The background of the slide features a dark, semi-transparent overlay of the United States Capitol building and the American flag. The Capitol's dome is prominent on the left, and the flag's stars and stripes are visible across the center and right. The overall color palette is muted, with shades of brown, grey, and white, creating a serious and official atmosphere.

Terrorism Threats, Types (CBRNE) & Trends

Defining Terrorism

“Terrorism is the unlawful use of force or violence, or threatened use of force or violence, against persons and places for the purpose of intimidating and / or coercing a government, its citizens, or any segment thereof for political or social goals.”

Department of Justice, FBI

Defining Weapons of Mass Destruction

“(A) Any destructive device as defined in section 921 of this title (which reads) any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, or mine or device similar to the above, (B) poison gas, (C) any weapon involving a disease organism, or (D) an weapon that is designed to release radiation or radioactivity at a level dangerous to human life.”

-18 USC, Section 2332a

Summarizing Weapons of Mass Destruction

- Destructive devices may include:
 - Disease organism
 - Incendiary
 - Radiological release
 - Poison gas
 - Explosives

Potential Threat Element (PTE)

- A group or individual
- Alleged threat of violence
- Capacity to acquire weapons of mass destruction
- Against persons or property
- For political or social goals

Objectives of a PTE and a Terrorist

- Demoralize a government, its citizens and their beliefs
- Produce fear
- Threaten civil liberties, economy, & ideals
- Threaten or use of WMD to negotiate a position of power
- Advance their cause through media coverage of a terrorist event
- To demonstrate power by killing many people
- Eliminate the faith of people in their government
- Cause economic, social, and/or agricultural destruction

Statement Released by al-Qaida Spokesman Sulaiman bu Ghaith

“We are still at the beginning of the road... Americans have not yet suffered from us what we have suffered from them. The United States had killed, directly or indirectly, thousands in Iraq, Palestinian territories, Afghanistan, Sudan, Philippines, Bosnia and Kashmir. So we have the right to kill four million Americans, including one million children, displace double that figure and injure and cripple hundreds of thousands. We have the right to fight them by chemical and biological weapons so that they catch the fatal and unusual diseases that Muslims have caught due to their (U.S.) chemical and biological weapons.”

June 2002

Forms of Terrorism Attacks

- Explosion and fire
- Hostage and shooting
- Release of chemical and biological agents
- Nuclear weapons and nuclear material
- Economic terrorism
- Cyber terrorism



Domestic PTE Motivations

Motivation

- Religious
- Political
- Racial
- Special interest



Domestic PTE Motivations

Motivation

- **Religious**
 - Considered the most dangerous motivation
 - Fanatical
 - Complete sacrifice
 - No concern for public opinion



Domestic PTE Motivations

Motivation

- **Political**

- Motivation is political in nature
- Both U.S. and foreign involvement

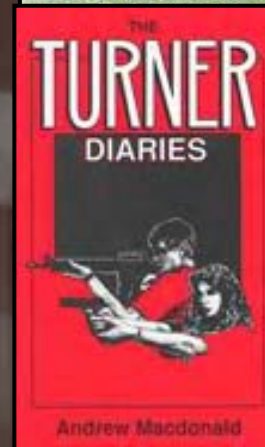


Domestic PTE Motivations

Motivation

- **Racial**

- Change the current society
- Create a new and better society

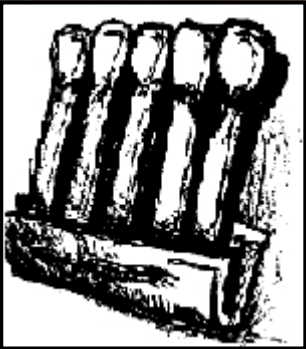


Domestic PTE Motivations

Motivation

- **Special interest**

- Often have social agendas
- Increased violence
 - » Animal rights
 - » Anti abortion
 - » Environmental protection activities



Potential PTE Targets

- **Government functions**
 - Buildings, events, and organizations
- **Lifelines**
 - Gas, water, electric, waste water, telephone
- **Transportation systems**
 - Air, rail, roadway, ports / harbors systems

Selection of Potential PTE Targets

- Target name
 - Recognizable
 - Emotion impact of selection
 - Create a lack of trust in the government

to protect society

- Significant dates
 - Group specific
 - Events
 - Birthdays / anniversaries



Impact of Terrorism Attacks

- Mass casualties / mass fatalities
- Curtailment of critical resources and services
- Disruption of infrastructure systems
- Disruption of work and economy
- Increased evidence of critical incident stress



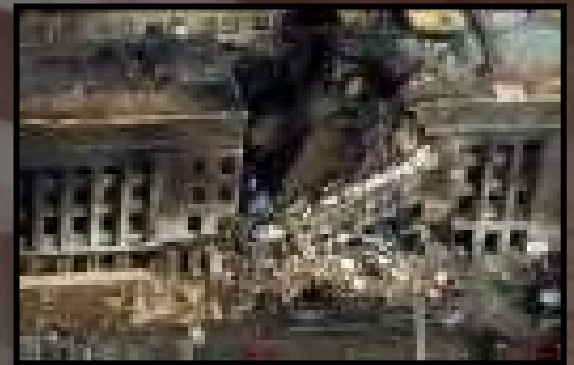
Impact on Responders

- New operational environment (uncharted areas)
- New operational techniques
- Onsite training required
- Rapid coordination of operations
- Special resources required
- Increased evidence of critical incident stress




Impact on Local, State, And Federal Governments

- Loss of facilities, resources, and personnel
- Disruption of operational services
- New requirements to support response and recovery efforts
- Loss of financial tax base
- Possible loss of organizational leadership
- Unexpected expenditures and changes in operating procedures



WMD and Natural Disaster Response Characteristics

- Similarities:
 - Can occur without warning
 - Can cause evacuation or displacement
 - Can overwhelm jurisdiction resources
 - Can have severe environmental impact
 - Recovery costs can be millions of dollars
- Differences:
 - WMD based incidents may...
 - Not be immediately recognized as a terrorist attack
 - May not be a single event
 - Places responders in danger due to secondary devices
 - Result in contamination of critical facilities and large areas
 - The incident is a crime scene



Questions, Thoughts & Answers

