



# ASSIST's Helping Hand Newsletter

Terrorism Survivors Helping Survivors

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2023

## The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the East African Embassy Bombings Memorial

By Worley (Lee) Reed



US Embassy Nairobi, Kenya August 7, 1998 Post Bombing

ASSIST is dedicated to helping injured survivors of terrorism with legal, medical and financial assistance based on available organizational funds. ASSIST endeavors to fill the gap between government entitlements and real need.

The American Society for the Support of Injured Survivors of Terrorism, Inc. Newsletter is published quarterly at Lake Wales, FL. The Chief Editor is Bret W Reed, Administrative Officer.

ASSIST is a IRS Approved 501 (c) 3 Public Charity. Contributions and dues are tax deductible as prescribed by law. Please see your tax professional for details.

Please send correspondence to ASSIST, 4371 Dinner Lake Blvd, Lake Wales, Florida 33859-2135

Author Note: The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Al Qaeda East African Embassy Bombings will occur on August 7, 2023. Survivors have created an annual tradition of assembling at the East African Bombing Memorial Marker in Arlington National Cemetery at 10:30 AM to honor and remember the fallen heroes lost 25 years ago.

If the ceremony leaders give us an opportunity to speak at the anniversary assembly, I have prepared the following remarks to honor the ones that lost their lives that day and to express our feelings. My remarks are as follows:

For those that do not know me, I am Lee Reed. I served as the

Continued on Page 2

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We are grateful to the US Department of Justice and the National Organization for Victims Assistance (NOVA) for their support and leadership in the area of victims' rights.

**The 25th Anniversary of the East African Embassy Bombings  
Memorial  
(Continued)**

internal search and rescue leader after the Nairobi bombing. I had the honor and privilege to work with a multitude of true heroes 25 years ago today. Some of them are here now.

We came to Post mostly strangers. We worked together, becoming colleagues and friends. The crucible of the bombing forged us into a permanent family. Like most brothers and sisters, we routinely disagree, but on important matters we stand together...as we are doing...here today.

For our fallen heroes and the ones who passed away in the past 25 years, I have adapted lyrics from the movie, "Les Misérables" to honor them.

"There's a grief that can't be spoken  
There's a pain goes on and on  
Empty chairs at empty tables  
Now my friends are dead and gone.

Here they talked of universal freedom  
Here it was at post they lit the

flame

Here they sang about tomorrow  
And tomorrow never came.

From the table in the corner  
They could see a world reborn  
And they rose with voices ringing  
And I can still hear them now!

The very words that they had sung  
Became their last communion  
At this lonely, desolate place.

Oh, my friends, my friends forgive me  
That I live, and you are gone  
There's a grief that can't be spoken  
There's a pain goes on and on

Phantom faces at the window  
Phantom shadows on the floor  
Empty chairs at empty tables  
Where my friends and family will be no more.

Oh, my friends, my family  
We wish we knew what your sacrifice was for  
Empty chairs at empty tables  
Where my friends will be no more."

(Song by Eddie Redmayne) ◇



Dar es Salaam US Embassy August 7, 1998  
Post Bombing



One day we will remember  
how lucky we were to have  
known their love, with  
wonder, not grief.

Elizabeth Postle © GriefandSympathy.com

## Lessons from the Wright Brothers By W. Lee Reed

Page 3

My paternal grandfather, for whom I am named, met the Wright Brothers in Dayton, Ohio when my grandfather was a young teenager. The Wright Brothers repaired his bicycle a couple of times. He said they were a friendly and energetic pair.

December 17, 2023, will mark the 120-year anniversary of the first manned, powered and controlled flight in history.

Wilber and Orville Wright's parents, Milton, and Susan Wright, encouraged their children's intellectual curiosity. Milton Wright was a bishop in a local church, and he traveled extensively to preach. He also kept two large libraries that aided the brothers in their intellectual development from an early age.

In 1878, Milton gave the brothers a toy that changed the world and the brothers forever. It was a toy helicopter made of bamboo, paper, and cork powered by a rubber band. The brothers would later recall that this toy sparked their interest in the science of flight.

When they moved to Richmond, Indiana, their father published a newsletter. Wilber invented a machine that folded papers for mailing, demonstrating a knack for engineering. In 1884, their family moved permanently back to Dayton, Ohio.

In their teenage years, Wilber was a star athlete and scholar bound for Yale, but an injury during a hockey game in 1886 changed his mind about studying there. Orville was a good student but lost interest in his studies in 1902 leading him to drop out of high school.

The brothers went into the printing business. They printed small items such as business cards. Wilber helped Orville build a printing press leading to the "Wright Brothers" printing shop. Their printing presses attracted several admirers. In 1893, they finally ended their printing busi-



Wright Brother's  
Bicycle Shop



Wright Brother's  
Plane at Kitty Hawk

## Lessons from the Wright Brothers (Continued)

ness and went into a growing national activity, cycling. The same year they began repairing and building bicycles.

Their interests changed to sustained human flight. They studied everything they could find on the subject to include studying birds in flight. They developed a biplane model that could adjust the wings shape in flight as birds do. They build a wind tunnel to study their wing designs then tested a glider at Kitty Hawk in 1902. It flew 622 feet in 26 seconds. They then worked with a mechanic, Charlie Taylor, to devise a motor / propeller system.

Through countless failures and setbacks, they would study the problems and try new solutions. On December 17, 1903, their work succeeded, and they changed the world forever.

The lesson is easy. They stud-

ied, suffered through countless failures, worked hard, and never gave up. You can follow their examples and change the world too. ◇

### New ASSIST Website

Due to the untimely passing of one of our valued Board Directors, ASSIST lost the use of our original website, which he managed for us.

We were recently successful in obtaining ownership of the site back, and we are in the process of constructing the website:

<http://www.assist-survivors.org>

We will keep you informed about the progress of the website in future newsletters. ◇



One of many glider design failures



The Wright Brothers



See <https://www.trynova.org/> for more information

## The Good Life Section

This is why you stand for our National Anthem !



Please remember the over one point one million men and women who have died in uniform for us. Also, thank our living Veterans everyday

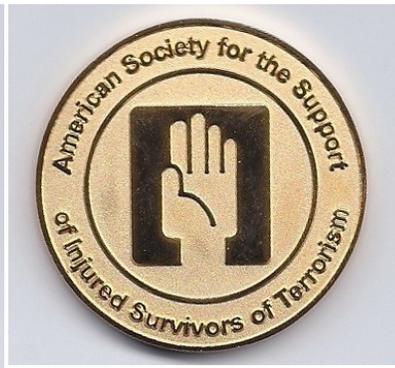


While the picture above is funny, it also stresses the fact that obeying the speed limits and other traffic regulations saves lives. Please do your part to keep our highways as safe as possible.

## ASSIST

### Memorabilia

The ASSIST memorabilia below are available from ASSIST, 4371 Dinner Lake Blvd, Lake Wales, Florida 33859. Please add \$4.50 to your total order for shipping and handling. All profits from the sales of items goes to support terrorism survivors.



ASSIST Coin (front and back) \$10.00

ASSIST Lapel Pin \$4.00



ASSIST Hat Adjustable \$10.00



ASSIST T-Shirt \$10.00 L and XL Based on Availability of Size

## ASSIST Calendar

Jul 4—Independence Day

Jul 13—nine U.S. soldiers and at least 15 NATO troops die when Taliban militants boldly attack an American base in Kumar Province, which borders Pakistan 2008

Aug 7—East African Embassy Bombings 1998

Aug 18-19—15 suicide bombers attack US troops in Afghanistan 2008

Sep 4—Labor Day

Sep 11—9/11 2001

Sep 11—Benghazi, Libya: militants armed with anti-aircraft weapons and rocket-propelled grenades fire upon the American consulate, killing U.S. ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens and three other embassy officials. 2012

Sep 13—Attack on US Embassy, Damascus, Syria by

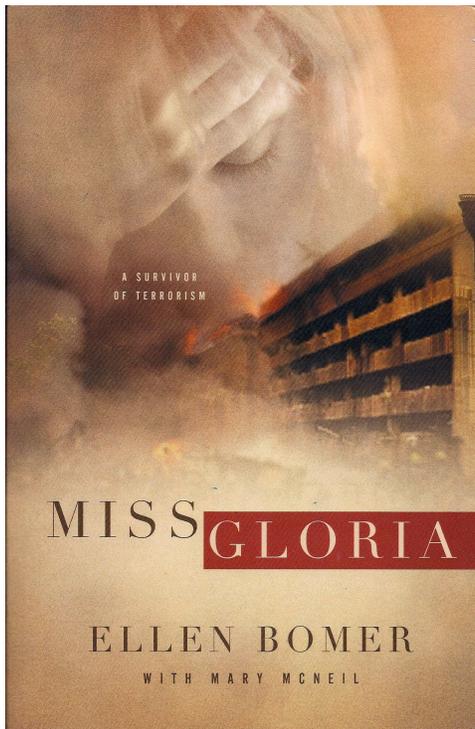
4 gunmen stopped by DSS and local guards 2006

Sep 16—Bombing in New York City by suspected Communists 1920

Sep 16—Yemen: a car bomb and a rocket strike the U.S. embassy in Yemen as staff arrived to work, killing 16 people, including 4 civilians. 2008

Sep 20—Beirut US Embassy Annex Bombing 1984

Note: If we inadvertently omit an important date, please contact us and we will correct it.



Miss Gloria details the struggles and triumphs of a wonderful lady blinded by the Al Qaeda attack on the United States Embassy, Nairobi, Kenya on August 7, 1998. We highly recommend this book as a must-read.

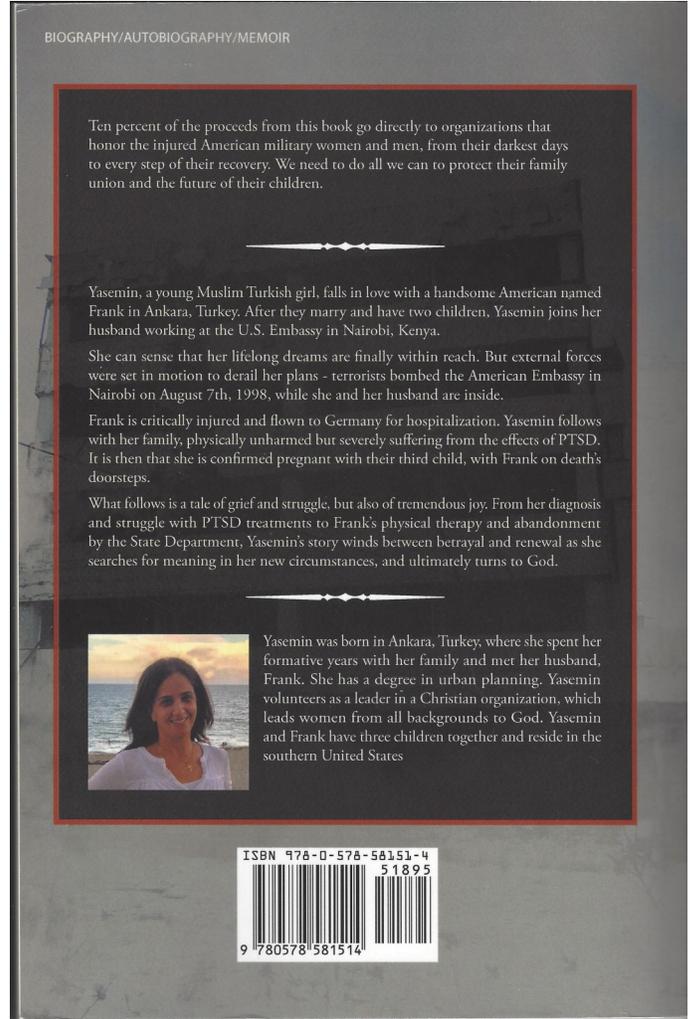
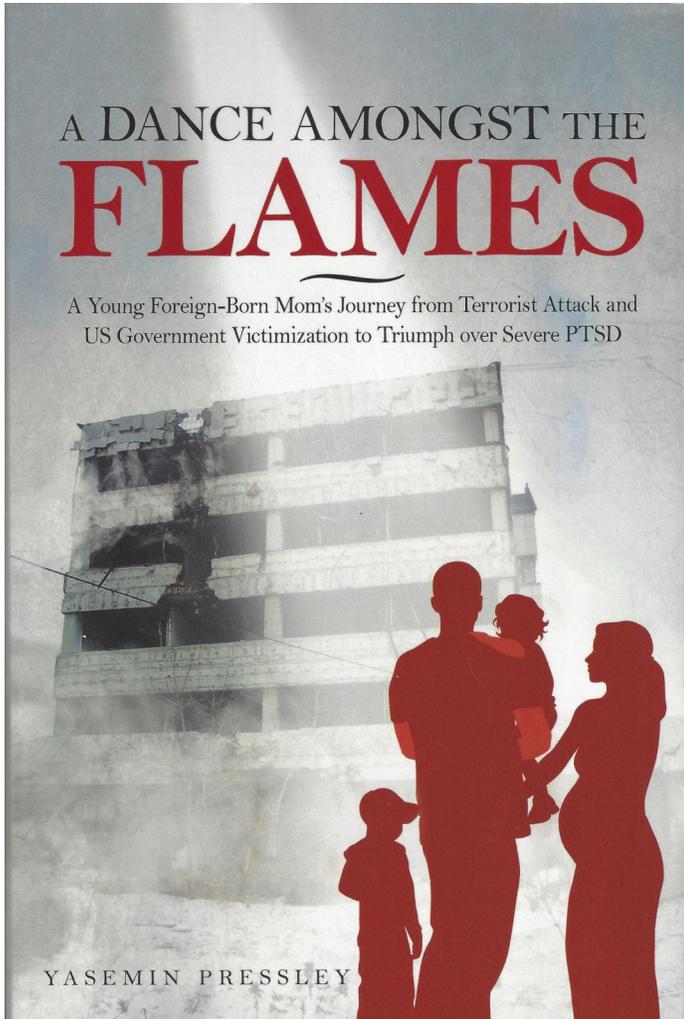
The book is available from the publisher: Redemption Press, 1730 Railroad St, Enumclaw, WA 98022 [www.redemption-press.com](http://www.redemption-press.com) as well as on Amazon Dot Com. [http://www.amazon.com/Miss-Gloria-Terrorism-Ellen-Bomer/dp/1414113668/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1431978093&sr=8-3&keywords=Miss+Gloria](http://www.amazon.com/Miss-Gloria-Terrorism-Ellen-Bomer/dp/1414113668/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1431978093&sr=8-3&keywords=Miss+Gloria)



If you are seeking someone to help you manage your terrorism compensation or other funds, UBS has helped us find creative and safe investments. Our contact is Ms. Holiday Hayes, telephone: (202) 585-5372.

This is an unpaid endorsement by the ASSIST Staff, and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ASSIST Board or ASSIST membership.

ASSIST has a new website: <http://www.assist-survivors.org> . It is being built.



*A Dance Amongst the Flames* is a highly recommended new book about the unique experiences of a terrorism survivor. The book is available at your local bookstore or through Amazon® at [https://www.amazon.com/Dance-Amongst-Flames-Foreign-Born-Victimization/dp/0578581515/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=20YC01N2RX455&keywords=a+dance+amongst+the+flames+by+yasemin+pressley&qid=1576686264&sprefix=A+Dance+Am%2Caps%2C160&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Dance-Amongst-Flames-Foreign-Born-Victimization/dp/0578581515/ref=sr_1_1?crid=20YC01N2RX455&keywords=a+dance+amongst+the+flames+by+yasemin+pressley&qid=1576686264&sprefix=A+Dance+Am%2Caps%2C160&sr=8-1) . A preview of the book can be found on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikt9Hk01818> .

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Terrorism Survivors Helping Survivors



**WE ARE ON THE WEB!**

[http://www.assist-  
survivors.org](http://www.assist-survivors.org)

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