

# Homeland Security A New Wave of Terrorism!





# Types of Terrorism

- ◆ **Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD):**
- ◆ **Any destructive device, explosive, incendiary or poison gas, bomb, rocket (more than 4 oz of propellant), mine, weapon of disease/organism, radiation or radioactivity dangerous to human life**



# Types of Terrorism

- ◆ Cyber Terrorism:
- ◆ Any deliberate threat to destroy the information infrastructure - includes illegal intrusions into government computer networks





# Types of Terrorism

- ◆ General Terrorism:
- ◆ Assassination, kidnapping, hostage taking, industrial sabotage, destruction or disruption of food & water supplies, physical violence, disruption of public utilities, communications, etc



# Two inescapable truths

- ◆ The characteristics of our society make us vulnerable to terrorism of catastrophic proportions
- ◆ (large cities, open society, skyscrapers, transportation)
- ◆ Availability of technology for destructive devices
- ◆ (internet, books, news)

A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a collection of military medals and a compass rose. At the top, there are several circular medals with intricate designs. Below them is a blue ribbon with a circular medal. In the center is a large, ornate cross-shaped medal with a central circular emblem. At the bottom is a compass rose with a needle pointing towards the top right.

# Those two things together =

- ◆ A permanent condition to which American's must adjust and accept as a reality of life!
- ◆ Homeland security is not tied to any specific terrorist threat

We will transform adversity into  
greater opportunities for the  
future!





# Homeland Security Advisory System

- ◆ Green = Low
- ◆ Blue = Guarded
- ◆ Yellow = Elevated \*\*Current Status
- ◆ Orange = High
- ◆ Red = Severe





# Securing America

- ◆ 7,500 mile land & air border between Canada & Mexico
- ◆ 500 million people admitted to the US each year
- ◆ 11.2 million trucks & 2.2 million rail cars cross into the US yearly



# Interagency Problems

- ◆ Too many agencies attempting to set standards
- ◆ Not sharing information
- ◆ Confusion for the public

# What can we do to help?





# Talk with family!

- ◆ Create a family emergency plan to include:
- ◆ Meeting places
- ◆ Contacts outside area
- ◆ Evacuation routes
- ◆ Local shelter plans
- ◆ Pets in an emergency







# General Preparedness

- ◆ Make handy list of important phone numbers
- ◆ Share the numbers with your family
- ◆ Get to know your neighbors
- ◆ Make sure your house is marked. (lighted house numbering, etc)
- ◆ Take what you hear seriously and report it
- ◆ First Aid Kit



# Evacuation Plans

- ◆ How long would it take for you to evacuate your home? (5min or less in emergency)
- ◆ What should you take with you? What route would you take?
- ◆ Where would you go?



# Items to have on hand

- ◆ Portable radio
- ◆ Extra batteries
- ◆ Medications
- ◆ Important papers
- ◆ Identification
- ◆ Pets
- ◆ Flash light
- ◆ Extra clothes
- ◆ Money/credit cards
- ◆ Glasses
- ◆ Family photo albums
- ◆ First Aid Kit

# Municipal

What are your municipal plans for emergencies?

Who is your local coordinator?

How can you help locally?





# Neighborhood Watch

- ◆ Talk with elected officials
- ◆ Meet with law enforcement to set up programs- C.E.R.T.
- ◆ Report suspicious activities to authorities





# What is Bioterrorism?

- Terrorism activity involving intentional release of a microbial agent into the environment
- May be a bacteria, virus, or toxin
- Focus on highly infectious agents
- Aerosolized



# Bioterrorism

- Covert vs. Overt
- Biological more likely to be covert
- Initial detection and response at the local level



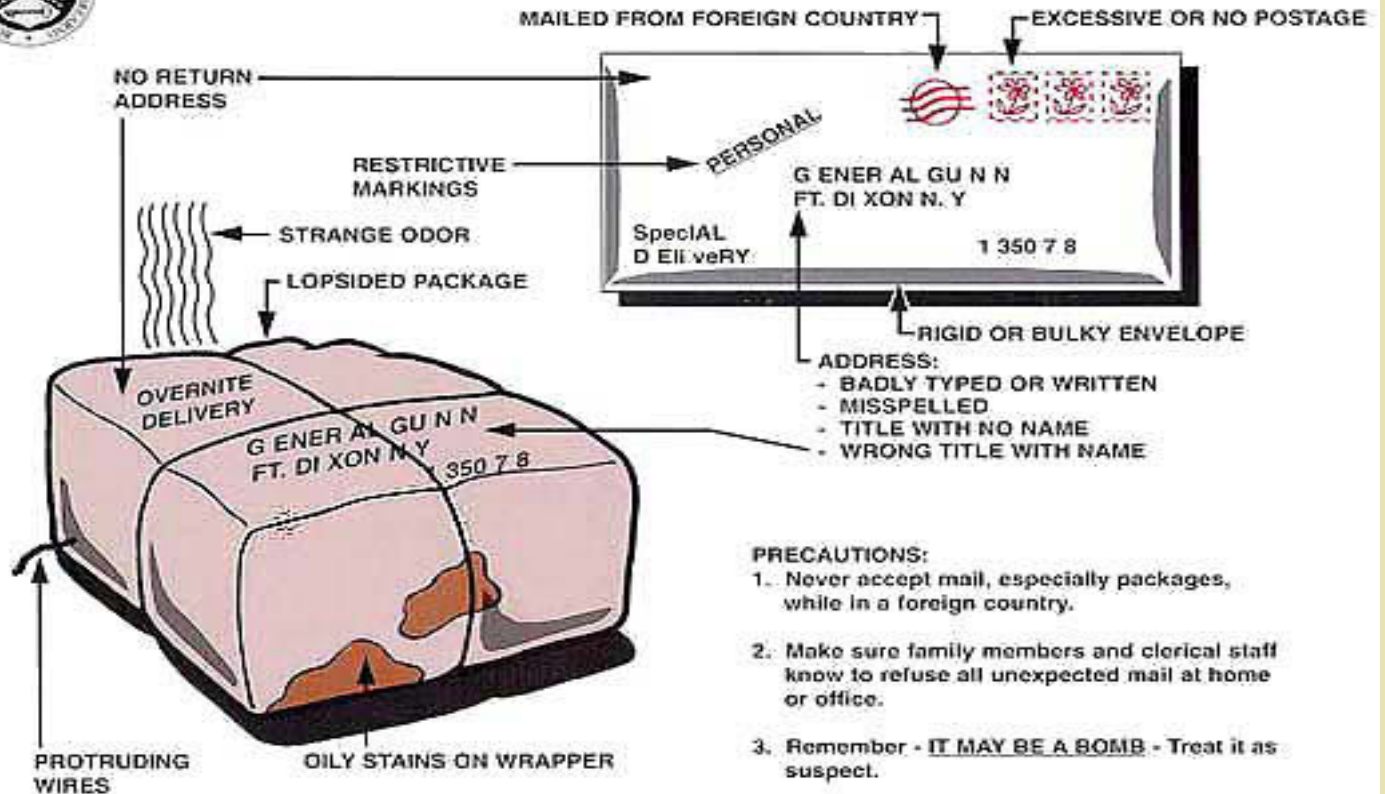
# Most Likely Diseases

	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Person-to-Person Spread</b>
Anthrax	Bacteria	No
Plague	Bacteria	Possible
Botulism	Toxin	No
Hemorrhagic fevers	Virus	Yes
Smallpox	Virus	Yes
Tularemia	Bacteria	No





## WARNING! Suspect Letter and Package Indicators



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BOMB SECURITY OR BOMB THREATS, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ATF OFFICE.

ATF I 3324.1 (6/95)

Picture of package with suspect and package indicators

Courtesy of ATF <http://www.atf.treas.gov/explarson/information/indic.htm>

# Mail

- ◆ Teach your family to be aware when opening the mail.
- ◆ Look for suspicious pieces of mail



# Emergency Decontamination Considerations

- ◆ Set up Emergency Decon
  - Time is critical!
  - Full cooperation needed
  - Segregated lanes
  - Modesty
  - Weather conditions





# Emergency Decon Considerations (Continued)

- ◆ Perform Decon
  - Listen for directions
  - Arms out / legs apart
  - Top down wash
  - If Bio or Rad, rinse while removing clothes







# What is Hunterdon County doing?

- ◆ Bioterrorism plan (draft)
- ◆ Hazardous Materials
- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Training
- ◆ School plans
- ◆ Terrorism plan (draft)
- ◆ Mass Decon
- ◆ Law Enforcement
- ◆ Health Care
- ◆ Completed a risk assessment



# Planning

- March 2001 – Bioterrorism Preparedness Planning Committee
  - 18 members from multiple disciplines
  - Object was to develop a Bioterrorism Response Plan for Hunterdon County



# Planning

- A “draft” plan exists
- Many local agencies involved
- Ongoing process
- Linked with other plans



# Surveillance

- ER and MD offices as “listening posts”
- State & local active surveillance
  - (Influenza-like illness) – 9 reporting sites in HC
  - ER Surveillance – reported daily
- ◆ “Enhanced surveillance” for cutaneous anthrax





# Surveillance

- Heightened awareness among health care providers for rare, unusual, or unexplained illness
- Collaboration between local health care providers and local health department
- Laboratory Response Network



# Communication

- Media – press releases/display ads
- 24 hour “Information line” 908-788-1329
- Hunterdon County Department of Health  
Website <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/health.htm>



# Incident Response

- 25 Member County HAZMAT Team
  - Trained and equipped
  - 24/7 availability
  - On-site assessments of suspicious mail
  - Decontamination capabilities
- Public Health Workforce (Public Health Nurses, Health Inspectors, Health Educators, Epidemiologist)

# Exercises

- ◆ Schools
- ◆ Bioterrorism
- ◆ Attacks on dams
- ◆ Mass decontamination
- ◆ Inter-agency communications (Federal, State, County, Municipal)







# In closing.....

Terrorism is no longer a “theoretical” threat, but an actual threat.

While we can not plan for everything, we can minimize the effects.

Fear is our worst enemy. If we run scared, they have won!

QUESTIONS??????

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