THIS MONTH'S FOCUS

ANTITERRORISM AND FORCE PROTECTION

ANTITERRORISM AWARENESS MONTH 2021: SAFEGUARDING AGAINST THREATS BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

DID YOU KNOW?

Antiterrorism training and resources help reduce the risk of falling prey to terrorist attacks and give personnel the tools to more safely navigate a situation involving terrorist incidents or other violent situations.

This August marks the eleventh antiterrorism (AT) awareness month within DOD. AT awareness is the fundamental knowledge of both the terrorist threat and the measures to reduce one's personal vulnerability to terrorism. This article will act as a reminder for the purpose of AT awareness month, describe different terrorist threats the U.S. currently faces, and show what individuals can do to raise their AT awareness.

The purpose of AT awareness month is to raise awareness of the threat of terrorism; encourage vigilance to prevent, avoid, and combat terrorist acts through reporting; and learn how to respond during violent acts when they occur to protect yourself, your family, organization, and community. AT is one of many independent, yet mutually supporting enablers of the broader force protection (FP) effort. Other enablers include programs such

as physical security; emergency management; law enforcement; information security; operations security; critical infrastructure protection; continuity of operations (COOP); and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosive (CBRNE). Now that you know what AT awareness month is about, the next step is to learn about the ongoing threats that make AT awareness critical to FP.

In April 2021, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) released the "Annual Threat Assessment of the US Intelligence Community" report. This report highlighted current terrorist threats to the U.S., including al-Qa'ida and the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). ISIS and other foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs) continue to plot terrorist attacks against people and places of interest to the U.S. Despite the loss of many

prominent leaders, these groups can adapt quickly and resurge. Terrorists overseas continue to probe for vulnerabilities in U.S. immigration and border security programs. However, FTOs are not the only groups that threaten the U.S.

> Former Acting Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Chad Wolf stated, "Foreign terrorist organizations (FTO) still have the intent to attack the Homeland within and from beyond our borders."

In October 2020, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) released the "Homeland Threat Assessment," which claimed that the primary terrorist threats inside the United States stem from lone offenders and small cells of individuals. These threats often fall under the umbrella of Domestic Violent Extremists (DVEs) or foreign terrorist-inspired Homegrown Violent Extremists (HVEs).

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ANTITERRORISM AWARENESS MONTH 2021: SAFEGUARDING AGAINST THREATS BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC (CONT'D)

A 2020 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) "Homeland Threat Assessment" cited vehicle ramming, small arms, edged weapons, arson, and rudimentary improvised explosive devices (IEDs) as the most probable domestic terrorist tactics to be employed in the United States.

A DVE is an individual based and operating primarily within the United States or its territories without direction or inspiration from a FTO or other foreign power who seeks to further political or social goals wholly or in part through unlawful acts of force or violence. However, the mere advocacy of political or social positions, political activism, use of strong rhetoric, or generalized philosophic embrace of violent tactics may not constitute extremism, and may be constitutionally protected.

HVEs are people of any citizenship, who live or operate primarily in the United States or its territories, who advocate for or engage in ideologically motivated terrorist activities (including providing support to terrorism).

HVEs often take inspiration from a FTO's cause, but act independently from them. Now that you know the type of threats United States faces, what can you, an individual, do to safeguard against them?

All DOD military and civilian personnel must complete Antiterrorism Awareness Level 1 training. Contractor personnel who require routine physical access to a federally controlled facility or military installation must complete this training within 30 days of accessing the facility and annually thereafter. DOD and contractor personnel can support the AT program by taking additional training and access AT/FP resources to increase and refresh their knowledge. CDSE offers a number of AT eLearning courses and resources that support awareness training. All personnel can also practice operations security (OPSEC) and vigilance and are encouraged to report suspicious activities to security or local law enforcement. They can also share with family members pertinent OPSEC information, protective and reporting procedures, and how to create family emergency plans. DOD personnel and contractors can stay apprised of the local threat information

and force protection measures. They should become familiar with their organization's emergency preparedness plans. Additionally, personnel should prepare for any domestic and foreign travel by receiving appropriate/required briefings and researching potential terrorist/criminal threats for your intended destination.

Vigilance and awareness are key to combatting terrorism at home and abroad. AT awareness is everyone's responsibility. Commanders, civilian managers, and directors at all levels must continually update risk assessments based upon current threat information to ensure they employ appropriate FP measures to protect their personnel and reduce the risk or impact of terrorist attacks. Individuals should practice vigilance throughout the year and incorporate the AT training and best practices to protect themselves, their families, units/organizations, and communities.

WHAT TYPES OF SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES DO I REPORT?

- Unauthorized personnel photographing, drawing, or measuring important buildings

- Unknown personnel asking questions about security forces or security procedures

- Unattended briefcase, bag, or package

- Any vehicle left in "No Parking" zones close to important buildings

- Unauthorized access to secure or sensitive areas

- Personnel wearing big, bulky clothing too hot for the weather

- Unexplained chemical smells or fumes

- Questions or requests concerning sensitive information, such as building blueprints, security plans, or VIP travel schedules without a right or need to know

- Personnel purchasing supplies or equipment that can be used to make bombs or weapons

- Unauthorized uniform puchases

- Any other situation/activity/behavior not listed that you deem as a possible safety, security, or criminal issue should be reported to security or local law enforcement

ANTITERRORISM VS. COUNTERTERRORISM

Sometimes the terms antiterrorism and counterterrorism are used interchangeabley, however they have completely different meanings:

Antiterrorism. Defensive measures used to reduce the vulnerability of individuals and property to terrorist acts, to include rapid containment by local military and civilian forces. Also called AT.

Counterterrorism. Activities and operations taken to neutralize terrorists, their organizations, and networks to render them incapable of using violence to instill fear and coerce governments or societies to achieve their goals. Also called CT.

- DOD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms, as of January 2021
https://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Doctrine/pubs/dictionary.pdf

CDSE ANTITERRORISM AND FORCE PROTECTION RESOURCES

PRODUCT	TYPE	URL
Antiterrorism Officer Level II (GS109.16)	eLearning Course	**https://www.cdse.edu/catalog/elearning/GS109.html**
Antiterrorism Considerations and Design/ Construction Standards	Physical Security Toolkit	**https://www.cdse.edu/toolkits/physical/planning.html**
Active Shooter Awareness	Short	**https://www.cdse.edu/shorts/general-security.html**
CI Foreign Travel Brief	Short	**https://www.cdse.edu/shorts/counterintelligence.html**
DOD Prevention, Assistance, and Response Capabilities	Short	**https://www.cdse.edu/multimedia/shorts/parc/parc/parc/page_B2_0030.html**
DOD CI Awareness and Reporting Course for DOD Employees (CI116.16)	eLearning Course	**https://www.cdse.edu/catalog/elearning/CI116.html**
Reportable CI Activities	Job Aid	**https://www.cdse.edu/documents/cdse/524006-jobaid.pdf**
Targeted Violence	Security Awareness Game	**https://www.cdse.edu/multimedia/games/kinetic/index.html**

ADDITIONAL ANTITERRORISM RESOURCES

PRODUCT	SOURCE	URL
Antiterrorism Individual Protective Measures Card	Office of the Chief, Joint Chiefs of Staff (OCJCS)	**CJCS_5260_Pocket_Card.pdf (jten.mil)**
CJCS Guide 5260, A Self Help Guide to Antiterrorism	Office of the Chief, Joint Chiefs of Staff (OCJCS)	**https://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/ Documents/Library/Handbooks/g5260. pdf?ver=BMjPh0V7CRnXPzizeoKYSg%3d%3d**
eGuardian System	Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)	**https://www.fbi.gov/resources/law-enforcement/ eguardian**
Traveler Resources	U.S. Department of State	**https://www.state.gov/travelers/#americans-abroad**
Counterterrorism Guide	Office of the Director for National Intelligence (DNI)	**https://www.dni.gov/nctc/index.html**
JCAT: Products and Resources	Office of the Director for National Intelligence (DNI)	**https://www.dni.gov/index.php/nctc-features/1464**
Preventing Terrorism	Department of Homeland Security	**https://www.dhs.gov/topic/preventing-terrorism**

THREAT AWARENESS AND FORCE PROTECTION TOOLS

DOD and the DHS both have systems to advise personnel about the terrorist threat levels in their locations. Those systems are Force Protection Condition Standards, DOD Terrorism Threat Levels, and the National Terrorism Advisory System. Learning about these systems can help raise awareness of possible terrorist activities in your area.

FORCE PROTECTION CONDITION STANDARDS

U.S. military organizations use a system of protective measures to reduce vulnerability to terrorist attack. These measures, known as force protection conditions (FPCON), change as the threat of attack changes. Regional commanders announce the FPCON for units under their command. Local commanders may increase the FPCON based on local factors and may apply additional protection measures to reduce the risk of attack. FPCONs are not the same thing as Defense Intelligence Agency terrorism threat levels. Commanders increase FPCONS to provide added safety and security when threat levels increase. The FPCONs are:

FPCON Normal	This condition applies when a general global threat of possible terrorist activity exists and warrants a routine security posture. At a minimum, access control will be conducted at all DOD installations and facilities.
FPCON Alpha	This condition applies when there is a general threat of possible terrorist activity against personnel and facilities, the nature and extent of which are unpredictable, and circumstances do not justify full implementation of FPCON Bravo measures. The measures in this force protection condition must be capable of being maintained indefinitely.
FPCON Bravo	This condition applies when an increased and more predictable threat of terrorist activity exists. The measures in this FPCON must be capable of being maintained for weeks without causing undue hardship, affecting operational capability, and aggravating relations with local authorities.
FPCON Charlie	This condition applies when an incident occurs or intelligence is received indicating some form of terrorist action against personnel and facilities is likely. Implementation of measures in this FPCON for more than a short period will probably create hardships and affect the peacetime activities of the unit and its personnel.
FPCON Delta	This condition applies in the immediate area where a terrorist attack occurred or when intelligence shows that a terrorist action against a specific location or person is imminent. Normally, this FPCON is declared as a localized condition.

Geographic combatant commanders have the authority to enforce appropriate FP measures to ensure the protection of all DOD elements and personnel subject to their control within their geographic areas of responsibility (AORs). Examples of FP measures can include 100% ID card checks when accessing a base/building, random or 100% vehicle checks when accessing base/building locations, and limiting access to a base/building. FPCON levels are normally displayed at base/building access gates and on installation/agency websites. If you have questions regarding FPCON levels at your location, check with your local security office.

DOD TERRORISM THREAT LEVELS

The Defense Intelligence Agency assesses a terrorist threat level for each country. Other U.S. agencies are also involved in collecting and analyzing terrorist threat information and intelligence in an effort to ensure the best possible warning of terrorist dangers. If there is indication that a terrorist group is operationally active and targeting U.S. forces, the Defense Intelligence Agency will issue a terrorism warning report. Regional and local U.S. commanders can assign a different Terrorist Threat Level for specific personnel, units, and installations. These threat levels inform DOD personnel of the need to take appropriate precautions. The threat levels are:

High - Anti-U.S. terrorists are operationally active and use large casualty-producing attacks as their preferred method of operation. There is a substantial DOD presence and the operating environment favors the terrorists.

Significant - Anti-U.S. terrorists are present and attack personnel as their preferred method of operation or a group uses large casualty-producing attacks as its preferred method, but has limited operational activity. The operating environment is neutral.

Moderate - Terrorists are present, but there are no indications of anti-U.S. activity. The operating environment favors the host nation and the U.S.

Low - No terrorist group is detected or the group activity is non-threatening.

NATIONAL TERRORISM ADVISORY SYSTEM

National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) advisories communicate information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, Government agencies, first responders, public sector organizations, airports and other transportation hubs.

Using available information, the advisories will provide a concise summary of the potential threat, actions taken to ensure public safety, and recommended steps that individuals, communities, businesses and governments can take to help prevent, mitigate or respond to the threat.

NTAS consists of two types of advisories: bulletins and alerts. DHS added bulletins to the advisory system to communicate current developments or general trends regarding threats of terrorism. NTAS bulletins communicate critical terrorism information that, while not about a specific threat against the U.S., can reach homeland security partners or the public quickly, which enables recipients to implement necessary protective measures.

When there is specific, credible information about a terrorist threat against the U.S., DHS will share a NTAS alert with the American public when it is warranted. The Alert may include specific information, if available, about the nature of the threat. This includes the geographic region, mode of transportation, or critical infrastructure potentially affected by the threat, as well as steps that individuals and communities can take to protect themselves and help prevent, mitigate, or respond to the threat. The alert may take one of two forms:

Elevated - If there is credible threat information, but only general information about timing and target such that it is reasonable to recommend implementation of protective measures to thwart or mitigate against an attack.

Imminent - If the threat is credible, specific, and impending in the very near term.

Your local installation or agency security office may share NTAS alerts and bulletins with you or you can subscribe to NTAS advisories via email at **National Terrorism Advisory System | Homeland Security (dhs.gov)**.

2021 INSIDER THREAT VIRTUAL CONFERENCE – SEPTEMBER 2

Register now for the 2021 Insider Threat Virtual Conference, hosted jointly by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency and the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security. This virtual event will occur on September 2, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and will bring together security professionals and policy makers across the U.S. government and industry to kick off the National Insider Threat Awareness Month (NITAM) campaign. The theme for this year's conference and campaign is Cultural Awareness and Insider Threat. The conference is open to security professionals in government and industry. Register here: **https://www.cdse.edu/catalog/webinars/index.html**

PERSEREC COUNTER-INSIDER THREAT SUMMIT

The Defense Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) Threat Lab will host the Counter-Insider Threat (C-InT) Social & Behavioral Science (SBS) Summit: September 1-30, 2021. This 30-day virtual training event will feature live webinars, prerecorded webcasts, articles, books, training aids, and other open-source resources created and curated by leading subject matter experts in counter-insider threat research and practice. The Summit will focus on building Cultural Intelligence to encourage healthy organizational cultures and maximize the effectiveness of Counter-Insider Threat Programs. Register here: **sbssummit.com**

★★★★★ WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING

Course: Antiterrorism Officer Level II (GS109.16) eLearning Course

"Very good training."

"Excellent training."

"Course was a bit long but covered everything thoroughly and prepared me for the end test."

CDSE WEBSITE

Changes are coming to the CDSE.edu website in September. The look and feel of the website will change to align with other DOD websites, and the same great content will become available in phases. NOTE: Bookmarked pages will change. Stay tuned!!!