

# Al Shabaab is a Threat to the World at Large

by Jerry Gordon (October 2013)



## The Nairobi Westgate Mall Attack

was sentenced in 2008 to 35 years in prison after pleading guilty to plotting to set off grenades at a Rockford shopping mall. Shareef was a convert to Islam who was recorded saying he wanted to kill "infidels."

But attacks which have succeeded in causing casualties at American malls in recent years have been carried out by young lone gunmen with no apparent cause to promote:

killed eight people and then himself at an Omaha, Nebraska, mall in December 2007.

—An 18-year-old man [killed five people before he was killed by police](#) at a mall in Salt Lake City, Utah, in February 2007.

—A 22-year-old man [killed two people and then himself](#) at a mall near Portland, Oregon, in December 2012.