Virginia RACES Field Operations Course - Unit 11



"Courage is not the absence of fear, but being able to do what is right in the presence of it."

"Terrorism Awareness Training" for RACES and CERT



OBJECTIVES

This module should help you to understand:



- WHAT is terrorism? overview of potential threats;
- RISKS associated with various types of incidents
- PRIMARY INDICATORS of potential terrorism or preparations, which should be relayed to authorities!
- SELF-PROTECTION measures you can take
- SCENE CONTROL, importance of isolation, security, RACES role in operations support, evacuation, sheltering
- NOTIFICATION procedures for initiating response





SAFETY!

our most important concern...

- RACES aren't first responders!
 - RACES mission is COMMUNICATION!
- Be ALERT, for suspicious activity!
- NOTIFY authorities...
- FOLLOW instructions!
 - Don't add to the problem!
- LEAVE the target area
 - To protect yourself!





RACES Role In

Terrorism Consequence Management

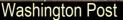


- RACES <u>may be activated</u> to assist in evacuation, logistics and shelter support, by operating from away, in a safe area
- RACES role is to <u>assist public safety</u> in effective management of the consequences of an incident by using amateur radio communication networks to facilitate an orderly evacuation and help to maintain a safe public environment.

What is TERRORISM?

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







Associated Press

The three common elements of terrorist acts:



Acts of terrorism are essentially different from "normal" technological or natural disasters and other "routine" emergencies because they are...

The three common elements of terrorist acts:

VA-TF1 Photo

- <u>Illegal</u> and involve the use of force
- Actions intended to intimidate or coerce
- **Committed** in support of political / social objectives



And, Yes...

the threat is REAL!!

Terrorists have the knowledge and ability to

strike anywhere in the world





"The time for denial is past, we must all be vigilant..." because the threat is REAL!!



- <u>All</u> communities are vulnerable and contain potential "targets:"
 - Government facilities
 - Buildings of public assembly
 - Mass transit systems
 - Places of high economic impact
 - Telecommunications facilities
 - Sites of symbolic significance





• <u>Credible threat</u> - *Intelligence-based*, presented in oral, written, electronic or other form.

 Significant threat -Confirmed presence of an explosive device or WMD capable of causing a significant destructive event, **PRIOR** to any injury or property loss.



(continued)

Limited consequences

- detonation of an explosive device, use of WMD, with or without warning, that results in limited injury or death and consequences which are within State and local capabilities.



Washington Post

(continued)





 Major consequences - resulting in substantial injury or death, such that consequences exceed State and local capabilities.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT

- MILITARY / LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE!
 - Measures to identify, acquire and plan use of all resources needed to anticipate, prevent and / or resolve a threat or act of terrorism.



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Federal Presidential Decision Directive 39 (PDD-39)

- Reduce vulnerability
 - Respond to manage consequences of terrorism.
- Crisis Management
 - FBI has lead role focus on criminal aspects.
- Consequence Management
 - FEMA has lead role, focus on alleviating damage, loss, hardship and suffering.
- Emergency Response Team
 - Establishes Disaster Field Office.

LEAD FEDERAL AGENCIES (LFA) FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS

President

NSC

Federal Bureau of Investigation (Lead Federal Agency for Crisis Management)* Federal Emergency Management Agency

(Lead Federal Agency for Consequence Management) * *

- Defense Energy Health & Human Services
- Environmental Protection Agency Transportation
- *Agriculture *Nuclear Regulatory Agency *Commerce
- Central Intelligence Agency Treasury Interior Other

(Support Federal Agencies)

- * Crisis Management refers to measures to identify, acquire, and plan the use of resources to anticipate, prevent, preempt, and terminate threats or acts of terrorism.
- ** Consequence Management refers to measures to protect public health and safety, restore essential governmental services, and provide emergency relief to governments, businesses, and individuals affected by the consequences of terrorism. (Federal Response Plan, Terrorism Incident Annex, April 1999)

What is a terrorist threat? It has three elements:



Courtesy MSNBC

- MOTIVE
- ABILITY and
- CRIMINAL INTENT to:
 - Inflict harm
 - Cause damage (or kill)
- Terrorists are CRIMINALS
 - Who will go to great lengths to achieve their desired social or political impact.

Five categories of terrorist incidents Remember the acronym B-NICE

- <u>B</u>iological
- Nuclear
- Incendiary
- Chemical
- **E**xplosive



Biological Agents:

Pose a serious threat due to their fairly accessible nature, potential for rapid spread, and ability to cause multiple casualties

- Four possible routes of entry:
 - Inhalation (aerosols and spray devices)
 - Absorption (direct skin contact)
 - Ingestion (contaminated food or water)
 - Injection (needle sticks, puncture wounds)

Common Biological Agents

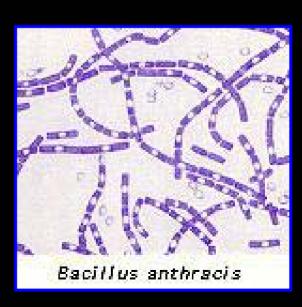
Most likely routes of exposure are inhalation and ingestion



- Bacteria
- Rickettsia
- Viruses
- Toxins

Bacteria and Rickettsia

- Bacteria are single-celled organisms
 - Multiply by cell division
- Rickettsia are smaller than bacteria
 - Live inside individual host cells to cause disease
- Bacteria examples:
 - Anthrax (bacillus anthracis)
 - · Cholera (Vibrio cholerae)
 - Plague (Yersinia pestis)
- Rickettsia example:
 - Q-fever (coxiella burnetii)



Anthrax: The latest "bomb scare"

Spore-forming bacterium infects livestock

- 400+ hoaxes reported since the late '90s
- Transferred to humans via skin exposure,
 spore inhalation or ingestion.

 Anthrax spore >



- In unlikely event that package contains actual spores contamination is localized to the immediate area.
- If package is sealed take no action, contact authorities.
- If opened, wash hands with soap and water, have medical personnel assess personnel exposure.
- Authorities will isolate area and treat as crime scene.

<u>Viruses</u>

- Simplest type of microorganisms
- Lack a system for their own metabolism
- Depend on living cells to multiply
- Won't live long outside a "host"
 - Examples:
 - Smallpox
 - Equine encephalitis
 - Hemorrhagic fevers

 (Ebola, Marburg, Lassa).



• TOXINS

- Toxic substances of NATURAL origin
- Produced by a plant, animal, or microbe
- Examples:
 - Botulism (botulinum)
 - SEB (staphyloccal enterotoxin B)
 - Ricin (a toxin derived from the castor bean)



Castor Bean Plant:

Ricinus communis

TOXINS - (Continued)



- Differ from "chemical" agents, because...
 - They are NOT man made
 - More complex materials
 - By weight are usually MORE toxic than many chemical agents



Two fundamentally different threats:

- Threatened detonation of a nuclear weapon
 - Use of a threat as extortion
 - No known instance of any non-governmental group close to obtaining or producing a weapon
- Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD)
 - Use of a conventional explosive to disperse nuclear material to contaminate a large area i.e. "Dirty Bomb"
 - Example, truck bomb positioned near a nuclear power plant or an explosive device placed near nuclear cargo in transport

Types of nuclear radiation:



- Alpha
- Beta
- Gamma

Types of nuclear radiation: <u>Alpha</u>

- Heaviest, most highly charged
- Won't penetrate the skin
- Stopped by a sheet of paper
- Internal hazard if radioactive particles are ingested by eating, drinking or breathing

Types of nuclear radiation:

<u>Beta</u>

- Smaller particle
- Surface tissue penetration
 - Generally will not reach inner organs
 - May enter through unprotected open wounds, cause skin burns
- Poses an internal hazard if ingested.
- Disposal of contaminated clothing and thorough washing with soap / water as protective measure.

Types of nuclear radiation:

<u>Gamma</u>

- Very penetrating
- Produces, acute symptoms
 - Skin burns
 - Nausea
 - Vomiting
 - Fever
 - Hair loss



Countermeasures

for radiation or hazardous material releases

$$TDS = your "keys" to self-protection:$$





- TIME
- DISTANCE
- SHIELDING







TDS



Self-protection Countermeasures you can take! for radiation or hazardous material releases

- TIME least is always best!
 - Exit contaminated area immediately!
 - Minimize duration of exposure!



TDS



Self-protection Countermeasures you can take! for radiation or hazardous material releases

- <u>D</u>ISTANCE
 - More is always better!
 - —Get far away, upwind and uphill







Self-protection Countermeasures you can take! for radiation or hazardous material releases

- SHIELDING sturdy physical barriers
 - Concrete / masonry walls
 - Metal vehicles
 - No matter how much shielding you have, you must still take advantage of time and distance!

Incendiary incidents:

An <u>incendiary</u> device is any mechanical, electrical or chemical device used intentionally to initiate combustion and start a fire.

- Consist of <u>three</u> basic components:
 - -Igniter (fuse)
 - Container
 - -Incendiary (fuel) material, or filler

Incendiary incidents:

NEVER touch any suspected incendiary device!



- May cause ignition, fire, injury, DEATH!
- Evidence, crime scene preservation
- CALL 911 after withdrawing to a safe distance



Chemical Incidents:

Chemical agents fall into five classes:

- NERVE agents disrupt the central nervous system.
- BLISTER agents "vesicants" cause severe burns to the eyes, unprotected skin and respiratory tissues
- BLOOD agents interfere with the ability of blood to transport oxygen
- CHOKING agents severely stress respiratory tissues
- IRRITATING agents incapacitate by causing tearing, respiratory distress, pain, especially moist areas of the body

Routes of exposure for chemical agents:



- Inhalation primary route of exposure for most chemical agents
- Skin absorption or direct

 contact highly possible with

 nerve, blister and irritant agents
- Injection also potential source, but less likely

NERVE AGENTS:

- Toxic even in small concentrations
 - Effects similar to organophosphate pesticides
 - But of a much higher toxicity

NERVE AGENTS:

- Victim symptoms are early outward warning signs:
- Runny nose, nasal congestion
- Profuse tearing, dimmed / blurred vision
- Pinpoint pupils, eye pain aggravated by sunlight
- Excessive salivation, abdominal pain, nausea
- Involuntary urination and / or defecation
- Chest pressure, cough, difficulty breathing
- Excessive sweating
- Muscle tremors, involuntary twitching
- Giddiness, anxiety, difficulty in thinking or sleeping

NERVE AGENTS:

- Resemble water or light oil in pure form
- Possess no odor.
- Typically dispersed as aerosol
- Important indicators and clues:
 - Small explosions
 - Presence of spray devices
 - Dead insects, birds, animals, people!

Blister Agents:

- Readily penetrate clothing
- Quickly absorbed.
- Very toxic
 - But less so than nerve agents
 - Effects similar to common corrosives
- Examples:
 - "Mustard" (H, HD) and Lewisite (L)

BLISTER AGENTS

Clinical symptoms may not appear for hours / days!

- Eyes, within 1 hour
 - Reddening, tearing, burning, "gritty" feeling, pain
- Skin, within 1-12 hours
 - Itching, redness, tenderness, burning pain, blisters, most intense in warm, moist areas of the groin and armpits
- Respiratory, within 2-12 hours
 - Burning sensation in nose/throat, hoarseness, profusely running nose, severe cough, shortness of breath
- Digestive, within 2-3 hours
 - Abdominal pain, nausea, bloody vomiting and diarrhea

BLISTER AGENTS:

- Are <u>heavy</u>, oily liquids
 - Dispersed by aerosol or evaporation
 - Be alert for small explosions, fires or spray equipment
- In a pure state are nearly colorless and odorless
 - Slight impurities impart a dark color and an odor suggestive of garlic or onions.
- Outward signs:
 - Eye and respiratory irritation, reports of "garlic-like" odor
 - Similar symptoms appearing in many individuals

Blood Agents:

Result in asphyxiation by interfering with the ability of blood to transport oxygen

- Toxic at high concentrations, lead to rapid death!
- Include common industrial compounds
 - Examples: hydrogen cyanide (AC),cyanogen chloride (CK)
- When under pressure are liquids
 - In pure form are gases
- Victims require prompt removal to fresh air
 - And respiratory therapy in a hospital

BLOOD AGENTS:

- Clinical symptoms include:
 - Respiratory distress
 - Vomiting /diarrhea
 - Vertigo / headaches



- Precursor chemicals cyanide salts and acids
 - Aroma of bitter almonds or peach blossoms
 - Common industrial chemicals
 - Readily available.

Choking Agents:

Cause asphyxiation by respiratory edema (fluid in the lungs, resembling drowning)

- Common industrial chemicals
 - Examples: chlorine, phosgene
- Clinical symptoms:
 - Severe eye irritation, coughing, choking
- Most people recognize odor of chlorine
 - Phosgene has the odor of newly cut hay

Irritating Agents:

Designed to incapacitate, "riot control" agents

- Generally non-lethal, but can result in asphyxiation
 - Confined spaces, high concentrations
- Examples:
 - Chloropicrin, MACE (CN),Tear gas (CS) ----->
 - Capsicum / pepper spray
 - Dibenzoxazepine (CR)
- Clinical symptoms include:
 - Eyes and throat: burning, irritation, tearing
 - Respiratory: distress, coughing, choking, difficulty breathing
 - Digestive: nausea and vomiting, if in high concentrations



Whew...

This is heavy stuff, time for a break...

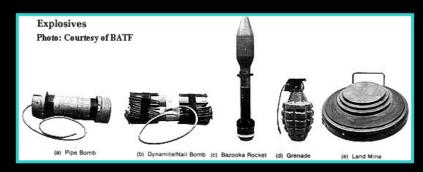




Please be back in ten minutes.



- Explosives used in 77% of U.S. incidents
- When public safety agencies know the presence of a device, they have only 20% chance of finding it!
 - Hundreds more "hoax" incidents reported





Explosive Incidents:

- 78% of terrorist bombs detonated or ignited!
- Only 22% <u>failed to</u> <u>function</u> as designed
- Only 4% were preceded by a warning or threat

Bomb Threats

- Telephone bomb threats are most common.
 - All calls which mention bomb threats, suspicious objects, suspected explosive, incendiaries or biological devices should be considered "real."
- E-mail threats are more difficult to trace.
 - Save the e-mail message
 - Print it out, and copy to a floppy disk
 - Call the police and your company security.

Check List for Telephone Threats: from the FBI Bomb Data Center: Questions to ask the caller, Observations to make

- WHERE is the bomb?
- WHEN will it explode?
- WHAT does it look like?
- WHAT TYPE of bomb is it?
- WHAT CAN BE DONE to stop it?
- WHO ARE YOU? (Usually prompts a hang-up)



Phone Threat Observation Check List

from the FBI Bomb Data Center:

- Write down the EXACT time
- Write down the EXACT words of caller
 - Note unusual grammar, syntax, or accent
- NOTE <u>background noise</u>, traffic, machinery, music, natural sounds, nature of caller's voice, any identifiable or <u>unusual sounds</u>.

Phone Threat Observation Check List (continued)

- Use CALLER ID or other feature if available, to determine the caller's phone number!
- When caller hangs up immediately key *57
 - This enables "Call Trace" so law enforcement can determine the caller's phone number.
- Then call 911!

Checklist for Written Threats from the FBI Bomb Data Center:

- Handle note or envelope as little as possible
 - Preserve evidence: latent prints, fibers, DNA, handwriting, printer impressions, chemical, biological or explosive traces.
- If suspicious item leaks liquid / powder call 911!
 - Potential chemical-biological-radiological threat
- If package or box, isolate, evacuate the area.

Suspicious Mail and Packages PRIMARY INDICATORS:

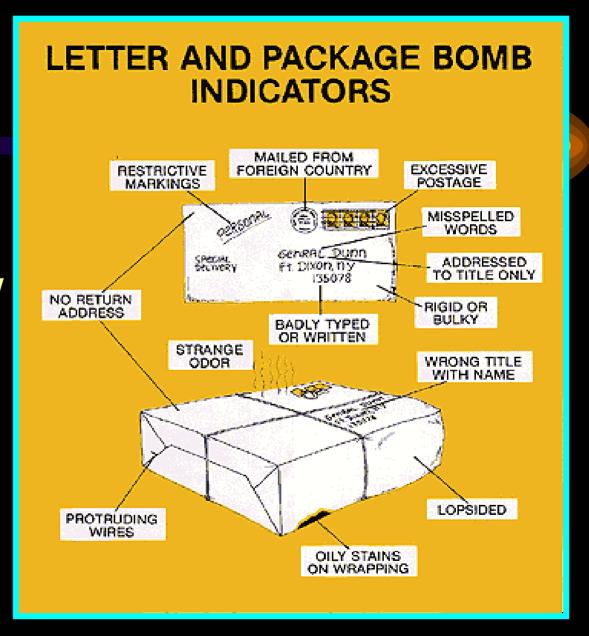
- Item neither expected nor requested
- Listed sender <u>did not</u> mail or ship
- Postmark <u>doesn't match</u> return address
- Any parcel not delivered by a usual method

Suspicious Mail and Packages

OTHER INDICATORS:

- Hand-written labels
 - Poor penmanship, misspellings
- Excessive tape, protrusions
- Merely "looks odd," trust your intuition!
- Too much postage, particularly stamps
- Stiff or thick envelope over 1/4" or 2 ounces

Package Bomb
Indicators
provided courtesy
of the United
States Postal
Inspection
Service.





Suspicious Items: PRIMARY INDICATORS:

- Things that do not belong to anyone present
 - Packages, bags, briefcases, luggage
- Unusual location, not normal, looks out of place
 - Delivered by unknown service / person, just "appears"
- "Bulging" or misshapen containers
 - Capped containers with muddy liquid
 - Or textile wick
 - Releasing vapors, odors, "hissing"!!!

Other suspicious items:

- Unusual electrical components
- Wires or batteries which appear out of place
- Unusual plastic tubing, bottles, aerosol containers, gas cylinders
- Particularly if near HVAC return air intake
- Any pipe with end caps in place
- Any vehicles parked in unusual locations.



VEHICLE BOMB EXPLOSION HAZARD AND EVACUATION DISTANCE TABLES



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS

OR USE OF EXPLOSIVES OR BOMBS
CALL 1-888-ATF-BOMB OR YOUR LOCAL
ATF OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE

- Minimum evacuation distance is the range at which a life-threatening injury from blast or fragment hazards is unlikely. However, non-life-threatening injury or temporary hearing loss may occur.
- · Hazard ranges are based on open, level terrain.
- Minimum evacuation distance may be less when explosion is confined within a structure.
- Falling glass hazard range is dependent on line-of-sight from explosion source to window. Hazard is from falling shards of broken glass.
- · Metric equivalent values are mathematically calculated.
- Explosion confined within a structure may cause structural collapse or building debris hazards.
- · Additional hazards include vehicle debris.

This information was developed with data from the Dipole Might vehicle bomb research program conducted by ATF, with technical assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Goals for Dipole Might include creating a computerized database and protocol for investigating large-scale vehicle bombs. Dipole Might is sponsored by the Technical Support Working Group (TSWG). TSWG is the research and development arm of the National Security Council interagency working group on counterterrorism.

TRUCK BOMB PRECURSORS:

- Theft of explosives, blasting caps or fuses
- Rental of self-storage space
- Delivery of chemicals
 - Directly to a storage facility
- Rental, theft or purchase of a truck or van
 - Having large carrying capacity
- Modification of a truck or van
 - For carrying heavier loads...

MORE TRUCK BOMB PRECURSORS:

- Reports of small "test" explosions
 - Most often in rural or wooded areas
- Walk-in patients with chemical burns
- Person with untreated chemical burns
- Person with missing fingers or hands
- Purchase, or attempted illegal access to facility blue prints

MORE TRUCK / VEHICLE BOMB PRECURSORS:

- Rental trucks with hazardous cargo placards
- Parked in non-industrial settings
- Moving outside usual trucking routes
- Unattended and driver cannot be located
- Unattended passenger vehicle or van with apparent heavy load

From the U.S. Fire Administration Critical Infrastructure Protection INFOGRAM

VEHICLE BOMB DELIVERY INDICATORS:

- Driver manipulates something near driver's seat before exiting the vehicle
- Driver opens vehicle trunk or cargo doors before leaving the vehicle area

MORE VEHICLE BOMB DELIVERY INDICATORS

- Second person exiting back of a truck or van
- Parking suspect vehicle and departing the area in another vehicle
- Smoke, unusual odors.

EVACUATION CRITERIA:

- Pre-planned evacuation / assembly area
- Prior to use check evac area for suspect items
- If any suspect item or vehicle is present
 - Use your alternate assembly point
 - <u>Have</u> an alternate assembly point!
- Use terrain features or solid objects as shielding
- If evacuating INSIDE a structure go to farthermost lateral point at least several floors below the device.

EVACUATION

(continued)

- Avoid areas with flammable / hazardous materials, windows, any overhead glass
- Take a roll call and account for absentees
- 300 ft. from small devices if you have shielding
- 1000 ft. MINIMUM from large devices in the open
- If a large device or vehicle bomb is suspected, don't stop at 1000 ft. get "as far away as possible."

ATF	VEHICLE DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM EXPLOSIVES CAPACITY	LETHAL AIR BLAST RANGE	MINIMUM EVACUATION DISTANCE	FALLING GLASS HAZARD
	COMPACT SEDAN	500 Pounds 227 Kilos (In Trunk)	100 Feet 30 Meters	1,500 Feet 457 Meters	1,250 Feet 381 Meters
	FULL SIZE SEDAN	1,000 Pounds 455 Kilos (In Trunk)	125 Feet 38 Meters	1,750 Feet 534 Meters	1,750 Feet 534 Meters
	PASSENGER VAN OR CARGO VAN	4,000 Pounds 1,818 Kilos	200 Feet 61 Meters	2,750 Feet 838 Meters	2,750 Feet 838 Meters
	SMALL BOX VAN (14 FT BOX)	10,000 Pounds 4,545 Kilos	300 Feet 91 Meters	3,750 Feet 1,143 Meters	3,750 Feet 1,143 Meters
	BOX VAN OR WATER/FUEL TRUCK	30,000 Pounds 13,636 Kilos	450 Feet 137 Meters	6,500 Feet 1,982 Meters	6,500 Feet 1,982 Meters
	SEMI- TRAILER	60,000 Pounds 27,273 Kilos	600 Feet 183 Meters	7,000 Feet 2,134 Meters	7,000 Feet 2,134 Meters

EXPLOSIVES:

- Two General Categories:
 - Substance, article or device <u>designed to function</u> by an extremely rapid release of gas and heat (Go "BOOM!")
 - Any substance, article or device, which by chemical reaction within itself, can function in a similar manner, even if not designed to function by explosion, unless the substance or article is otherwise so classified.

Explosives / Incendiaries Recap:

- Improvised explosive and incendiary devices
 - Designed and assembled to explode and cause fires
- Explosions cause fires...and fires cause explosions!
- Explosions release gas and heat
 - Affect both structures and people
- Bombings are the most likely terrorist attacks
- Bombs usually work as designed
- Always EVACUATE after any explosion
 - Because of the potential for secondary devices!

Activating Resources:

- Notify on-scene police or fire personnel!
 If none are present... then:
- Withdraw to a safe distance
 - 300 ft. for a small device, if you have shielding
 - 1000 ft. MINIMUM for large device in open (Or "as FAR away as possible")
 - and CALL 911!

Activating Resources: (CONTINUED)

- Local public safety agency is first responder!
- Local government activates Emergency Plan
- State (VDEM) coordinates assistance beyond local capabilities, mobilizes, requests Federal response

SCENE CONTROL

- Public safety will coordinate incident response by <u>qualified personnel</u>:
 - Assist individuals in harm's way to safety
 - Deny entry to unauthorized personnel
 - Establish perimeters and operational zones
 - Establish Incident Command System
 - Establish a safe refuge for the public
 - Evacuation and Sheltering RACES may be activated to provide communications support.

SUMMING UP: Be ALERT and be SAFE!

If you witness suspicious activity or events:

- Touch NOTHING!
- EVACUATE the area immediately!
- **LEAVE** emergency response to the professionals!!
 - DON'T become a victim!

(Quiz now!- how far?)

- CALL 911 from a safe distance!
- WRITE down location, time, license plate numbers and descriptions of observations while memory is fresh
- INFORM call taker where you are, how to reach you
 - So that you may be interviewed later by investigators
- Follow all instructions of public safety personnel

When Using A Phone Patch

To Report an Emergency, keep your transmissions BRIEF! - Because...

- The call taker may not realize that you are using a mobile radio
- You can't hear call taker's instructions when you are talking!
- Answer questions briefly, directly, no long explanations
- Let the call taker prompt YOU if more detail is needed.

When Using A Phone Patch

(continued)

• When the 911 call taker answers say:
"This is <your NAME>, I am calling on the radio to report a <incident type>, my location is <exact street address, building floor, room number, highway direction of travel, mile marker, cross street> OVER."

Follow the call taker's instructions!

- Give a call-back telephone number
- ID with your FCC call after 10 minutes or end of transmission

For more information

TERRORISM RESOURCES ON THE WEB:

FEMA Rapid Response Information System:

http://www.rris.fema.gov

"Emergency Response to Terrorism" Independent Study

http://www.fema.gov/ishome.htm

Red Cross Disaster Counseling Materials:

http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/keepsafe/unexpected.html

VDEM Terrorism Preparedness Page:

http://www.state.va.us/prepare/terrorism.cfm

Acknowledgements

Associated Press



Critical Infrastructure Protection Program

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Federal Emergency Management Agency

National Broadcasting Company



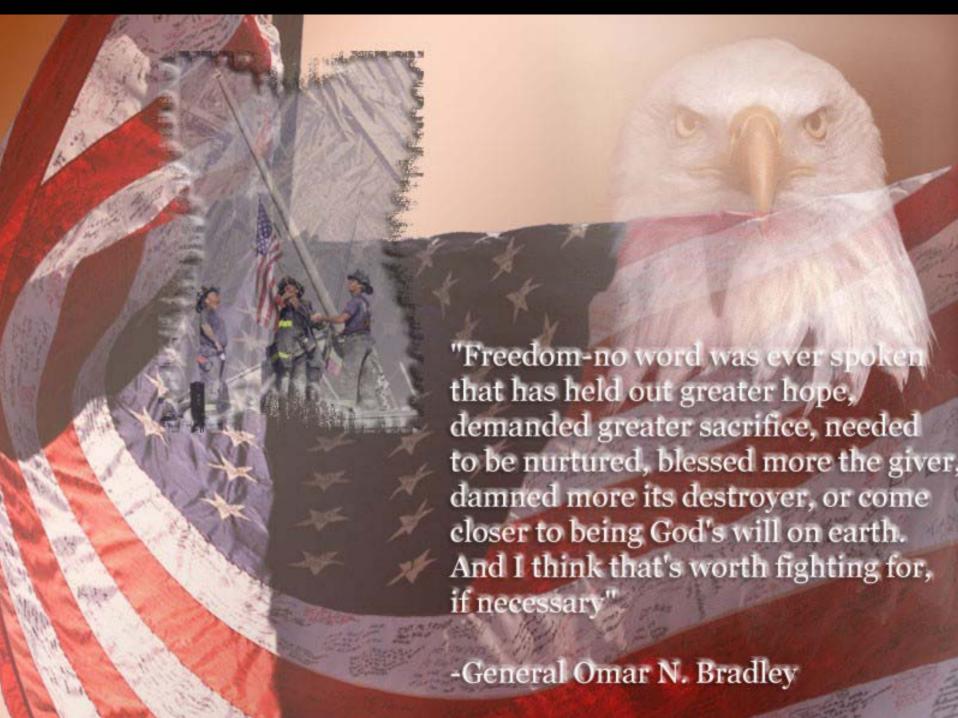
Reuters

Texas A&M University Domestic Preparedness Campus
U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (USAMRICD)



U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
United States Postal Inspection Service
VA Department of Emergency Management
Virginia Task Force One
Washington Post





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