ON London 2012 – Safest Games Ever?



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CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter - 2012©

Volume 43 - June 2012

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Special Report

Level A PPE is for operations only; not for mass media attraction!
 Participate in this report with your own opinion



Reading Audience

CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter is:

- Read by First Responders in more than 60 countries around the globe;
- Distributed to more than 700 institutions, organizations, state agencies, think tanks, defense companies, institutions and universities.





Editor's Corner



Editorial BG (ret'd) Ioannis Galatas, MD, MA, MC *Editor-in-Chief*CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter

Dear Colleagues.

Newsletter is now reaching CBRNE-CT First Responders in more than 60 countries around the globe! The Editorial Team would like to thank you all for your enthusiastic comments and beneficial suggestions that will surely be taken under consideration.

London 2012 Olympiad is less than a few days away! Mega sport events were always an attractive target for international terrorists and Summer Olympics will be no exception. We sincerely hope that it will be a peaceful Olympiad and we are sure that British security forces and agencies will do their best to provide a safe environment for athletes, visitors and global spectators. Still our only concern is the preparedness of medical/hospital community to deal with mass casualties deriving from a real CBRNE terrorist incident in megapolis environment. Although we are sure that London's Ambulance Service is well prepared and trained (HART teams) there are some serious doubts about acute care hospitals' preparedness. In our minds hospitals' preparedness is either top secret or a top gap!

The moment I am writing this editorial is (second) Election Day for Greece! Let's hope that tomorrow will be the beginning of a march towards a better future. Dear colleagues you have to understand that the people of Greece are not totally responsible for the turmoil started in Greece and spread to other countries in the south of Europe. Our only responsibility is that we trusted our politicians and they betrayed us! We are not starving (yet)! Our main problem is immorality in public governance lasting for the last few decades. Our solution and future is based on the collective "we" instead of the "self" and own benefit that deleted our democratic values. Let's hope that logic will prevail and that we will manage to recover.

Last two months were quite productive for the Newsletter. We signed an MOU with Italian "Observatory on Security and CBRNE Defense" (OSDIFE) and we set the basis for some very interesting projects for the coming future. We also signed agreements for becoming "media partners" with Dutch Ib Consultancy and their CBRNE/IED conferences organized in Asia. Finally we invited to participate in a CBRN FP-7 project along with other EU partners. We consider these activities as our next step in the CBRNE world and we are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation with colleagues in this field.

Enjoy the CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter and if you really like it, please feel free to pass it over to colleagues in your networks!

The Editor



Animal Welfare Groups Help Include Pets in Disaster Recovery By Karen Stewartson

Source: http://www.emergencymgmt.com/templates/gov_print_article?id=147382265

Sixty-three percent of Americans have a feline friend, canine companion or other type of pet, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association. And when disaster strikes, most pet owners are reluctant to leave those pets behind. That's where partnerships with local animal welfare groups can help, as they did during the 2011 Joplin, Mo., tornado, the lowa and Memphis, Tenn., floods and other natural disasters nationally.

Through partnerships with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), American Red Cross and the Humane Society of the United States, Joplin, lowa and Memphis received the help they needed to implement disaster preparedness and response plans that include animals.

Eye on Joplin

On May 22, when the catastrophic tornado struck Joplin, animal control officers were overwhelmed, according to Martin White, an animal control officer for the city. The main objective that night was to set up a co-located animal shelter close to pet owners.

"Experience has shown us through disasters that people will not go to a shelter where they couldn't take their animals," he said. "So we went in with the Red Cross to set up these little animal shelters adjacent to these human shelters."

In addition, White said the tornado was an "eye-opening" experience — one fraught with doubt. "I was very uncertain what our role would be — and how we would operate and [if we] could we operate," he said of the destruction and response efforts.

But when natural disasters like this \$2.8 billion tornado occur, it is a quandary for all parties involved, since resources must be obtained and lives — both humans and animals — are at stake. The Humane Society of Missouri handled the search and rescue, and the ASPCA did the shelter operations. But Martin said many animals were not rescued because it was unsafe for rescue workers to go into the debris and rubble.

The ASPCA is a nonprofit that "provides local and national leadership in three key areas: caring for pet parents and pets, providing

positive outcomes for at-risk animals and serving victims of animal cruelty."

"The Joplin operation was among the most challenging operations because it was so personal to me," said Tim Rickey, senior director of the ASPCA Field Investigations and Response Team. "It was my hometown; many of my friends and family had been affected by the disaster, so that was part of it."

Rickey, an animal recovery veteran, has led efforts after major disasters like hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the lowa floods and multiple incidents in Missouri. He was on the ground for 45 days and found that it was overwhelming: Pet owners and community members brought in more than 1,300 animals.

Further compounding the problem was handling the truckloads of donated supplies, including crates, food and leashes, without a donation management system. "It was honestly a wonderful problem to have," said Rickey, "but it was a huge challenge for a few days and required us to bring in additional staff and secure an additional warehouse."

Although that was a good problem, White said securing resources and funding through state, local and federal governments for some items was difficult. After the tornado, White said government's red tape made it hard to get air conditioning units to cool down warehouses where animals were being sheltered, and it was difficult getting a site for the emergency shelter supplies.

Reminiscent of Katrina

In Memphis, the 2011 flooding and the Mississippi River overflow was somewhat reminiscent of Katrina's aftermath. And just like Joplin, Memphis had its own problems. "We had a significant number of households that were gone to the level of flooding, and they needed a place to [leave] their animals," said John Robinson, shelter manager for Collierville animal services.

More than 300 animals were housed in an emergency shelter that the ASPCA set up and organized through the

Memphis/Shelby County
Emergency Management Agency.
At the time of the flood, Robinson

was the deputy incident commander and oversaw the event with the ASPCA. He said the county didn't have its own technology resources, so most of them came from the ASPCA and other partnering agencies.

"I felt like I had a coach on the sidelines the whole time while I was trying to figure out this incident," Robinson said. "Having [the ASPCA] on hand was a huge benefit to us and for everybody in the flood area. Them having the contacts and resources, things like that, and giving us the education, having worked on so many disasters."

With the agency's help, all but 11 animals were reunited with their original owners in about seven weeks. "We appreciate the assistance provided to our county from the ASPCA last year," said Shelby County, Tenn., Mayor Mark H. Luttrell Jr. via email. "Their volunteers, both here locally and the extensive network across the nation, saved hundreds of animals who were threatened by a history-making flood and several devastating storms."

Lessons Learned

Although Joplin and Memphis had their own unique challenges, there are still lessons for others to learn. Becoming educated on how local, state and federal governments operate is important, said Joplin's White. He recommends working with people who know the ins and outs of requesting resources through all levels of government.

Robinson said one lesson learned in Memphis was keeping paperwork for animals organized so they could eventually be reunited with their owners. In addition, he said preparation is key

— knowing local rescue groups will help identify where animals are and provide a head count when disaster strikes.

In the future, both jurisdictions will develop animal preparedness and rescue plans. Joplin already has the funding component, which was a major hurdle, included in its plan, but is still dealing with homeless animals. "They haven't been able to get those animals adopted because the adoption market in that community has gone down significantly," said the ASPCA's Rickey. And Memphis is consulting with the ASPCA on crafting a plan for implementation soon

But what should be included in a disaster preparedness plan? The first thing, said Rickey, is for citizens to identify friends and family outside their regions who are less likely to be affected by the same disaster and ensuring that pets are properly identified. "Making sure that you tag your pets with updated information and having your pets microchipped," he said. Also, people should consider having an emergency kit for their pets, a crate, extra leashes or any special dietary or medical supplies.

The ASPCA also provides workshops to citizens and local governments (welfare agencies and emergency management agencies). Emergency managers can promote information from the agency's site to their communities. Rickey said the disaster response program will focus on public education and working with local communities to develop and promote disaster planning for animals.

Karen Stewartson is the managing editor for Emergency Management magazine.

Hospital-based disaster preparedness center opens in Utah

Source:http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/srdisasters20120503-hospitalbased-disaster-preparedness-center-opens-in-utah

A 7,000 square-foot disaster preparedness center opened in Salt Lake City; the center is a fully-equipped environment with eighteen patient rooms, medical training mannequins, training classrooms, disaster simulation labs, and a secure supply area; the key is that the preparedness training is done in a working environment

Disaster preparedness and response training took a step forward last week with the official

opening of the first hospital-based training center west of the Mississippi River.

The Salt Lake Tribune reports that the Intermountain Center for Disaster Preparedness located at LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City will provide training for first responders and health care providers in a working environment.

The 7,000 square-foot center is a fully-

Intermountain's Urban Central Region. "It's a



equipped environment, with eighteen patient rooms, medical training mannequins, training classrooms, disaster simulation labs, and a secure supply area. The key is that the real patient room; it's not make-believe," Allen said. "There's not a falseness. We're teaching them in their work environment, which is important."



preparedness training is done in a working environment, according to Ann Allen, the emergency preparedness manager for

Edward Francis, the region's emergency coordinator told

Deseret News that hospital staff that has already gone through disaster training has been helped by the techniques staff members learned in disaster training when rooms or floors have flooded, or the computer system has gone down. Francis added that administrators, doctors, nurses, and emergency medical technicians can all benefit from the additional tools they will have at their disposal after undergoing disaster training.

The center has additional room to grow, since the hospital recently reduced the number of beds to 250 from 500 when Intermountain opened its trauma one medical complex in nearby Murray, Utah.

Though officially opened last week, the center has been able to operate for the last year, and has already conducted fifty training sessions for approximately 1,000 people. Allen said that the center is able to set up any scenario, and the teaching takes place in a real working environment. "It's not just for those big events," she said. "It would be really horrible if it really happened, but the things we learn from these drills also help when little things go wrong."

Are Those Missiles on My Roof?

Source:http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/olympic-security-missiles-roof-london/story?id=16254579#.T6Z KFFKRQ4k

Residents of an East London apartment complex have new, perhaps unwanted neighbors on their roofs: a dozen armed soldiers and surface-to-air missiles.

seven-building residential property, according to a leaflet given to the 700 residents over the weekend, because of a 100-foot-high tower that has unobstructed views of the Olympic



A Rapier missile system, part of the Ground Based Air Defence

As part of the largest peacetime mobilization in British history, the military is installing the missile system in order to protect the Olympic stadium, which the apartment complex overlooks.

Residents of the private gated Bow Quarter complex in the London borough of Tower Hamlets took to Twitter this morning to post photos of soldiers arriving with pieces of the missile launchers. The military chose the

complex.

The missiles in this week's test are dummies, and the U.K.'s Ministry of Defense has not yet made a final determiniation about where missiles will be sited for the 2012 Olympics, which begin on July 27.

The most outspoken residents of Bow Quarter, however, all oppose the presence of the military and the missile system, saying the military failed to consult them and they worry that the missiles would make them even larger targets.



"I'm not sure I can sleep in a house knowing there are missiles on the roof," journalist Brian



Whelan, who has led the effort to object to the missiles presence, told ABC News in an interview in his apartment. "There was no prospect of this building ever being attacked as

a terrorist target. Putting missiles on the roof -if there was ever to be a threat -- certainly
raises that threat."

The London Olympics is a major terror target, and British officials have been working for years on a security program that is projected to cost the city over \$896 million, at the same time it is cutting major services for the poor and elderly.

Private gated flats in Bow, where the Army may position a surface to air missile system during the Olympics

The Ministry of Defense has defended the decision to position missiles on residential rooftops as a necessary precaution.

"The safety of the games is paramount and for the last six months, working alongside the police, the MoD has conducted a broad range of community

engagement where ground-based air defense may be sites," the U.K.'s Ministry of Defense said in a statement in response to the criticism. "We want to cause as little disruption to people going about their business a possible -- but at the same time the public expects that we take all those steps necessary to protect them."



Bow Quarter resident Steven Spencer photographed soldiers unloading boxes today

The six sites identified as potential locations for missile launchers are:

- Bow Quarter, a large apartment complex close to the Olympic stadium.
- Fred Wigg Tower, a 16 storey residential tower block in Walthamstow, east London.
- Blackheath Common, close to Greenwich where the Equestrian events will be held.
- William Girling Reservoir, in Enfield, North East London.
- Oxleas Wood, near Woolwich in East London
- Netherhouse Farm in Epping Forest, North East London.

The missiles are intended to form part of a "layered" defence system, which will see 13,500 military personnel deployed to support the police for the duration of the games.

Typhoon aircraft will conduct low flying exercises over the capital and helicopters carrying snipers will also coduct practice operations.

General Sir Nick Parker, standing joint commander, said around 100 sites had initially been considered for missile launchers, but that had eventually been narrowed down to six.

He said the aim was to provide an "effective layered plan that provides a proper deterrent" adding that they could be used to defend venues against all manner of airborne attacks from the 9/11 style assault to a smaller "low and slow" attack from a single light aircraft.

He added: "There are two locations where we are going to place missiles on buildings because that is the very best place for them to go to do the jobs they are expected to do.

"This is what is going to be practised over the next 10 days. We need to see that we can integrate them and they are really in the right place. Once we have done that we can make a final decision and make a final recommendation."

He added: "I do understand that this is unusual and that people will be concerned. For the greater

good it is prudent for us to provide this sort of air security plan. It would be sensible to be prepared for the worst." He added that the final decision on whether to fire the weapon systems would be taken at the "very highest political level".



The Starstreak high velocity air defence missile system

New academic homeland security journal launched

Source: http://www.journalhse.org/

The inaugural issue of a new academic, peer-reviewed journal — the *Journal of Homeland Security Education* (JHSE)— is out; JHSE will focus on innovative concepts and models,

strategies, technical tools, and theoretical and

observational analyses; it also provides a platform for translational

research that connects education to practice A new publication, the *Journal of Homeland Security Education* (JHSE), has just been launched, and the inaugural issue is out. The JHSE will offer peer-reviewed articles on the latest in homeland security education, resources, and communication. The journal is directed at educational institutions and individuals throughout the United States.

The editors say that the JHSE focuses on innovative concepts and models, strategies, technical tools, and theoretical and observational analyses. It also provides a

platform for translational research that connects education to practice.

"This field of study is a new one, but one that is growing exponentially due to both terrorist activity here and abroad and an uptick in natural disasters, beginning with Hurricane Katrina and ending with the recent rise in tornados around the country," said Dr. Michelle Majewski, the journal's editor-in-chief.

"There is a great need to educate community and government leaders about disaster preparedness and mitigation and the more long term aspect of resilience for communities who need to bounce back for the sake of their citizens and their economies".

The JHSE was developed at Marian University of Wisconsin. It is edited by Dr. Majewski, a professor of psychology, dean of the university's School of Criminal Justice, and director of the Institute for Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

Majewski notes that the JHSE is a product of the growth of homeland security programs at colleges and universities throughout the United States.

The editors note that with the recent development of so many degree programs, the university saw a need for academics to develop the homeland security body of knowledge and to form a theoretical basis for the profession that will guide curriculum development.

Future issues will have articles concerning accreditation, applied and basic research, assessment, textbook reviews, a practitioner's corner, and articles on theory development. The first issue contains the following articles:

- Cristina D. Ramirez and Gail A. Rioux,
 "Advancing Curricula Development for Homeland Security Education Through a Survey of DHS Personnel"
- R. Jeffery Maxfield and John Robert Fisher,
 "Employing Critical Reflection in an Online Emergency Services Course"
- Ygnacio Flores, "Homeland Security: The Community College Role in Law Enforcement Training and Readiness"

Olympics bomb scandal

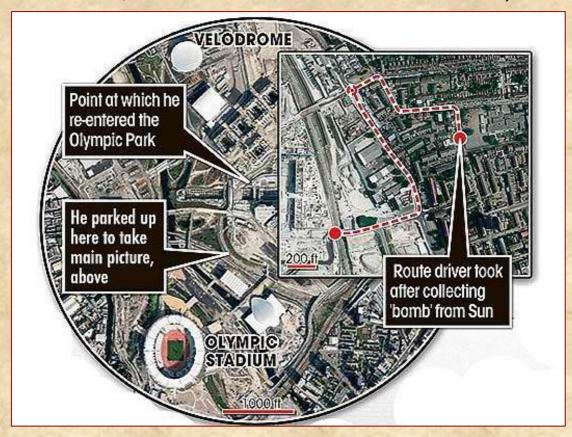
Source: http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/4300166/Olympics-scandal-as-worker-smuggles-fake-explosive-on-to-site.html

A TERRIFYING flaw in London's Olympic Park security was exposed last night after a worker smuggled a fake BOMB inside.

He sailed past **TWO** checkpoints without being stopped — just hours before the Olympic Stadium officially opened.

These pictures show the dummy Semtex device inside a heavily-guarded ring of steel — just yards from the showpiece Olympic Stadium.

It looks like a bomb, it's wired like a bomb and it has a timer like a bomb. But incredibly a worker



carrying it in his digger was simply allowed to drive in UNCHALLENGED.

This is a taste of Britain's worst Olympic nightmare — that extremists such as al-Qaeda could stage a terror spectacular to stun the world.

The Sun had earlier passed the worker the package after he called us worried about gaping security loopholes at the East London site.



Astonishingly, guards failed to spot anything as he drove through with it unnoticed — just 24 hours before 40,000 people flocked there for the opening of the Olympic Stadium 82 days before the Games. Once inside the man openly took photos of the package next to apartments in the athletes' village, which will soon house up to 17,000 of the world's top competitors. During his 25-minute tour, he also took the "bomb" past the landmark velodrome and posed with it in front of the Olympic stadium. He was never challenged.

When we showed them our evidence last night the Home Office said: "LOCOG (the Games organisers) are responsible for the security of the Olympic Park. We have asked them to look into this incident and report back to the Home Secretary urgently."

The bill for security at the Olympics is £1billion and there are 23,700 guards — boosted by nearly 14,000 troops at key times. The Olympic Park is surrounded by an 11-mile electric fence costing £80million.

But one of the biggest fears has always been that terror cells may use "clean skins" — people with no criminal or extremist links.



One ... digger approaches security with 'bomb' on board

An already-vetted worker could bring in materials for a deadly suicide bomb mission. The loophole exposed by us shows just how easily that could happen. Our worried worker contacted The Sun after realising he was only ever searched when he first arrived each morning.

He revealed: "I've worked for several years on the Olympic Park and keep hearing how the security is water-tight.

"But after a thorough check every morning, I can come and go from the Park all the day with my digger without being searched at all.



Two ... surrounded by gates, barriers... but no checks made

"I can meet anyone on the outside without anyone knowing and bring anything inside without anyone checking. If I had terrorist connections I could be bringing in explosives, chemicals — anything at all. "It's a massive security loophole."

On Friday he met our team just a stone's throw from the Olympic Park in his digger. We handed him our "bomb" in a clear plastic box.

Assembled for under £25, it held three sheets of plasticine to resemble plastic explosive, copper wiring, a mobile phone, a 9V battery and a simple alarm clock. All the components were wired together — and the clock was set ticking. The worker took the box and placed it on the floor of his cabin in full view of any alert security guards.



Three ... clear of security and free to roam the site

We then watched as he drove back to the Olympic Park.

He sailed past **CHECKPOINT ONE**, where vehicles can be stopped and inspected, before heading towards the site entrance.



By now, the "bomb" was heading up a road lined by the giant Westfield shopping centre and Stratford International station. Our man turned towards CHECKPOINT TWO, where two security barriers were

A cluster of six guards in high-visibility jackets saw the digger coming — only to move out of the way to continue their conversation.



Four ... digger 'bomb' is ringed at athletes' village

Secret video footage shows our man barely having to slow down as they watch him drive on. The worker then travelled to different parts of the site where he took photos of the "bomb". He said: "If I was an athlete or even a foreign official I'd be very worried.

"It was so simple to expose, but how can this be happening so close to the Games?



Games."

Worried ... site worker, with identity protected

"I came forward because things need to be tightened up fast."

The contractor, like every other worker on site, was properly vetted before landing his job at the Park. Last night security expert and Tory MP Patrick Mercer said: "This is exactly the sort of tactic used by the IRA in the past.

"I had hoped that we had learned our lessons. I trust this loophole will now be closed."

LOCOG said: "We would like to thank The Sun for bringing this matter to our attention.

"We will investigate this as we take any breach of security seriously. As you would expect our security increases significantly the closer we get to the Games.

"The Park and the Village will be searched and sealed before it is locked down for the

How he got 'Semtex' in

DIGGER driver leaves Olympic Park unchecked by security.



EIGHT MINUTES LATER: He meets Sun team in Community Road. We hand him a camera, set up covert video inside the digger's cab and pass him the fake bomb.

25 MINS: He returns to Olympic Park, taking same route.

34 MINS: He passes vehicle checkpoint for a second time without a glance from security. He drives through two raised barriers and two banks of security guards.

38 MINS: He does 25-minute tour of the Olympic Park, taking pictures of the bomb near the main stadium, the Velodrome and athletes' village.

65 MINS: Returns to Community Road to meet Sun team

THE Olympics is the ultimate prize for al-Qaeda and all groups inspired by them.

There has already been lots of talk of infiltrating the 2012 staff for an attack. This type of loophole is what terror cells are looking to exploit.

The threat is very credible – and any group targeting the Olympics could have been aware of this weakness for months.

Just 82 days before the Games, this is very worrying. Because, as the IRA once said, terrorists only have to get lucky once.



Panetta: Environment is becoming a national security concern

Source: http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20120508-panetta-environment-is-becoming-a-national-security-concern

Climate and environmental change are emerging as national security threats that weigh heavily in the Pentagon's new strategy, Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta told an environmental group last week.

"The area of climate change has a dramatic impact on national security," Panetta said here at a reception hosted by the Environmental Defense Fund to honor the Defense Department in advancing



clean energy initiatives. "Rising sea levels, severe droughts, the melting of the polar caps, the more frequent and devastating natural disasters all raise demand for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief," Panetta said.

A U.S. Department of Defense reports that Panetta cited the melting of Arctic ice in renewing a longstanding call for the Senate to ratify the UN Convention on Law of the Sea. More

than 150 nations have accepted the treaty, which has been in force since the early 1990s, and a succession of U.S. administrations have urged ratification.

Among other things, the convention would guarantee various aspects of passage and over-flight for the U.S. military. Panetta urged his audience to use their influence to push for treaty ratification. "We are the only industrialized nation that has not approved that treaty," he said.

The secretary also said he has great concern about energy-related threats to homeland security that are not driven by climate change.

"I have a deep interest in working to try to ensure from a security perspective that we take measures that will help facilitate and maintain power in the event of an interruption of the commercial grid that could be caused, for example, by a cyber attack which is a reality that we have to confront," he said.

Budget considerations compound the issue, the secretary said. The Defense Department spent about \$15 billion on fuel for military operations last year. In Afghanistan alone, the Pentagon uses more than fifty million gallons of fuel each month on average. Combined with rising gas prices, this creates new budget issues for the department, Panetta said.

"We now face a budget shortfall exceeding \$3 billion because of higher-than-expected fuel costs this year," he told the audience.

Paneta, who grew up in Monterey, California and then represented the Monterey Bay area in Congress, said he has had a lifelong interest in protecting the nation's resources. He pledged to continue to keep the Defense Department on the cutting edge in the push for clean energy and environmental friendly initiatives, a chief reason why the Environmental Defense Fund honored the department.

"In the next fiscal year, we are going to be investing more than a billion dollars in more efficient aircraft and aircraft engines, in hybrid electric drives for our ships, in improved generators, in microgrids for combat bases and combat vehicle energy-efficient programs," he said.

"We are investing another billion dollars to make our installations here at home more energy-efficient, and we are using them as the test bed to demonstrate next-generation energy technologies."

3-D maps designed to help first responders

Source:http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2012/04/30/3-d-maps-designed-to-help-first-responders.html

A group of Ohio University students who develop video games has produced a federally funded computer program to help emergency crews more safely respond to threats ranging from fires to terrorist attacks.

The 3-D "IVIN," or Immersive Video Imaging Network, shows the inside of the 10 most-

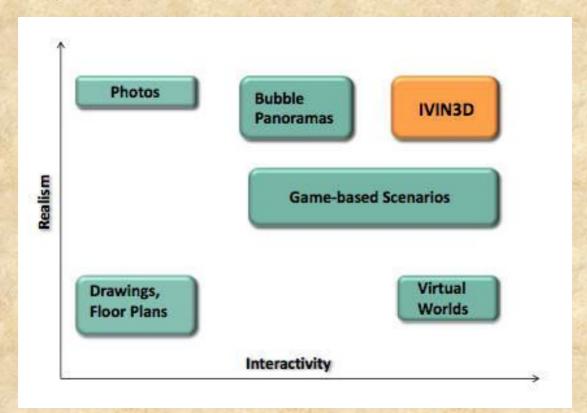
critical buildings in Franklin County. Created at OU's Game Research and Immersive Design lab, the program eventually could

be used by communities across the country.

The project took about three years and cost \$950,000 in grant

money from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The money paid for equipment and

potential loss of life and how important they are to the public.



travel, plus the work of participating students.

The goal of IVIN's creators is to allow police and firefighters equipped with laptops to more quickly develop a plan of attack when confronted by an emergency. The software creates a Web-based model of the buildings in its database and allows first responders to virtually place themselves inside a facility with 360-degree views, just like in a video game.

"If it is immediately accessible and up-to-date, it sounds like a fairly sophisticated monitoring system," said Greg Paxton, acting Columbus fire chief. "We have fire-planned various buildings, but if we actually had something that's three-dimensional, that could make it more helpful for us."

Paxton hasn't seen the technology and neither have most area chiefs. That's because the county's Homeland Security and Justice Programs agency has kept the project under wraps.

The agency's director, Kathy Crandall, would not identify the 10 buildings in the database, citing security reasons. Homeland Security officials said it contains the most-critical sites, such as Columbus' water-treatment facility. The structures were chosen based on the

OU approached the county about developing the program, said Bill McKendry, a resources consultant for Homeland Security. Students visited the 10 buildings a total of 30 times and took extensive photographs. Those were loaded into a computer, and the digital world was created.

"It is much like the texture you will see in the video games out today," McKendry said. "We hope more buildings can be added to the program, but with the significant (federal) budget cuts to Homeland Security, that doesn't seem to be an option right now."

Homeland Security officials hope the program will be used by other communities.

"We designed the software and had a provisional patent filed, so we absolutely hope to do that," said John Bowditch, director of OU's gaming-design lab and architect of the IVIN program software. "The university will be able to license this program to any city they want."

Franklin County Sheriff Zach Scott's office will be responsible for updating and storing the technology. Scott said he plans to train some of his SWAT and command-staff members in how to use IVIN.

"This will be important to SWAT, and if you think about some recent shooting situations, it will provide us with a better tool on how to address those." Scott said. "But more

importantly, this will keep deputies and the public safe, and it will cut down on mishaps at those scenes."

'Luck' a key role in preventing terror, will run out

By M.J. Gohel

Source: http://www.wtop.com/215/2857178/Luck-a-key-role-in-preventing-terror-will-run-out

Successfully foiling what would have been another catastrophic attack by a terrorist cell is a mixed bag for Western security.

Stopping the recent "undetectable plane bomb" proved the intelligence community still has the ability to anticipate and prevent these terrorist attacks. It also demonstrated that luck is a significant part of prevention.

"Luck plays an important role but one cannot depend on it," says M.J. Gohel, a terrorism expert with London-based intelligence and security think tank the Asia Pacific Foundation.

"If our luck runs out, and atrocities occur, there will naturally be demands to give security services increased powers for arrest and detention, more covert surveillance and also profiling of individuals," he tells WTOP.

Yemen has been high on CIA's radar before it disrupted the most recent <u>suicide plot</u> there. The non-metallic technology employed by this latest would-be bomber is far more advanced than the intelligence community previously thought of al-Qaida's abilities.

Yemen was also the base for the original underwear bomber, whose plot to blow up Northwest Flight 253 over Detroit on Christmas Day 2009 failed only because his equipment malfunctioned. Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab had successfully slipped through security checks in Lagos and Amsterdam.

"Unfortunately, there is no longer any doubt that major intelligence failures allowed the Christmas Day bomber to almost turn our airplanes into deadly weapons once again," said Sen. Kit Bond, R-Mo., in a Senate Intelligence Committee memo shortly after the attempt.

"We cannot depend on dumb luck, incompetent terrorists, and alert citizens to keep our families safe," he said.

Counterterrorism groups have had to look outside of their own capabilities because of the enormous challenges of infiltrating al-Qaida and other terrorist networks in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. Investigation trails often lead to countries such as Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia and Yemen, Gohel says, where "the cooperation from local security services is not always forthcoming or wholehearted."

The first underwear bomber is only one example of a near miss thanks to good fortune.

In 2001, British shoe-bomber Richard Reid and his co-conspirator, Pakistani Saajid Badat failed to blow up two planes bound for the U.S. because of Reid's incompetence, and Saajid changed his mind. In July 2005, a bomb didn't detonate in the London Transit System only because the explosives degraded due to temperature. In June 2007, vehicle bombs in London didn't go off because an ambulance crew happened to notice a smell coming from the van. In May 2010, Pakistani-American Faisal Shahzad almost set of a vehicle bomb in Times Square, but his improvised explosive device was flawed.

In 2007, then-CIA director Gen. Mike Hayden addressed the Council of Foreign Relations on the agency's strategy.

"America hasn't just been lucky, and it isn't as if the terrorists have been lazy or just aren't trying," he said. "Our nation's bulwark is that group of experts at CIA, the National Counterterrorism Center, across the entire intelligence community who help prosecute this war with their deep knowledge of the enemy and their tight collaboration against a shared target."

He went on to cite the activities by CIA operatives and analysts both in warzones and at home.

"We approach this war with no apologies, and we do so knowing we must continue and earn the trust of the American people for that operational space we need to do what the nation has asked of us," Hayden said.

Five years later, Gohel points to the hundreds of international airports from which planes fly to the U.S and at which there are inconsistent levels of security.

"Security is only as strong as the weakest link in the chain," he says. "One lapse could have catastrophic consequences."

The White House claims al-Qaida is weak and degraded from a decade of battling Western forces. Documents taken from Osama bin Laden's Pakistani hideout and released by the Obama administration last week show the terrorist leader second guessing morale.

"Even though we were able to militarily and economically exhaust and weaken our greatest enemy before and after the eleventh," says one letter addressed to a senior deputy, referring to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, "the enemy continues to possess the ability to topple any state we establish."

That doesn't seem to be the case following this most recent attack, set to occur on roughly the year anniversary of killing bin Laden.

"They are very, very tenacious, imaginative, determined, relentless and coldblooded," Gohel says of al-Qaida.

"It is surprising in the sense that they do have this continuing obsession with aircraft," he says. "It shows that they are going to keep trying until they succeed."

Western intelligence forces must now turn their full attention to Ibrahim al Asiri, Gohel says, the mastermind behind this most recent attempt as well as the 2009 attempt on Flight 253. Al Asiri, also based in Yemen, is a bomb-making "genius," says former CIA officer Bruce Riedel.

"(Al-Qaida Arabian Peninsula) has taken advantage of the chaos to build a growing power base in the south outside Aden (in Yemen," Riedel writes in a recent DailyBeast.com column. "There, Asiri is undoubtedly training a new generation of bomb makers."

"He and his students may well have built more than one of the latest version captured by the CIA," he says. "They are certain to keep trying to blast their way into American history."

Gohel says, "this is the man who needs to be eliminated."

M.J. Gohel is Terrorism expert, the Asia Pacific Foundation

EDITOR'S COMMENT

2012 Olympic Games will be held in London, UK. One of my ancestors (from my mother's side) was *Evangelos Damaskos* who won the bronze medal in the pole vault during the 1986 Summer Olympics.

The ruins of ancient Olympia were excavated by the German archaeologist Ernst Curtius from 1875-81.

Among the remains uncovered was the ancient stadium where the original Olympic Games were celebrated from 776 B.C. to 393 A.D., when Roman emperor Theodosius I banned all pagan festivals.

Athletics played an important role in the religious festivals of the ancient Greeks, who believed competitive sports pleased the spirits

of the dead. The festivals honoring gods like Zeus were undertaken by many Greek tribes and cities and usually held every four years.

During the first 13 Olympiads (an Olympiad is an interval of four years between celebrations of the Olympic Games), the only contested event was a foot race of 200 yards. Longer races were gradually introduced and by 708 B.C., field events like the discus, javelin throw and the long jump

were part of the program. Wrestling and boxing followed and in 640 B.C., four-horse chariot races became a fixture at the Games.



During the so-called Golden Age of Greece, which most historians maintain lasted from 477 to 431 B.C., Olympia was considered holy ground. Victorious athletes gave public thanks to the gods and were revered as heroes. Three-time winners had statues erected in their likeness and received various gifts and honors, including exemption from taxation.

Eventually, however, winning and the rewards that went with victory corrupted the original purpose of the Ancient Games. Idealistic amateurs gave way to skilled foreign athletes who were granted the citizenship needed to compete and were paid handsomely by rich Greek gamblers.

There is evidence to suggest that the Games continued until the temples of Olympia were physically demolished in 426 A.D. by a Roman army sent by Theodosius II. Over the next 15 centuries, earthquakes and floods buried the site, until its discovery in 1875.

On June 23, 1894, French educator Baron Pierre de Coubertin, speaking at the Sorbonne in Paris to a gathering of international sports leaders from nine nations— including the United States and Russia— proposed that the ancient Games be revived on an international

scale. The idea was enthusiastically received and the Modern Olympics, as we know them, were born.

The first Olympiad was celebrated two years later in Athens, where an estimated 245

athletes (all men) from 14 nations competed in the ancient Panathenaic stadium before large and ardent crowds.

Americans won nine of the 12 track and field events, but Greece won the most medals with 47. The highlight was the victory by native



peasant Spiridon Louis in the first marathon race, which was run over the same course covered by the Greek hero Pheidippides after the battle of Marathon in 490 B.C.

Though the first ancient games were held in 776 B.C, the modern games started from 1896. The unity of the 5 continents is shown on the Olympic flag by five colorful intertwined rings of red, blue, green, yellow, and black, created by Baron Pierre de Coubertin to represent at least one color of the participating country's national flag.

Evangelos Damaskos was a Greek athlete. He competed at the 1896 Summer Olympics in Athens. Damaskos competed in the pole vault. He tied with fellow Greek loannis Theodoropoulos for third place in the event, with a height of 2.60 meters. He was a player known for his mental toughness owing to which many of his famous matches went the distance. His superior approach and dedication to the game made him stand out from the crowd.

Men's Pole Vault Final - Olympic Games 1896

- 1. William Welles HOYT (USA) 3.30
- 2. Albert TYLER (USA) 3.20
- 3. Evangelos DAMASKOS (GRE) 2.60
- 4. Ioannis THEODOROPOULOS (GRE) 2.60
- 5. Vasilios XYDAS (GRE) 2.40

both achieved 2.60 meters.

Certain authors such as German Volker Kluge report that Damaskos achieved 2.90 meters and Theodoropoulos 2.75 meters.

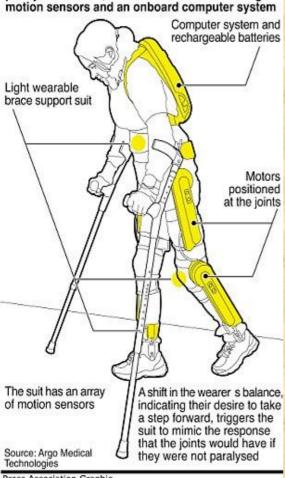
But both IOC and IAAF define that

'Bionic' Claire Lomas finishes the marathon after 16 days

Source: http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/4304859/Bionic-Claire-Lomas-finishes-marathon-after-16-days.html

ReWalk: Bionic suit

The ReWalk suit enables people with lower-limb paralysis to stand, walk and climb stairs through motion sensors and an onboard computer system



Claire Lomas became the first person to complete the grueling race in a special robotic suit that meant she could walk every step of the 26.2mile course.

The tearful 32-year-old crossed the finish line flanked by the Household Cavalry and hundreds of emotional supporters.

Hubby Dan was right behind her and their one-year-old daughter Maisie toddled the last few metres in front of her brave mum.

Former chiropractor Claire inched over the line on The Mall in central London today at 12.50pm and said she felt "fantastic".

Claire, who was paralysed after a horse riding accident in 2007, was wearing a bionic ReWalk suit and has been managing about two miles a day since starting the London Marathon on April 22.





Sonic device deployed in London during Olympics

Source: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-18042528

The Ministry of Defence has confirmed a sonic device will be deployed in London during the



Olympics.

The American-made Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD) can be used to send verbal warnings over a long distance or emit a beam of pain-inducing tones.

The equipment was spotted fixed to a landing craft on the Thames at Westminster this week.

The manufacturer denies it is a weapon and the MoD said it would be used "primarily in the loud hailer mode".

A spokesman for the San Diego-based LRAD Corporation said the 1000Xi was "an effective long range communications system that broadcasts focused, highly intelligible, multi-language messages, instructions and warnings over distances up to 3,000 metres to peacefully resolve uncertain situations".

Royal Marines operating in patrol craft from HMS Ocean are also heavily armed with conventional firearms.

The piercing beam of sound emitted by the device is highly directional. Some versions of the LRAD are capable of producing deafening sound levels of 150 decibels at one metre.

But the device, which was used this week during Exercise Olympic Guardian, can also be used to broadcast verbal warnings, such as ordering crowds to disperse.

LRAD Corporation has previously sold the device to the US Army, which deployed them in Iraq for crowd control.

They have also been bought by the US Navy and Air Force as well as a number of police forces worldwide.

It has been successfully used aboard ships to repel Somali pirates.

The panel-shaped LRAD is mounted onto steerable gimbals and said to be far more efficient than a normal loudspeaker.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said: "As part of the military contribution to the police led security effort to ensure a safe and secure games, a broad range of assets and equipment is being used by our armed forces".

"This includes the LRAD (Long Range Acoustic Device) which will be deployed during the Olympic Games primarily to be used in the loud hailer mode as part of the measures to achieve a maritime stop on the Thames."

The LRAD spokesman said: "LRAD systems are far superior to bullhorns, which have limited range and poor sound quality.



"LRAD systems enable homeland security and law enforcement personnel to communicate safely and clearly to individuals on land or water and assist in keeping high profile events safe for all participants."

Can the FBI understand intelligence?

By Amb. Henry A. Crumpton

Source: http://dyn.politico.com/printstory.cfm?uuid=7856AAC6-ACFA-4C58-AE23-70E93A8F50EF

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, the FBI, the world's leading law enforcement agency, has labored to transform itself into an intelligence organization — while preserving its policing pre-eminence. This challenge has proved difficult.

There are major cultural and structural differences between law enforcement and intelligence. I saw how different when I was a senior CIA officer on loan to the FBI, as the deputy chief of the International Terrorism Operations Section from 1998 to 1999. I retired from government service — but recent conversations with knowledgeable government officials suggest that this remains true today.

The FBI is still measuring success, according to one well-informed confidant, based on arrests and criminal convictions — not on the value of intelligence collected and disseminated to its customers.

When I served as U.S. coordinator for counterterrorism, from 2005 to 2007, I was a voracious consumer of intelligence. Yet I never saw an FBI intelligence report that helped inform U.S. counterterrorism policy. Has there been any improvement?

The sharp contrasts between the FBI and the CIA have hampered their full cooperation. Here are 10 key differences, as noted in my new book, "The Art of Intelligence." We need to consider which — particularly those relevant to FBI intelligence effectiveness — are still true? First, the FBI valued oral communications as much as or more than written. The FBI's special-agent culture emphasized investigations and arrests over writing and analysis. It harbored a reluctance to write anything that could be deemed discoverable by any future defense counsel. It maintained investigative flexibility and less risk if its findings were not written — or at least not formally drafted into a data system. Its agents were not selected or trained to write.

This is also tied to rank and status: Clerks and analysts write, not agents. Agents saw writing as a petty chore, best left to others.

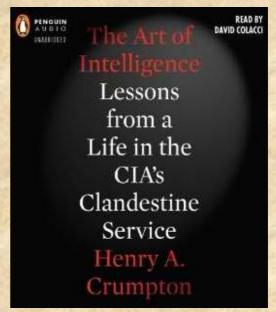
In contrast, most CIA operations officers had to write copiously and quickly. To have the president or other senior policymakers benefit from clandestine written reports — that was the

holy grail. CIA officers prized clear, high-impact written content.

The second major difference between the FBI and CIA was their information systems. The FBI did not have one — at least one that functioned. An FBI analyst could not understand a field office's investigation without going to that office and working with its agents for days or even weeks. With minimal reporting, there was no other choice.

CIA stations, in contrast, write reports on just about everything — because without written reports, there was no intelligence for analysts and other customers to assess. The CIA required high-speed information systems with massive data management, and upgraded systems constantly.

The third difference was size. The FBI was enormous compared with the CIA. The FBI



personnel deployed to investigate the East Africa bombings, for example, outnumbered all CIA operations officers on the entire African continent. The FBI's New York field office had more agents than the CIA had operations officers around the world. The FBI routinely dispatched at least two agents for almost any task. CIA officers usually operated alone — certainly in the development, recruitment and handling of sources.

A fourth difference was the importance of sources. While both the FBI and the CIA placed a premium on a good source, the FBI did not actively pursue them beyond the context of an investigation. The agents would follow leads and seek a cooperative witness or a snitch, often compelled to cooperate or face legal consequences.

FBI agents seldom discussed sources. When they did, it was often in derogatory fashion. But they discussed suspects endlessly. That was their pursuit. And for the FBI, sometimes sources and suspects were one and the same. CIA officers, on the other hand, routinely compared notes and lessons learned about developing, recruiting and handling sources though couched so that specifics were not revealed. Ops officers' missions and their sense of accomplishment, even their professional identity, depended on the success of sources and the intelligence they produced. FBI agents wanted evidence and testimony from witnesses that led to convictions and press conferences.

A fifth difference was money. The FBI had severe limitations on how much agents could spend and how they could spend it. The process to authorize the payment of an informant or just to travel was laborious.

As a CIA officer, however, I routinely carried several thousand dollars in cash — to entertain prospective recruitment targets, compensate sources, buy equipment or bribe foreign officials to get things done. I usually had to replenish my well-used revolving fund every month.

When I told FBI agents this, they seemed doubtful that such behavior was even legal. I often had to explain that the CIA did not break U.S. laws — just foreign laws.

Sixth, the FBI harbored a sense that because it worked under the Justice Department, it had more legal authority than the CIA. Some, after a few drinks, expressed moral objections to the CIA's covert actions. I would argue that covert action, directed by the president and approved by congressional oversight committees, is legal. But somehow the notion of breaking foreign laws seemed less than ideal to some of my FBI partners.

Seventh, the FBI loved the press and worked hard to curry favor with it. For the CIA's Clandestine Service, the media was taboo. Most of us had experienced occasions when media leaks undermined operations. Sometimes, our sources died because of this coverage. On top of that, we felt that the media seemed intent on portraying the CIA in a negative light. A CIA operations officer avoided the press like the plague.

For the FBI, it was the opposite. Positive press could help fight crime and boost prestige and resources. Every FBI field office worked the media.

Eighth, the FBI collected evidence for its own use, to prosecute a criminal. The CIA primarily collected intelligence for others, whether a policymaker, war fighter or diplomat. The FBI, therefore, lacked a culture of customer service beyond the Justice Department. Without a customer for intelligence, the CIA had no mission.

Ninth, the FBI's field offices, especially New York, acted as their own centers of authority, even holding evidence, because of their link to the local prosecutor. A city district attorney and civic political actors had great influence over an investigation.

The CIA station instead had to report intelligence to Langley, because the incentive came from there and beyond — particularly the White House.

Tenth, the FBI worked Congress. Every FBI field office had representatives dedicated to supporting congressional delegates. The FBI also had the authority to investigate members of Congress for illegal activity. So the bureau had both carrots and sticks.

But the CIA, particularly the Clandestine Service, had minimal leverage with Congress. Most CIA officers engaged Congress only when required to testify.

No wonder the FBI has been so strong politically, and the CIA so weak.

A member of the 9/11 Commission confided to me last year that the panel had given the FBI "a pass ... and that was a mistake. They do not understand intelligence."

Has there been any progress since?

Amb. Henry A. Crumpton served as the coordinator for counterterrorism at the State Department, August 2005 to February 2007. He was an operations officer in the Central Intelligence Agency's Clandestine Service from 1981 to 2005. He is now chairman and



chief executive officer of Crumpton Group. His book "The Art of Intelligence" will be published in mid May 2012.

U.K. faces problem of security service members with links to terrorism

Source: http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20120514-u-k-faces-problem-of-security-service-members-with-links-to-terrorism

Abdul Rahman, a 33-year old Scotland Yard constable of Bangladeshi descent (photo), had his security clearance revoked in 2006 — he chose to resign rather than be dismissed — following an MI5 investigation which concluded that, in 2001, he spent time in a terrorist



training camp in Pakistan; he is one of three members of the U.K. security forces dismissed because of links to terrorism; this case made the headline because he is suing the service for compensation, and the secret legal proceedings are about to begin

One of the intractable security problems the U.S. and other coalition forces face in Afghanistan is the infiltration of the ranks of Afghan police and military by Taliban sympathizers. Scores of coalition soldiers, and Afghan government police and military, were killed by Taliban members in Afghani police or military uniforms, uniforms which allowed them to access facilities and areas which otherwise would be closed to them.

Do the U.K. security forces face a similar problem, even if on a smaller scale? The case of Abdul Rahman, 33, may be an indication.

Rahman joined Scotland Yard in 2003, but in 2006 an internal investigation by MI5 concluded that he might have visited a terrorist training camp in Pakistan when he travelled there in 2001. When confronted with the MI5 report, Rahman chose to resign rather than be dismissed from the force, and he is now suing Scotland Yard for compensation.

Scotland Yard said in legal documents that it acted "for the purpose of safeguarding national and public security." The *Telegraph* quotes a source familiar with the case to say that there were either one or two other officers who had also lost their jobs because of MI5's suspicion that they might have trained as terrorists.

"There was concern that these people had come into the force under false pretences," the senior Metropolitan Police source told the *Telegraph*. "There were two or three cases at the same time that were of a similar nature, where there were concerns about potential terrorist links."

Rahman drew the attention of MI5 following the comprehensive security review of the U.K. security situation, a review launched in the wake of the 7 July 2005 terrorist attack, and the subsequent failed 21 July bombings.



MI5 recommended that Rahman security clearance (or CTC, for counter-terrorist check) be suspended, and Scotland Yard accepted, suspending Rahman's CTC on 22 June 2006. He was interviewed three times, and in November 2006 he was told that his CTC vetting clearance had been revoked.

Rahman's lawyer, Jasmine van Loggerenberg, of Russell Jones and Walker, said: "My client absolutely denies the allegations against him and this forms the basis of his claims against the police. It's important to stress that this is a case being brought by Mr. Rahman, not by the

Metropolitan Police. There are no criminal proceedings against him. Mr. Rahman has never been arrested, questioned or charged

in a criminal context in relation to these proceedings."

The Telegraph reports that last month, after a 5-year legal battle, the Employment Appeal Tribunal ruled that his case could be held in secret, although Rahman had wanted a public hearing. Mr. Justice Mitting, a High Court judge who also specializes in terror cases in his role aschairman of the Special Immigration Appeals Commission, ruled that Rahman and his legal team would be banned from parts of the

hearing that concerned issues of national security.

Scotland Yard applied to have Rahman's case heard in secret because the service wants to protect intelligence sources, sources which might be compromised if the sensitive evidence emerges in open court.

The legal proceedings will be held in such secrecy, in fact, that a security-cleared "special advocate," instead of his own lawyer, will be appointed on Rahman's behalf.

Human Trafficking in Iraq: 2003 and Beyond

Source: http://www.scribd.com/CivMil Fusion Centre

Part of this report:

"... Statistics regarding human trafficking are sobering. In 2007, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) reported that, annually,

between 1.5 to 1.8 million people fall victim to human-trafficking. Of those. approximately 500,000 to 600,000 are trafficked into the commercial sex 2007 industry. A report by the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) states that approximately

million

people, male and

2.5

female, were in situations of forced labour and sexual exploitation at any given time as a result of human trafficking practices. Approximately 9.2% or 230,000 victims were located in the Middle East and North Africa. UN.GIFT found that globally, the majority of trafficking victims are between 18 and 24 years of age and 1.2 million children were trafficked annually. Trafficking poses great dangers to victims with 95% reporting physical or sexual violence while being trafficked.

The UNODC "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons" (2009) mentioned previously, found

that sexual exploitation is the most commonly identified form of human trafficking at 79%, followed by forced labour at 18%. However, UNODC indicates that these numbers could be skewed as the exploitation of women tends to be a more visible offense and as a result, is the most documented form of TIP.

Nevertheless, the UNODC report found that women are disproportionately involved in human trafficking, both as victims and perpetrators.

Human-trafficking is a profitable, illicit activity. Annual global profits are estimated to be USD 32 billion with USD 1.5 billion originating from Middle East and North African countries. International trafficking affects 161 countries worldwide.

according to the Polaris Project2. UN.GIFT reports trafficking is low-risk for criminal syndicates, and for every 800 persons trafficked, only one trafficker was convicted of the crime, according to 2006 data. Activists indicate that low prosecution and conviction rates are primarily due to historically poor international coordination as well as ineffective anti-trafficking laws instituted within countries, despite the adoption of Resolution 55/25 by the United Nations General Assembly in 2000."

NOTE: You can read the full report at Newsletter's website – "CBRN-CT Papers" section.

MOU between CBRNE-Terrorism Newsletter and OSDIFE (Italy)

The Observatory on Security and CBRNe Defense aims to develop and disseminate knowledge of the



territorial conventional and unconventional risk in order to encourage the adoption of appropriate strategies and initiatives for risks reduction, ensure citizens security and safety and safeguard the integrity of public and private assets and infrastructure.

To pursue its aims the Observatory performs the following activities:

- Realize studies, research and projects related to the CBRNe risk, the security and safety planning, the conventional risks, the unconventional risks and the environmental risks;
- Study, analyze and evaluate the adequacy, in terms of action in preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery, in relation to the various territorial risks profiles like CBRNe risk,

environmental risk and critical infrastructures risk;

- Promote scientific research, initiatives and intervention in the context of the CBRNe, territorial security and environment disciplines;
- Carry out studies and risk analysis for public and private contingency operations planning;
- Promote and organize meetings with national and international institutions in order to deepen cooperation policies aimed at ensuring the internal and international protection, defense and security:
- Provide to the institutions, to the agencies and to the public and private organizations, operating in the context of CBRNE risk, territorial security and environmental safety, useful technical-scientific contributions on general overview on different risks;
- Promote and organize training courses;
- Implement any initiative aimed at achieving the Observatory goals, including alliances and partnerships with other public and private institutions and organizations;
- Carry out all activities, with scientific content, necessary to pursuit the institutional goals.



Blast at School in Southern Italy Kills One and Injures Six

Source:http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2012/05/19/world/europe/19reuters-italy-bomb.html?_r=1& partner=rss&emc=rss

A bomb exploded in front of a school in the southern Italian town of Brindisi on Saturday, killing two students and injuring at least six other, an official from the Civil Protection authority said.

Few details were available and the official said more than one device may have been involved in the explosion, which occurred as pupils were preparing to enter the school at the start of the

school day, which in Italy includes Saturdays. "Given the effect of the explosion, it appears that this was something quite powerful," the official said.

Local media reported that the device had been placed in a rubbish container just outside the school, which they said was near the main court in Brindisi, a port city located in Apulia, on the "heel" of Italy.

There was no claim of responsibility and no indication of who had placed the bomb.

Interior Minister Anna Maria Cancellieri announced plans several days ago to step up security around sensitive targets including official buildings after a series of threats against tax officials.

Italy's main tax and fine collection agency,



Equitalia, has been targeted by a series of small explosive devices amid a growing wave



of public anger over the high taxes imposed to shore up public finances and combat the economic crisis.

The head of Ansaldo Nucleare, a nuclear engineering company owned by defense technology group Finmeccanica, was shot in the leg in an attack claimed by an anarchist group, adding to concerns that extremist



groups may try to exploit the public anger.

EDITOR'S COMMENT: Was it a Mafia or terrorist attack? Is there collaboration between organized crime and terrorism? Is it the beginning of a new era of terrorism that will be facilitated by the growing financial turmoil in Southern Europe? Time will show...

Business Continuity Template Basics

Source: http://www.emergency-response-planning.com/blog/bid/52976/Business-Continuity-Template-Basics?_hse=igalatas@yahoo.com&_hsmi=BE526991&_hsh=4733ee3edaa32bc12a7202c0a11cbc6c&utm_campaign=EmailMarketing_Weekly+Blog+Highlight_20120521

In business, every threat may result in the same consequence: the loss or temporary cessation of key business processes. Business continuity management is a planning process that assists in managing the risks that may threaten a company's survival. A business continuity plan should be applied to every business, small or large, to provide a framework to ensure operational resilience in the event of any disruption.

While creating a business continuity plan, key details and alternate provisional elements

should be considered. The following provides a basic outline for a Business Continuity Plan.

- 1. Plan distribution list: Names, addresses and contact information of those that retain paper copies or electronic access to one or more plans.
- 2. Key contacts: Identify all primary and secondary key contacts that must be made aware of a business interruption. It is important to routinely verify contact information for accuracy.



- 3. Key staff roles and responsibilities: Develop job specific checklists and procedures detailing responsibilities from business continuity implementation through recovery. Task teams should be formed, at a minimum, to cover each essential business process. It may be necessary to provide cross team training, in the event that primary team members are not available.
- **4. Off-site recovery location:** Include address, contact info, available on-site equipment, and any necessary external equipment for effective operations.
- **5. Recovery action plan:** Identify/develop incremental processes and procedures necessary to recover each critical business

- with key contact information. Transportation delays could affect delivery times; therefore the plan should address this issue.
- 8. Alternate suppliers list: The consequences of a supply chain failure on associated key business components can be crippling. Through the planning process, alternatives can be explored to reduce the impact of supply chain disruptions.
- **9. Insurance details:** Identify details of insurance coverage and accurate contact information. The burden of proof when making claims typically lies with the policyholder. Accurate and detailed records are imperative.
- **10.** Back up data details: Identify details of computer backed ups and recovery methods.



process. Response checklist timelines may include increments such as, 1st hour, 24-hours, 48 hours, one week, one month, and long-term recovery.

- 6. Key customers' data: Identify communication methods and necessary contact information in order to inform customers of disruptions of deliverables. Effective customer relations and communication may be critical in retaining clients and maintaining positive relationships during a business interruption.
- 7. Key supplier contact list: Identify dependencies and interdependencies along

- **11. Technology requirements:** Identify necessary hardware and software, and the minimum recovery time requirements for each business unit.
- **12.** Equipment requirements: Identify equipment requirements for each business unit and recovery time goals.
- 13. Review and revise: Incorporate newly identified hazards and vulnerabilities into the business continuity plan. Include necessary equipment used (requiring replacement or replenishment), altered processes, and lessons learned.

Planning traffic routing in no-notice disasters

Source: http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20120521-planning-traffic-routing-in-nonotice-disasters

The Mineta Transportation Institute has released its newest peer-reviewed research

report. A Framework for Developing and Integrating Effective Routing Strategies Emergency within the Management Decision-Support System. It describes the modeling, calibration, and validation of a multi-modal traffic-flow simulation of the San Jose, California downtown network. It also examines various evacuation scenarios and first-responder routings to assess strategies that would be effective during a no-notice disaster. Other cities can use the models to plan their own emergency traffic routings.

"Spontaneous evacuations of New York City and

Washington, D.C. following the 9/11 terrorist attacks demonstrated that U.S. cities are not prepared to manage the sudden influx of traffic into roads and highways following a no-notice disaster," said Dr. Anurag Pande, one of the study's authors. "For many years, anticipated events such as hurricanes have been the basis for evacuation planning. Now we see increasing interest in evacuation planning based on hypothetical no-notice events."

Pande noted that advances in computing technologies have made it possible to simulate urban transportation networks in great detail with programs such as VISSIM, which was used in this study.

These traffic simulation models can be used to devise strategies for evacuation and emergency response in the event of a disaster. The modeled network required a large amount of data on network geometry, signal timings,

signal coordination schemes, and turning-movement volumes. Turning-movement counts

A Framework for Developing and Integrating Effective Routing Strategies Within the Emergency Management Decision-Support System

TINETA TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE











at intersections were used to validate the network with the formulaempirical based measure known as the GEH statistic. This measure is used in traffic engineering and traffic modeling to compare two sets of traffic volumes. the Once base network was tested and validated. scenarios various were modeled to

estimate evacuation

vehicle arrival times.

emergency

Based on these scenarios, a variety of emergency plans for San Jose's downtown traffic circulation were tested and validated.

and

The study's authors say that by entering their local data, other communities can leverage this framework to evaluate their own emergency scenarios. The models also can be used to help train emergency responders, who can see the immediate results of specific decisions. They can also help communities plan traffic flow for road closures, construction, major events, and other situations that affect mobility. The complete report includes thirty-seven figures and fifteen tables for illustration. Chapters include Traffic Simulation: Discussion and Literature Review: Network Modeling: Alternative Disaster Scenarios: Conclusions, Emergency Management Applications, and Future Scope.

NOTE: You can download the full report from Newsletter's website - "CBRNE-CT Papers" section



Senate passes "Mark's Law", would make killing an emergency first responder first degree murder

Source: http://www.empirestatenews.net/News/20120523-2.html

The New York State Senate today passed a bill sponsored by Senator Patricia Ritchie (R-C, Huevelton) to make the killing of emergency first responders first degree murder, punishable by the stiffest penalty allowed by law - life without parole.

The law would add the emergency crews to the list that now includes police officers, peace officers, uniformed court officers, parole officers, probation officers, employees of the division of youth, and corrections officers. When an individual intentionally kills one of



The bill, known as "Mark's Law," was introduced in memory of Mark Davis, the emergency medical technician who was shot to death while responding to a call for help in Cape Vincent on January 30, 2009. Mark's family, including his parents Marsha and Larry Dickinson, his brother Michael and his sister Maricia Astafan, who just became an EMT first-responder, were in the Senate Chamber to witness passage of the legislation.

"Today is a bittersweet day for the friends, family members and former colleagues of Mark Davis," said Senator Ritchie. "The passage of this bipartisan bill honors his sacrifice, and sends a strong message to anyone who might think of hurting the people who give their lives to protect us each and every day."

"Our emergency first responders provide lifesaving services to those in need at a moment's notice," Majority Leader Dean G. Skelos (R-C, Rockville Centre) said. "They are heroes and we must ensure that those criminals who would purposely target them as they are trying to help others are punished severely." these public servants, the killer is guilty of murder in the first degree. It would be a class A-I felony under the Penal Law.

The bill defines First Responders as Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians, ambulance drivers, paramedics, and doctors and nurses involved in first response teams.

Under current law, the maximum charge the killer of an emergency responder could face is second degree murder with a sentence of 25 years to life in prison. Mr. Davis was killed by Christopher Burke, who was found to be emotionally disturbed at the time of the shooting. Burke pleaded guilty to manslaughter and was sentenced to 16 years in prison on April 1, 2011.

In the Davis case, the defendant was convicted of manslaughter because of his psychiatric issues and mental status at the time of the shooting. This bill would not change how the

law applies when defendants can legitimately raise the extreme emotional disturbance defense.

The bill was sent to the Assembly.

New Book: The Art of Intelligence Lessons from a Life in the CIA's Clandestine Service

Commented by Peter Finn

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-art-of-intelligence-lessons-from-a-life-in-the-cias-clandestine-service-by-henry-a-crumpton/2012/05/25/gJQAeAjbqU_story.html

In January 2000, the National Security Council directed the CIA to locate and track Osama bin Laden, in a possible prelude to a military strike. In the risk-averse world before Sept. 11, 2001, neither the Pentagon nor the CIA's leadership could countenance allowing even limited forces in northern Afghanistan or neighboring countries to carry out the directive. At the time, Henry A. Crumpton was responsible for the CIA's global counter-terrorism operations, and he and a small group of other officials pushed

"a reluctant and even suspicious interagency bureaucracy" toward the position that unmanned aerial vehicles — drones — could provide a solution.

The CIA found a Predator drone, which had seen some service over Bosnia, gathering dust at an Air Force base and moved it to a base in Uzbekistan. After a human source revealed that bin Laden was at the Tarnak Farms compound, near Kandahar, in a now-famous incident the Predator's cameras zoomed in on a tall man dressed in white. "Holy Mother of God," said one

of the operatives watching the video-stream. But the Predator was not armed with Hellfire missiles. It would take six hours for cruise missiles fired from the Indian Ocean to hit the target, and the Clinton White House balked.

Crumpton's memoir, "The Art of Intelligence," is a lively account of his 24-year career in the CIA that charts one of the most significant legacies of the past decade of warfare: the rise of drones. The failure to strike in 2000 led to a renewed fight over arming the Predator, and as Crumpton notes, "Many were resistant to the notion that the CIA should have such lethal capability and authority."

That controversy endures, and Crumpton provides a small window into the early history of the program, describing how "mission-driven bureaucratic subversives, operating inside the

huge and lumbering U.S. security establishment, had imagined and produced an armed UAV." After the United States invaded Afghanistan, Crumpton writes, "we cranked Hellfire shots day and night."

Crumpton likes to mix it up. He portrays himself as one of those bureaucratic subversives who, in the wake of 9/11, sometimes worked in a "barely-bounded rage." He also uses his book to slip the knife into some old in-house foes, particularly those deemed too timid for the

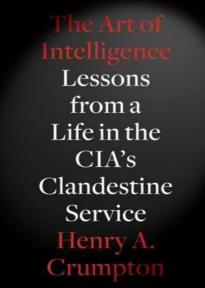
struggle. And he periodically rails at the press, politicians and other repositories of fecklessness. That's standard fare for the Washington memoir.

Crumpton's account of his life as a young recruit, his years in the Africa division, and his close-up view of the fight against al-Qaeda and the Taliban is far more interesting and often entertainingly frank. A native of rural Georgia, Crumpton left home at 16 and headed to Alabama, where he found work on

where he found work on the evening shift in a carpet factory so he could study for a high school diploma by day. He was a kid who was passionate about learning and bursting with curiosity about the world. After graduating from high school, he drifted west and first attended St. John's in Santa Fe, but the college's Great Books program gave way to "extracurricular opportunities" at the University of New Mexico after he transferred there. After graduation, he traveled through Asia, the Soviet Union and Western Europe, eluding law enforcement for various offenses, including "violent public disorder."

Since childhood he had pined for a life in the

CIA, and an agency recruiter saw some raw talent in the eager 22year-old, who became the youngest and least experienced



trainee in his class. Crumpton was assigned to the Africa division, where officers "thrived in fluid, unstructured and churning environments," he writes. It was in many ways an ideal environment for luring Soviet-bloc officials into working for the CIA. Crumpton describes breaking and entering to plant listening devices, bugging the hotel rooms of visiting foreign leaders, working with anti-Marxist guerrillas and the dance of recruitment. One only wishes he could have been a little more specific about where he was operating and who the targets were, but one presumes the CIA's publications board sanitized some of this copy.

The Afghanistan campaign left Crumpton variously exhausted, exhilarated and embittered, and he moved on to calmer assignments in 2002. The CIA and Joint Special Operations Command's network of commandoes had briefly and brilliantly run the

war but were, in the end, denied the resources to complete what Crumpton saw as the campaign's strategic objectives, goals that still define the conflict: killing the leadership of al-Qaeda and the Taliban, denying them havens from which to operate and improving the lives of ordinary Afghans.

It is perhaps Crumpton's misfortune that his memoir arrives in the publicity-sucking slipstream of his colleague Jose Rodriquez Jr.'s "Hard Measures: How Aggressive CIA Actions After 9/11 Saved American Lives," an apologia for "enhanced interrogation techniques," elsewhere described as torture. (Crumpton was not involved in the secret prisons set up overseas by the CIA after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.)

"The Art of Intelligence" combines the derringdo of old-fashioned spycraft with thoughtful meditations on the future of warfare and intelligence work. It deserves to be read.

Peter Finn is a national security correspondent for The Washington Post.

Who will help us now, after shameful treatment of hero Pakistani doctor?

By Lt. Col. Tony Shaffer (ret.)

Source: http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2012/05/25/who-will-help-us-now-after-shameful-treatment-hero-pakistani-doctor/

Always protect the source.

Rule one when you attend CIA case officer training. Always protect the source – they teach it – and as a field operatives (case officers) we live it.

As a graduate of "the Farm" and having spent the better part of my 30-year career in the intelligence community conducting and directing agent operations, I am appalled at the White House failures to protect a critical source of Pakistani Dr. Shakil Afridi – the man, who as a clandestine operative of the United States, was able to provide the key information to verify the location of Usama bin Laden.

Information that we now know was key and necessary to launch the May 2, 2011 raid that resulted in justice being brought to Usama bin Laden.

Our inability to protect Dr. Afridi has been egregious failure, both moral and strategic.

I have been there – I have looked into the eyes of another human being – and convinced him that putting his life in danger for the United States was the right thing to do – and if he did

so the US would do everything in its power to protect him – and his family.

It is a sacred commitment not only between two men – but between the agent and the government of the United States...we have, as the United States, failed Dr. Afridi.

During the Cold War, as now, we depended on "inside assets" or "spys" to tell us what was really going on.

Signals Intelligence (i.e. wiretapping) and Imagery Intelligence (pictures and video) will only provide so much information – to get inside of hard targets – such as the Al Qaeda networks – or in this case, a walled compound that was impervious to all other forms of intelligence collection – you need a human being with nerves of steel and determination – someone willing to put his life and the life of those he loves – on line for what he believes to be right.

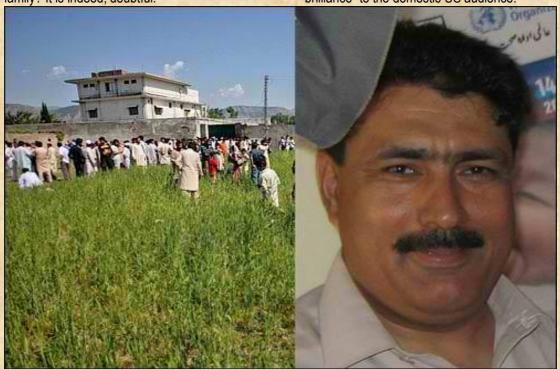
Dr. Afridi did what he thought was right – to help us locate an enemy who has not only hurt the US by his role in the 9/11 attacks, but



who has also helped radicalize (and destabilize) Pakistan -- in my view, he was a patriot.

How are we to move forward now? What foreign national will trust CIA or DoD case officers with their life and the well-being of their family? It is indeed, doubtful.

The failure to protect this man is based on an obtuse political equation – to not hold the Pakistani government accountable for its own failure to find bin Laden and the other remaining senior Al Qaeda leaders – but at the same time take credit for its "foreign policy brilliance" to the domestic US audience.



The White House has done nothing to try to prevent the Pakistani government's prosecution of him for his support to the US and even less now to take action to rescue Dr. Afridi – the State Department has remained silent both in public and private circles.

This is not simply about the life of one man – this is about our nation's ability to seek and recruit foreign nationals who will put their lives on the line to help us.

We have not only failed Dr. Afridi, we have failed to keep our word to him -- and to our own principles and ability to conduct real intelligence collection.

We need "insiders" within foreign countries and terrorist networks to work for the CIA and DOD – to provide us with critical information – this is critical for our continued success in preventing attacks against the U.S. and our interests. But through the White House failure in this case it has jeopardized our ability, as intelligence officers, to do our job – to obtain through foreign individuals protected information...in other words, the White House has done severe damage to our ability to spy.

Dr. Afridi has become a victim of his own success, and a victim of the current administration's larger failure to understand or manage the Pakistani relationship

Because the White House has fail to grasp why Pakistan, the Taliban, Al Qaeda, and other Islamic jihadist fight against the West and us, they are incapable of formulating/executing effective strategy to defeat enemies of US national security – the Dr. Afridi affair is but one more example that illustrates the larger foreign policy failure that is occurring right before our eves

And yet the current White House has sought to have it both ways on the bin Laden raid.

As revealed in recent reporting, the White House opened the door to Hollywood – providing critical, some would argue classified information to Kathyrn Bigelow and her film making team – on the bin Laden raid while completely ignoring the plight of Dr. Alfridi –

one of the real heroes of the bin Laden Raid. And at the same time ignoring its real responsibilities to protect and defend the very process of intelligence collection



that produced the key information that resulted in the raid's success.

We, as Americans, need to recognize the Obama administration's duality of message: Their reckless disregard for the protection and safety of the man who played what is now known to be the pivotal role in the verification of the location of Usama bin Laden – and the intelligence system that produced it compared to their blind political ambition.

This episode has hurt both CIA and DoD's ability to conduct foreign intelligence collection.

What foreign national would be crazy enough to do anything to support the cause of fighting terrorism if they fear their own survival by helping us?

National security should be sacred – not only non-partisan, but non-political...this administration has failed...and jeopardized the security of the American people by causing damage to our brave intelligence professionals and their ability to produce real, actionable information to detect and prevent future attacks against the United States.

Lt. Col. Tony Shaffer (ret.) is a former senior intelligence officer and the New York Times bestselling author of Operation "DARK HEART: Spycraft an Special Operations on the Frontlines of Afghanistan — And The Path to Victory." He is the Director of External Communications for the Center for Advanced Defense Studies (CADS) and Senior Advisor on the Congressional Task Force on National and Homeland Security.

QUIZ: Do you know where this sculpture is located?



► Read the answer at the end of this section



Anarchists claim responsibility for railway signaling sabotage in Bristol

Source: http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/may/25/anarchists-claim-railway-signalling-bristol

An anarchist organisation has claimed responsibility for two attacks on railway signaling in Bristol which caused severe delays and the cancellation of services.

British transport police and Network Rail have confirmed that signalling cable was destroyed

Olympics as a "spectacle of wealth" in a time of austerity, it ended the statement saying it wanted "civil war" and that anarchy was "unavoidable".

Network Rail said that in the first attack, discovered at 4:15am by a passing train

Tuesday morning in two separate incidents of arson which caused "extensive damage" and substantial delays to passengers. The group - calling itself the Informal Anarchist Federation - has warned of further "querrilla" attacks and sabotage to "hurt the national image and paralyse the economy however we can". On Wednesday the group posted a statement on the Indymedia Bristol website saying it had "struck two points on the railway

routes into Bristol", adding that members had "lifted concrete slabs running alongside tracks and the burned out the signalling cables found in the trench underneath".

The group said the points on the track had been chosen to

target employees of the Ministry of Defence, "military industry companies" such as Raytheon, Thales, HP and QinetiQ, and the "corporate hub of Bristol". It promised further attacks, saying: "Finance, judicial, communications, military and transport infrastructure will continue to be targets of the new generation of urban, low-intensity warfare."

It described Tuesday's actions as guerrilla activity and said it had "no inhibition" about using such methods again. Characterising the

Parson Street station in south Bristol, cabling was dug up and wrapped in material which was then set alight. The second attack was spotted at 11:37am near Patchway railway station in the far north of the city.

The train operator First Great Western said normal services had not fully resumed until the following morning.

Transport police say that the two incidents

"may may not be connected". They are appealing for further information. Network Rail and First Great Western described this type of

deliberate attack on railway lines as "very rare"; most vandals target trains or infrastructure that they can sell for scrap.

Detective Chief Inspector John Pyke said: "We are aware of a statement posted on the internet in which a group is claiming responsibility for these incidents. At the moment, this is one of a number of lines of inquiry officers are This investigating. was completely irresponsible behaviour and we will do everything possible to trace those responsible and bring them to justice."



Dimitrios Gavriel: Tried to stop American deaths

Source:http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2012/05/27/dimitrios_gavriel_wanted_to_help_stop_american_deaths/

On Memorial Day, Chris Gavriel honors a fallen son who died in Iraq, and the service of a daughter who

enlisted in the Marines to finish her brother's mission.

"I gave my kids freedom," said Gavriel, 64, a **Greek immigrant**. "They made the choice to serve. . . . I am proud of them."

Marine Lance Corporal Dimitrios Gavriel, 29, was killed on Nov. 19, 2004, in Anbar Province, Iraq. He gave up a promising career on Wall Street to join the Marines after being deeply affected by the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and the ensuing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"He shared with me a lot of concern," Chris Gavriel said. "He said 'Dad, a lot of people are getting killed.'"

pharmacist on hold to enlist in "I was surprised, but people [loss]," Chris Gavriel said. "I finishing his service."

After her brother died, Christina Gavriel, now 34, put her career as a the Marines.

react differently to saw it as her way of

Christina, assigned to the helicopter unit at Camp Pendleton, Calif., did not deploy. She finished her term, got married, and has resumed her pharmacy career, her father said.

Dimitrios Gavriel was killed by an Iraqi insurgent inside a home his unit was searching for weapons.

"Dimi faced a barrage of fire," his father said. "And then a grenade."

"Dimi" was named for a maternal uncle who died in a training mission while in the Greek Army.

"My wife, Penelope, had known the pain," said Gavriel, who speaks in a soft voice. "It is, of course, different when it's your son."

The family lived in Ohio and Michigan before settling in Atkinson, N.H. Dimitrios Gavriel graduated from Timberlane Regional High School in Plaistow, N.H., where he was an honors student and all-state



heavyweight wrestling champion. He loved to listen to music, tinker with cars, and fish at Plum Island. His parents moved to Haverhill after Dimitrios headed off to Brown University in Providence, where he studied business.

He was on track to be a Wall Street baron, working as an equity analyst at four major firms. On Sept. 11, 2001, Gavriel had just locked up his bicycle outside his office, a few blocks from the World Trade Center. After the planes hit, he jumped back on his bike to escape before the roads closed.

He called a friend who worked in the towers. "He was on the phone with him. . . . and the phone went silent," Chris Gavriel recalled.

Dimitrios was laid off from Bank of America and looking for a job when he enlisted in 2002. The decision shocked his father. "I was raking leaves in the backyard when he said 'Dad, I am going to join the

Marines," Chris said, the memory still fresh. "If I don't do it now, I never will."

Chris, who had completed a mandatory Army service in Greece, told his son he was afraid he could die. "He said, 'Dad, I could get killed in New York City, too.' He was not going to waver."

His funeral at Holy Apostle Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Haverhill drew hundreds. A day later, the family flew to Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, where Dimitrios was buried with full military honors. "I felt he needed to be there, for what he did," Gavriel said. "He was not political at all, but he was a man of principle."

Time, and sweet memories of a son so strong he could swing his father in the air, have helped heal grief, Gavriel said. "Time takes the edge off it," said Gavriel, who also sought solace in the writings of Greek philosophers. "I don't cry anymore."

Memorials in three states honor Dimitrios's sacrifice. Brown University added his name to Patriots Court, an honor roll of alumni who have died in military service. At Timberlane, a scholarship is given in his name by his parents.

The city of Haverhill placed a memorial marker outside his parents' home on Chestnut Street. In their front yard, the US and Marine Corps flags fly from a flagpole, guarded by the statue of an angel. His father wears a metal bracelet with his son's name and service dates, and his metal dog tags around his neck.

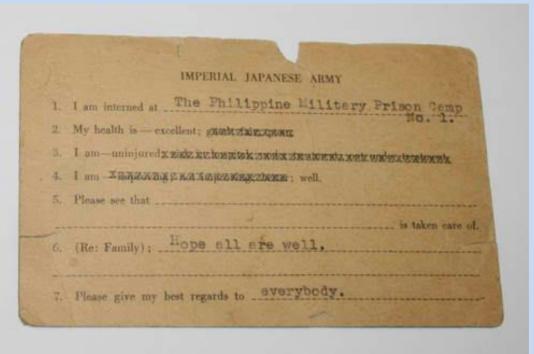
WWII Hero gets Purple Heart

By Patra Sevastiades (Budgeteer News)

Source: http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/article/id/232651/

The letter in the mailbox was written in Greek.

The year was 1941, and it had been sent to Mankato from an Army base near San Francisco. Twenty-five-year-old **Janetos ("Jerry") Poulimenos** had written to his sister, describing a summer evening. He and his Army buddies had looked at the window displays of closed shops as they walked down the street.



They came upon a grocery store that was still open and went in. Jerry saw pastries that reminded him of loukoumades, small honey-dipped Greek doughnuts. He selected fifteen and pulled out his wallet. But, he wrote to his sister, the cashier just smiled at the serviceman and didn't charge him anything. At the end of his letter, Jerry teasingly added: "Today I won an award for calligraphy — and you tell me you can't read my writing!"

Nine years earlier, in January 1932, 16-year-old Jerry had emigrated from a village in Greece to come and live in Mankato with his sister Mary Marinis, and her husband Mike. The Marinises owned a busy 24-hour diner, the Metropolitan Café. Jerry helped out.

The Marinises eventually had two children, a boy, Jimmie, and a girl, Athanasia. Jerry was fond of his nephew and niece, and they returned his affection.

In 1941, when Athanasia Bovis was 5, Jerry joined the Minnesota National Guard. He trained on weekends and helped with the restaurant during the week.

That summer, Jerry's reserve unit was activated. He was sent to boot camp and assigned to D Company, 31st Infantry Regiment. His unit was sent to Fort McDowell, a port of embarkation in San Francisco Bay. That's when he had seen the doughnuts. Soon his unit boarded a ship bound for the South Pacific. In September, the Marinises received a letter from him saying that he was in the Philippines.

December 7 brought the terrible news of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. The U.S. declared war. Suddenly, the stakes in the Philippines were even higher.

The Marinises hoped for a letter all that winter. Spring and summer came and went, and still they waited.

In September 1942, a telegram arrived from the War Department: Jerry had been captured by the Japanese, but he was "well." At least the family knew something — at least he was alive.

Sometime later, the family received a small, tan POW postcard printed by the Japanese Imperial Army. It was a multiple-choice card, allowing a POW to identify his camp, to give an assessment of his health, and then to add a few typewritten words: in this case, "Hope all are well." His precious signature was the only thing that was handwritten.

Immediately, Mrs. Marinis prepared a care package and mailed it to her brother. She and her family wrote letter after letter to him.

Eventually, a second POW postcard reached Mankato: "Dear Sis, Received your box o.k. Thanks a million. Am getting along fine. Hope to see you all soon. Give my regards to Jimmie and Athanasia." The Marinises were overjoyed.

Weeks passed in silence, and hope dimmed. Then came the day that Athanasia, sitting in a booth at the back of the diner, saw two men in uniform walk into the Metropolitan Café. They asked for Mary Marinis. When Mrs. Marinis appeared and saw the men, she knew why they had come. In a fog, she heard them say that her little brother had died. His body could not be returned home, they added, because he had perished on a Japanese POW ship, and the Japanese had thrown his body overboard. On behalf of a grateful nation, the men extended their sympathies.

Athanasia saw her mother fall to the floor.

Athanasia — whom most people in Duluth know as Chicki — recalls that it was not until 1946 that the family learned what had happened to her uncle. One of his friends, Jim Argeanas, contacted the Marinis family.

Argeanas wrote that Jerry was 1st cook in the 31st Infantry. He was also brave: during the fighting on the Bataan Peninsula, Argeanas wrote, Jerry went through enemy fire to deliver food to the hungry men at the front.

In April 1942, Jerry and Argeanas were captured on the Bataan Peninsula, and they survived the Bataan Death March.

The two men were sent to POW Camp O'Donnell and later to POW Camp Cabanatuan, where they became friends. Jerry became ill with malaria, beriberi, and dysentery and was blind for a few months from a vitamin deficiency. Argeanas protected him and snuck him extra food. Jerry and two other Greek Americans did the same for Argeanas when he became ill a few months later.

"I will ever be grateful to them for this loyalty," he wrote to the Marinis family.

In August 1943, Jerry and Argeanas were sent to the Las Piñas POW camp near Manila. Five months later, Argeanas recalled, Jerry received a package from home with chicken noodle soup, cookies, and halvah. Jerry never received any of the letters.

On October 1, 1944, Jerry, Argeanas, and 700 other emaciated POWs were herded onto a small Japanese ship. The boat was one of a convoy of 60 ships leaving the Philippines bound for Japan.

The American military, unaware that the unmarked Japanese ships held American POWs, bombarded them and sank many.

On board Jerry and Argeanas' overcrowded boat, POWs were given two meals a day: salted fish and a

little rice, and a teaspoonful of water. The men started dying of thirst. Their tongues swelled from lack of water, causing them to strangle.







On the fourteenth day of their voyage, Jerry started to choke two times, and Argeanas and a friend managed to save him. But by the next morning, Jerry was several feet away from them. When he began to choke again, his friends did their best to reach him.

"It took us about 30 minutes to go those 15 feet," Argeanas wrote. By the time they reached Jerry, he was dead. His body was dropped into Hong Kong Bay.

Sixty-five years later, one of Chicki's cousins thought that Jerry's sacrifice should be recognized. Her cousin Thomas Kallos approached U.S. Rep. Mike Coffman of Colorado to learn more about their uncle's service to his adopted country. Coffman's staff gathered information from the Military Personnel Records Center and the National Archives.

On March 30, 2010, Jerry was posthumously decorated with the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, Prisoner of War Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Philippine Campaign Medal, and a Presidential Unit Citation. The service medals were presented to Kallos by Rep. Coffman. Kallos shared the good news with his cousin in Duluth.

As Chicki held the 1941 letter and others her family had received from her uncle, she teared up. "Sixty-six years later, he finally received the recognition he deserved."

CIA remembers those lost in covert war on terror

By Kimberly Dozier (AP Intelligence Writer)

Source: http://www.myfoxny.com/story/18631472/cia-remembers-those-lost-in-covert-operations

The CIA is remembering those lost in the hidden, often dangerous world of espionage, adding a new star to the intelligence agency's memorial wall and more than a dozen names to its hallowed Book of Honor.

The new star carved into the wall is for Jeffrey Patneau, a young officer killed in a car crash in Yemen in September 2008.

"Jeff proved that he had boundless talent, courage and innovativeness to offer to our country in its fight against terrorism," said CIA Director David Petraeus at a private ceremony at CIA headquarters this past week.

Petraeus' tribute was the first public identification of Patneau. The stars on the

memorial wall at headquarters in Langley, Va., bear no names.

Yemen, the ancestral homeland of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, was the site of the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole, which killed 17 American sailors. Patneau was part of the fight against militants in the country in a tense year in which the U.S. Embassy in Sanaa was attacked.

With the addition of the star for Patneau, the wall now commemorates the lives of 103

Americans who died in service of the CIA, "never for acclaim, always for country," Petraeus said at the annual event attended by

hundreds of employees and family members of those lost. The rememberance came just days ahead of Memorial Day, when the nation remembers its military veterans and those who died in war. "The biggest relief is my parents ... get to acknowledge and brag about her, especially my dad," she said.

Like Shedd, most of those honored were killed in the clandestine war on terrorism, the list



The addition of 15 names to the CIA's Book of Honor means family members can openly acknowledge where their loved ones worked when they died.

Leslianne Shedd was lost when hijackers forced down her plane over the Indian Ocean, killing more than 125 people.

"Everybody who was on the plane with her who survived said she was not at all scared," her sister, Corinne Collie, told The Associated Press on Saturday. "She was saying it's all going to be okay, holding the hand of the person sitting next to her."

Collie says the agency approached her family a year ago, saying it was now possible to acknowledge her death - likely meaning the cases she had worked on had been wrapped up, or staff she worked with had either retired or were no longer in harm's way. Collie said being able to share what her sister did has been a relief.

"To lose a sister and not be able to talk about the full picture of who she was has been hard," said Collie of Tacoma, Wash. Shedd's cover was working for the State Department. reading like a grim roll call of terrorist acts of the last three decades. Matthew Gannon was among the victims of the December 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. Molly Hardy was killed in the August 1998 suicide bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi. She urged others to take cover as she was hit by the blast from an al-Qaida car bomb. Jacqueline Van Landingham was killed in a terrorist attack in Pakistan in 1995. The CIA did not disclose how she died.

CIA officers face constant threat in Pakistan, hunting and hunted by the Taliban and al-Qaida. They often play a cat-and-mouse game with Pakistan's intelligence service, sometimes able to work with them and sometimes forced to work around them to gather intelligence on al-Qaida's militant diaspora. U.S. officials say it gets support from elements of the Pakistani government.

Five of those remembered were victims of the April 1983 suicide bombing of the

U.S. embassy in Beirut that killed 63 people.

Among the CIA officers lost was Phyliss Nancy Faraci, "one of the

last four Americans evacuated from the Mekong Delta when Saigon fell" during the Vietnam War, according to CIA spokesman Todd Ebitz. Faraci had volunteered to work in war-torn Beirut.

Deborah Hixon, a young officer fluent in French who volunteered for a temporary posting there, also died in the attack. Frank Johnston was a 25-year agency veteran who had accepted the assignment though he was close to retirement. Paramilitary officer James Lewis, who had joined the CIA after his military career, and his wife, Monique Lewis, also were killed. Lewis was "only hours into her first day as an Agency officer when the bomber struck," Ebitz said.

Metro station closed to allow Olympics terror drill

Source:http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/north-east-news/evening-chronicle-news/2012/05/28/metro-station-closed-to-allow-olympics-terror-drill-72703-31060246/#ixzz1wBDWtvpQ

PULLING on chemical warfare suits, emergency services swarmed on a Tyneside Metro station.

Dozens of police, fire and ambulance crews were on the scene to deal with a reported terrorist assault on St James' station in

Wearing chemical and biological protection suits and gas masks, police, fire officers and paramedics darted in and out of the station to practise evacuating and treating passengers in the event of an attack or fire.

And police and fire mobile emergency control







Newcastle city centre.

Thankfully, it was only a security exercise to train the emergency services to deal with any large-scale incident during the upcoming Olympic Games.

The exercise seemed chillingly real, and was partly in preparation for Olympic football matches to be staged at St James' Park in July and August.



centres were set up in the shadow of the 52,000-seat stadium to co-ordinate a critical response to the mock disaster.

Newcastle United's stadium will host group games involving Mexico, the Republic of Korea, Gabon, Switzerland, Brazil, New Zealand, Spain, Honduras, Japan and Morocco as well as a quarter-final tie.

EDITOR'S COMMENT: When starting observing the photos from this drill I said: "OK, no Level A people this time!" But in the last one (photo: bottom left) here they are! One might comment that perhaps the chemical agent was released deep down in the basements of the United's Stadium. Is this what you would do if you were the terrorists? Certainly not! In that respect, Level C HART people could do the job just fine! It is becoming a bad habit to use this type of gear anywhere, anytime. The only problem is that First Responders are those who are using them, not drill planners...



No trolleys to carry gear? Do you have any idea how difficult it is to carry things when in Level C?



No chem-tapes? Victims carrying their contaminated belongings? Masks and gloves?



Most probably decontamination took place inside the metro station that has plenty of space. Provision for contaminated waste water management. Secondary off-gassing to inner surfaces?

Graduation ceremony at West Point; Greek-American takes honors

Source: http://www.thenationalherald.com/article/55331



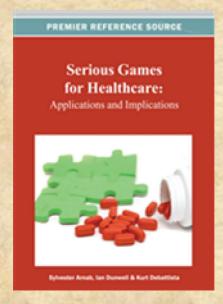
ÅP Photo/Mike Groll – Vice President Joe Biden presents a diploma to valedictorian Alexander George Pagoulatos during a graduation and commissioning ceremony at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., on Saturday, May 26, 2012.

Vice President Joe Biden presents a diploma to valedictorian Alexander George Pagoulatos during a graduation and commissioning ceremony at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., on Saturday, May 26, 2012. Biden told the 972 graduates of the class of 2012 that they deserve special praise because they decided to pursue military service fully aware that they could be fighting a war after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. "Your generation, the 9/11 generation, is more than worthy of the proud legacy that you will inherit today," Biden said.

Serious Games for Healthcare: Applications and Implications

Authors: Sylvester Arnab (Coventry University, UK), Ian Dunwell (Coventry University, UK) and Kurt Debattista (University of Warwick, UK)

Source: http://www.igi-global.com/book/serious-games-healthcare/63890



With advances in technologies and revolutions in patient, trainee, and public expectations, the global healthcare sector is increasingly turning to serious games to solve problems. Serious games are applications with serious purposes, developed using computer game technologies more often associated with entertainment.

Serious Games for Healthcare: Applications and Implications will introduce the development and application of game technologies for health-related serious games. Further, it provides cutting-edge academic research and industry updates which will inform readers about the current and future advances in the area. Encapsulating the knowledge of commercial and noncommercial researchers, developers, and practitioners in a single volume will benefit not only the research and development community within this field, but could also serve public health interests by improving awareness and outcomes.

CRISMA Project

Source: www.crismaproject.eu

The European CRISMA project prepares for disasters by developing a decision-support tool to help the authorities, responders, communities and private parties to prioritize the most important measures for saving lives and mitigating the effects of the crisis.

The CRISMA project, coordinated by VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, is developing a planning tool for crises with immediate, extensive, and often irreversible consequences to the population and society. Crises of this type include natural disasters, toxic emissions, forest fires, and aircraft accidents.

The purpose of the CRISMA project is to improve the safety of Europeans by providing information on disasters and the effects of the various decisions and measures applied to address the crisis. The goal is to use modeling and simulation technologies for evaluating the effects of the measures taken on hypothetical scenarios. Research helps decision-makers to identify the most efficient means to prevent losses of life and damage to property.

The project develops solutions to complex crisis scenarios, which can result in massive damage and that require co-operation among various authorities and private parties,

including trans-boundary cooperation. The project helps to provide crisis-management decision-makers with information on how extensive disasters should be prepared for, what measures are available during a crisis, and what their effects are.

An integrated modeling system is being designed in the project to simulate both the most likely of crisis situations and more remote scenarios, the required measures, and their effects. Domino and multi-risk effects are also to be taken into account: the integrated modeling system will give opportunities to assess impacts of natural disasters on chemical, nuclear and other industrial activities, critical infrastructures, etc. The system will be used for both short and long term planning, and training purposes.

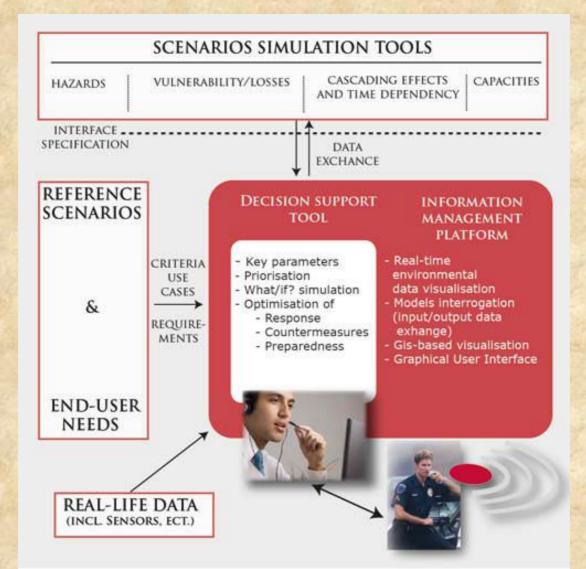
The integrated modeling system will support comparison among alternatives and evaluation of possible effects of actions and investments, e.g.: Is the planned location for the protective structure correct? What evacuation options

should be considered? Should certain areas be zoned as residential or industrial in the land-use plan – or is it best not to build there at all?



For example, the progress of an unforeseen flood can be simulated during the crisis through

presentation. Currently, the relevant parties' individual systems are often practically



coupling of historical information with real-time field information. This provides a basis for decisions regarding e.g. evacuation, where the rescue resources should be targeted, and where additional flood protective structures should be constructed.

The CRISMA system helps to make complex and ambiguous issues more concrete to those that are responsible for making difficult decisions. The project helps us to understand how various accidents and crisis scenarios affect the people, society, infrastructure, the buildings, services, and the economy.

It will also be possible to use the simulation tools in planning collaboration among organizations or geographical areas. The simulation portal can be used to synthesize information provided by different parties and to create new information, including with graphical

standalone, with almost no co-operation.

The CRISMA project is funded from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme FP7/2007-2013 under grant agreement no. 284552. The CRISMA project's total budget is 14.4 million Euros, of which EU funding accounts for 10.1 million Euros. The project ends in August 2015.

In addition to VTT, the project's research partners are Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V. (Germany), AMRA Analysis and Monitoring of Environmental Risk (Italy), AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH (Austria), the

Association for the Development of Industrial Aerodynamics (Portugal), Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia), and the

Finnish Meteorological Institute (Finland).
The end user's perspective in the consortium is provided by the Emergency Services College (Finland), Deutsches Rotes Kreuz (Germany), Magen David Adom (Israel), the Public Safety Communication Europe Forum (Belgium).

Industrial representatives in the project are NICE Systems Ltd (Israel), EADS Deutschland GmbH - Cassidian (Germany), Insta DefSec (Finland), Spacebel S.A. (Belgium), Cismet GmbH (Germany), and ARTELIA Eau & Environnement (France).

Words to avoid using online

Source:http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2150281/REVEALED-Hundreds-words-avoid-using-online-dont-want-government-spying-you.html

The Department of Homeland Security has been forced to release a list of keywords and phrases it uses to monitor social networking sites and online media for signs of terrorist or other threats against the U.S.

The intriguing the list includes obvious choices such as 'attack', 'Al Qaeda', 'terrorism' and 'dirty bomb' alongside dozens of seemingly innocent words like 'pork', 'cloud', 'team' and 'Mexico'.

Released under a freedom of information request, the information sheds new light on how government analysts are instructed to patrol the internet searching for domestic and external threats.

The words are included in the department's 2011 'Analyst's Desktop Binder' used by workers at their National Operations Center which instructs workers to identify 'media reports that reflect adversely on DHS and response activities'.



Threat detection: Released under a freedom of information request, the information sheds new light on how government analysts are instructed to patrol the internet searching for domestic and external threats

Department chiefs were forced to release the manual following a House hearing over documents obtained through a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit which revealed how



analysts monitor social networks and media organizations for comments that 'reflect adversely' on the government.

However they insisted the practice was aimed not at policing the internet for disparaging remarks about the government and signs of general dissent, but to provide awareness of any potential threats.

As well as terrorism, analysts are instructed to search for evidence of unfolding natural disasters, public health threats and serious crimes such as mall/school shootings, major drug busts, illegal immigrant

Domestic Security

Assassination Emergency management Gangs

Emergency response National security Attack Domestic security First responder State of emergency Homeland security Security Exercise Maritime domain awareness Breach Cops (MDA) Threat Law enforcement National preparedness Standoff Authorities initiative SWAT Militia Disaster assistance Screening

Disaster management Shooting Lockdown
DNDO (Domestic Nuclear Shots fired Bomb (squad or threat)
Detection Office) Evacuation Crash

Detection Office)EvacuationCrashNational preparednessDeathsLootingMitigationHostageRiot

Prevention Explosion (explosive) Emergency Landing

Response Police Pipe bomb
Recovery Disaster medical assistance Incident
Dirty bomb team (DMAT) Facility

Domestic nuclear detection Organized crime

HAZMAT & Nuclear

Hazmat Leak Gas Nuclear Biological infection (or Spillover Chemical spill event) Anthrax Suspicious package/device Chemical Blister agent Toxic Chemical burn Chemical agent National laboratory Biological Exposure Nuclear facility Epidemic Burn Nuclear threat Hazardous Nerve agent Hazardous material incident Cloud Ricin Plume Industrial spill Sarin Radiation North Korea Infection

Powder (white)

Health Concern + H1N1

Radioactive

Salmonella Agriculture Outbreak Contamination Small Pox Listeria Exposure Plague Symptoms Human to human Mutation Virus Evacuation Human to Animal Resistant Bacteria Influenza Antiviral Recall Center for Disease Control Wave Ebola (CDC) Pandemic. Food Poisoning Drug Administration (FDA) Infection Foot and Mouth (FMD) Public Health Water/air borne

The list has been posted online by the Electronic Privacy Information Center - a privacy watchdog group who filed a request under the Freedom of Information Act before suing to obtain the release of the documents.

busts.

In a letter to the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Counter-terrorism and Intelligence, the centre described the choice of words as 'broad, vague and ambiguous'.

They point out that it includes 'vast amounts of First Amendment protected speech that is entirely unrelated to the Department of Homeland Security mission to protect the public against terrorism and disasters.'

senior Homeland Security official told the Huffington Post that the manual 'is a starting point, not the endgame' in maintaining situational awareness of natural and man-made threats and denied that the government was monitoring signs of dissent.

However the agency admitted that the language used was vague and in need of updating.

Spokesman Matthew Chandler told website: 'To

ensure clarity, as part of ... routine compliance review, DHS will review the language contained in all materials to clearly and accurately convey the parameters and intention of the program.'



Strain Quarantine H1N1 Tamiflu World Health Organization Suspicious substance AQAP (AL Qaeda Arabian Peninsula) (WHO) (and components) Viral Hemorrhagic Fever E. Coli Terrorism Al Qaeda (all spellings) Norvo Virus Epidemic Device) Abu Sayyaf Attack AOIM (Al Oaeda in the Hamas FARC (Armed Revolutionary Islamic Maghreb) TTP (Tehrik-i-Taliban Iraq Afghanistan Forces Colombia) IRA (Irish Republican Army) ETA (Euskadi ta Askatasuna) Pakistan) Yemen Pirates Extremism Somalia Nigeria Radicals Al-Shabaab Infrastructure Security Airplane (and derivatives) Chemical fire Basque Separatists Hezbollah Agro Environmental terrorist BART
MARTA
Port Authority
NBIC (National
Biosurveillance Integration Electric
Failure or outage
Black out
Brown out
Port
Dock Environmental terroris
Eco terrorism
Conventional weapon
Target
Weapons grade
Dirty bomb
Enriched Tamil Tigers PLF (Palestine Liberation & Key Resources) AMTRAK Collapse Computer infrastructure Communications Front) PLO (Palestine Liberation Home grown Plot Nationalist Recruitment Fundamental Bridge Cancelled Delays Service disruption Power lines infrastructure
Telecommunications
Critical infrastructure
National infrastructure Center) Transportation security Grid Power Biological weapon Ammonium nitrate Improvised explosive device Weapons cache Suicide bomber Suicide attack Metro WMATA Weather/Disaster/En Mud slide or Mudslide Southwest Border Violence Drug cartel Violence Gang Drug Narcoties anded/Stuck Tornado Twister Tsunami Earthquake Tremor Flood Power outage Brown out Warning Watch Lightening Aid Fort Hancock Gunfight Trafficking San Diego Ciudad Juarez Ciudad Juarez Nogales Sonora Colombia Mara salvatrucha MS13 or MS-13 Drug war Mexican army Methamphetamine Cartel de Golfo Kidnap Calderon Calderon
Reyosa
Bust
Tamaulipas
Meth Lab
Drug trade
Illegal immigrants
Smuggling (smugglers)
Matamoros
Michoscana Cocaine Marijuana Heroin Border Mexico Cartel Aid
Relief
Closure
Interstate
Burst
Emergency Broadcast System Storm Crest Temblor Extreme weather Forest fire Typhoon Shelter-in-place Disaster Snow Blizzard Brush fire Sleet Cyber Security Southwest Cartel de Golfo Hacker China Conficker Worm Scammers Social med Juarez Sinaloa Gulf Cartel Michoacana Cyber security 2600 Spammer Phishing Rootkit Michoacana Guzman Arellano-Felix Beltran-Leyva Barrio Azteca Artistic Assassins Mexicles New Federation La Familia Tijuana
Torreon
Yuma
Tucson
Decapitated
U.S. Consulate Reynosa Nuevo Leon Narcos Narco banners (Spanish DDOS (dedicated denial of Phreaking
Cain and abel
Brute forcing
Mysql injection
Cyber attack
Cyber terror Denial of service Malware

Read "Analyst's Desktop Binder" at:

equivalen Los Zetas

Shootout Execution

http://www.scribd.com/doc/82701103/Analyst-Desktop-Binder-REDACTED

The Islamists' Allies in Law Enforcement

By Ryan Mauro

Source: http://www.rightsidenews.com/2012060416359/us/islam-in-america/the-islamists-allies-in-lawenforcement.html

Virus Trojan Keylogger Cyber Command

Angeles Los should be particularly embarrassed by an exposé by the Investigative Project on Terrorism published on June 1. Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca is among the most high-profile defenders of the Muslim

Brotherhood's fronts in the U.S., including the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). He stands by the group's innocence, even though the federal government designated it as an "unindicted COconspirator" in the trial of

the Holy Land Foundation, a front set up by the Muslim Brotherhood to finance Hamas. The FBI subsequently ended its use of CAIR as a liaison, but some in law enforcement, such as Sheriff Baca, believe they know better than the agency. CAIR has honored Baca with an award for his support. Los Angeles County Deputy Sherif Morsi received it on his behalf.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Deputy Michael Downing, who is the Commanding Officer of the Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau, shows some knowledge of the Muslim Brotherhood, but

> dismisses accusations that it is currently a threat because, in his words, it has "evolved and changed."

On May 15, 2011, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Muslim Public Affairs Unit held a town hall at the Islamic Center of Southern California, a mosque with Brotherhood

origins. It was moderated by the Muslim Public Affairs Council, a group that was founded by Brotherhood ideologues. Tom Trento of The United West held up a copy of Shariah: The

Threat to America, authored by top national security experts, and asked if the speakers believe that there is a Muslim Brotherhood



presence in Los Angeles County and what is being done about it.

Downing answered the question by conceding that he is "sure" that the Brotherhood is in his county, but did not address its threat potential. Trento approached him after the event and, on videotape, Downing said that "the message is not to demonize the Brotherhood here" because it has "evolved and changed." He compared it to how there are more moderate and more extreme elements of the Republican and Democratic parties and said it would be wrong to oppose a group like the Muslim Students Association just because it was founded by the Brotherhood.

He then encouraged Trento to study *ijtihad*, an Islamic concept that permits independent scrutiny of specific interpretations. When Trento responded that, according to mainstream Islamic theology, *ijtihad* is "closed," Downing disagreed, only saying, "it's not."

The United West's video of the encounter then quotes the 2011 edition of the Encyclopedia Britanica about ijtihad, confirming that it was declared a thing in the past by the Islamic schools of jurisprudence by 1258 A.D. Downing would later use the incident as an example of those who "want to instill fear in the hearts of the American people because they don't tell the truth."Downing's response isn't surprising. In 2010, he said, "CAIR is not a terroristsupporting organization" and condescendingly added that anyone who disagrees with him is an "amateur intelligence officer." Apparently to Downing, the federal government only consists of amateurs. In 2007, a court filing by the federal government stated, "From its founding by Muslim Brotherhood leaders, CAIR conspired with other affiliates of the Muslim Brotherhood to support terrorists." By Downing's definition, District Court Judge Solis is also an amateur because he ruled that the government provided "ample" evidence tying CAIR to Hamas to uphold the "unindicted coconspirator" designation.

This problem isn't limited to California. In March, Chicago Police Superintendent Garry McCarthy agreed to speak at CAIR-Chicago's annual fundraiser. Shockingly, a top law enforcement official was fundraising for a group that his government says is a Muslim Brotherhood front tied to Hamas. The event honored Kifah Mustapha, another "unindicted co-conspirator" in the Holy Land trial whose

documented involvement with the Brotherhood and Hamas prevented him from becoming the Illinois State Police's first Muslim chaplain.

Some law enforcement and counter-terrorism personnel have bent the rules to work with CAIR. In October 2010, the FBI field office in New Haven, Connecticut had the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut instruct its personnel in "Islamophobia." MCCT's website says CAIR is one of its partners and its leader is a former CAIR spokesperson. The FBI has officially ended using CAIR as a liaison partner, so the FBI field office made sure that the agency was not listed as a sponsor. Two CAIR officials spoke at the training seminar.

There is good reason to be worried about what outside groups may be involved. In October, the FBI said it had brought in outside groups to help oversee the "top-to-bottom review" of its counter-terrorism training materials. February 8, the FBI Director met with an interfaith coalition about the matter. It included the Islamic Society of North America, a Brotherhood front also designated as an "unindicted co-conspirator" by the government, and the Muslim Public Affairs Council. Afterwards, an FBI spokesman said the agency was "open to the idea" of establishing a committee to review the materials to make sure nothing "offensive" appears, but the groups needed to make a proposal first. Apparently, that proposal was provided because three experts on Islam are overseeing the review. To this day, the FBI refuses to disclose who these experts are.

In October, Department of Homeland Security and the National Counterterrorism Center issued guidelines to all law enforcement agencies for their counter-terrorism training. Any words with an Islamic connection such as "jihad" did not appear in the document. There were a total of nine references. One was a paper written by the Muslim Public Affairs Council. It is one of just two sources that aren't government websites. Sheriff Lee Baca's website was also used as a reference.

Our law enforcement agencies need a comprehensive education in what radical Islam is, because those in charge of protecting of us have been fooled into thinking that almost any Islamic group not named "Al-Qaeda" is moderate and worth embracing.

Ryan Mauro is a fellow with RadicalIslam.org, the founder of WorldThreats.com and a frequent national security analyst for Fox News Channel.

How to Secure and Prepare for Large Events

By Adam Stone

Source: http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/How-Secure-Prepare-Large-Events.html

In April 2011, as some 100,000 fans converged in Talladega, Ala., for another NASCAR extravaganza, event organizers slipped into emergency mode.

With tornadoes spotted throughout the

event disaster. Even seemingly tame gatherings can offer their share of mayhem, as when more than 100 rowdy fans were arrested and 200 or so more taken into protective custody when country star Kenny Chesney



immediate area, a unified command center formed at the race track to broadcast instructions and warnings. Police officers and track security along with federal and state agencies coordinated efforts within the facility, sending text messages to track executives, drivers, public relations reps — anyone working at the event.

Emergency managers in the command center also coordinated with local police to reach out to the 30,000 to 40,000 campers that were already hunkered down at the site.

"We knew we were going to have some bad weather," said Mike Lentz, senior director of security for NASCAR. And they did: Four tornadoes appeared within five miles of the race track, and while the twisters did not disrupt any race activities, emergency planners knew they had successfully safeguarded the scene.

It doesn't take something as dramatic as tornadoes at a car race to spell potential big-

performed at the Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Mass., in August 2009.

Bring together 80,000 people for a football game or 20,000 for a concert and the possibility exists for an emergency situation. During these events, the venue becomes a temporary city, with all the potential perils that implies. The combination of large numbers of people, in a confined space, with spirits high and alcohol flowing can lead to catastrophe. It's a threat that promoters, venue operators and emergency planners have learned to take seriously.

Dalai Lama Lockdown

Emergency managers can reel off the dangers inherent in any major event, from a crush in the doorways to an active shooter in the bleachers, from drunken brawls to the famed and sometimes fatal soccer riots seen in Europe.

Dave Touhey is well aware of the risks.

As senior vice president and general manager of the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C., he routinely sees crowds of 20,000 or more assemble for hockey games, rock concerts, circuses and ice follies. His most recent challenge came from more sacred precincts: an 11-day world peace event featuring the

mass gathering of people, there's a potential target," said Stacey Hall, associate director of the National Center for Spectator Sports Safety and Security. "In your worst-case scenario, you have a vehicle-borne IED, you have suicide bombers within the stadium. That's more than just your typical crowd control."



Dalai Lama that drew up to 16,000 people to any one session.

Security took on an international component, with venue operators working in close cooperation with the sacred guest's handlers in the State Department. To pre-empt political violence, Touhey kept tabs on the Homeland Security Information Network, which broadcasts unclassified potential threats. His team brought in metal detectors for the event, kept close watch on crowd control, and were especially careful around the trinket vendors.

"We're used to events handing out hats and towels. With this they had cleansing water and special beads," Touhey said. "Some of the people, you wouldn't think they were here for world peace, the way they were pushing through the crowds to get these things. So you have to manage around that too. It sounds easy when you talk about it, but when you are here for 14 hours a day, 11 days in a row, it wears on you."

If operators like Touhey have their hands full during major gatherings, at least they are not going it alone. It's typical for on-site security to work with the FBI, DHS and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives — any or all of whom may have a presence on game day. In this post-9/11 world, terrorism is an everpresent threat. "Anywhere where there is a

Getting Organized

Beyond crowd control and terror threats, event organizers also must wrangle with the Constitution, treading carefully on such issues as the rights to free assembly and free speech. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers organization has faced the issue firsthand in legal challenges to its policy of mandatory pat-downs, which some have viewed as illegal search-and-seizures. One elegant solution, Hall said, is to make the pat-downs a condition of entry. In such a case, fans submit voluntarily to the search, thus avoiding a constitutional clash.

Whatever the issue on the table, the fundamentals of security for big events remain largely the same, according to Matt Bettenhausen, chief security officer for AEG Worldwide, a promoter and stadium operator that puts on 10,000 events per year.

For example, it's typical for event operators either to hire off-duty police officers to help manage an event or, even more often, the venue will engage the services of local on-duty law enforcement, and will compensate the police department for those officers' time.

These front-line players handle block and tackle, everything from inspecting bags to facilitating medical assistance.

On a higher plane, emergency planning for a large event demands the nurturing of long-standing relationships, Bettenhausen said. "You want to get specific fire, police and EMS officials who regularly work with the facility," he said. "It really helps to have specifically designated first response partners. They get to know the facility, they get to understand crowd flow, they get to know our players, and we know theirs. You don't want to be handing out business cards when something happens."

For Bettenhausen, relationship-building has an internal element as well. With more than 100 stadiums and arenas in its portfolio, it's important that AEG makes security happen within its own ranks. Bettenhausen's team provides security training at one to two facilities per month.

The security team reviews best practices and policies, goes over past incidents and updates a facility's emergency operations plan at least once every three years. "Those are living documents," Bettenhausen said. "They need to be changed and modified as time goes on based on experience."

The flow of information goes both ways, with local venues pumping information back up to headquarters. "When there are incidents, we need to know who it was, what it was about. It's important for our analytical abilities," Bettenhausen said. "If there are things we see at one facility, it may be important to ask people to watch out at other facilities."

Beyond these internal checks, it's possible to take best practices one step further by engaging outside security experts to review the scene. "It's always better to have an external audit as well, someone who can see things you don't normally see, a fresh pair of eyes," Hall said. "You could have a hole in your fence or maybe your people are not adequately trained, and you may not be able to see those things yourself."

Police Protection

For law enforcement, a major event may demand the highest levels of emergency planning and response. While promoters and venues may handle much of the security burden on their own, ultimately they rely on public servants to ensure that things go smoothly.

A good example comes from Baltimore, where the annual Preakness Stakes horse race regularly draws more than 100,000 people. "We obviously are monitoring ticket sales week by week," said Baltimore Police Department (BPD) spokesman Anthony Guglielmi. As attendance figures swell, his department braces for impact.

While the BPD assigns a force to the track on race day, the department also delivers high-level security services for the event, coordinating all levels of emergency service through a 24-hour special operations section. Headed by a major, this one-stop shop has access to all assets, including SWAT teams and helicopters, if need be. It coordinates traffic management and organizes the activities of the several hundred uniformed and plainclothes officers who are working onsite at the race.

Guglielmi describes "the unexpected" as being the greatest challenge to securing the race. Sometimes that can work in favor of emergency planners. When race organizers limited drinking a few years back, for example, the BPD found itself happily overstaffed at the ground level.

But the unexpected always can swing the other way too. "All of a sudden it's 100 degrees and everyone is starting to pass out in the infield," Guglielmi said. "Not only do we have to make sure we have medical systems in place, but we also have to make sure the ambulances can get there and that they will have a clear way to the hospitals."

Sometimes in the face of the unexpected, the best thing emergency managers can do may be to use mind control. So says Mike Hasson, vice president of security and services at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia.

When the center hosted the X Games, a free sports event, roughly 12,000 patrons quickly filled the stadium, while thousands more visited outdoor exhibits. At one point, about 3,000 to 4,000 people gathered at the gate seeking entrance to the already at-capacity arena. Those at the back kept pressing forward even after the doors had closed. It was a perilous moment.

"Now you have created a crowd control situation that you hadn't been led to expect," Hasson said.

Security personnel took action. "We went out there, and we lied to the people through bullhorns. We told them the

building would open in half an hour, and we did that to get them away from creating this push," he

said. "That was the best way to create safety. We just lied."

Getting Buy-In

Nothing is ever easy in the world of emergency management — and big-event security is no exception.

First there's the sheer volume of security needs. No one venue will have a complement of personnel on staff sufficient to secure safety and deal with the possible contingencies of a large-scale event. That means hiring outside help, which can be problematic. "Part of the issue is that when you outsource this, you do lose some control over the level of training your people are receiving," Hall said. The solution lies in having a tightly scripted security

protocol, a crystal-clear set of policies and procedures backed by a methodical training regimen.

Then there is the money angle.

As security planners budget for training and other measures, they may butt up against financial constraints. "Management may not think there is a need. It's not going to happen to us, we've never had any issues in the past," Hall said. "Everybody is in a financial crisis and nobody wants to invest in security because there is 'no return.' So it's important for emergency managers to make the case for the cost-benefit analysis. It's critical that people understand the importance of being proactive."

Safety profiles protect people, pets, and emergency responders

Source: http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/srlet20120605-safety-profiles-protect-people-pets-and-emergency-responders

With National Pet Week underway, Rave Mobile Safety says it is encouraging the use of Smart911 to protect people and pets, as well as public safety personnel responding to 9-1-1 calls. Rave's Smart911 is a public/private

partnership creating a caller database which, the company says, is already helping citizens and emergency responders across twenty-three states.

Currently, when 9-1-1 receives a call, only a phone number and some level of location data are With displayed. Smart911. citizens create safety profiles online holding personal data which is automatically displayed to 9-1-1 only during emergency calls. This can include resident photos, floor-plans, specifics on medical conditions and disabilities, home addresses of cellphone callers, and other

rescue-related data. It can also include information on pets. This enables emergency responders to be more effective because they have access to a source of critical health and logistics information before arriving at the scene of an emergency. Knowing that a pet is on premise during an emergency allows a

better chance of avoiding tragedy for all involved.

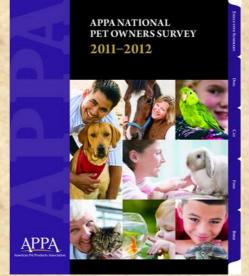
According to the 2011-2012 National Pet Owners Survey conducted by the American Pet Products Association, **63 percent of all U.S.**

households have a pet, the highest level in two decades. The survey also showed there are 78.2 million dog and 86.4 million cat owners, with more than half stating they would leap into action for an injured pet.

Rave notes that through Smart911, when police officers or EMTs arrive on the scene of an emergency they know whether a dog is on premise and can take

steps to see that the victim gets immediate attention without harm coming to a protective pet. Additionally, according to the U.S. Fire

Administration (USFA), there are an estimated 2,560 civilian fire fatalities each year, deaths that generally occur when an individual is escaping, sleeping,



or is unable to act. With Smart911, firefighters know where bedrooms are located, who lives at a property, their names and such things as the location of a gas main. This is the type of information that can save the lives of people and the animals they love, and authorities generally agree that at least 40,000 pets die yearly from smoke inhalation.

"When emergency responders arrive at a residence with information on what awaits, their effectiveness increases dramatically," said Tom Axbey, president and CEO, Rave Mobile Safety. "Pets can be very protective and simply knowing an animal's name can alleviate a potentially stressful situation. Smart911 is a great way for owners to protect themselves and all family members, including pets, while facilitating the work of public safety personnel that are there to help during emergency situations."

ISO offers new standard for business continuity management

Source: http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/srdisasters20120607-iso-offers-new-standard-forbusiness-continuity-management

International Organization for The Standardization (ISO) has published an international standard addressing business continuity management to contribute making organizations in both public and private sectors more resilient.

ISO 22301:2012, Societal security - Business continuity management systems Requirements, aims to help organizations,

This has led to a global awareness that organizations in the public and private sectors must know how to prepare for and respond to unexpected and disruptive incidents.

ISO 22301 provides a framework to plan, establish, implement, operate, monitor, review, maintain, and continually improve a business continuity management system (BCMS). It is expected to help organizations protect against, prepare for, respond to, and recover when disruptive

ISO22301

ISO22301 Business Continuity Programme Elements

regardless of their

Business Continuity Programme Management Embedding Competence and Awareness @ Understanding The Organization @ Selecting Business Continuity Options @ Developing and Implementing a Business Continuity Response Exercising and Testing

size, location, or activity, to be better prepared and more confident to handle disruption of any type.

Incidents can disrupt an organization at any time, and ISO says that applying ISO 22301 will ensure that organizations can respond and continue its operations. Incidents take many forms ranging from large scale natural disasters and acts of terror to technologyrelated accidents and environmental incidents. Most incidents are small, however, but can still have a significant impact and that makes business continuity management relevant at all times.



incidents arise.

Dr. Stefan Tangen, secretary of the ISO technical committee which developed the new standard, states: "Organizations implementing ISO 22301 will be able to demonstrate to legislators, regulators, customers, prospective customers and other interested parties that they are adhering to good practice in BCM. "It may also be used within an organization to measure itself against good practice, and by auditors wishing to report to management."

ISO 22301 aims to assist organizations in the design of a BCMS which is appropriate to its needs and meets its stakeholders' requirements. These needs are shaped by legal, regulatory, organizational, and industry factors, the organization's products and services, its size and structure, its processes, and its stakeholders.

Dave Austin, the project leader responsible for writing ISO 22301, explains: "To work well, ISO 22301 will need organizations to have thoroughly understood its requirements. Rather than being simply about a project or developing 'a plan', BCM is an ongoing management process requiring competent people working with appropriate support and structures that will perform when needed."

ISO notes that ISO 22301 is the first standard published which is aligned with the new ISO format for writing management systems standards. This should ease understanding

and ensure consistency with other management systems, such as ISO 9001 (quality management), ISO 14001 (environmental management), and ISO/IEC 27001 (information security management).

ISO 22301 may be used for third-party certification as well as for self assessment. To help users get the best out of the standard, it includes short and concise requirements describing the central elements of BCM.

Given the role of business continuity in every sector, ISO 22301 has a huge worldwide potential. So far, several countries have started to adopt ISO 22301, including Singapore and United Kingdom, to replace their existing national standards. There is already interest from business worldwide who wish apply good practice and obtain certification against this standard. This attests to its vast potential user base and expected benefits.

Mantis shrimp could inspire new body, vehicle armor

Source: http://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/6737

Military body armor and vehicle and aircraft frames could be transformed by incorporating the unique structure of the club-like arm of a crustacean that looks like an armored

caterpillar, according to findings by a team of researchers at the University of California, Riverside's Bourns College of Engineering and elsewhere published online today, June 7, in the journal *Science*.

A University of California-Riverside release reports that the bright orange fist-like club of the mantis shrimp, or stomatopod, a 4-inch long crustacean found in tropical waters, accelerates underwater faster than a 22-caliber

bullet. Repeated blows can destroy mollusk shells and crab exoskeletons, both of which have been studied for decades for their impact-resistant qualities.

The power of the mantis shrimp is exciting, but David Kisailus, an assistant professor at the Bourns College of Engineering, and his collaborators, were interested in what enabled the club to withstand 50,000 high-velocity strikes on prey during its lifespan. Essentially, how does something withstand 50,000 bullet impacts?

They found that the club is a highly complex structure, comprising three specialized regions that work together to create a structure tougher than many engineered ceramics.

The first region, located at the impacting surface of the club, contains a high

concentration of mineral, similar to that found in human bone, which supports the impact when the mantis shrimp strikes prey. Further inside, highly organized and rotated layers of chitin (a complex sugar) fibers dispersed in mineral act as a shock absorber, absorbing energy as

stress waves pass through the club. Finally, the club is encapsulated on its sides by oriented chitin fibers, which wrap



around the club, keeping it intact during these high velocity impacts.

"This club is stiff, yet it's light-weight and tough, making it incredibly impact tolerant and interestingly, shock resistant," Kisailus said. "That's the holy grail for materials engineers."



Kisailus said the potential applications in structural materials are widespread because the final product could be lighter weight and more impact resistant than existing products.

For example, with electric cars less weight will reduce power consumption and increase driving range. With airplanes, less weight would reduce fuel costs and better impact resistance would improve reliability and cut repair bills.

Kisailus, however, is primarily focused on improving military body armor, which can add

thirty pounds to a service member's load. His goal is to develop a material that is one-third the weight and thickness of existing body armor.

Kisailus and James C. Weaver, who worked with Kisailus as a post-doctoral scholar and is

now at Harvard University, began work on the mantis shrimp when Kisailus arrived at UC Riverside in 2007.

A mantis shrimp, which has a fist-like club that can accelerate underwater faster than a 22-caliber bullet. Photo credit: Silke Baron

They were later joined at UC Riverside by Garrett W. Milliron, a Ph.D. student, and Steven Herrera, an undergraduate student.

Kisailus, who studies the structures of marine animals for inspiration to develop new materials, has also worked with snails such as the abalone and chiton, as well as sea urchin.

Those animals were all studied for their defensive prowess, in other words their exterior protection from predators. The club of the mantis shrimp interested Kisailus because it is an

offensive tool.

"We have been studying these other organisms when we should have been studying this guy because he literally eats them for breakfast," Kisailus said.

The force created by the mantis shrimp's impact is more than 1,000 times its own weight. It is so powerful that Kisay characterization gave us multiple views of the same problem, making it a very thorough investigation," Kisailus said.

— Read more in James C. Weaver et al., "The Stomatopod Dactyl Club: A Formidable Damage-Tolerant Biological Hammer," <u>Science</u> 336, no. 60868 (7 June 2012): 1275-80

Fiction...

Flood wipes out London in new disaster movie

Source: http://www.metro.co.uk/film/58970-flood-wipes-out-london-in-new-disaster-movie

Has London fallen victim to the latest deluge of rain? These shocking pictures seem to suggest so but don't worry they're just images taken from new British disaster film Flood, based on the novel by Richard Doyle.





Westminster is underwater in new disaster film Flood

Flood looks at what happens after a raging storm coincides with heavy seas, unleashing a giant tidal wave into the city.

The Thames Barrier is overwhelmed as torrents of water pour into the capital, threatening millions of lives and submerging – as the picture shows – beloved landmarks like the Houses of Parliament, Millennium Dome, and Big Ben.



The Millennium Dome is just one of the landmarks affected in Flood

Trainspotting star Robert Carlyle plays a marine engineer, who only has hours to save the capital from total devastation with the help of his ex-wife Sam (Jessalyn Gilsig) and father Leonard (Tom Courtenay).

My Doyle claimed it was not a question of if London would ever be flooded but when. He believes that the Thames Barrier is obsolete and should be replaced by a larger one at Tilbury.

The book, which was published in 2003, describes how millions are left homeless and thousands die in the floods.



Flood sees half of London wiped out after the Thames Barrier fails

The Environment Agency has dismissed it as nonsense telling the Evening Standard: "It may make for a good read but it is not good science."

Flood, which also stars David Suchet, was shot on location in England and South Africa.

The film's producer Justin Bodle said: "This is a perfect story to tell. The Americans are brilliant at making this kind of film and they have cornered the market.

"We definitely wanted to make Flood in a different way and to present a grittier, European take on the genre, looking at how real people would deal with the situation".

The film is slated for release in August.

And reality...

Central line flooding adds to Tube fears during London 2012 Olympics

Source: http://www.metro.co.uk/olympics/901282-central-line-flooding-adds-to-tube-fears-during-london-2012-olympics

The flooding (June 8) and part suspension of the Central line has exacerbated fears the Tube will fail to cope with millions of extra passengers during the London 2012 Olympics. A burst water main yesterday saw two million litres of water pour down a ventilation shaft and flood tracks on the Central line, which

remains suspended between Leytonstone and Bethnal Green.

The Central line, along with the Jubilee line, is the key route connecting passengers in central London with the Olympic Stadium at Stratford, where the Tube station of the

same name was also closed due to flooding. Hundreds of passengers had to be led off a for the Olympics in seven weeks despite £9.3 billion being spent on preparations.



train and walk through flooded tracks after spending two hours trapped due to the burst pipe.

'We are currently working really hard to repair a pipe that has burst in Wick Lane causing disruption to the Central line,' a Thames Water spokesperson said. 'We're really sorry for the disruption this is causing.'

The problems on the Central line follow a bad few weeks for London Underground after a host of delays affecting the Bakerloo, Jubilee and District lines, while transport bosses were also criticised for

failing to cope with passengers in central London due to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee over the weekend.

One senior LU employee said: 'It is simply not going to be ready and there is nothing we can



do about it. It will not be able to cope with the extra numbers.

'Trains will break down and lines will shut. The

attitude at LU seems to be: "Let's just wait to see what happens – there's little more we can do now".' Up to a million extra people are expected to cram on to the Tube every day during the Games in July and August.

Cuts to the number of safety inspections on tracks, trains and escalators ahead of the Games are already taking its toll, unions say.

RMT leader Bob Crow said the Tube would

make London a 'laughing stock' while the eyes of the world were on it.



Earlier, insiders told Metro the 150-year-old Tube network would buckle under the workload when extra passengers descend on the capital

'Just weeks away from the Olympics the Tube cannot cope now let alone when it has to transport millions more passengers,' he added. Labour has called on mayor Boris Johnson to meet rail company bosses to make sure the transport network is ready.

Transport for London is urging commuters to leave work later or find other ways of getting to work to ease the pressure.

A spokesman said: 'We're confident but not complacent.'

What is at risk if London floods?

Source: http://www.21stcenturychallenges.org/focus/what-is-at-risk-if-london-floods/



1.5m people live in the defended floodplain of the River Thames and its tributaries. Many more people work, visit or travel through these potentially vulnerable areas.

The River Thames © ClaudeSchneider.com

The high density of the urban area means there is a rapid response to rainfall in both natural and constructed drainage systems, meaning that there may be no forewarning of fluvial and surface water flooding.

Central and Local Government

London is the seat of government and parliamentary activity for the UK. The Central Government district



of Whitehall is entirely within the Thames floodplain, along with the Houses of Parliament and City Hall, the Greater London Authority's HQ.

The Central Government district of Whitehall is entirely within the Thames floodplain

Large areas of Pimlico and Victoria are the site of important government offices. Local authority offices located in areas such as Hammersmith, Tower Hamlets and Newham town halls are also based within the floodplain.

The impact of a flood in these areas would be devastating, affecting not just London but the whole of the UK. It is hard to place a value on the loss or disruption caused but a recent report by the Environment Agency (2007) suggested the loss of staff time alone in the civil service would cost £10m per day. In spite of continuity arrangements for major crises, such an event could be profound.

Business

London is the UK's largest centre of economic activity and is often referred to as a leading global financial centre alongside New York and Frankfurt. London is estimated to contribute £250 billion to the UK economy each year.

Although the traditional centre of the 'square mile' of the City of London is outside the floodplain of the Thames, rapid development in the Docklands area is entirely within it. The Docklands is well protected against flooding, however the Environment Agency accept climate change will make existing defended areas more vulnerable over the this century.

The material damage to the skyscrapers located in the area may be relatively small, however the expense of relocation of business and the damage to transport could be significant.

Disruption caused from a serious flood could result in losses for the UK as a whole, notably the tourism industry, as London is not only a popular destination but a stopover for people traveling the country.

New development

The Thames Gateway; Europe's largest regeneration project and the site for an estimated 200,000 new homes by 2020, is attracting investment in the housing and commercial sectors. As this area is located largely in the floodplain, flood risk is already a concern for developers who aim to ensure new development manages and limits flood risk. This flooding risk to the Thames Gateway has been raised in numerous debates at the House of Commons and continues to be a source of debate amoung parliamenray leaders.

The London Underground

The London Underground (LU) is a vital part of London's infrastructure, with over 1 billion journeys



made each year. Much of the central area of the Tube network is based within the floodplain and 38 underground and Docklands Light Railway stations could be at risk.

38 underground and DLR stations could be at risk of flooding

Short periods of heavy rain, as witnessed on August 2002 in London, can result in surface water flooding, often described as flash flooding, which can lead to disable affected Tube line(s) for extended periods. Estimates put

the loss of one days disruption on the underground at £0.75m.

The LU Environmental Report (2006) noted that studies have shown that sections of the underground network are vulnerable to flooding from the River Thames. Incident data from the report shows flooding and adverse weather conditions accounted for 32% of environmental incidents in 2005/6.

Following the London Climate Change Partnership's study of the effects of climate change on London's transport system LU undertook an upgrade of the drainage systems on the Jubilee, Northern and Piccadilly lines to help mitigate the risk of flooding at key stations.

The LU Environmental Report (2008) reported that in 2009-2010 LU and the London Climate Change Partnership Transport Working Group will be working on prioritising vulnerable underground stations to ensure that the transport system in London is prepared for the effects of climate change.

Future plans

Thames Estuary 2100 is a flood management plan for London and the Thames Estuary, lead by Dave Wardle, Environment Agency. The plan takes into account the impact of climate change, rising sea levels and the natural ageing of flood defence infrastructure to plan and manage flood risk in the region up until 2100.

The usual response to this risk has been to construct fixed, raised defences in the form of walls or embankments, these however, do not eliminate the chance of flooding entirely and can often provide a false sense of security or complacency among those living or working in defended areas.

Due to climate change both the chance and consequence of flooding are increasing. Sea level rise, more frequent and higher storm surges and increased winter rainfall and more intense summer rainfall will add to existing risk. The London Flood Response Strategic Plan notes that it may not prove possible to improve fixed defences sufficiently to maintain or raise protection standards.

Floods are mostly natural events that result from either excessive rainfall that leads to rivers overflowing their banks, or from tidal storm surges on the coast or in estuaries such as the Thames Estuary.

The damage and death that can potentially be caused only occur due to the human activity that takes place in river valleys or estuaries where floodwater spreads. In urban areas



such as London, man made drainage systems may have inadequate capacity or become blocked leading to further flooding.

Planning Policy Statement 25 - Development and flood risk (PPS25) (LINK TO PPS25 PDF) advises avoiding building on development in flood risk areas, a common concern regarding the ongoing development of the Thames Gateway region.



Photo source (7 June 2012): http://www.tntmagazine.com/news/london/londons-central-line-chaos-caused-by-thames-waters-two-million-litre-flood

True or False?

Two Bulgarian servicemen detained for stolen missiles

08 June 2012

Source: http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n280030



Two people working with Bezmer Air Base have been detained because of the case with the stolen missiles, announced general Krum Manov, chief of the Military Appellate Prosecutor's Office, FOCUS -Sliven Radio reported. 10 suspects were questioned and two people are under 72-hour arrest – sergeant Zhivko Spasov, who is responsible for the warehouse of the air base, and his direct chief major Nikolay Nikolov, who is logistics chief. Two charges were pressed against each of them – about misappropriation and about storage of munitions in large amounts without a permit. According to the law the first charge brings 3 to 15 years' imprisonment and the second one – from 3 and 10 years in jail. Sergeant Spasov and major Nikolov were detained, because they

are directly responsible for the security of the air base and the munitions stored in the warehouses, said military prosecutor Hristo Tinev.



Air-to-surface missiles were for testing in Bezmer, according to the director of the plant

08 June 2012

Source: http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n280061

Air-to-surface missiles carried by two military and detained on suspicion of illegal transaction had to be transported to the Vazov Machine Building (VMZ) factory, **BNR** reported. The missiles were

transported for testing in Bezmer and had to be returned back to the VMZ. That is what director of the arms factory Ivan Stoenchev said. He assured that there are documents to prove his statement.

New silicone plaster promotes wound healing

Source: http://www.gizmag.com/eth-wound-healing-plaster/22795/

Even the smallest wound is potentially serious, so something as simple as a finger plaster and a little disinfectant can make the difference when it comes to preventing a nasty infection. But a dressing can do more than just keep out germs. That's the idea behind work of the Laboratory of Thermodynamics in Emerging

healing through the use of specially contoured silicone that promotes cell migration.

How wounds heal is a very complex process that involves all sorts of chemical and biological functions in an overlapping cascade that breaks down into four phases. In the first, the body fights to control bleeding. In the second, it

combats infections. In the third, it rebuilds the damaged tissues and in the fourth, it closes and seals the wound. The third, rebuilding, phase is called the "proliferative" phase. As part of this phase, special cells called fibroblasts migrate into the wound and help to rebuild tissue by making collagen and constructing a framework on which new tissue can grow.

Electron microscope image of ETH's silicone wound-healing plaster (Image: A. Marmaras / ETH Zurich)

Though there are many other processes going on at the same time, the fibroblasts are

vital to healing the wound, so it's important that they move into the area as quickly and completely as possible.

The problem is that the fibroblasts move in from the edges of the

HV WD det mode HFW pressure 50 μm 5.00 kV 10.0 mm ETD SE 150 μm 2.86e-4 Pa EMEZ Quanta 200F

Technologies (ETH) in Zurich, Switzerland, where (Greek) Prof. Dimos Poulikakos and his team of engineers and biologists are developing a new plaster that not only protects a wound from infection, it can also accelerate



wound. As they advance, they move in a formation that's a bit like a line of soldiers all marching in step. This works fine when the wound is a cut or shaped with straight edges because the advancing lines of fibroblasts from the various edges can march toward one another and meet flat, thus enabling the wound to heal quickly and completely. However, if the wound is roundish, then the advancing lines form a contracting circle. The fibroblasts crowd in on one another and jam up, so the healing is slow and imperfect. Also, if a wound is very large, such as when a patch of skin has been lost or damaged, the fibroblasts take a very long time to reach the center, which increases the chances of infection and scarring.

What the new plaster from the ETH team does is to speed up and make easier the migration of the fibroblasts into the wound. It does this through a special silicone plastic called Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS), which doesn't stick to wounds or to fibroblasts, so it can be removed easily without causing damage. The team used a soft lithography technique to

embed parallel grooves in the plastic one micrometre wide and 0.6 micrometres deep. These grooves are not only too small to be seen with the eye, they are also smaller than the fibroblasts. However, they are large are enough to hamper the movement of the fibroblasts unless they follow the grooves. Since fibroblasts prefer to follow the path of least resistance, the grooved plaster becomes a sort of highway that guides the fibroblasts into the wound without bumping into each other. This way, they can spread over the entire wound quickly and promote a much faster healing.

So far, this new healing plaster is still in the laboratory phase. The "wounds" that it's healed have been single layer tissue cultures, but the results have been very promising and the team hopes to soon go on to the next phase, which is animal and human testing to see how the plaster fares against more complex tissues.

The researchers see the main application of the plaster in treating burns, where healing and scarring are major issues.

Expert warns of UFO activity during London Olympics

Source: http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2012/06/09/245392/ufo-activity-london-olympics/

A UK UFO expert has warned about the possibility of sudden alien appearance in London skies during the upcoming Olympic Games in the British capital.



Nick Pope in front of the Jodrell Bank Observatory

"With the summer of mass events we are all on high alert for terrorism. But we must also cast our eyes further afield and be prepared for even the most seemingly unfathomable," said Nick Pope, who has worked with the Ministry of Defense for more than two decades.

Pope who investigated UFO reports between 1991 and 1994, says his studies convinced him

that the sightings raised important defense

for national security and air safety issues.

"It has been a widely held belief in Ministry of Defense circles that "aliens" have been able to detect us for decades via TV and radio broadcasts," he said adding that mass summer events would be a prime time for alien crafts to present themselves to mankind.

"If aliens have studied our psychology, they may choose to appear in our skies on a significant date - the closing ceremony of the Olympic Games is one date being widely circulated by conspiracy groups." Pope said aliens would come in a spirit of warmth, friendship and shared learning, but the government was also prepared for the worst scenarios such as alien attack and invasion.

"If UFOs came into our atmosphere, RAF jets such as the Eurofighter Typhoons, and missiles such as the Rapiers guarding the Olympic Games would be well equipped to enter the fray," he

said.

Pope is known as the person "working on the X-Files of the UK," and has given lectures and

TV interviews about his views on the existence of UFOs since he left MoD in 2006.



EDITOR'S COMMENT: Really puzzled! A "clever" security advertisement? Open indication that there are many skeletons hidden in locked closets? Promotion of future sales of Eurofighter/Rapier? Profitable personal business promotion? On the other hand, this person was once an active member of Directorate of Defense Security at UK MoD!

Fighter jets on Old Trafford terror alert for 2012 Olympics

Source: http://menmedia.co.uk/manchestereveningnews/news/s/1581043_fighter-jets-on-old-trafford-terror-alert-for-2012-olympics-matches

Fighter jets are on stand-by to reach Old Trafford in 20 minutes if terrorists mount an air

unprecedented package of security measures. Armed and undercover police officers will be

Restricted zone

Prohibited zone

Olympic stadium

Reathrow

Olympic stadium

Condon City

Heathrow

Restricted zone

Olympic stadium

Condon City

out in force, and all fans will be searched before being allowed to enter the ground. Military radar will be used to detect any breaches of the no-fly zone with Eurofighter Typhoons on alert to intercept any planes that fail to comply. The eyes of the world will be on United's stadium during the games, with the football tournament kicking off two days before the official opening ceremony. Greater Manchester Police and the security services have been planning their Olympic operation for the past six

attack during Olympic football matches, the M.E.N. can reveal. A two-mile no-fly zone will be enforced around the stadium as part of an

months. A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said there were no 'specific threats' against any of the venues being used for



the Games, including Old Trafford. But he added: "MI5, MI6 and all the security services are working all the time to gather any intelligence relating to threats. "The no-fly zones are sensible precautions along with the enhanced addition of up to four typhoons at three bases across the country." It is understood Eurofighters will be placed on stand-by at RAF bases in Northholt near London, Coningsby in Lincolnshire, and Leuchars in Scotland. MoD sources said it would take 20 minutes to scramble and fly one of the 1,550mph jets to Manchester. The no-fly zone will be in place during, before and after each of the Olympic football matches taking place at the stadium. The first game at Old Trafford takes place on July 26, the day before the official opening ceremony. The no-fly zone will be in place from 2pm to 10.45pm on that day. The zone will also be enforced on July 29 (9am-5.45pm), July 31 (2.15pm-8.15pm), August 1 (2pm-8pm), August 4 (9am-3pm), August 6 (4.45pm-10.45pm), and August 7 (5.45pm-10.45pm). It is not expected to affect the flight path of planes heading to and from Manchester Airport. Manchester City Airport -

formerly known as Barton aerodrome - will have extra security in place and part of its airspace will be off-limits during the restrictions. Aircraft used by police and medics will be exempt from the restrictions. Transport secretary Justine Greening said: "The government's paramount objective is the delivery of a safe and secure 2012 games for all, and the airspace restrictions will help to provide this whilst minimising the impact on the aviation community, so far as possible." Games organisers LOCOG have also arranged 'meet and greet' inspectors to intercept supporters on the forecourts outside the stadium. They will check fans have valid tickets and will carry out searches, confiscating drugs, alcohol and weapons. Supporters will then be asked to put their possessions in a transparent A4-sized plastic bag before heading to the turnstiles. A spokesman for Greater Manchester Police said: " "We have a risk and intelligence led approach to keeping the Games safe, considering threats from terrorism to natural disaster. Our policing will respond as required, while supporting what should be a celebration of sport."

EDITOR'S COMMENT: This is an open source article and therefore the content is not written by a military specialist/planner. Nevertheless, few questions arise: (1) "Twenty minutes to scramble" – this means that military radars should spot intruder or renegade plane from a far away distance, otherwise what is the point of interception? (2) "Aircraft used by police and medics will be exempt from the restrictions of the no-fly-zone" – what if a medic aircraft is taken over by terrorists? (3) Is the British PM ready and willing to give the final "go ahead" to shoot down a no responding civilian aircraft approaching a city or Olympic venue? It is always reasonable to promote state security capabilities ahead of mega events but is should be done in a way that both populace and global experts watching to get the right message! In example, if instead of scrambling time, "readiness time of 5 min" was written, the feeling of "we have it under full control" would be better communicated to the right direction.



New truncal tourniquet ready for battlefield use

Source: http://www.army.mil/article/72172

Saving the lives of combat wounded is one of the main objectives at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Research on prehospital care devices like the tourniquet has proven to save lives in the battlefield wounds to the arms or legs, which was once the most common cause of preventable death.

Now, after almost two years of

research on a device to prevent the most common cause of preventable death in the battlefield, the junctional tourniquet is ready for battlefield use.

"Exsanguination, or bleeding to death, from the body is now the most common cause of preventable death to wounded warriors on the battlefield," said Dr. John F. Kragh, an orthopedic surgeon and researcher at U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, or USAISR. "Groin hemorrhage is the most

common type of junctional bleeding where regular tourniquets cannot work."

Research on the effectiveness and type of battlefield truncal tourniquet began in 2009 after the Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care



made it a research priority. Shortly after this, the Combat Casualty Care Research Program, of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, and USAISR headquarters requested candidate devices for the research.

The Combat Ready Clamp, or CRoC, which has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, is manufactured by Combat

Medical Systems in Fayetteville, N.C. This clamp was selected from a handful of junctional tourniquet prototypes from those submitted after the request for candidate devices.

"The CRoC is a vice-like tourniquet that can be placed over the groin and lower abdomen," said Kragh. "A pressure ball is screwed down to press on the artery and to stop the bleeding."

The USAISR is committed to optimizing combat casualty

care by focusing on providing requirement-driven combat casualty care medical solutions and products for injured Soldiers, from self-aid through definitive care, across the full spectrum of military operations.



Source:http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20120613-two-new-articles-in-the-journal-of-homeland-security-education

Two new articles have been added to the *Journal of Homeland Security Education*'s latest issue (Spring 2012):

Homeland Security Education across the Atlantic

Authors Don Wallace of the University of Central Missouri, Craig McLean of Northumbria University (United Kingdom), William Parrish of Virginia Commonwealth University, and Sarah Soppitt of Northumbria University (United Kingdom), and Daniel Silander of Linnaeus University (Sweden) have been examining homeland security academic provisions in the United States and the EU. The study aims to help develop benchmarks and assess core areas within the homeland security-related curricula. With frequent calls for closing the gap between security services and academia, these findings could have an impact on establishing specific benchmarks for homeland security specific academic programs. In the U.S. context, these academic programs reflect a post-9/11 government restructuring which has not occurred to the same extent in either the governmental or academic institutions in the EU.



European Education in HS Issues. This project also examined the state of HS education in the EU. At the 2011 ISA Convention in Montreal members of the project reported that 146 EU-based academic programs, delivered in English, have at least a tangential connection with Homeland Security-related issues (McLean, Wallace, Soppitt, Parrish, Silander & Irving, 2011). However, these programs, unlike US academic programs, which are focused on professional training, were located in traditional academic programs. These were identified by using search terms that describe the definitions of the mission areas of Homeland Security as identified by the National Strategy for Homeland Security of 2002, the curricular benchmarking efforts of HSDECA and the ASD 2007 memorandum on competencies in educational and professional development programs.

Of these 146 programs (which cover baccalaureate through doctoral-level programs), 61.6% listed International Relations under their program goals and objectives. This was followed in descending order by security (45.9%), global issues/globalization (39%), terrorism (29.4%), war (28.1%), and political science (19.9%). For the core courses/courses for these EU-based programs there is a focus on International Relations (41.1%), security (35.6%), global issues/globalization (21.2%), and law (16.4%). Thus, to facilitate the comprehension of the academic developments in Homeland Security issues in European institutions, a foundation in studies of International Relations and globalization for U.S. academics may be appropriate for engagement in a dialogue with their European counterparts

EDITOR'S COMMENT: I recently asked 8 university medical schools (departments of medical education) in the UK, if interested to include into their curricula the module "CBRNE Medical Defense" for their future front-line health professionals. So far I got three negative responses and five yet to answer. Also, currently – with the exception of a MA degree provided in Rome, Italy (see relevant ad in the home page of Newsletter's home page – there is no postgraduate degree dedicated to CBRNE Terrorism. It seems that after NBC (No Body Cares) we are slowly declining to "Can't Bother Right Now" (CBRN) era...



Reflective Journaling: Building Bridges between Theory and Practice

By Kenneth Goldberg of National University. Assessing practitioner experience as it relates to subject theory can be challenging, but critically important in homeland defense and security programs where student experiences are often utilized in the process of applying learning objectives. Consequently, a common question that faces educators is: How can seemingly unique practitioner experiences be consistently applied to appropriate theory and assessed for the understanding of course learning objectives? This commentary explores how reflective journaling can utilize unique practitioner experiences that can be applied to learning objectives.



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U.K. bans ad campaign using images of 7/2005 terrorist attacks images

Source: http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20120613-u-k-bans-ad-campaign-using-images-of-7-2005-terrorist-attacks-images

The U.K. Advertising Standards Authority has banned an advertising campaign by a fortified

The ASA described the use of the images of the destroyed bus in Tavistock Square as



window glass maker which used images of the 5 July 2005 terrorist bombing in London. The offending company, Northgate Solar Controls, sent mailings to 4,400 businesses in the greater London area, warning them that there is a heightened risk of terrorist action during the coming Olympic Games, and advising them to install the company's anti-shatter glass as protection.

The Guardian reports that the mailing included vivid images of the double-decker bus on which one of the British-born terrorists detonated and explosive device, and of shattered windows in neighboring businesses and apartments.

"wholly inappropriate and shocking" and likely to cause serious offense. The ASA said in its ruling that the campaign had "exaggerated the potential threat faced by businesses due to the Olympic Games and could have caused undue fear and distress to someone who received the mailing." The ASA said the advertising campaign breached the advertising code and was therefore banned.

The mailing from Northgate warned businesses that there were likely "terrorist sleeper cells" in London, waiting to be activated during the Olympic Games and launch attacks affecting businesses.

EDITOR'S COMMENT: This is a classical case that "when the finger was pointing the moon, authorities were looking at the finger". It is well known that following the detonation of an IED in urban environment, glass fragments behave like secondary bullets and are responsible of more than 80% of wounds caused to innocent civilians. July 2005 bombing is a historical fact and we should learn from it instead of banning efforts that might fortify buildings and people in the case of an undesirable repetition of this dreadful event.

2012 Olympic Games: Opening Ceremony details revealed

Source: http://www.newsbeast.gr/world/arthro/367741/apokalufthikan-stoiheia-gia-tin-teleti-enarxis-ton-olubiakon-agonon-/

EDITOR'S COMMENT: An aerial security gap?





QUIZ - Answer

Kryptos is an encrypted sculpture by American artist Jim Sanborn located on the grounds of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Langley, Virginia. Since its dedication on November 3, 1990, there has been much speculation about the meaning of the encrypted messages it bears. Of the four messages, three have been solved, with the fourth remaining one of the most famous unsolved codes in the world. The sculpture continues to provide a diversion for cryptanalysts, both amateur and professional, who are attempting to decrypt the final section. The name Kryptos comes from the Greek word for "hidden", and the theme of the sculpture is "intelligence gathering." The most prominent feature is a large vertical S-shaped copper screen resembling a scroll, or piece of paper emerging from a computer printer, covered with characters constituting encrypted text. The characters consist of the 26 letters of the standard Latin alphabet and question marks cut out of the copper. The main sculpture contains four separate enigmatic messages, three of which have been solved.





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