

Terrorism and CERT

CERT Basic Training Unit 8



FEMA

Unit Topics



- Defining Terrorism
- Terrorist Goals and Tactics
- Active Shooter Response
- Until Help Arrives
- HazMat and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) materials.



PM 8-1



What Is Terrorism?



- The unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives

Terrorist Goals



- Influence government policy and to achieve specific objectives
- Undermine the public's sense of safety and their confidence in the government
- Portray the government as ineffective, weak and/or otherwise incapable

New Tactics



- Active Shooter
- Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)
- Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks
- Cyber Attacks

Potential Indicators



- If you see something, say something!
- Understand the signs of terrorist activity
- Contact local law enforcement
- Use the FBI Suspicious Activity Reporting Tip Line

Eight Signs of Terrorism



1. Surveillance
2. Elicitation
3. Tests of security
4. Funding
5. Acquiring supplies
6. Impersonation or suspicious people
7. Rehearsals and dry runs
8. Deployment



PM 8-5

Potential Targets



- **Soft Targets** include schools, parks, large gathering spaces, cafes, and concert halls
- **Less Secure Targets** include malls, movie theaters, and universities

Active Shooter



1. Run

- If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises

2. Hide

- If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you

3. Fight

- If you are unable to run, evacuate or hide and when your life is in imminent danger, you may attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter

PM 8-7



Run, Hide, Fight



**RUN
HIDE
FIGHT**



Until Help Arrives



- CERT volunteers are NOT equipped or trained to respond to terrorist incidents
- If you find yourself in a situation that you believe to be a terrorist attack, focus on the most lifesaving interventions: **Make sure you're in a safe place!**
 - Move those in grave danger to a safe place
 - Stop bleeding, prevent shock
 - Maintain body temperature
 - Move unconscious survivors into recovery position
 - Offer comfort and support to those around you

PM 8-10



Secondary Attacks



- Be prepared for a secondary attack
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Move away from danger as soon as you are able
- Move others to safety if you are able

What Professional Responders Will Do



- Follow size-up steps
 - What is going on?
 - How bad is the situation and how much worse could it get?
 - What measures can be taken to control the incident safely?
 - What resources will be needed?

Basic Decontamination Procedures



- Leave the contaminated area
- Take decontamination action
 - Remove everything
 - Wash hands
 - Flush the entire body
 - Blot dry
- Report for decontamination



PM 8-13

CBRNE Indicators

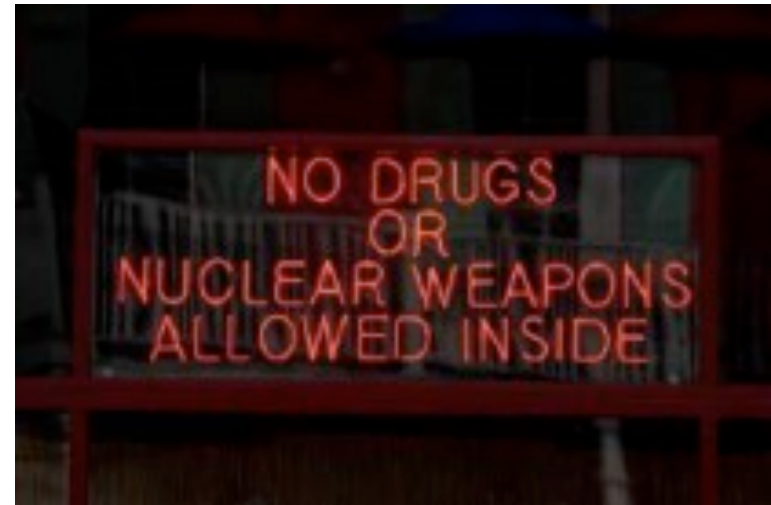


- Vapor clouds or mists that are unusual for the area or for the time of day
- Out of place and unattended packages, boxes, or vehicles
- If you observe any indicators
 - Do not touch
 - Move away
 - Report it

Nuclear Weapons



- Derives destructive force from nuclear reaction
- Affected area is larger as contaminated objects spread
- Potential for casualties extends beyond initial attack
- Long-term effects difficult to monitor and track



PM 8-14

Shelter-in-Place Procedures



- Shut off ventilation systems
- Go to your shelter-in-place room
- Use precut plastic sheeting to cover air openings
- Tape sheeting over doors, windows, vents
- Use duct tape to seal other areas
- Listen to a battery-powered radio
- Ventilate room once contaminants are gone

Unit Summary



- When terrorists attack, their goals are to:
 - Create mass casualties
 - Disrupt critical resources, vital services, and the economy
 - Cause fear
- New Tactics
 - Active Shooter
 - Improvised Explosive Devices
 - Complex Coordinated Attacks
 - Cyber Attacks
- CERT volunteers are NOT equipped or trained to respond to terrorist incidents

PM 8-17

