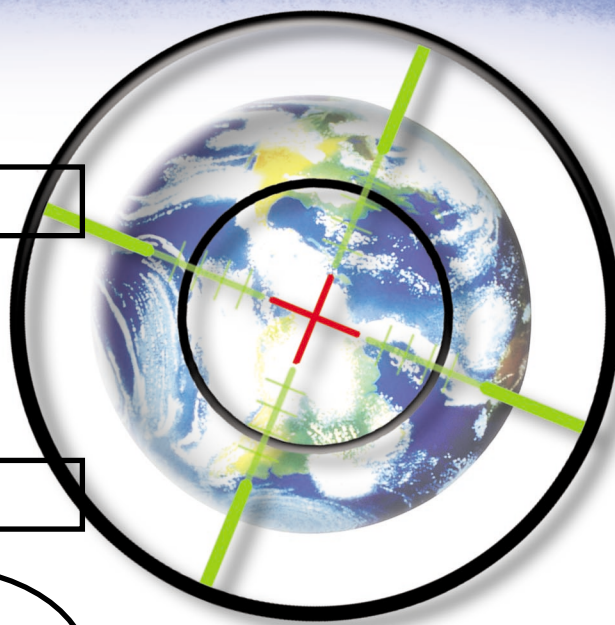


Comprehending Terrorism

Describing terrorism is easy: Terrorism is the illegal use of force or violence to create fear, panic, or cooperation, or to collect ransom.

Comprehending terrorism is difficult: Why would someone want to create such fear and pain?

Terrorists want publicity for their causes. They want to create chaos and to undermine the public's confidence in their government. They use random violence because they lack the money, forces, and weapons of the stronger powers they are attacking.



A Method to the Madness

Terrorists use surprise attacks to create fear and uneasiness in all of our lives. Terrorists tend to choose high visibility targets, whether military or civilian, in order to get the most publicity.

They select targets with easy access and with easy escape routes. Terrorists may even use suicide attackers to carry out their missions. They occasionally warn targets that an attack is coming, but not in a way that any defense would be possible. In all, terrorist methods are cowardly, vicious, and planned for the maximum level of attention, loss, and suffering.



Watch and Wait

Being alert to your surroundings is the first and best thing you can do to keep from being victimized by terrorists.

In the event that an attack does occur, you need to remain calm. Panic only adds to the confusion and increases problems.

Realize that our government agencies and public health, safety, and law enforcement departments are world-class. They are focusing tremendous efforts and resources on these issues. Follow their instructions with patience, calm, and trust.

Remember...

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Be informed about emergency plans in your area.
- Be prepared in case of an attack.
- Be as calm as possible.

For More Information Contact:

www.syndistar.com/terrorism

Federal Bureau of Investigation

www.fbi.gov

Department of Health and Human Services

www.os.dhhs.gov 1-877-696-6775

REMAIN CALM

A Terrorist Threat You Can Be Prepared

Suspicious People, Suspicious Behaviors

A terrorist could blend in perfectly with normal surroundings and never attract attention. It is also possible that a terrorist would seem suspicious. Be alert to the behaviors of people in your environment.

A questionable person may appear where strangers are rare, like employee-only areas, or around crops or livestock. They may act nervous, trying not to be noticed, or ask improper questions about the operations of your workplace, coworkers' habits, or security precautions.

If you suspect someone's actions, report him. The inconvenience to him of being questioned by police is nothing compared to the public's safety.

Do not confront a suspicious person unless doing so will prevent immediate harm to people or property. If you must approach such a person, call for help first, then ask questions in an unthreatening, cautious way.

Suspicious Items

Do not tamper with any suspicious-looking package or letter. Have it investigated. If you are in an attended public facility, call security. Otherwise, contact local law enforcement or simply call 9-1-1.



Boxes, briefcases, and similar articles should not be unattended in a public place. Be suspicious of any vehicles parked in unauthorized or unusual areas. Never agree to carry things for a stranger.

Mail or Parcel Service Items

A suspicious package or letter might have an excessive amount of postage or uncanceled postage, an outdated or inaccurate address, a missing or illegitimate return address, or a postmark that doesn't match the return address. Protruding wires, odors, or stains are bad signs. Suspect boxes that are oddly shaped or unusually heavy for their size. Markings like "Confidential" or "Rush" may be questionable.

Do not handle any suspicious packages or envelopes.

If you happen to open a package or letter and find unusual substances or articles, cover it, leave it in place, keep others away from it, and call 9-1-1. Make a list of people who contacted the article.

If any of the package's contents spills or spreads around the area, cover the spill carefully before closing up the room. If any of the contents get on your skin, wash with soap and water right away. As soon as possible, change clothes and take a shower. Place the clothing you were wearing in a plastic bag. Seek medical attention immediately.



In the Worst Case

Your life and the lives of others could depend on your response to a terror attack. Try to stay calm so that you can think straight.

Here are a few specific tips that could improve the outcome of a terrible situation:

Knowing exit routes and the location of flashlights and first aid kits is critical.

After an explosion, exit the building quickly and calmly. If items are falling, get under a sturdy table or desk.

If there is fire or smoke, crawl under the smoke to the nearest exit, covering your nose and mouth with a wet cloth. Test doors for heat with the back of your hand. If cool, brace yourself behind the door and open slowly. If hot, find an alternate escape route.

If you are trapped in debris, limit your movements to keep the dust level low. Cover your face with clothing and avoid shouting to prevent inhaling dust. Tap on pipes or walls to help rescuers find you.

If a biological attack occurs, follow the authorities' instructions for evacuation or quarantine. Any severe, flu-like symptoms or cough should be examined by a doctor.

If a chemical attack occurs in your building, evacuate quickly and calmly. Go to an area upwind of the building and wait for emergency assistance.

If a chemical attack occurs in your city, wait for authorities to inform you which is safer — evacuating the area or "sheltering in place."

Sheltering in Place

In some disasters, authorities may direct you to shelter in place. If so, gather your family in the house and use duct tape to seal the home's windows and doors. Turn off fans, heating, and air conditioning. Take your disaster supply kit to an interior, upstairs room of the house. Duct tape the interior doors and vents, and stay in the room until notified otherwise.

Disaster Supply Kit

Store your disaster supply kit in an easy-to-carry container, like a duffel bag. Your kit should include:

- Canned or sealed-package foods for 3-7 days.
- One gallon of water per day per person for 3-7 days.
- Battery-powered radio, flashlight, and batteries.
- First-aid kit, eyeglasses, prescriptions, toilet paper, paper towels, diapers, pet food, etc.
- Clothes, shoes, and blankets or sleeping bags.
- A bucket for sanitary use, can opener, ax, hammer, shovel, screwdrivers, etc.
- Important documents.
- Extra car keys, credit card, or traveler's checks.
- Toys and books for children.



The Bottom Line

Being prepared to survive a terrorist attack is not about living in fear. It is about being informed, aware, levelheaded, and organized.