

# Citizen Corps

Citizen Corps areas of emphasis:

- ◆ Crime
- ◆ Natural disasters
- ◆ Terrorism



# 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.



A decorative graphic in the top-left corner of the slide, featuring a portion of the American flag with white stars on a blue field and red and white stripes.

# 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

# Terrorist Goals

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



# Terrorist Weapons

- ◆ **Biological**
- ◆ **Nuclear**
- ◆ **Incendiary**
- ◆ **Chemical**
- ◆ **Explosive**





# Biological Weapons

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

## Agents:

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

# Nuclear Weapons

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



# Radiation Dispersal Devices

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



# Incendiary Devices

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





# Chemical Agents

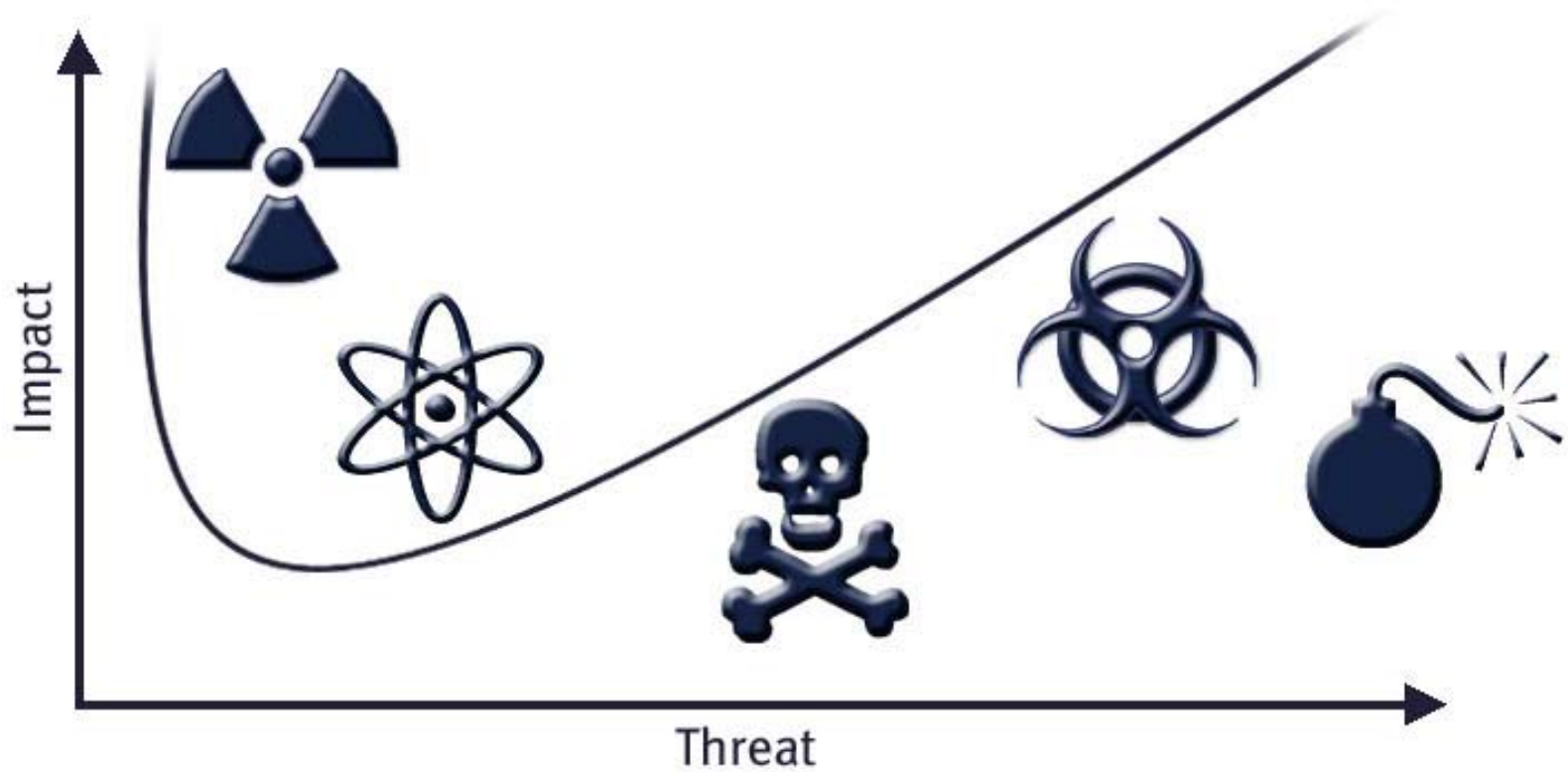
- ◆ Five types
- ◆ Components readily available
- ◆ Onset of symptoms from immediate to 18 hours
- ◆ Considered moderate risk

# Conventional Explosives

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



# What Is the Risk?





# B-NICE Indicators

## Environmental indicators:

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



# 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



# B-NICE Indicators

## Physical indicators:

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

# 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.





# 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.

A decorative graphic in the top-left corner of the slide, featuring a portion of the United States flag with white stars on a blue field and red and white stripes.

# 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?



# 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!**

# Self-Care During Terrorist Incidents

At the incident:

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





# Basic Decontamination Procedures

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

# Establishing Zones

**Wind  
Direction**



**“Cold Zone”  
Safe Area**

**“Warm Zone”  
Evacuation & Decontamination Area**

**“Hot Zone”**

**Incident**

**Contaminated  
Area**

# Terrorist Goals

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



# Terrorist Weapons

- ◆ **Biological**
- ◆ **Nuclear**
- ◆ **Incendiary**
- ◆ **Chemical**
- ◆ **Explosive**



- ◆ Environmental indicators
- ◆ Physical indicators



# CERTs and Terrorist Incidents

**Treat possible terrorist incidents as a stop sign!**

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



An American flag graphic is located in the top-left corner of the slide, featuring stars and stripes in blue, red, and white.

# What to Do if Exposed

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