The CBRNE Threat

Objectives

- Student will demonstrate a knowledge of
  - Recent NBC/CBRNE events
  - Potential for terrorist use of NBC/CBRNE agents/devices
  - Sources and hazards of NBC/CBRNE agents/devices
  - Potential targets of NBC/CBRNE attacks.

- Student will state several indicators of an NBC/CBRNE attack and describe the potential impact of each.

Objectives

- Identify means and methods of obtaining intelligence information on potential terrorism threats to the United States
- Identify potential domestic threats
- Discuss a vulnerability assessment
- Identify potential terrorist targets based on recent terrorist activity and the political and ideological beliefs of different terrorist groups
Use of Chemical, Biological and other Weapons of Mass Destruction and the implications to response personnel

Title 22 of the United States Code, Section 2656f(d)

Terrorism: premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by sub-national groups or clandestine agents, usually intended to influence an audience

International terrorism: terrorism involving citizens or the territory of more than one country

Terrorist group: any group practicing, or that has significant subgroups that practice terrorism

Other Forms of Terrorism

- Religious Terrorism
  - based on intolerance or racial, ethnic and religious differences
- EcoTerrorism
  - any crime committed in the name of saving nature
    - Tree spiking, Tire studs, etc.
- Computer / Electronic Terrorism (Cyber-terrorism)
  - Any crime committed against a computer / information system with the intent to cause havoc

GUNS DON'T KILL PEOPLE - RADICAL ENVIRONMENTALISTS DO
Potential Terrorists

- Lone individuals
- Identified groups
- Non-aligned groups
- Internationally sponsored
- Doomsday cults
- Insurgents

Weapons of Mass Destruction

- The weaponization of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) agents and the manipulation of computers or other technological devices so as to cause death, destruction, and infrastructure disruption of a principal target.

Fallacies

- It can't happen to us
- CBRENE agents are so deadly the victims will all die anyway
- There is nothing we can do.
Probability vs. Impact

Potential vs. Impact
- Nuclear Weapon
- Biological Agent
- Chemical Agent or Toxic Industrial Chemical

Probability/Likelihood
- RDD

Prerequisites to Terror
- Motive
- Access to Materials
- Knowledge to build / function a device
- Access to a target

Domestic Threat: Domestic Incidents
- Hate groups
  - Ku Klux Klan
  - Skinhead
  - Christian identity
  - Black separatist
- Patriot groups
  - Militias
  - Common law courts
- Cult groups
  - Single issue groups
  - Lone individuals

Domestic Threat: Domestic Incidents
- Single issue groups
- Lone individuals
### CB Terrorist Incidents 1970-2000

- **1972 Typhoid**
- **1984 Anthrax** 791 injured
- **1984 Sarin Gas**
- **1985 Gas**
- **March 1986 Bacillus 12 cases, 5500 affected**
- **June 1987 Bacillus** 12 dead, 206 injured
- **May 1988 Plague**
- **April 1989 Ricin**
- **February 1997 Anthrax** 14 injured, 103 isolated
- **June 1998 Anthrax**
- **November 1998 Radiotrace Cesium**
- **April 1999 Bacillus**
- **December 1999 Ricin**

### In the U.S.

- **World Trade Center 1993**
- **Oklahoma City (Murrah Bldg)**
- **Anthrax Scare** in Las Vegas
  - Washington DC, Sacramento, NYC & NJ.

### Recent “Home-Grown” Terrorist acts

- **From 1983 - 1991** the FBI identified 101 terrorist incidents in the US
- **1966** FBI Office in Laredo, Tx is bombed
- **1984** a religious sect sprayed salmonella bacteria restaurant salad bar in Oregon
- **1985 Patriots Council** manufactures ricin with plot to kill local law enforcement officials.
1993 A bomb explodes in the World Trade Center parking lot. 6 killed, 1000s injured. 200x100ft crater
• 1995 Amtrak’s Sunset Limited intentionally derailed
• 1995 Oklahoma City Bombing, 168 killed, hundreds injured
• 1995 Attempt to bomb IRS bldg. in Reno, NV.
• 1996 Militia groups make pipe bombs and plan attacks on Olympic venues. Other militia group plans to blow up the Criminal Justice complex in Clarksburg, WV.

TERRORIST INCIDENTS - NEW JERSEY

Joanne Chesimard
Yu Kikumura
Arthur Lee Washington
J. Williams
Thomas Manning
Jan Lamon & Son
Ted Kaczynski

In New Jersey??

DOMESTIC THREAT (cont’d)
Why CBRNE Terrorism?
- Chemical or Biological agents/devices are relatively easy to make
- Cheap
- Available
- Radiological materials can be found in many facilities

Why NBC/CBRNE Terrorism?
- Small quantities
- May be hard to detect
- Little signature
- Spread by air

Why NBC/CBRNE Terrorism?
- Requires decon
- Psychological impact
- Difficult to prepare for
- Next level of escalation
Limitations of NBC/CBRNE Weapons

- Large quantities of chemical agents needed in open spaces
- Delayed effects can detract from impact
- Counterproductive to interests
- Potentially hazardous to the terrorist
- Development and use requires skill

NBC/CBRNE Agent Sources

- Home production
- Laboratory / commercial production
- Industrial facilities
- Medical / university research facilities
- Foreign military sources

Indicators of NBC/CBRNE Attack

- Primary
  - Symptoms of victims
  - Mass casualties
  - Casualty pattern
  - Dissemination device
  - Warning given or credit taken
Indicators of NBC/CBRNE Attack

- Secondary
  - Dead animals or birds
  - Statements of victims
- Things out of place
  - Unexplained liquids
  - Strange smells

“Just how bad will this stuff be”

- A full scale drill conducted in 1997 in Harford County, Maryland.
- Based upon known data of how materials will react.

Potential Outcomes of Terrorist NBC/CBRNE Event

- Panic and confusion
- Mass casualties
- Overwhelm emergency response systems
- Disrupt normal city routine
- Shut down and necessitate decontamination of facilities
- Loss of faith in government
- Loss of faith in emergency response system
THREAT ASSESSMENT

TERRORIST TARGETS

- Enclosed areas

TERRORIST TARGETS (con't)

- High profile events
- Large crowds
- High payoff and accessible facilities
TERRORIST TARGETS (con’t)

- Critical facilities and infrastructures

TERRORIST TARGETS (con’t)

Transportation

- Facility of interest towards terrorist cause
  - Family planning clinics
  - Government offices
TERRORIST TARGETS (con’t)

- Historic and symbolic monuments

TERRORISM: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Historically certain groups were immune; however, today--

- No one is immune
  - Schools / Children
- Emergency responders are also targets
  - Firefighters
  - Law enforcement
  - EMS

KEY POINTS

- Recent events involving CBRNE/WMD
- Groups that may use CBRNE/WMD
- Likely WMD targets
- International and domestic groups
Key Points

- Terrorist groups have means, motive, opportunity
- NBC/CBRNE weapons have far-reaching effects
- Recognizing symptoms may be first clue
- Mass casualties may result
- New challenges to Responders