "I could have been there with them and done something. Something."

Sotomayor's cousin, David Sotomayor, said Edward was a caring, energetic man who often traveled to promote the company's events.

"He was just always part of the fun," said David, a drag queen who goes by the stage name Jade and appeared on the TV reality show "RuPaul's Drag Race."

"You never think that's going to be the last time you speak to him. It's just heartbreaking to know it just can happen anytime," he said.

On his Facebook page, the adventurous Edward Sotomayor Jr. had written, "Up Up and AWAY . . . I'm Always on the go."

Also killed in the rampage was Stanley Almodovar, a pharmacy technician who posted a video of himself singing on Snapchat before heading to the club.

"I wish I had that to remember him forever," Almodovar's mother, Rosalie Ramos, told the Orlando Sentinel.
The 23-year-old man, originally from Springfield, Mass., had been living in Clermont, Fla., according to his Facebook profile.

"Completely in shock," Karla Rentas wrote on his Facebook page. "I can't believe you are one of the victims. You are a beautiful human been [sic]. didn't deserve to leave us so soon."

Another friend said Almodovar "made an impact on everyone."

"Rest in peace Baby Boy," friend Caitlin Rodrigues said. "I'll never forget the times we've had together may you rest in paradise"
ISIS vs. US Playing dead to stay alive Amazing tales of survival

BYLINE: Kevin Sheehan, Kevin Fasick and Danika Fears

SECTION: All Editions; Pg. 7

LENGTH: 459 words

Omar Mateen finished off some of his victims at point-blank range as they lay already wounded on the floor - but others tricked him and survived by playing dead.

"I hear him come back, and he's shooting everyone that's already dead on the floor - making sure they're dead," recalled Angel Colon, who was recovering at Orlando Regional Medical Center on Tuesday after being shot in the leg by the club-massacre madman.

"I can hear the shotguns closer, and I look over, and he shoots the girl next to me, and I'm just there laying down. I'm thinking, 'I'm next, I'm dead,' " Colon said.

Mateen pumped two bullets into Colon, but missed his head both times.

"I had no reaction. I was just prepared to just stay there laying down so he won't know that I'm alive, and he's just doing this for another five, 10 minutes," Colon said. "He's just shooting all over the place."

At one point, Colon said, he could hear Mateen in a gunfight with responding cops, who eventually got inside and rescued him.

"I wish I can remember [the police officer's] face or his name because to this day I'm grateful for him," Colon said of the cop who pulled him to safety.

Felipe "Tony" Marrero said he, too, was forced to play dead.

"This sounds horrible and morbid, but I saw how [Mateen] was blowing up people's heads," he told NBC News.

"So the only way that I could have a chance to survive was making it seem like I didn't have a head, so I picked up the sofa that was over there."

But even that didn't spare him from getting shot.

"Apparently, he saw that I didn't have much blood, so he still shot me in the back," Marrero, 32, said.

Another survivor, 20-year-old Patience Carter, said Mateen wanted to spare black people during the mass shooting.
"I don't have a problem with black people," Carter heard the killer say as she hid in a club bathroom. "This is about my country. You guys suffered enough."

Meanwhile, tales of heroism continued to emerge.

Imran Yousuf, a Marine sergeant who served in Afghanistan, was working as a bouncer at the Pulse nightclub Sunday when he was able to tap into his military training to rescue dozens of people.

Yousuf said that when he recognized the sound of a "high-power" gun going off, he kicked in a door that allowed about 70 people to escape.

"There was only one choice: Either we all stay there and we all die, or I could take a chance, and I jumped over the latch and we got everyone that we can out of there," he told CBS News. "I wish I could have saved more."

The off-duty cop working security at the club - and who first exchanged gunfire with Mateen around 2 a.m. - was identified as Orlando Officer Adam Gruler.
ISIS vs. US New York's tragic loss 3 from city killed in carnage

BYLINE: Abigail Gepner and Sophia Rosenbaum

SECTION: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 6

LENGTH: 473 words

A Williamsburg health-care worker celebrating his friend's birthday.

A Queens native working her way through college.

A mother of 11 from Brooklyn who spent her final moments tearing up the dance floor.

The Orlando massacre claimed the lives of at least three people with ties to the Big Apple.

Gertrude Merced said Monday that she was struggling to accept the death of her son, Enrique Rios Jr., 25, who left their Siegel Street home in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, on Friday to spend the weekend in Florida for a buddy's birthday.

"I still have the hope I'm going to see him again one day, and I'm going to hold on to that," Merced said as she left their apartment to catch a flight to Orlando to claim her son's body.

"I'm forever going to miss my son."

Merced said Rios, a home-health-aide coordinator, had "a heart for the elderly" and devoted his life to caring for his grandma.

"His motto was, 'Listen, you can do it. If you want to do it, do it,' " she said.

Brenda McCool - a Brooklyn-born single mother of 11 fighting two types of cancer - also died in the carnage at the Pulse nightclub.

McCool, 49, had posted online a dimly lit video of her doing the salsa with a friend at 12:04 a.m. Sunday, two hours before the shooting started.

The 41-second clip, which has been viewed more than 24,000 times, shows McCool sashaying across the dance floor as neon lights flash around her and her dance partner.

"She now leaves 11 children alone on this earth who's in need of help from anywhere," Farrell Marshall, who identified himself as her fifth-oldest son, wrote on a GoFundMe page.

"All I ask is for prayers and whatever you can to help me and brothers sisters to be able to pick up the pieces where she left off. You will forever be in our hearts. Always. I truly love you so much MOM!"
Mercedez Flores, 26, who grew up in Ozone Park, Queens, also was dancing with friends at the nightclub before the shooting.

Her brother, Cesar, said he woke Monday to learn she was among the dead.

"It is not fair that such a horrific act of hate would take the life of a beautiful soul," he wrote on Facebook. "No words can describe the pain my family is going through."

As of Monday, 53 victims were still in hospitals, with five in grave condition, including a 29-year-old Long Island woman.

Marissa Delgado of Glen Cove was hit with up to a dozen bullets, according to relatives’ posts on Facebook.

"She lost a lot of blood. Please everyone pray for my baby girl that’s my twin," her mother, Lisa, posted along with a photo of Delgado.

A GoFundMe page set up for the victims and their families by Equality Florida, a state LGBT civil-rights organization, raised more than $2.3 million in 24 hours, making it the "largest and fastest-growing" fund-raiser ever on the site, according to a spokesman.
Shooting victim Bennetta Betbadal fled "Islamic extremism and the persecution of Christians" in Iran during her youth - but in a cruel twist of fate was gunned down during Wednesday's San Bernardino rampage.

"It is the ultimate irony that her life would be stolen from her that day by what appears to be the same type of extremism that she fled so many years ago," a statement from her family read.

Betbadal, 46, was a devout Roman Catholic and initially settled in New York City after the Iranian Revolution in 1979. She eventually moved to California and raised a family.

"Benneta was proud to work for the people of San Bernardino County," the statement read. "She loved her job, her community, and her country. Her greatest love, however, was for her husband, her children and her large extended family."

Another victim ran the coffee shop at the Inland Regional Center, where he was dropped off Wednesday by his boyfriend.

Daniel Kaufman, 42, and his partner, Ryan Reyes, were texting back and forth until 10:37 a.m., Reyes recalled to the Los Angeles Times on Thursday. One text was about a new friend Kaufman had made at a comic-book shop. That was the last Reyes would ever hear from him.

Reyes spent the next torturous day, 22 hours in total, waiting for news.

At one point, his hopes rose with the misinformation that Kaufman had merely been shot in the arm and would survive.

Then, Thursday morning, he found out Kaufman was one of the 14 slain victims of Wednesday's mass shooting in San Bernardino, Calif.

Officials on Thursday released names of the dead. They ranged in age from 26 to 60 and included 45-year-old Shannon Johnson, 26-year-old Aurora Godoy and Sierra Clayborn, 27.

Like many families, Clayborn's sisters got the dreaded phone call Thursday morning, nearly a day after the shooting, telling her she was dead.

"I'm heartbroken," Becky Conrad Robinson, who identified herself as Clayborn's adoptive mother, wrote on Facebook.
Damian Meins, 58, was remembered as a "bright light" by his employer, Juan Perez, who sent an e-mail to fellow employees of the Riverside County Transportation & Land Management Agency to inform them of his senseless death.

Nat Berhe, a fifth-round NFL draft pick for the Giants last year and a San Bernardino native, grieved the loss of his cousin Isaac Amanios, who was killed in the attack. "He was a great human being," Berhe wrote. "Thoughts and prayers are with my family back in CA."

The other slain victims were Robert Adams, 40, Harry Bowman, 46, Juan Espinoza, 50, Tin Nguyen, 31, Nicholas Thalasinos, 52, Yvette Velasco, 27, and Michael Wetzel, 37.

Twenty-one people were wounded in the attack.
Terror in Paris Concert hall gory house of 'slaughter'

BYLINE: Danika Fears, Joe Tacopino and Laura Italiano

SECTION: Late City Final; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 967 words

First the black-clad terrorists strafed the audience randomly; then they stood over the prone and writhing victims one by one and finished the job.

Witnesses to the chaos at a sold-out rock concert in Paris described a scene of cruelty and carnage, with estimates of at least 87 dead.

The horror played out live on Twitter.

"Ils abattent tout le monde," bleeding concert-goer Benjamin Cazenoves tweeted from inside Le Bataclan theater, where he was among dozens who were taken hostage.

Translation: "They are slaughtering everyone!"

"I am still inside Bataclan," Cazenoves tweeted next as bullets continued to fly.

"First level. Seriously hurt!" Cazenoves tweeted shortly after 5 p.m. New York time. "They slaughtered everyone. One by one. 1st floor quickly!!!!"


More than 1,000 concert-goers had been watching the show by the California-based band Eagles of Death Metal.

"It was carnage. It looked like a battlefield. There was blood everywhere," concert-goer Marc Coupris told The Guardian.

"There were bodies everywhere. I was at the far side of the hall when shooting began.

"There seemed to be at least two gunmen. They shot from the balcony. I saw my final hour unfurl before me,

"I thought this was the end. I thought I’m finished, I’m finished. I was terrified."

The theater is just five blocks from the offices of Charlie Hebdo satirical magazine, where Islamic terrorists killed 12 people last January.

Escaping hostages told France Info radio that the young men, who were toting AK-47 assault rifles, shouted "Allahu Akbar" as they opened fire.
"I was in the audience and I heard what sounded like a firecracker," Jerome Boucer told The Guardian.

"It was loud but the gig was very loud and I thought it was something that was part of the show. I think lots of people did, too.

"Then they started firing. I saw what I thought was at least two people, then I fled.

"The exits were clearly marked and I just ran. There were wounded, there was a lot of blood. Blood everywhere."

French station BFM-TV said that one of the gunmen at the theater also shouted: "It's for Syria."

And a woman in the audience, identified only as Yasmin, told BFM, "I saw two guys. The biggest one said: 'What are you doing in Syria? You're going to pay now.' Then he opened fire.

"I saw bodies falling all around me. I was shot in the foot. It was carnage. I've never seen so many dead people all around," she said.

When SWAT units finally stormed the theater, three of the attackers began hurling grenades at the audience before detonating explosive suicide belts.

"Three of them blew themselves up and a fourth, who was also wearing a belt, was hit by police fire and blew up as he fell," one source told The Telegraph.

Police brought out at least 100 hostages from the concert hall, many of whom were badly injured, CNN reported.

Witnesses recalled a scene of horror - with some terrified concert-goers hiding out in an attic, according to Le Monde. Some witnesses told the newspaper that terrorists were firing from the balcony onto the audience below.

"It was chaos," one survivor wrote on the site of Le Figaro. "I hear noises like exploding firecrackers. I see the singer remove his guitar. I turn, I see a guy armed with an automatic weapon that shoots into the air," she wrote.

"Everyone folds to the floor."

Two hours later, victims were still reaching out to the outside world via social media.

"Ten minutes of gunshots in a small concert room. It was horrible," escaped hostage and French radio reporter Julien Pearce told CNN journalist Michael Holmes, who tweeted the exchange.

"People yelled, screamed and everybody lay on the floor," Pearce said.

"And lay for 10 minutes. Ten minutes, and horrific minutes... The terrorists were very calm, very determined."

Desperate people inside the venue were trampling each other as they tried to escape the mayhem, he said.

One of the terrorists looked around 20 years old, Pearce said.
Managing to run out through a stage door as the gunmen reloaded, Pearce saw some two dozen bodies lying in the street, he said.

He ran into a teenage girl who was bleeding from two gunshot wounds in her leg.

"I grabbed her, and I put her on my back and we ran," he said, adding that he put her in a taxi and told the driver to take her to the hospital.

Others had their own tales of horror.

"I followed some people who were running out through a door to the right of the stage," Frederic Nowak told The Telegraph.

"It led to stairs but all the doors off the stairs were locked. We were stuck there for about ten minutes. There were thirty or forty people there. Then we went further up the stairs and arrived at the roof.

"We got out through a window and we saw a man whose apartment was in the building next door waving to us. We made out way over the rooftop and he let us in through his attic window. We stayed there until we heard the past police raiding the venue a while later."

All of the Eagles of Death Metal members survived the attack, a rep told People magazine.

Michael Dorio, the brother of drummer Julian Dorio said, "He had been performing and heard the gunshots. The whole band heard the gunshots before they saw anything and stopped playing, hit the deck and kind of went backstage and exited as fast as they could."

There were reports that two people working with the band were shot, one fatally.

"We are still currently trying to determine the safety and whereabouts of all our band and crew," read a message posted on the Eagles of Death Metal’s Facebook page earlier in the evening. Additional reporting by Elizabeth Ruby and Ben Feuerherd
One minute, an office holiday party was in full swing.

The next minute, the doors of the county health-services department at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino were flung open.

Two people strode inside, dressed all in black, wearing black face masks and carrying "big ol' guns," one witness told the Los Angeles Times - and started firing.

"Everyone dropped to the floor," Denise Peraza, 27, told relatives in a phone call from her hospital bed, the Times reported.

"It was during a holiday party," Peraza said.

"The guys opened fire for 30 seconds, randomly, then paused to reload and began firing again."

Peraza scurried for cover under a desk, but was still shot once in the lower back. There were five minutes, she guessed, of silence before the doors swung open again.

It was law-enforcement officers this time - a crowd of them.

"Anyone who can move, leave immediately, and find cover behind vehicles," the cops told the frightened, bloody group.

The survivors were then helped into the beds of pickup trucks and driven to safety.

Shock waves of confusion and fear would ripple for hours from the tense mass-shooting scene, in which 14 died and 17 others were injured.

Even the number of shooters was initially unclear.

Parents, spouses and neighbors waited in fear as the center was swarmed by ambulances and police cars, and nearby buildings and schools went on lockdown.

Cellphones became a vital lifeline between victims and their worried family members.

A text from his daughter chilled Tom Carrillo's heart.
Someone was shooting, the terrified woman texted from inside her office in the Inland Regional Center.

"Dad shooting at my work. Shot people," his daughter Holly typed.

"In office waiting for cops to catch him. Pray for us."

The frantic dad responded, "Hide now."

"I am," Holly typed back.

"Cops on the way," he typed.

"We are locked in an office," she wrote back.

Shot in his leg and shoulder, Kevin Ortiz, a county environmental inspector, still managed to call both his father and his new bride of only two weeks, telling them, "I love you."

"I've been shot three times. I'm in pain. Don't worry there's a policeman with me," he told his wife, Dyana Ortiz, 23 - before the line went dead.

"He said, 'I love you,' " Dyana Ortiz told the Los Angeles Times.

"And I said, 'I love you.' "

He and other survivors had hidden behind locked doors and barricades, so fearful that police needed battering rams to get in.

It would take four hours for officials to find the shooters' getaway vehicle, a black SUV, two miles east of the incident.

Meanwhile, relatives gathered outside nearby hospitals throughout the afternoon, awaiting word.

"She's alive, that's all I know," Peraza's sister, Kathy Hotetz, 37, said as she waited outside the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for word of her condition.

For Carrillo, the eventual, precious good news on his daughter was worth the wait.

"My friend's daughter and my daughter both work there. It's just heartbreaking," he told The Sun of San Bernardino.

"My daughter is OK," he said. "My friend's daughter is OK."

Gabriel Torres also received good news, again, by cellphone. His wife, Carina, a social worker at the center, had to hide under a desk for a half-hour, but was uninjured, he told The Press-Enterprise of Riverside.

"It feels really good that she is alive - it has renewed my faith in Christ," Torres said.