**Times Square car bomb**

Saturday evening on Times Square was interrupted by a failed attempt to plant a car bomb. The Washington Post thought it breaking news twice.

News Alert: Bomb scare in Times Square
11:28 PM EDT Saturday, May 1, 2010

Police evacuated Times Square tonight after a dark-colored sport-utility vehicle was found to be smoking and a small “flash” was observed by firefighters on the scene, authorities said. No one was injured. Investigators said they were trying to determine if it was an attempted bombing or a car fire.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg was returning to New York City after the White House Correspondents' Dinner in Washington.

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com:
http://link.email.washingtonpost.com/r/TNGYL1/QS1WD/TLYM4O/SC6MA7/HNPRY/RF/t

This announced the incident at 11:28 p.m. EDT.

News Alert: NYC mayor: Vehicle contained explosive device
03:03 AM EDT Sunday, May 2, 2010

A suspicious vehicle parked in Times Square "did indeed contain an explosive device," says New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Police say the vehicle contained propane tanks, consumer-grade fireworks, two filled 5-gallon gasoline containers, and two clocks with batteries, electrical wire and other components, the Associated Press reported early Sunday.

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com:
http://link.email.washingtonpost.com/r/0H2RO6/ZL0RY/ON4VAH/P6BKZC/MLHLV/UP/t

And this confirms that it the car was an explosive device.

Search term: I tried several combinations of times square . . . But all the . . .s reduced the number of messages significantly. So the search term is "times square."

My first search reached back to 1:32 a.m. CDT on May 2, 2010. So I was a couple of hours late, and there must have been many tweets in those couple of hours.

And breaking news yet a third time.

News Alert: Officials: International links increasingly likely in Times Square bombing attempt
02:13 PM EDT Monday, May 3, 2010

The failed car bombing attempt in Times Square increasingly appears to have been coordinated by several people in a plot with international links, Obama administration officials said Tuesday.
White House officials also characterized the incident as attempted terrorism for the first time, dramatically stepping up their description of the intended attack.

"I would say that was intended to terrorize, and I would say that whomever did that would be categorized as a terrorist," said press secretary Robert Gibbs.

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com:

Yet a fourth breaking news; probably more than microbloggers can bear.

News Alert: Terrorism task force takes over Times Square investigation, source says
05:52 PM EDT Monday, May 3, 2010
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An FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force has taken over the investigation of the failed Times Square bombing because of indications it was connected to international terrorism, a senior law enforcement course said Monday.

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com:
http://link.email.washingtonpost.com/r/SFBD1U/9VKZJ/EDOLHJ/Z5M2F9/5XI2M/VU/t

And two more breaking news-es.

News Alert: Man reportedly arrested in failed Times Square bombing
12:18 AM EDT Tuesday, May 4, 2010
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Authorities arrested a Connecticut man who is a naturalized U.S. citizen from Pakistan in the failed Times Square car bombing, news reports said early Tuesday.

The man is believed to have used cash to purchase the Nissan Pathfinder that was set ablaze but failed to detonate Saturday night on a tourist-crowded block in Times Square. No charges have been announced.

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com:
http://link.email.washingtonpost.com/r/QJTXP3/F5Q5B/Y8SKYA/X7ZM4O/DSNK8/6C/t

Man reportedly arrested.

News Alert: Times Square suspect arrested trying to flee country, administration officials say
01:18 AM EDT Tuesday, May 4, 2010
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The suspect in the failed Times Square bombing was arrested late Monday night by Customs and Border Patrol agents at JFK International Airport as he tried to board a flight to Dubai, administration officials said. He was identified as Faisal Shahzad, a 30-year-old U.S. citizen from Pakistan. He allegedly purchased the sport utility vehicle that authorities found packed with explosives in New York on Saturday night. Authorities became aware of his identity Monday afternoon.

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com:
He was arrested as he tried to leave the country. He must not be very smart if he tried to get on an international flight.

I found 35,000 the first day and only 13,000+ the second day. Of course there may have been something a bit funny about the second day numbers. I cannot be sure. I could not find anything about twitter being down, but the number do not seem large enough for other searches.

Much later Holder announced that they had evidence that Pakistan Taliban was involved in the plot. Naturally that was breaking news for The Post.

News Alert: Pakistani Taliban behind Times Square bomb attempt, Holder says
09:19 AM EDT Sunday, May 9, 2010
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Attorney General Eric Holder said Sunday that there is now conclusive evidence the Pakistani Taliban is to blame for last weekend's attempted car bombing in Times Square.

"We've now developed evidence that shows that the Pakistani Taliban was behind the attack," Holder said on ABC's "This Week." "We know that they helped facilitate it. We know that they probably helped finance it. And that he was working at their direction."

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com:

It goes on and on. Persons in Pakistan were arrested.

News Alert: Pakistan arrests man who says he was accomplice to Times Square bomber, officials say
07:27 PM EDT Thursday, May 13, 2010
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The Pakistani government has arrested a suspect with connections to a Pakistani militant group who said he acted as an accomplice to the accused Times Square bomber, U.S. officials said.

The suspect, whose arrest has not been previously disclosed, provided an "independent stream" of evidence that the Pakistani Taliban was behind the attack, including admitting helping Faisal Shahzad, the main suspect, travel into Pakistan’s tribal areas for bomb training.

Officials familiar with the probe cautioned that there have been inconsistencies in the two suspects’ accounts.

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com:
http://link.email.washingtonpost.com/r/DME6KX/V3ZVF/TLYM4O/GP8M91/5XTOW/MQ/t

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May 2, 2010
May 9, 2010