UNIT 8: TERRORISM AND CERT

In this unit you will learn about:

- **What Terrorism Is:** The definition of terrorism and terrorist goals.
- **Terrorist Weapons:** The weapons that terrorists are known or are suspected to have and the risk posed by various terrorist weapons.
- **B-NICE Indicators:** Cues that help to identify a when a terrorist attack has occurred or may be imminent.
- **CERTs and Terrorist Incidents:** CERT protocols for terrorist incidents and protective action following an event.

UNIT 8: TERRORISM AND CERT

OBJECTIVES	At the conclusion of this unit, the participants should be able to: ▪ Define terrorism. ▪ Identify potential targets within the community. ▪ Identify CERT operating procedures for a terrorist incident. ▪ Describe the actions to take following a suspected terrorist incident.
SCOPE	The scope of this unit will include: ▪ Introduction and Unit Overview. ▪ What is Terrorism? ▪ Terrorist Targets ▪ Terrorist Weapons ▪ B-NICE Indicators ▪ Preparing at Home and Work ▪ Unit Summary
ESTIMATED COMPLETION TIME	2 hours 30 minutes
TRAINING METHODS	The Instructor will introduce this unit by describing CERT's role within the President's Citizen Corps program. He or she will then define terrorism, using the Department of Justice definition and provide several examples of terrorist attacks within the United States. Then, the Instructor will describe the terrorists' goals. Next, the Instructor will describe the main categories of weapons that terrorists are known to have or are suspected of having. During this discussion, the Instructor will introduce the acronym B-NICE (biological, nuclear, incendiary, chemical, explosive) as a way of remembering each category of weapons. The Instructor will describe each type of weapon briefly, including the types of damage or injury that they can cause and, in the case of biological and chemical weapons, routes of exposure. At the end of this discussion, the Instructor will present a graphic that describes the FBI's assessment of the risk posed by and the impact that could be expected from each type of weapon. Following this topic, the Instructor will cover steps to take to prepare for a terrorist incident and steps to take if an incident has occurred including shelter-in-place procedures and emergency decontamination procedures.

TRAINING METHODS (CONTINUED)

In the next topic, the Instructor will describe the environmental and physical indicators that serve as cues that a terrorist attack has occurred or may be imminent. Then, he or she will link these cues to CERT protocols for terrorist incidents, emphasizing team safety as the first priority. This discussion will include measures that CERT members can take to increase their safety levels (e.g., time, distance, and shielding; immediate decontamination; and not treating those who may have been contaminated), what they can do to protect others, and what to expect when professional responders arrive.

At the end of this unit, the participants will work in teams to apply CERT principles to a suspected terrorist incident.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- *Community Emergency Response Team* Instructor Guide
- *Community Emergency Response Team* Participant Manual
- Visuals 8.1 through 8.27

EQUIPMENT

The following additional equipment is required for this unit:

- A computer with PowerPoint software
- A computer projector and screen

NOTES

A suggested time plan for this unit is as follows:

Introduction and Unit Overview ..... 10 minutes
What is Terrorism? ..... 10 minutes
Terrorist Targets ..... 10 minutes
Terrorist Weapons ..... 30 minutes
B-NICE Indicators ..... 20 minutes
Preparing at Home and Work ..... 20 minutes
CERTs and Terrorist Incidents ..... 20 minutes
Activity: Applying CERT Principles to a Suspected Terrorist Incident ..... 25 minutes
Unit Summary ..... 5 minutes

Total Time: 2 hours 30 minutes

REMARKS

It is not possible to present comprehensive information about terrorists or their weapons in the timeframe provided for this unit. Refer the participants to *Are You Ready?* for more information about possible terrorist attacks and how to prepare for them.

UNIT 8: TERRORISM AND CERT

INTRODUCTION AND UNIT OVERVIEW

INTRODUCE UNIT

Introduce the instructors for this unit and ask any new instructors to briefly describe their experience with terrorism planning.

Remind the group that, in his January 29, 2002, State of the Union address, the President asked Americans to volunteer their services to improve and safeguard our country and created the Citizen Corps program to help Americans meet this call to service.

VISUAL 8.1

Citizen Corps

Citizen Corps areas of emphasis:

- Crime
- Natural disasters
- Terrorism

Visual 8.1

Explain that one of the volunteer opportunities offered to the American public under the Citizen Corps umbrella is the CERT program.

Given the increased threat of terrorist attacks on American soil, CERT members must be educated about CERT protocols and procedures for terrorist incidents and the actions that CERTs should take following a possible terrorist attack.

VISUAL 8.2

INTRODUCTION AND UNIT OVERVIEW (CONTINUED)

Unit Objectives

- Define terrorism.
- Identify potential targets in the community.
- Identify CERT operating procedures for a terrorist incident.
- Describe the actions to take following a suspected terrorist incident.

Visual 8.2

Tell the participants that at the end of this unit, they should be able to:

- Define terrorism.
- Identify potential targets in the community.
- Identify CERT operating procedures for a terrorist incident.
- Describe the actions to take following a suspected terrorist incident.

VISUAL 8.3

WHAT IS TERRORISM?

What is Terrorism?

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

-- U.S. Department of Justice

Visual 8.3

Introduce this topic by providing the U.S. Department of Justice's definition of terrorism:

> . . .the unlawful use of force or violence committed by a group or individual against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.

Stress that terrorism may be perpetrated by foreign or domestic individuals or groups. Point out that while the United States has not had as many terrorist incidents as some other countries, we have had several serious attacks, including:

- The bombing of the World Trade Center (1993).
- The bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City (1995).
- The bombing at the Atlanta Olympic Games (1996).
- Bombings at family planning clinics and gay bars in the Atlanta area (1996 and 1997).
- The destruction of the World Trade Center and a portion of the Pentagon (2001).
- The sending of anthrax through the U.S. Mail (2001).

VISUAL 8.4

WHAT IS TERRORISM? (CONTINUED)

Each of these incidents demonstrates that we live with the possibility of additional terrorist attacks on our own soil.

Terrorist Goals

- Mass casualties
- Loss of critical resources
- Disruption of vital services
- Disruption of the economy
- Individual and mass panic

Visual 8.4

Explain that terrorist attacks can occur with or without warning. Because of the nature of terrorist attacks, they can—and are often intended to—result in:

- Mass casualties.
- Loss of critical resources.
- Disruption of vital services.
- Disruption of the economy.
- Individual and mass panic.

TERRORIST TARGETS

Tell the group that terrorists choose their targets to meet their goals. For example, the Oklahoma City bombing was a strike against the Federal government that caused mass panic in the Oklahoma City area. The 9/11 attacks struck both our economy and our military establishment, while raising casualty levels to new heights and changing the way America thinks about its safety.

Point out that terrorists select "soft" or lightly protected targets over "hard" or very secure targets.

ASK QUESTION

Based on what you know about terrorists and their goals, what do you think would be likely targets in this area?

Allow the group time to respond. Summarize their responses by suggesting potential terrorist targets:

- Seats of government
- Key industries
- Bridges, subways, tunnels, and other key transportation facilities
- Water supplies and utilities

Remind the group that terrorists may also be drawn to major events such as parades or athletic events. Also, remind them that because of this, participants may see increased security measures to help deter and prevent terrorism.

VISUAL 8.5

TERRORIST WEAPONS

Tell the group that experts generally agree that there are five categories of possible terrorist weapons. The acronym B-NICE will help the participants to remember.

Terrorist Weapons

- **B**iological
- **N**uclear
- **I**ncendiary
- **C**hemical
- **E**xplosive

Visual 8.5

- Biological weapons
- Nuclear weapons and radiological dispersal devices
- Incendiary devices
- Chemical devices
- Explosive devices

VISUAL 8.6

TERRORIST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)

Biological Weapons

- Targets: People, animals, crops
- Routes of exposure: Inhalation, ingestion, absorption

Agents:

- May take days or weeks to be confirmed.
- May spread for beyond initial contamination point.
- Considered high risk.

Visual 8.6

The weapons thought to be available to at least some terrorist groups include:

1. **B**iological weapons. Biological agents are found in nature. Some countries, however, have devised ways to weaponize biological agents so that they can be disseminated to affect broad segments of the population, animal populations, or crops.

   Some biological agents are contagious, but many are not. Routes of exposure for biological weapons are:

   - Inhalation.
   - Ingestion.
   - Absorption.

   Many, but not all, biological agents take days or even weeks for their symptoms to appear. It is possible for a biological attack to occur and remain unnoticed for some time.

   It is also possible for some biological agents to spread far beyond their initial point of contamination as the daily routines of affected individuals broaden the reach of the agent.

TERRORIST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

Although, not a biological attack, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome epidemic is an example of how a biological agent can be spread far from its point of origin.

Fortunately, most biological agents are very delicate and are easily destroyed by heat, light, and other environmental factors. Additionally, the technical complexities of milling agents small enough for them to remain suspended in the air is beyond the capability of most terrorist groups.

VISUAL 8.7

Nuclear Weapons

- Much different than conventional weapons:
  - Many causalities
  - Very large area affected
  - Long-term health effects
- Considered relatively low risk

Visual 8.7

2. Nuclear weapons. A terrorist attack with a nuclear weapon would be much different from an attack with a conventional explosive device. There would be potential for physical injury and death to persons who were not injured in the initial attack. The affected area would be much larger than in a conventional attack, and debris and other usually harmless items would be contaminated. The long-term health effects would be more difficult to ascertain and manage. Fortunately, experts believe that the complexities of a terrorist group obtaining a nuclear weapon and maintaining the tolerances that are required for the weapon to function make the use of nuclear weapons by terrorist groups a low risk.

VISUAL 8.8

TERRORIST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)

Radiation Dispersal Devices

- Conventional explosive with radioactive element
- Radiological materials readily available
- Considered moderate to high risk

Visual 8.8

Radiation dispersal devices (RDDs) are considered to be a much higher threat because radiological materials are much easier to obtain than enriched nuclear materials and the technology required to detonate an RDD is similar to that involved in detonating conventional explosives.

Radiological materials are readily available in hospitals and other medical facilities, in university science laboratories, and in many products with commercial uses. Terrorists who would attack using an RDD would need relatively small amounts of radioactive material to make an effective device.

VISUAL 8.9

TERRORIST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)

Incendiary Devices

- Used to initiate combustion
- Easy to make
- Easy to use
- Considered high risk/low impact

Visual 8.9

3. Incendiary devices. Incendiary devices are mechanical, electrical, or chemical devices used intentionally to initiate combustion and start a fire. Incendiary devices consist of three basic components:

   - An igniter or fuse
   - A container or body
   - An incendiary material or filler

   Incendiary devices are relatively easy to make. A device containing a chemical incendiary would usually be metal or other nonbreakable material (but not plastic because many chemicals are corrosive); a device containing a liquid incendiary material would usually be a breakable material such as glass.

VISUAL 8.10

TERRORIST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)

Chemical Agents

- Five types
- Components readily available
- Onset of symptoms from immediate to 18 hours
- Considered moderate risk

Visual 8.10

4. **C**hemical agents. Unlike biological agents or nuclear materials, which are difficult to produce or purchase, the ingredients used to produce chemical weapons are found in common products and petrochemicals. Terrorists can turn these common products into lethal weapons.

   There are five categories of chemical weapons:

   - Blister agents cause blisters, burns, and other tissue damage. Exposure may be made through liquid or vapor contact with any exposed skin, inhalation, or ingestion. Blister agents include several families of chemicals, including mustard and lewisite. The effects of blister agents may be similar to those experienced with riot control agents (e.g., CS gas) but do not clear upon movement into fresh air. In fact, the effects of most blister agents increase with time and may not reach their full impact for 12 to 18 hours.

TERRORIST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)

- Blood agents are absorbed into the bloodstream and deprive blood cells of oxygen. Exposure may be made through liquid or vapor contact with any exposed skin, inhalation, or ingestion. Blood agents include two main families of chemicals, including hydrogen cyanide and cyanogen chloride. Those who are affected by blood agents may appear "bluish" across the nose and cheeks and around the mouth. As the symptoms of blood agents progress, the victim will convulse and lose consciousness.

- Choking agents attack the lungs. Following exposure through inhalation, the lungs fill with fluid, which prevents oxygen from being absorbed by, and carbon dioxide from being removed from, the blood. Death results from lack of oxygen and is similar to drowning. Two common examples of choking agents are phosgene and chlorine.

- Nerve agents affect the central nervous system. These agents act most quickly and are the most lethal of all chemical agents, acting within seconds of exposure. Victims of nerve agents experience constricted pupils, runny nose, shortness of breath, convulsions, and cessation of breathing. Sarin is an example of a nerve agent.

- Riot-control agents cause respiratory distress and tearing and are designed to incapacitate rather than kill. Riot-control agents cause intense pain, especially in the moist areas of the body. Common riot-control agents include CS (also known as "tear" gas) and capsicum (also called pepper spray).

VISUAL 8.11

TERRORIST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)

Conventional Explosives

- Terrorists "weapons of choice"
- Can be:
  - Military munitions
  - Improvised explosive devices
- Considered high risk

Visual 8.11

5. Conventional explosives have been the "weapon of choice" for most terrorists who have used them in more than 80 percent of attacks. While terrorists have used military munitions such as grenades, mortars, and shoulder-fired surface-to-air missiles, experts rate conventional explosives in the form of improvised explosive devices as a greater threat.

   Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) include any device that is created in an improvised manner, incorporating explosives or other materials designed to destroy, disfigure, distract, or harass. Most bombs used by terrorists are improvised. The raw materials required for many explosives can be purchased commercially (e.g., ammonium nitrate, which is also used as fertilizer), purchased from commercial blasting supply companies, or developed using readily available household ingredients.

VISUAL 8.12

TERRORIST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)

What is the Risk?

Graphic of Impact vs. Likelihood
Of Terrorist Weapons

Visual 8.12

Tell the participants that Visual 8.12 illustrates the impact versus the likelihood of the various types of terrorist weapons. Point out that:

- Although nuclear weapons present the highest impact, they are considered the lowest risk because of the difficulty in obtaining enough weapons-grade material and the technical complexity of developing and maintaining the tolerances required for a nuclear device to detonate.
- Incendiary, chemical, and conventional devices are considered higher-risk but lower-impact weapons.
- Biological weapons are considered both high-risk and high-impact weapons—but only for diseases that are highly contagious. Other types of biological weapons (i.e., those requiring dispersal devices) are considered a lower risk because of the sensitivity of the biological agents to heat, light, and shock.

VISUAL 8.13

B-NICE INDICATORS

Stress the need to be alert to changes in the environment as a clue to a possible terrorist attack.

B-NICE Indicators

Environmental indicators:

- Sick or dead animals, fish, or birds
- Unscheduled spraying
- Vapor clouds or mists
- Absence of crops, wildlife, or insects

Visual 8.13

Explain that environmental indicators of a biological or chemical attack could include:

- Numerous sick or dead animals, fish, or birds. Wildlife are often more sensitive to chemical or biological agents than humans. Animals, fish, or birds that are obviously sick, dying, or dead may indicate the presence of a biological or chemical attack.
- Unscheduled spraying or abandoned spray devices. Several September 11 terrorists are known to have made inquiries into purchasing and learning to fly crop dusters. Many other types of agricultural sprayers can be used to disperse biological and (more likely) chemical agents.
- Vapor clouds or mists that are unusual for the area or for the time of day. Although many biological and chemical agents cannot be seen with the naked eye, the substances in which they are suspended when dispersed may be visible for a period of time after an attack.
- The absence of crops, wildlife, or insects that are common for the area, time of day, or time of year. Being aware of what is not in the environment that should be is as important as being aware of what is in the environment but is out of place.

B-NICE INDICATORS (CONTINUED)

VISUAL 8.14

B-NICE Indicators

Environmental indicators:

- Out of place and unattended packages, boxes, or vehicles
- Packages that are leaking
- Unusual materials or equipment
- Small explosions that disperse liquids, mists, or gases
- Unusual odors or tastes

Visual 8.14

Continue describing environmental indicators:

- Out of place and unattended packages, boxes, or vehicles. Terrorists have a long history of hiding explosive devices in packages, boxes, or vehicles. Items that are out of place and unattended could signal a possible terrorist attack.

- Packages that are leaking may be harmless—but they may also signal a terrorist incident. The terrorists who released Sarin in the Tokyo subway system (Aum Shinrikyo) merely poked holes in bags containing Sarin, then left the area as the poison leaked out.

- Materials or equipment that are unusual for the area. Dispersal devices, lab equipment, or quantities of hazardous materials that are not typically located in the area may indicate that a terrorist attack is occurring or is about to occur.

- Small explosions that disperse liquids, mists, or gases are an obvious sign that something is wrong.

- Unusual odors or tastes.

FYI

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

Caution the group not to try to identify unusual odors or tastes. Tell the participants that, if they smell something that is clearly not usual for the area or time of day, they should leave the area immediately.

VISUAL 8.15

B-NICE INDICATORS (CONTINUED)

B-NICE Indicators

Physical indicators:

- Many casualties without signs of obvious trauma
- Victims who are exhibiting similar symptoms
- Large numbers seeking medical attention

Visual 8.15

Tell the group that they may observe physical indications of a terrorist attack. Some possible physical indicators include:

- Multiple casualties without obvious signs of trauma. This may indicate a biological or chemical attack.
- Multiple victims who are exhibiting similar symptoms. Symptoms may range from difficulty breathing to skin necrosis to uncontrolled salivating, uncontrolled muscle twitching, or convulsions. All of these symptoms indicate that a chemical attack may have taken place.
- Large numbers of persons seeking medical attention with similar symptoms that are not characteristic of the season. The symptoms of many biological agents mimic the flu or other common illnesses. An unusually large number of persons seeking medical attention for the flu in July could indicate that a biological attack has taken place.

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

Caution the group that they may be unaware of an increased number of persons seeking medical attention or patterns that may develop. These data are tracked and reported by medical personnel, who would be among the first responders to a biological incident.

PREPARING AT HOME AND WORK

Stress that because team safety is the first priority, CERT members should treat possible terrorist incidents as a stop sign. CERTs are not equipped or trained to respond to terrorist incidents.

Point out that there are ways to prepare for a terrorist incident. Some of the steps for preparing for a terrorist incident are the same as for natural hazards but some require special planning.

VISUAL 8.16

Preparing for Terrorism

- Assembling a disaster supply kit.
- Identify a safe room and meeting place outside of the home or workplace.
- Develop a family communication plan.
- Learn shelter-in-place procedures .

Visual 8.16

The steps to take to prepare for a terrorist attack include:

- Assembling a disaster supply kit. Disaster supplies for terrorist incidents are the same as for other hazards and should definitely include a battery-powered radio with extra batteries and a cordless or cellular telephone. Those who live in high-risk areas (such as those who live within the 10-mile emergency planning zone around a nuclear facility) will be provided with additional information by their local emergency management agencies.

- Identifying a safe room in the home or workplace and a meeting place outside of the home or workplace. Because the public will not know in advance whether to evacuate or shelter in place, it is necessary to plan for both. Because many chemicals are heavier than air, a safe room in the house should be on the main level or second level (not in the basement) and should have as few doors and windows as possible. A meeting place outside of the home should be outside of the area and upwind from the incident.

PREPARING AT HOME AND WORK (CONTINUED)

- Develop a family communication plan. Depending on the family members' locations at the time of an attack, it may not be possible to get to the meeting place. Identifying an out-of-state or out-of-area contact or other family communication plan will facilitate the knowledge that family members are safe.

- Learn shelter-in-place procedures and prepare a sheltering kit. Shelter-in-place procedures for a chemical or biological attack are shown in the visual.

VISUAL 8.17

Shelter-in-Place Procedures

- Shut off ventilation system.
- Go to safe room with disaster supply kit.
  - Duct tape plastic sheeting over openings where outside air can come in.
  - Seal with duct tape other areas where air can come in.
  - Listen to battery-powered radio for all clear.

Visual 8.17

Procedures for sheltering in place during a chemical or biological attack include:

- Shutting off the ventilation system and latching all doors and windows to reduce airflow from the outside.

- Using precut plastic sheeting to cover openings where air can enter the room, including doors, windows, vents, electrical outlets, and telephone outlets! When cut, the sheeting should extend several inches beyond the dimensions of the door or window to allow room the duct tape the sheeting to the walls and floor.

- Taping the plastic sheeting around all doors and windows using duct tape to ensure a good seal.

PREPARING AT HOME AND WORK (CONTINUED)

- Seal with duct tape other areas where air can come in, such as under doors and areas where pipes enter the home. Air can be blocked by placing towels or other soft objects in areas where air could enter, then securing them with duct tape.

- Listen to a battery-powered radio for the all clear. Chemicals used in an attack will be carried on the wind and will dissipate over time. Listen to EAS broadcasts to know when it is safe to leave the safe room.

FYI

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

Acknowledge that the media have created negative publicity concerning plastic sheeting and duct tape. Point out that studies have shown that sheltering in place using plastic sheeting and duct tape reduces exposure to chemical agents by 35 percent (in mobile homes) to more than 90 percent (in office buildings[1]).

[1] *Sheltering in Place as a Public Protective Action*, National Institute for Chemical Studies, June 2001.

CERTS AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS

Remind the participants of the guiding principles governing all CERT operations.

VISUAL 8.18

CERT Guiding Principles

- Team safety is the number one priority.
- Always do a thorough sizeup.
  - What are the dangers?
  - What are team capabilities?
  - What are team limitations?

Visual 8.18

Stress that:

- Team safety is the number one priority. All CERT members owe it to themselves and their loved ones not to become victims while trying to help others.
- Always do a thorough size up and stop, look, listen, and think before taking any action. . Consider:
  - Dangers, both existing and possible.
  - Team capabilities, including how many CERT members are available, the training that they have had, and the equipment that is available at the scene.
  - Team limitations.

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

Remind the participants that the possibility of them experiencing a terrorist attack is very low. Stress the importance of considering the possibility following a suspicious incident.

CERTS AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS (CONTINUED)

Describe CERT protocols for terrorist incidents:

- As with hazardous materials, terrorist incidents are a stop sign for CERT members.
- Take in the whole area during the sizeup. If any of the indicators of a terrorist incident are present, do not proceed with the response.

Stress that if terrorism using WMD is suspected, CERTs will be very limited in what they can do. Professional responders will need specialized equipment and personnel to respond to a terrorist incident.

Urge the participants to follow the protocols shown in the visual if they think that they may be dealing with a terrorist incident.

VISUAL 8.19

CERTs and Terrorist Incidents

- Do not touch it!
- Move away from the object or area.
- Report it to authorities.

Caution! Using cellular phones or two-way radios may detonate an explosive device!

Visual 8.19

Tell the group that, if they observe any of the indicators of a terrorist incident, they should:

- Not touch it!
- Move away from the object or area.
- Report it to authorities immediately.

CERTS AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS (CONTINUED)

Caution the group that cellular phones and two-way radios create static electricity and may detonate explosive devices. CERT members should always report suspected explosive devices via landline.

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

Remind the group of the warning against using cellular phones while pumping gas. Explain that the rationale is the same.

SELF-CARE DURING TERRORIST INCIDENTS

Introduce this topic by stressing the importance of knowing what actions to take in a terrorist incident.

VISUAL 8.20

Self-Care During Terrorist Incidents

At the incident:

- Limit exposure time.
- Increase the distance from the hazard.
- Add shielding.

Visual 8.20

Stress that there are three factors that significantly affect safety at a terrorist incident:

- Time. Limiting the amount of time in the area of an incident limits exposure.
- Distance. Evacuate the area. Professional responders suggest a maintaining distance of between 1,000 and 1,500 feet from the incident. Move upwind and uphill from the incident site.
- Shielding. The shielding provided by a sturdy building or even a wall can increase protection from contamination, radiation, or blast effects.

CERTS AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS (CONTINUED)

Time, distance, and shielding requirements are based on an initial sizeup of the situation. Suggest that, if CERT members are inside a building that is not damaged and they are not in immediate danger, they should listen to Emergency Alert System (EAS) broadcasts for information about whether to evacuate or shelter in place.

If there is any reason to believe that chemical, or radiological contamination has occurred in your area, put distance between you and the agent. If exposed to a chemical agent or radiation, use basic decontamination procedures.

FYI

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

If anyone asks why decontamination procedures do not apply to possible biological incidents, remind the group that they probably will not be able to identify biological contamination and symptoms will not show up for a while.

VISUAL 8.21

Basic Decontamination Procedures

1. Leave the contaminated area.
2. Take decontamination action.
   - Remove <u>everything</u>.
   - Wash hands before using them to shower.
   - Shower or flush with <u>cool</u> water.
   - Blot dry.
3. Report for decontamination.

Visual 8.21

Be sure to make the points listed below:

- <u>Leave the contaminated area</u> immediately (at least 1,000 to 1,500 feet upwind and uphill) to limit the time of exposure and reduce contamination levels.

CERTS AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS (CONTINUED)

- Take decontamination action. Seconds count! The goal is to limit the time that the agent is in contact with the skin.

  - Remove everything from the body, including jewelry. Cut off clothing that would normally be removed over the head to reduce the probability of inhaling the agent.
  - Wash hands before using them to shower.
  - Flush the entire body, including the eyes, underarms, and groin area, with copious amounts of cool water. Hot water opens the pores of the skin and can promote absorption of the contaminant. Using copious amounts of water is important because some chemicals react to small amounts of water.

    If soap is immediately available, mix the soap with water for decontamination. Avoid scrubbing with soap because scrubbing can reduce the layer of protective skin, thus increasing absorption of the contaminant.

    If working with a buddy, work together to decontaminate each other. If hosing someone else off, avoid both physical contact with the person and with the runoff.

  - Blot dry using an absorbent cloth. Do not rub the skin! Put on clean clothes.

- Report for decontamination as soon as possible. Professional responders will be setting up decontamination stations somewhere around the site.

CERTS AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS (CONTINUED)

TREATING OTHERS

Stress again that the first priority for CERT teams is personal safety. CERT members should take self-protective measures only. They should not attempt to treat victims in the contaminated area. CERT members can tell people who are leaving the area about using basic decontamination procedures and waiting for responders.

FYI

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

As with professional responders, CERT members may have difficulty dealing with the idea that they should not try to help others who are injured but may have been contaminated. To help the participants deal with the potential of having to make a decision to deny assistance, stress that:

1. **They have a responsibility to themselves, to other CERT members, and to their families to operate safely.**
2. **They are neither trained nor equipped to deal with contaminated victims.**
3. **They cannot help anyone if they become victims. In fact, they may make matters considerably worse if they spread the contamination.**

Emphasize that CERT members must make the best decisions possible with the information that they have at hand. Even if an incident turns out not to be terrorist-related, they have made the right decision if they have done the most good for the greatest number and have not become victims themselves.

CERTS AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS (CONTINUED)

WHAT PROFESSIONAL RESPONDERS WILL DO

Tell the group that there are several measures that they can expect professional responders to take when they arrive at the scene of a terrorist incident.

Explain that the first step that professional responders will take when they arrive at the scene is to conduct a thorough sizeup. They will follow steps that are very similar to those that CERTs take to determine:

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

VISUAL 8.22

CERTS AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS (CONTINUED)

CERTs can expect professional responders to treat terrorist incidents much the same as hazardous materials incidents. As such, the next step that they will take is to establish three incident zones to minimize the risk of spreading contamination from the incident site.

- The hot zone includes the incident scene and the contaminated area around the scene. If the incident is outdoors, the hot zone will spread downwind, taking wind speed into consideration.

- The warm zone is upwind from the hot zone and is used to isolate victims during decontamination. It is called the warm zone because the evacuees can carry or spread a contaminant into this area. Professional responders will hold those who require decontamination in the warm zone until decontamination is complete so that contaminants do not spread.

- The cold zone is located upwind and beyond the warm zone. Those who are not contaminated or who have been decontaminated will be evacuated to the cold zone and kept there until professional responders authorize them to leave.

FYI

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE

Tell the group that zone information will help them to know what to expect from professional responders. Caution the group not to try to establish zones themselves.

INTRODUCE ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY: APPLYING CERT PRINCIPLES TO A SUSPECTED TERRORIST INCIDENT

Purpose: The purpose of this activity is to ensure that the participants can apply their CERT protocols to what they've learned about suspected terrorist incidents.

Instructions: Follow the steps below to conduct this activity.

1. Assign the class to table groups of eight. Assign Scenario 1 to half of the groups and Scenario 2 to the other half.

2. Explain the situation to the groups:

   The participants have completed CERT training and are part of a neighborhood team. Being prepared, each team member has CERT gear and a disaster supply kit in the car. Each team member also has a cell phone.

3. Ask each group to read its assigned scenario and determine as a team what actions they should take.

4. Tell the groups that they will have 10 minutes to read and discuss their scenarios.

5. At the end of the allotted time, ask each group to select a spokesperson to present the team's response.

6. Facilitate a large-group discussion of each team's responses. Solicit input from the class about whether the responses are in line with the CERT goal and protocols for terrorist incidents. Be prepared to answer questions and clarify points that the teams have about what is appropriate for the situation.

	PM, P. 8-13	**Activity: Applying CERT Principles to a Suspected Terrorist Incident**

Purpose: The purpose of this activity is to enable you to apply CERT protocols to a suspected terrorist incident.

Instructions: Follow the steps below to complete this activity:

1. Assume that you are a CERT graduate and have been assigned to a team.
2. Working in your table group, read the scenario assigned to your group and determine as a team what actions to take.
3. You will have 10 minutes to read and discuss your scenarios.
4. Select a spokesperson to present the team's response to the class.

Scenario 1:

It is a bright, sunny spring day. You are stopping at the Post Office on your way home from work. As you enter the parking lot, you are shaken by an explosion and see glass from the Post Office windows fly through the air across the parking lot. Although it takes you a few seconds, you realize that there has been an explosion inside the Post Office.

Answer: You should suspect that this is a terrorist incident. The steps that you should take are:

1. **Move at least 1,000 to 1,500 feet upwind and uphill.**
2. **Use a landline to call information to 9-1-1.**
3. **Warn others of the possible danger.**
4. **Tell victims who try to leave the area to wait for professional responders.**

Scenario 2:

It is a bright sunny day. You are stopping at the Post Office on your way home from work. As you enter the parking lot, you see several people exiting the building. All seem to be disoriented. Some are clutching their chests and rubbing their eyes. One has fallen to the ground and seems to be having some sort of convulsion.

Answer: You should suspect that this is a terrorist incident, and it appears from the victims symptoms' that a chemical agent has been used. The steps that you should take are:

1. **Move at least 1,000 to 1,500 feet upwind and uphill.**
2. **Decontaminate if you think there is a chance that you might be contaminated.**
3. **Call 9-1-1 to report as much information as possible about the incident.**
4. **Warn others of the danger.**

UNIT SUMMARY

Summarize this unit by making the key points below.

Terrorism may be perpetrated by foreign or domestic individuals or groups. Terrorists attack to:

- Intimidate the government or the civilian population.
- Further their objectives.

VISUAL 8.23

Terrorist Goals

- Mass casualties
- Loss of critical resources
- Disruption of vital services
- Disruption of the economy
- Individual and mass panic

Visual 8.23

When terrorists attack, their goals are to:

- Create mass casualties.
- Disrupt critical resources, vital services, and the economy.
- Cause individual and mass panic.

UNIT SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

Terrorist groups are known to have—or are suspected of having—five types of weapons.

VISUAL 8.24

Terrorist Weapons

- **B**iological
- **N**uclear
- **I**ncendiary
- **C**hemical
- **E**xplosive

Visual 8.24

Using the acronym B-NICE will help the participants remember the types of weapons that terrorists might be expected to use.

VISUAL 8.25

B-NICE

- Environmental indicators
- Physical indicators

Visual 8.25

There are a range of environmental and physical indicators for terrorist attacks. Paying attention to what is not present in the environment that should be is as important as what is present that should not be.

VISUAL 8.26

UNIT SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

CERTs and Terrorist Incidents

Treat possible terrorist incidents as a stop sign!

- Do not touch.
- Move away.
- Report it.

Visual 8.26

CERT members should treat possible terrorist incidents the same as they would HazMat incidents—as a stop sign. If they observe indicators of a possible terrorist incident, they should:

- Not touch it!
- Move away from the object or area.
- Report it to authorities immediately.

CERTs can help limit their exposure to the harmful effects of terrorist weapons by:

- Limiting their exposure time.
- Evacuating the area to a minimum distance of 1,000 to 1,500 feet upwind and uphill.
- Using the protection of a sturdy building as shielding.

VISUAL 8.27

UNIT SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

What to Do if Exposed

1. Take action immediately.
2. Leave the area immediately.
3. Follow basic decontamination procedures.
4. Report for decontamination.

Visual 8.27

CERT members should take immediate action to protect themselves and, if exposed, follow basic decontamination procedures immediately. Because the safety of CERT members is the number one priority, CERT members should not attempt to treat anyone who has been contaminated or perform decontamination procedures for them.

Stress that terrorist incident scenes are also crime scenes. CERT members should avoid taking any action that may disturb potential evidence.

Ask if anyone has any questions about CERTs and their role in terrorist incidents.