SECTION 11. TERRORISM

The Nature of the Terrorism Threat

Terrorism is a continuing threat throughout the world and within the United States. There is no history of terrorist acts or terrorist groups operating in the Las Virgenes Malibu Region. Consequently the probability of a terrorist attack is considered low. Nevertheless, it is still important to consider the potential for terrorist activities especially since there are a variety of political, social, religious, cultural, and economic factors that underlie the broad term "terrorist". In addition, since terrorists often focus on high visibility targets and civilian populations, the potential consequences of an attack underscores the need to consider terrorism as part of this mitigation plan.

History of Terrorist Events in the Las Virgenes-Malibu Region

The Las Virgenes-Malibu Region has not experienced a terrorist act; however it does include a variety of important businesses, public sites, and high-profile individuals which could attract the attention of terrorists. In addition, the consequences of a terrorist act in the region could impact the local area, e.g., disruption of CA 101, Pacific Coast Highway, environmental damage to the Malibu coast, etc. Furthermore, there is a possibility that extremist groups could operate from the area and use it as a base of operations for attacks elsewhere.

Specific Threats

Recent trends toward large scale incidents generating significant casualties make preparedness and the mechanisms for effective response essential. In addition to large scale attacks, a full range of assault styles must be considered. Contemporary terrorist activities may include a variety of methods including letter bombings, assassinations with small arms, bio-chemical attacks, car bombs, suicide attacks, and building bombings. Related threats include bomb threats, which disrupt the normal operations of businesses.

Venues likely to suffer the impact of terrorism include government facilities, military facilities and recruiting offices, military suppliers, hospitals, entertainment and cultural facilities, religious centers, shopping malls, business complexes, colleges, and research centers.

Motivation

Conventional political motivation for terrorism continue, however issues involving organized crime, narcotics trafficking, ecological/animal rights, abortion/right-to-life groups, and perceived economic injustice can also involve terrorist groups or lone individual "Lone Wolf" planning, and operations. Another aspect of increased motivation is the growing use of the Internet for terrorist recruitment, training, and communications.

Causes and Characteristics of Terrorism

Defining Terrorism

There are multiple definitions of terrorism in common use. The United States Code defines terrorism as premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by sub-national groups or clandestine agents usually intended to influence an audience. The United States Department of Justice defines terrorism as a violent act dangerous to human life, in violation of the criminal laws of the U.S. or any segment to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives. The FBI defines terrorism as the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.

All three of these definitions share important components:
1. Criminal action
2. The action must include violence against civilians
3. The action is carried out in order to further political or social objectives
4. The action is intended to coerce a government or civilian population

Terrorism Hazard Identification

The categories below serve to differentiate terrorist organizations or individuals according to common goals and motivation. It should be noted that these categories of terrorism and terrorist groups are constantly changing. In addition the "Lone Wolf" terrorism (individuals not connected to a terror cell or larger group, but who commit acts of public violence, often on behalf of a personal grievance) has added another dimension.

Category	Description
Separatist	Separatist groups are those with the goal of separation from existing entities through independence, political autonomy, or religious freedom or domination. The ideologies separatists subscribe to include social justice or equity, anti-imperialism, as well as the resistance to conquest or occupation by a foreign power.
Ethnocentric	Groups of this persuasion see race as the defining characteristic of a society, and therefore a basis of cohesion. There is usually the attitude that a particular group is superior because of their inherent racial characteristics.
Nationalistic	The loyalty and devotion to a nation, and the national consciousness derived from placing one nation's culture and interests above those of other nations or groups. This can find expression in the creation of a new nation or in splitting away part of an existing state to join with another that shares the perceived "national" identity.
Revolutionary	Dedicated to the overthrow of an established order and replacing it with a new political or social structure. Although often associated with communist political ideologies, this is not always the case, and other political movements can advocate revolutionary methods to achieve their goals

Category	Description
Political	Political ideologies are concerned with the structure and organization of the forms of government and communities. While observers outside terrorist organizations may stress differences in political ideology, the activities of groups that are diametrically opposed on the political spectrum are similar to each other in practice.
Religious	Religiously inspired terrorism is on the rise. While Islamic terrorists and organizations have been the most publicized, all of the major world religions have extremists that have taken up violence to further their perceived religious goals. Religiously motivated terrorists see their objectives as holy writ, and therefore infallible and non-negotiable
Social	Often particular social policies or issues will be so contentious that they will incite extremist behavior and terrorism. Frequently this is referred to as "single issue" or "special interest" terrorism. Some issues that have produced terrorist activities in the United States and other countries include animal rights, abortion, ecology/environment, and minority rights.
Domestic	These terrorists are "home-grown" and operate within and against their home country. They are frequently tied to extreme social or political factions within a particular society, and focus their efforts specifically on their nation's socio-political arena.
International or Transnational	Often describing the support and operational reach of a group, these terms are often loosely defined, and can be applied to widely different capabilities. *International groups* typically operate in multiple countries, but retain a geographic focus for their activities. Hezbollah has cells worldwide, and has conducted operations in multiple countries, but is primarily concerned with events in Lebanon and Israel. *Transnational groups* operate internationally, but are not tied to a particular country, or even region. Al Qaeda is transnational; being made up of many nationalities, having been based out of multiple countries simultaneously, and conducting operations throughout the world. Their objectives affect dozens of countries with differing political systems, religions, ethnic compositions, and national interests

Table 125: Terrorist Group Categories

Source: http://www.terrorism-research.com/groups/categories.php

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International Terrorist Groups

International terrorist groups can operate anywhere and act without regard to national borders. U.S. Code Title 18 Part I, Chapter 113b § 2331 defines international terrorism as activities that:

(A) involve violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State, or that would be a criminal violation if committed within the jurisdiction of the United States or of any State;

(B) appear to be intended:
  (i) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
  (ii) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or
  (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping; and

(C) occur primarily outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum

The U.S. State Department issues and maintains the Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) List which documents current threat groups. The current FTO is listed below:

1. Abu Nidal Organization (ANO)	25. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)
2. Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG)	26. Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG)
3. Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade (AAMS)	27. Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group (GICM)
4. Al-Shabaab	28. Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization (MEK)
5. Ansar al-Islam (AAI)	29. National Liberation Army (ELN)
6. Asbat al-Ansar	30. Palestine Liberation Front (PLF)
7. Aum Shinrikyo (AUM)	31. Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ)
8. Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)	32. Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)
9. Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA)	33. PFLP-General Command (PFLP-GC)
10. Continuity Irish Republican Army (CIRA)	34. al-Qaida in Iraq (AQI)
11. Gama'a al-Islamiyya (Islamic Group)	35. al-Qa'ida (AQ)
12. HAMAS (Islamic Resistance Movement)	36. al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP)
13. Harakat ul-Jihad-i-Islami/Bangladesh (HUJI-B)	37. al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (formerly GSPC)
14. Harakat ul-Mujahidin (HUM)	38. Real IRA (RIRA)
15. Hizballah (Party of God)	39. Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)
16. Islamic Jihad Union (IJU)	40. Revolutionary Organization 17 November (17N)
17. Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU)	41. Revolutionary People's Liberation Party/Front (DHKP/C)
18. Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM) (Army of Mohammed)	42. Revolutionary Struggle (RS)
19. Jemaah Islamiya organization (JI)	43. Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso, SL)
20. Kahane Chai (Kach)	44. United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC)
21. Kata'ib Hizballah (KH)	45. Harakat-ul Jihad Islami (HUJI)
22. Kongra-Gel (KGK, formerly Kurdistan Workers' Party, PKK, KADEK)	46. Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP)
	47. Jundallah
23. Lashkar-e Tayyiba (LT) (Army of the Righteous)	48. Army of Islam (AOI)
24. Lashkar I Jhangvi (LJ)	49. Indian Mujahideen (IM)

Table 126: Foreign Terrorist Organizations

International terrorist groups often have state sponsors who view terrorism as a tool of foreign policy. State sponsors of terrorism engage in anti-Western terrorist activities by funding, organizing, networking, and providing other support to many extremists.

Country	Designation Date
Cuba	March 1, 1982
Iran	January 19, 1984
Sudan	August 12, 1993
Syria	December 29, 1979

Table 127: State Sponsors of Terrorism
Source: U.S. State Department

Domestic Terrorism in the United States

Domestic terrorism involves attacks within the United States perpetrated by homegrown groups or individuals. U.S. Code Title 18 Part I, Chapter 113b § 2331 defines domestic terrorism as activities that:

(A)   involve acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State;

(B)   appear to be intended—
   i.   to intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
   ii.   to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or
   iii.   to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping; and

(C)   occur primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States.

Domestic Terrorism Examples

Year	Event	Description
April 19, 1995	Oklahoma City Bombing	Truck bomb resulting in 168 people killed
July 27, 1996	Centennial Olympic Park Bombing	1996 Summer Olympic bombing in Atlanta, GA resulting in 2 deaths and 111 injuries
September 18, 2001 (start)	U.S. Anthrax Attacks	A series of letters containing anthrax spores lasting several weeks resulting in 5 deaths and 17 infections
May 31, 2009	Assassination of Dr. George Tiller	Murder of a nationally known physician that performed late-term abortions
June 10, 2009	U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Shootings	Shooting attack of a believed neo-Nazi resulting in 1 death
November 5, 2009	Fort Hood Shootings	Shooting attack of a believed Islamic extremist resulting in 13 deaths and 30 wounded
February 18, 2010	Austin, Texas IRS Airplane Attack	Aircraft attack on an IRS office building by a believed anti-government / anti-corporate business extremist resulting in 1 death

Table 128: Domestic Terrorism Examples

Post 9/11

After September 11, 2001, the United States has increased its security policies and procedures at the national and local level. Since then, Federal Grants for counter-terrorism have increased to approximately seventy-five billion dollars per year from federal and state governments according to Kim Murphy of Los Angeles Times in an article dated August, 2011. These grants have provided local counties and cities funds to strengthen their security procedures, implement needed mitigation actions, or provide first responders with specialized training and equipment.

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)

Weapons of Mass Destruction are a specific type of threat that must be considered by any community. For the Las Virgenes-Malibu Region, this may involve the activation of a WMD within the area or a large-scale attack in a nearby location. Consequently, ongoing awareness and training of local emergency responders, government, and healthcare providers is important to ensure that such events are quickly identified and managed.

Five Types of WMD That Could be Used by Terrorists

WMD can be segregated into five categories using the acronym B-NICE: Biological, Nuclear, Incendiary, Chemical and Explosive.
1. Four common types of biological agents are bacteria, viruses, rickettsia, and toxins.
2. Nuclear terrorism can occur in two different ways.
   a. Detonation or threat of detonation of a nuclear bomb
   b. Dispersion of radiological material using a conventional explosive or other dispersal device
3. An incendiary device is any mechanical, electrical, or chemical device used to intentionally initiate combustion and start a fire.
4. Chemical agents can be classified into five categories: nerve agents, blister agents, blood agents, choking agents, and irritating agents.
5. Explosive devices are the most common WMD (70% of all terrorist attacks).

While explosives are the most common method, any of the WMDs listed can be deployed at any time. Consequently threat awareness and vigilance is critical to prevent future attacks. In one well-known case a plot to detonate a car bomb at the Los Angeles International Airport was uncovered by an alert U.S. Customers inspector. On December 14, 1999, Ahmed Ressam (aka the Millennium Bomber) was arrested after a U.S. Customs inspector had his vehicle searched after he had successfully boarded a ferry from Canada to Port Angeles, Washington. The inspector is credited for noticing Ressam's behavior as unusual and ordering a secondary customs search and a check of his passport. As a result, chemicals and explosive timing devices were found in the trunk of his vehicle and his passport was identified as counterfeit. Ressam was subsequently jailed and convicted on multiple counts.

Estimated Impact of an Event

If a terrorist event or multiple events were to occur, the consequences to local populations and employment may be significant depending on the site or sites targeted. The table below provides the estimated impact of a disaster using a 0.1% loss baseline.

Category	Agoura Hills	Calabasas	Hidden Hills	Malibu	Westlake Village	Impact if a 0.1% Loss Occurs
Population	20,330	23,058	1,856	12,645	8,270	66
Total City Employment	10,665	13,413	N/A	8,197	8,436	40

Table 129: Estimated Population and Economic Loss of Terrorist Events

Based on a 0.1% loss projection, more than 66 people could be impacted (either directly or indirectly) and 40 jobs lost (either temporarily or permanently). Since a terrorist target will likely focus on public meeting venues, commercial structures, or transportation routes, the projected impact is focused on population and employment (see Community Profile section for population and economic data).

Terrorism Vulnerabilities

The probability that an individual or location will be targeted by a terrorist is a function of several factors including the attractiveness of target, the potential for success of the event and the potential for avoiding identification and capture. Categories of potential targets include:

General Targets

- Symbolic buildings
- Federal, state, and local government buildings including military sites and recruiting stations
- Mass-transit facilities
- Public buildings and assembly areas
- Controversial businesses and defense industry companies
- Communications and utility facilities
- Water supply locations
- Research laboratories
- Clinics and hospitals
- Places where large groups of people congregate

Impact on the Community

Following a terrorist attack, panic, intense media interest, and the convergence of injured and possibly contaminated persons at local hospitals and urgent care centers can be expected. While local, state, and federal agencies will be mobilized to respond to a terrorist event, it will take time for assistance to arrive. Many specialized resources (such as military response teams) may need to be airlifted to the area requiring local resources to manage the initial phases of an emergency – especially in the case of a mass casualty event. This initial response phase may range from hours to a day or more. Consequently, a rapid assessment of the scope of the incident and activation of local emergency response resources will be critical to manage the situation.

Key issues include:
- Activation of local and regional Emergency Operations Centers (EOC's)
- Designation of casualty collection points and field triage/treatment sites
- Transportation (for personnel, equipment, and supplies to the impact location as well as casualty and public evacuation)
- Isolation (if needed to prevent further contamination)
- Use of personal protection equipment (PPDs)
- Communications (including internal communication, media response, and public bulletins)
- Decontamination points (if required)

Efforts to assess the situation and provide clear, easy to follow emergency management instructions to the public are essential.

The following table describes examples of the considerations expected during the initial stages of a terrorist event.

Condition	Description
Down Wind Evacuation	A large release may result in a lethal plume that may travel for miles. Emergency agencies in neighboring jurisdictions must be advised of the release and included in incident management activities.
Traffic Restrictions and Congestion	Roads, freeways and transit systems may need to be closed to contain the incident. Regardless of the need, panic may cause some persons to self-evacuate, Traffic congestion and gridlock conditions and confusion may result. These factors will slow response by emergency agencies and specialized resources to affected areas. Detailed traffic management plans will need to be developed.
Self-Transport to Medical Providers	Injured and contaminated victims may leave the immediate site of the incident and then go to hospitals. In most cases, the care provider will not be equipped to decontaminate victims or treat terrorist related casualties. This can extend the scope of the incident, potentially lead to secondary contamination and strain local medical and emergency response resources Hospitals impacted by an influx of casualties who have not been decontaminated will have to establish decontamination area and may not be able to continue providing treatment.
Panic Victims	In the immediate aftermath of a terrorist event, responders should anticipate a number of people who think they have been exposed to or contaminated by the agent(s) even though there has been no actual exposure. Provisions must be made to manage these persons and provide supportive care as necessary.
Scarce Supplies	Equipment and supplies needed to manage the consequences of a terrorist event will be scarce. Sufficient pharmacological supplies may not be available. Antidotes and other drugs used to treat WMD victims are usually not stockpiled in sufficient quantities for use in a mass casualty incident. Efforts to secure additional supplies will be an immediate need. Personnel involved in managing potential terrorist event must be aware of these concerns. Measures to address these issues must be incorporated into the Incident Action Plan and should be considered and assessed throughout the management of the WMD incident.

Table 130: Terrorist Event Considerations

Law Enforcement Role in Combating Terrorism

The following are steps and efforts that various law enforcement agencies are taking to combat terrorist activities.

1. On-going attention to known potential targets within the service area
2. Identification of new potential targets within the service area
3. Identification of suspicious persons, places, or things which may be related to potential terrorist activity
4. Recognition of potential surveillance and intelligence-gathering activities
5. Recognition of potential terrorist involvement in routine crimes (ID theft, shoplifting, credit card fraud, forgeries, etc.)
6. Organizing and informing community resources regarding anti- terrorism
7. Ability to respond safely and effectively to a terrorist incident or a terrorist use of a WMD
8. Identify the terrorist group
9. Monitor weapons/materials
10. Threat/vulnerability assessment
11. Counter surveillance
12. Target hardening
13. Awareness of suspicious behavior as terrorists egress from target

Regional Response, Mitigation, and Prevention Activities

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is the lead law enforcement agency for the region in the event of a terrorist event. Individual cities will be responsible for consequence management. Currently the Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff's station and individual cities implement projects and or programs to help prevent a terrorist situation or be prepared if one were to occur. The following are practices or projects that are currently active in the Region.

Emergency Response Actions

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will act as the lead agency for crisis management, perimeter security, access control, traffic/crowd control, evacuations, notifications, and safeguarding evidence. Crisis management activities may include:

- Investigation, tracking, and maintaining scene integrity.
- Coordinating coroner issues with the Los Angeles County Coroner's Department.
- Use of Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) or Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) units
- Assisting with damage assessment and fatalities management.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is the lead agency for fire response, hazardous materials events, and medical/rescue operations. The County Fire Department provides support as necessary to the Sheriff for Crisis Management activities. Existing procedures, such as the Fire Department's Hazardous Materials Response procedures and NBC Response Protocols are used as necessary. The Fire Department assists with:

- Fire and rescue operations
- Emergency medical services coordination
- Perimeter and access control
- Evacuation operations
- Notifications

- Safeguarding evidence
- Damage assessment
- Fatalities management
- Addressing environmental needs
- Obtaining personnel with radiological training
- Insuring decontamination procedures (radiological and chemical) are in place
- Insuring biological agents are contained

Mitigation and Prevention

The following examples provide a summary of mitigation and prevention activities that support the Las Virgenes-Malibu Region.

Canine Unit

The Los Angeles County Sheriff maintains 5 specially training canines to detect explosives as part of the Arson/Explosive Detail and one chemical/biological threat K-9 as part of the Hazardous Materials Detail.

Equipment and JRIC

In September 2011, Los Angeles County received an $8.9 million grant from the Department of Homeland Security. The funds were a part of a 2010 federal grant of $69.9 million to the Los Angeles-Long Beach Urban Area. The grant was intended to address the unique equipment, training and planning needs of large urban areas in managing terrorism threats.[6] The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department received the bulk of the $8.9 million grant and will use $6.2 million for equipment, such as an aerial video downlink technology, mobile surveillance cameras, tactical robots, radiation detection devices and bomb suits.

Nearly 70 percent of the total Los Angeles-Long Beach Urban Area funds will be spent on the region's Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC). The JRIC is staffed by federal, state and local intelligence analysts and investigators responsible for the 44,000-square-mile territory surrounding Los Angeles. The JRIC opened in 2006 and is the largest of approximately 40 facilities nationwide and is used to coordinate data from 200 agencies in seven counties.

Terrorism Early Warning Group

In 1996, the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department established the Terrorism Early Warning (TEW) Group.[7] The purpose of the TEW Group is to act as an interdisciplinary group in which local, state, and federal agencies work together to share information and combine resources, and to enhance the ability to identify and respond to acts and threats of terrorism. This interagency approach allows for early response and enforcement by clearing the communication channels between agencies and creating an environment that facilitates information and intelligence sharing. The result is an effective network that has the ability to identify information which might indicate impending terrorist activity. This group is a significant resource for identifying and assessing potential threats, making appropriate notifications and recommendations, and aiding in mission planning and the efficient allocation of resources.

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[6] http://ourweekly.com/los-angeles/sheriff%E2%80%99s-department-spend-89-million-anti-terror-equipment-training-and-intelligence

[7] http://file.lacounty.gov/lasd/cms1_144939.pdf

Terrorism Mitigation Strategies

LVCOG Mitigation Activities

Specific terrorist specific mitigation strategies have not been undertaken by the Las Virgenes-Malibu COG however the LVMCOG will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies on planning efforts. Additionally, mitigation strategies that support multi-hazard events will also address terrorist response issues, e.g., increasing the effectiveness of communications and response.

Agoura Hills

The City of Agoura Hills website provides emergency information and a handbook for residents regarding different disasters including terrorism. In addition, the City has an active C.E.R.T. program with volunteers trained to assist in disasters.

Calabasas

The City of Calabasas website provides numerous emergency preparedness information bulletins including an Emergency Preparedness Guide with information regarding Terrorism. Emergency warnings and information will be provided to the public in the event of a terrorist incident. This will be accomplished via the Calabasas website, CTV channel-3, the City's 1630 AM radio station.

Malibu

The City of Malibu maintains an ongoing Public Information Program that includes:
- A monthly series on the City website that features a different theme each month. These are adapted from the monthly Emergency Survival Program bulletins on preparing for and responding to terrorism incidents.
- A series of messages on the City's cable TV channel urge viewers to take emergency response training, to write a family emergency plan, and to contact the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for further information.
- Ongoing meetings and presentations about emergency preparedness are made to the public at meetings of Homeowner's Associations and Emergency Preparedness Fairs.

Emergency warnings and information will be provided to the public in the event of a terrorist incident. This will be accomplished via the City of Malibu website, Cable TV channel-3, the City's AM Radio Station (1620 AM), a telephone Hotline service (456-9982), a call center located at City's Emergency Operations Center, and an email subscription service which notifies subscribers whenever emergency information is updated on the City website

Westlake Village

The City of Westlake Village website provides numerous emergency preparedness information bulletins including an Emergency Preparedness Guild with information regarding Terrorism. In addition, the City has an active C.E.R.T. program with volunteers trained to assist in disasters.