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Description

NBC's Matt Lauer reports the breaking news of a massive explosion at a federal building in Oklahoma City. A large portion of the building has collapsed and dozens of casualties are expected.

Keywords

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MLA
Oklahoma City Bombing: Live Break-in

MATT LAUER:
And good morning, everyone. I'm Matt Lauer in New York, and we do have a Special Report from NBC News. There has been a massive explosion at a federal building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. It happened just a short time ago. A large portion of that building has collapsed and fallen away from the rest of the building. At the moment, we don't have any specific numbers on injuries or deaths, but we can tell you that the Red Cross in the Oklahoma City area has asked for all volunteers to report for duty. Also, they can--we can tell you that they've asked for donations of blood, so the situation is obviously serious. We're going to go right now and join our coverage of our sister station KFOR in Oklahoma City. They're on the air, and maybe they can give us some more information.

LEE EVANS: For our viewers who may have just joined us, let's go ahead and recap what happened. There was an explosion. It happened about an hour ago, as--as you said earlier, happened at about 9:00. You may have felt it at about 9:00. It was at the Alfred Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City. Right now we're about to get a live report from the News Channel's Tara Blume. Tara, what can you tell us?

TARA BLUME: Well, Lee, just take a look for yourself. There's the Alfred Murrah Federal Building behind me, and you can see just how badly damaged it is. It's about half of the building that is literally hanging, and at the bottom, the bottom two floors are just stacked debris. Now there are several other buildings right around, to give you an idea of what kind of impact this had. Look at the Regency Towers there. Almost all the window have been blown out of that hotel complex there. A several block area, it's complete devastation, windows blown out of all the buildings. Some of these older brick buildings, the brick walls have collapsed, and we--they are still taking away dozens of casualties of this explosion. In fact, they've been running out of ambulances. We've been seeing...

LAUER: You are watching live coverage from our station KFOR in Oklahoma City. They are covering the explosion that took place in that city a short time ago at the Alfred Murray Federal Building. And again, we'll have more information for you on this NBC station as it is available to us. I'm Matt Lauer in
New York.