

The Unabomber: A Chronology

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BEFORE THE BOMBINGS

May 22, 1942	Theodore Kaczynski, Jr. is born in Chicago, Illinois. Six months later, he is put in the hospital for a severe allergic reaction to medication. In the hospital, he is isolated for several weeks from his family. Afterwards, family members have said, his personality seemed to go "flat."
1950	David Kaczynski is born.
1952	The Kaczynski family moves to the Chicago suburb of Evergreen Park, where a young Ted Kaczynski sometimes reads <i>Scientific American</i> on the porch with his mother.
1958	Kaczynski graduates from Evergreen Park High School, two years ahead of his class. He then goes to Harvard, on scholarship, at age 16.
1962	Kaczynski graduates from Harvard and goes to the University of Michigan to get his Ph.D. in math.
1966	The Kaczynski family moves from the Chicago suburbs to Lisbon, Iowa.
1967	He graduates from Michigan and begins teaching at the University of California, Berkeley, as an assistant professor of mathematics in July of this year.
1969	The Kaczynski family moves to the Chicago suburb of Lombard. Neighbors do not recall ever seeing Ted Kaczynski at the one-story home. Kaczynski suddenly resigns from his post at Berkeley on June 30.
June 1971	Kaczynski and his brother David purchase a 1.4-acre lot in Lincoln, Montana from Clifford Gehring, Jr. He later builds a 10-by-12 cabin on the site by hand.
Mid-1970s	Kaczynski lives and works in Salt Lake City.

1978 - 1982

<p>May 25, 1978</p>	<p>A package is found in a parking lot at the University of Illinois in Chicago with a return address of Professor Buckley Crist at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. The addressee is E.J. Smith, a professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, who later acknowledges no knowledge of the parcel. As becomes evident to FBI investigators over time, the Unabomber often addresses packages in a manner so that the return addressee is the ultimate recipient.</p>
<p>May 26, 1978</p>	<p>Crist is suspicious of the package when it is returned to him and contacts the Department of Public Safety at Northwestern. Public safety officer Terry Marker opens the package, which explodes. Marker sustains minor injuries in the first incident eventually attributed to the Unabomber.</p>
<p>June 23, 1978</p>	<p>Kaczynski moves back to the Chicago area and gets a job as a press operator at Foam Cutting Engineers in the Chicago suburb of Addison, Ill. His brother, David, works there as Kaczynski's supervisor.</p>
<p>July, 1978</p>	<p>A woman named Ellen Tarmichael, a supervisor at the plant, has dinner with Kaczynski. Two weeks later, they go apple picking and bake an apple pie at his parent's house. During this occasion, she tells Kaczynski that she does not "wish to see him further on a social basis," as she informs several newspapers almost two decades later. Later, suggestive limericks about Tarmichael begin to appear around the plant.</p>
<p>August 23, 1978</p>	<p>Kaczynski's brother David fires him from his job at Foam Cutting Enterprises because of the lewd notes Ted leaves around the office. The two brothers get into an argument and Ted is called into Tarmichael's office. Tarmichael explains that David had the authority to fire Ted, and that she supports David's decision.</p>
<p>May 9, 1979</p>	<p>A bomb hidden in a Phillies brand cigar box is left on a table in the Technical Building on the Northwestern University</p>

1985 - 1987

May 15, 1985	John Hauser, a Berkeley graduate student and Air Force captain, discovers a three-ring binder attached to a file box in the computer lab in Cory Hall, the site of the Unabomber attack in May of 1982. When he opens the binder, it explodes. Hauser sustains serious injuries: partial loss of vision in his left eye and trauma to his right hand – including nerve damage and the loss of four fingers. Diogenes Angelakos, victim of the 1982 bomb, is across the hall when the bomb explodes and uses Hauser's tie to make a tourniquet. One of the metal pins used in the bomb has the letters "FC" etched onto it.
June 13, 1985	A brown paper package with a return address of Weiburg Tool & Supply in Oakland, California – a company that turns out to be fictitious – arrives at the Fabrication Division of Boeing in Auburn, Washington. Because the parcel has no specific addressee, it remains in interoffice mail until it is sent to the mail room. Employees there partially open it and discover the bomb inside, whereupon they call in a bomb squad, which diffuses the bomb. Both metal plugs sealing the pipe containing the bomb have the initials "FC" stamped on them. The postal stamps used on the package have the phrase "America's Light Fueled By Truth and Reason" and "Of the People By the People For the People" printed on them.
Fall of 1985	Kaczynski allegedly transports a bomb from Montana to Sacramento.
November 15, 1985	University of Michigan psychology professor James McConnell is sent a package from a Ralph Kloppenburg at the University of Utah. Attached to the outside of the package is a letter to McConnell requesting that he review an enclosed manuscript. When Nick Suino, McConnell's assistant, opens the package, it explodes, injuring Suino's arm and midsection and causing McConnell, who is in the room at the time, to lose part of his hearing. It is later determined that

1988 - 1995

July 11, 1988	Kaczynski writes a letter to mental health professionals requesting psychiatric counseling, and specifies that he would "prefer" to conduct the counseling by writing letters rather than speaking in person.
October 1990	Theodore Kaczynski, the father of the alleged bomber, shoots and kills himself in the family's house in the Chicago suburb of Lombard, with his wife and son David in another room in the house.
July 12, 1991	Kaczynski writes another letter in an attempt to seek some sort of counseling, and details his lack of friends and an absence of social contact, as well as describing a perceived lack of social skills, self-confidence and other traits that lead to his isolation.
June 16-18, 1993	Kaczynski allegedly transports several bombs from Montana to Sacramento.
June 18, 1993	Kaczynski allegedly mails a bomb, contained in a wooden box and placed in a padded envelope, from Sacramento to nearby Tiburon, to the residence of Dr. Charles Epstein, a geneticist at the University of California, San Francisco. The return address on the bomb is listed as James Hill, a chemist at California State University, Sacramento. He also mails a similar bomb to Dr. David Gelernter, a computer science professor at Yale University. The package to Gelernter has a return address listed as Mary Jane Lee of the computer science department at Cal State in Sacramento. Neither Hill nor Lee had any knowledge of the packages at the time.
June 22, 1993	One package arrives at Epstein's house. His daughter brings it from the mailbox and leaves it on the kitchen counter. Late that afternoon, Epstein opens the package in his kitchen. It explodes, causing him a broken arm, abdominal trauma and the loss of several fingers.
June 23, 1993	The mail bomb sent to Gelernter explodes when he opens it, causing him to lose sight in one eye, hearing in one ear and the loss of part of his right hand. He

1996-1997

February 14, 1996	David Kaczynski begins contact with the FBI and indicates his belief that his brother may be the Unabomber. He indicated to the FBI that he does not want any of the reward money involved with the case.
April 3, 1996	Kaczynski is arrested at his Montana cabin.
April 4, 1996	Kaczynski is charged with possessing the components of a bomb based on evidence found in his cabin. The charge, though a felony, is relatively minor. Legal analysts following the case speculate that the government is merely taking time building a case and that more charges will follow. Kaczynski makes his first appearance in federal court in Helena, Montana. When asked if he is mentally impaired, he says, "No."
April 5, 1996	Investigators searching Kaczynski's Montana cabin diffuse a live bomb.
April 8, 1996	The Kaczynski family releases a statement through its lawyer, Tony Bisceglie, saying that their "deep sympathies go out to the victims and their families." Through Bisceglie, Kaczynski's mother, Wanda, says that it was right to arrest her son because he needed to be stopped if he was the Unabomber – but she doesn't believe he could be.
April 15, 1996	The Washington Post reports that the names of 25 math professors at the University of California–Berkeley were found on a list in Kaczynski's Montana cabin. Federal officials reportedly contact the twenty-five individuals to warn them of the list.
April 19, 1996	In Helena, Montana, U.S. District Judge Charles Lovell denies a defense motion to free Kaczynski because of news leaks about the Unabomber case and the intense media coverage surrounding it. Kaczynski's defense appeals the motion to the Supreme Court, which denies it in October.
June 17, 1996	Preparations are made at the federal courthouse in Sacramento for an expected indictment of Kaczynski, includ-

THE TRIAL

November 12, 1997	The trial begins with jury selection. The defense files a brief, including a statement from Dr. David Foster, who evaluated Kaczynski for them, arguing for the use of expert testimony during the trial.
November 14, 1997	The prosecution files papers restating their position that expert testimony should not be allowed due to Kaczynski's refusal to submit to court-ordered examination.
November 18, 1997	The defense files papers and affidavits from several psychiatrists, outlining in greater detail Kaczynski's mental illness and hostility towards mental health professionals.
November 19, 1997	The prosecution files paper and statements from its own experts, arguing their case in further detail and making the point that Kaczynski's hostility towards psychiatrists and psychologists arises only when they confront him with his disease and that his refusal to submit to the ordered examination is willful.
November 21, 1997	Judge Burrell holds a hearing to determine the extent of expert testimony to be used in the guilt phase of the trial. He asks the defense team to speak to Kaczynski again and implore him to submit to at least partial neurological testing.
November 25, 1997	The prosecution announces that Kaczynski has told his lawyers he will not submit to a new series of government psychiatric exams. Though it is not definite that Kaczynski will refuse limited neurological tests, his own lawyers insist it is evident that he won't. The prosecution offers that government doctors are willing to submit their questions by phone or in writing, but the request is still refused. Kaczynski is visibly upset in the courtroom, throwing a pen across the defense table and muttering under his breath.
December 3, 1997	Kaczynski's 10-by-12 foot cabin begins a trip from Malmstrom Air Force Base near Great Falls, Montana to Sacramento, where the defense plans to use it as one of their primary exhibits in or-

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