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LAS VEGAS CONVENTION CENTER | LAS VEGAS, NV

Mitigating Strategies for Combating Current Terror Threats

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What we'll cover in this session

- Current threat trends.
- Recent case studies of terror attacks and lessons to be learned.
- Key components for mitigating strategies to reduce risk.

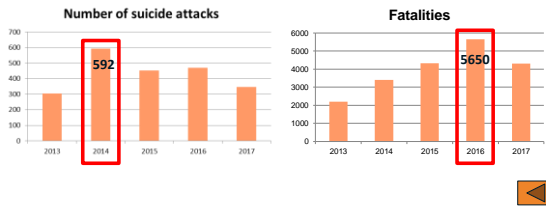
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Current threat trends


- Homegrown threat from "inspired" radical elements/lone wolves
- Use of the internet and Jihadi forums for training and inspiration
- Suicide operations increasing 
- Active shooters/armed assaults
- The evolving threat from drones
- DAISH targeting aviation
- Shift to soft targets and ramming attacks/knifings
- Insider threat
- Targeting law enforcement

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Number & Lethality of Suicide Attacks



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The evolving threat from drones



A composite image of a drone allegedly used to target Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro on August 4, 2018

[CaracusNews24/Twitter](#)

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**Terror drone plot FOILED:
 Brit spies stop plan to bring
 down AIRLINER**
 SPIES have foiled a terror plot to bring down an airliner by crashing drones into a jet engine.
 By Patrick Williams | Published 17th August 2017
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Terror attacks in Spain

August 17 – 18, 2017

- In Las Ramblas, a rented white Fiat van plowed into a crowd and continued down the famous pedestrian boulevard, killing 15 people and injuring close to 100 others.
- An additional assailant from the same cell drove a stolen vehicle to Cambrils where, upon meeting up with four additional attackers, carried out the combined ramming and assault with knives and axes along the town promenade in Cambrils killing one.
- All five assailants involved in the Cambrils attack were shot and killed by authorities at the scene. They wore fake IED belts.
- The van driver, 22-year-old Younes Abouyaaqoub, escaped the scene and was killed by Spanish police following a days long manhunt.



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Explosion destroys house in Alcanar

Wednesday night August 16, 2017

- 2 men died in the explosion and a 3rd, seriously injured, was taken to a nearby hospital
- Initially no nexus to terrorism was suspected despite the 3 being known supporters of IS
- Investigations at the site of the Alcanar home explosion revealed an arsenal of explosive material including traces of TATP as well as more than 120 Butane gas canisters.



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Terror attacks in Spain, cont.

August 17-18, 2017

- According to reports, the terrorist cell originally intended to carry out major attacks involving the use of explosive-laden vans on targets in Barcelona, including Gaudi's basilica of the Sagrada Familia.
- It is assumed that the explosion at the Alcanar hideout one day prior to the ramming in Barcelona prompted other members of the terrorist cell to switch to plan B, staging the ramming attack on La Ramblas using a rented van.



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La Ramblas, Barcelona



Vehicle barriers protecting an Edinburgh pedestrian street



It recently came to light that Barcelona security chiefs [rejected calls from the Catalan interior ministry and police chiefs to install barriers at Las Ramblas to protect pedestrians from a ramming attack.](#) Barcelona security chiefs instead opted to increase police presence on Las Ramblas.

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Key components of the mitigating strategy

- Threat-oriented security.
- Security rings (multi-layered and overlapping).
- Harnessing the community (more sensors on the ground).
- Identifying the collecting of pre-attack information.
- Unity of command and integrated response.
- Dynamic and 'outward facing' security.
- Hunter mentality.
- Focusing on the irregular.
- Qualitative manpower.
- Quality assurance



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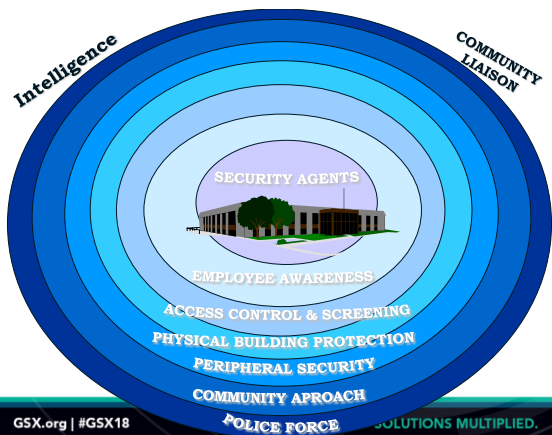
A threat-oriented security response

- Know your enemy.
- Analysis of all possible threats (modus operandi).
- Quantifiable definitions of threat.
- Selection of counter measures.
- Risk management.



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Lyon Airport : Massive security breach September 10, 2018



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Remember

- The difference between a massive terror event and a small terror incident is usually determined by the level and nature of the first response.
- The level of the response will depend greatly on the security strategies implemented



Thank You