



ROLL CALL RELEASE

In Collaboration with the ITACG



16 September 2009

(U//FOUO) Triacetone Triperoxide as a Possible Homemade Explosive

(U//FOUO) Terrorists could use the explosive Triacetone Triperoxide (TATP), also referred to as acetone peroxide, in an attack against the United States. In December 2001, British shoe-bomber Richard Reid tried to detonate an explosive device with TATP as the initiator while aboard a flight from Paris to Miami. TATP can be made from hydrogen peroxide, acetone, and sulfuric acid. These ingredients are commonly available from drug stores, hardware stores, and car batteries. TATP is extremely sensitive to impact, friction, static/sparks, and heat, and may react violently to drug field testing.

FOR POLICE, FIRE, EMS, and SECURITY PERSONNEL



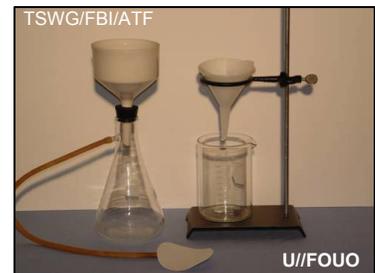
(U//FOUO) Crude TATP (left) and pure TATP (right).

(U//FOUO) Key Identifiers

- Crystals or powder
- Sugar-like appearance
- Colorless or white
- Solids settled at bottom of container
- Additives can alter the physical appearance and color
- Fruity smell, like acetone but gentler
- Old TATP smells very acrid, like bad vinegar
- Evaporates in an open container
- If stored in a closed jar, glass may look frosted
- May be stored in a refrigerator or freezer

(U) Chemical Precursors

- **Acetone:** nail polish remover, paint remover
- **Strong Acid:** sulfuric, nitric, hydrochloric
- **Hydrogen peroxide** disinfectant, bleaching agent



(U//FOUO) Improved filtration set-up



(U//FOUO) Improved cooling set-up.

(U) Lab Equipment

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| Glassware | Distillers |
| Mixers | Ice Bath |
| Filters | |

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(U) Prepared by the Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group (ITACG) in coordination with DHS/I&A and the FBI/Counterterrorism Analysis Section.

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