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FORTHOOD

The hazards of combat were supposed to be thousands of miles away. Then a troubled Army doctor brought all the horror home

tanding outside the processing center at Fort Hood, Spc. Francisco De La Serna heard a distinctive "pop, pop." Having done a 12-month tour in Iraq, he knew in a split second it was the sound of gunfire. And within moments that afternoon of Nov. 5 he saw the source—an officer coming out of the processing center, where soldiers bound for Iraq and Afghanistan attend to final details of their deployment, with a gun in his hand, shooting anyone he could target with a chilling nonchalance. "He wasn't running, he was walking," says De La Serna, 23, a medic from St. Marys, Kans. "He was very calm."

The next thing De La Serna remembers was standing over Sgt. Kim Munley, 34, a civilian police officer on the post, as blood gushed out of her. Munley, who was soon hailed (see box, page 62) for risking her life by charging the assailant, Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan, 39, and helping bring him down with a hail of gunfire, had been wounded in the artery of her right thigh, which De La Serna bound up with a tourniquet that may have saved her life. But many others were not so lucky. In his seven-minute rampage, Hasan killed 13 people, all but one of them Army

THE VICTIMS

Within moments f the shooting, the military post near Killeen, Texas was



A reservist who had served in the Navy and National Guard

Name Capt. John P. Gaffaney Age 56 Job Psychiatric nurse Hometown San Diego The motorcycle enthusiast worked for San Diego County's adult protective services department, and re-enlisted in 2006. "He'd always wanted a Harley, and he finally got one in the last year," says his widow, Christine.

Home from Iraq and in her first trimeste of pregnancy

Name Pvt. Francheska Velez Age 21 Job Bomb specialist Homeown Chicago According to reports, the aspiring psychologist was filling out paperwork related to her maternity leave when she was shot. "She was never one to complain," says high school pal Andrew Goodman. "She always wanted to make us laugh."

A dad of three whose childhood dream was to join the Army

Name Pfc. Kham Xiong Age 23 Job Heavy Artillery Hometown St. Paul

Xiong came to the U.S. at age 3; his dad and grandfather fought Viet Cong guerrillas alongside U.S. troops in the Vietnam War. "We're devastated because he hadn't been deployed yet, and this tragedy happened," said his father, Chor.

THE VICTIMS



A retired National Guardsman—and the only civilian casualty

Name Michael Cahill Age 62 Job Physician's assistant Hometown Cameron, Texas For most of his adult life, Cahill (who had worked at Fort Hood since 2003) tended to people with medical needs in the military as well as in rural environments. "He stood up for people who didn't have a voice," says his widow, Joleen.



self-made man who mmigrated to the J.S. as a teen

Name Major L. Eduardo Caraveo Age 52 Job Clinical psychologist Hometown Woodbridge, Va. Caraveo left Mexico as a teen, earned a Ph.D. and taught college students as well as bilingual special-needs children. "He was somebody to look up to, somebody to admire," his son Eduardo told reporters.



Friends say this art and music lover wa quiet and smart

Name Pfc. Michael Pearson Age 21 Job Defusing bombs Hometown Bolingbrook, Ill. After quitting a job at a furniture company, Pearson joined the Army about a year ago. "He was really excited to start a whole new chapter," says high school friend Monique Mason. "He wanted to make something of his life."



Wanted to go to Iraq so she could treat soldiers in combat

Name Lt. Col. Juanita Warman Age 55 Job Nurse Practitioner Hometown Havre de Grace, Md. Volunteering for active duty after 9/11, Warman served many tours of duty overseas, says daughter Melissa Czemerda. "We have learned that she lost her life protecting two others by throwing herself on top of them to shield them, " Czemerda says.



He treated soldiers battling postwar psychological issues

Name Capt. Russell Seager Age 51 Job Registered Nurse Hometown Mount Pleasant, Wisc.

Seager, who held a Ph.D. in alternative medicine, joined the reserves in 2005; his goal, he said in an interview in August, was to promote, if possible, "a high level of wellness in our soldiers."



The Eagle Scout was planning to propose o his girlfriend

Name Pfc. Aaron Nemelka Age 19 Job Defusing bombs Hometown West Jordan, Utah He enlisted in October 2008 instead of going on a Mormon church mission and chose the treacherous specialty of bomb defusing, he told family members, because he wanted to help save the lives of American service members.

A newlywed who v married only two months ago

Name Spc. Jason Hunt Age 22 Job Infantry soldier Hometown Frederick, Okla. Hunt joined the Army at 18, and during his first 15-month tour of duty in Iraq, he signed up for six more years of service. Hunt's sister Leila Willingham calls her brother "a passionate, kind person who wanted to help people."



He joined the Army so he could provide for his wife and kids

Name Spc. Frederick Greene Age 29 Job Specialist Hometown Mountain City, Tenn.

Greene enlisted about 18 months ago after marrying and becoming a stepdad to two girls. "[He was] seeking a pathway to build a career," says his stepgrandfather, Harold Nourse.

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Survived by his high school sweetheart and daughter

Age 32 Job Satellite communications instructor Hometown Evans, Ga. "He'd always wanted to be a soldier," says DeCrow's widow and high school sweetheart, Marikay, recalling his selflessness. "He would always help if anyone needed anything; he never said no."



The 9/11 terrorist attacks motivated her to join up

Name Sgt. Amy Krueger Age 29 Job Mental health specialist Hometown Kiel, Wisc. Krueger, who treated soldiers for combat stress, was so affected by the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, that the following day she and best friend Kristin Thayer enlisted. "We felt like we needed to do something for our country," says Thayer. personnel, and wounded 38 others, leaving those at the sprawling military post—as well as the rest of the nation—stunned. "I don't know what caused him to flip out," says Staff Sgt. Alonzo Lunsford, Jr., 42, who knew Hasan and was wounded in the stomach and head. "I really don't."

In the days after the massacre that became only slightly clearer. Army officials stressed that it was too soon to tell what role, if any, Hasan's Muslim faith played in the attack, and media coverage tended to treat the subject carefully. There was no evidence that Hasan, an Army doctor trained as a psychiatrist, had been in league with organized Islamic extremists—although the FBI was investigating communications this year between Hasan and a radical cleric in Yemen. But those who had worked with him in the past say that at the very least he appeared deeply strange and made no secret of his radical views (box, below). "Nidal Hasan was a ticking time bomb," says one classmate who took classes in public health with him. "He talked about suicide bombers the way you would expect a suicide bomber to talk—as if it were something glorious."

Like so many others at Fort Hood, Hasan

WARNING SIGNS

According to colleagues, the accused killer had a very prickly personality and plenty of praise for foreign suicide bombers

It didn't take long for staffers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center to form a strong impression about Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan. "Right from the get-go we knew this guy was bad news," says one former colleague. "Opinion was divided: Either he was an incompetent oaf who somehow got pushed through the system, or he was a lunatic." Among Major Hasan's personality quirks: During counseling sessions with patients, many of whom had returned from Iraq or Afghanistan with post-traumatic stress, he tried to convert them to Islam.

He received an official reprimand for that infraction, which did nothing to improve his often belligerent attitude toward colleagues. "He was flat-out unfriendly creepy," says the source at Walter Reed. If

anything, Hasan's behavior became even more erratic when, in 2007, he entered a program for a master's degree in public health at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. "In a class, he did a presentation that justified suicide bombing," says Dr. Val Finnell, who took classes with him. "He was obsessed with the topic."

So why wasn't Hasan, who was born in Virginia to Palestinian parents and graduated from Virginia Tech, drummed out of the Army? Army medical personnel suggest that the service, which paid for Hasan's medical education and needs doctors, was loath to cut him loose. (The Army has not commented specifically on its handling of Hasan.) The FBI investigated Internet postings this year from a Nidal Hasan extolling suicide bombing but could not confirm that the poster in question was Major Hasan. By July he was assigned to Fort Hood. "He was unbalanced for a long time," says one former

classmate. "I don't care if they spent a million bucks on his training. Isn't the life of just one of his victims worth a whole lot more than that?"

Nidal Malik Hasan visited a convenience store in Islamic garb on the day of the attack.



EXCLUSIVE ON THE PHONE: OCTAVIA NASE Sr. Editor, Mideast Affairs He talked about suicide bombers the way you would expect a suicide bomber to talk"-FORMER HASAN COLLEAGUE

was about to be sent overseas, in his case to Afghanistan. Spc. Grant Moxon, 23, from Lodi, Wisc., who was scheduled to ship out to Afghanistan in December, was sitting at a desk in the readiness center when the shooting started. "He thought it was a drill." says his father, Dave. Moxon took a bullet in the leg and is expected to recover. "Three of his friends are dead," says his father, "and he never got to see them." For some victims, being shot by a fellow soldier added unbearable pain to their wounds. As medic De La Serna rushed one gravely wounded trooper to the hospital, he recalls him angrily screaming, "Man, I was supposed to deploy in two weeks! I'm not supposed to get shot before I deploy!"

By Bill Hewitt and Joey Bartolomeo. Darla Atlas and Alicia Dennis in Fort Hood, Susan Keating in Washington, D.C., Shermakaye Bass and Anne Lang in Austin, Brian Braiker in New York and Brenda Rodriguez in Los Angeles

THE HERO COP

Amid the chaotic scene at the military post, police sergeant Kim Munley kept her cool and helped end the deadly massacre

As Fort Hood police sergeant and SWAT team member Kim Munley, 34, recovers from gunshot wounds to her legs and arm, those who know the mom of two say they aren't surprised to hear that she-along with partner Sgt. Mark Todd-helped take down Hasan. "People have said she's fearless. She has fear, but what she also has is courage," says Shaun Appler, who nicknamed 5'4" Munley "Mighty Mouse" after she pried a suspect off his back when they worked together on the Wrightsville Beach, N.C., police force. "Courage is what you do in spite of fear." And though she's being commended for her efforts, family

friend Marsha Taylor says it's not in Munley's character to see herself as a hero: "She probably feels like she did what she was supposed to do—it was her job."

he shooting, mourners gathered for a vigil at Fort Hood.

