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Toward a Coordinating & Integrative Center for Tourism Security

Monterey, California: Naval Postgraduate School

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Toward a Coordinating & Integrative Center for Tourism Security



January 27, 2010

Institute for Security Studies

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

iss.unlv.edu



- Established in 2004 with a directed appropriation from Senator Reid.
- Combines educational and research capabilities to **train, teach & expand** the body of knowledge related to the security of “soft targets.”
- Works for--and in partnership with--private industry, state entities and law enforcement.

What is our Purpose?



*Institute
for
Security
Studies*

- Research
- Outreach
- Training



What is the Trend?

Since 9-11, there have been 62 attacks on tourism destinations world-wide

- Kabul, Afghanistan
- Islamabad, Pakistan
- Mumbai, India
- Peshawar, Pakistan
- Jakarta, Indonesia



The Evolving Threat Environment

- **Commercial facilities** are vulnerable to terrorist attack:

- They are open to the public and accommodate a large number of people,
- Design and operation make it difficult to detect operational planning and surveillance.



- **Tourism/resort facilities** rely upon open access, are symbols of luxury, appeal to international clientele and often represent wealth and abundance.



- **Tourism dependent economies** possess multiple resort properties and are the sole **economic** engine for the city or the region (i.e., Las Vegas, Orlando, San Diego, Hawaii):

- A successful attack in these cities would have a devastating effect on the region's economy.
- RAND study (Oct 2007) ranks Las Vegas as 9th most likely city to suffer terrorist attack.



Challenges Remain

- U.S. Department of Labor reports 1 of every 7 people employed in the civilian labor force is directly or indirectly employed in the travel and tourism industry.
- U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports tourism related goods and services generated an estimated \$1.23 trillion in CY 2006 supporting more than 8.5 million jobs.
- Despite improvements in research and resources available to emergency responders, there remains a shortfall of comprehensive and timely evidence-based research, case studies, cost-effective training, and technical assistance resources effectively organized for private sector security managers who protect “soft targets.”

Coordinating & Integrative Center for Tourism Security (CICTS)

Mission Statement

The CICTS will help:

- Solve tourism security-related problems in practical and cost-effective ways;
- Enhance the public safety-private sector information sharing environment;
- Advance training, education and outreach relevant to private security practitioners;
- Improve public safety and tourism security through scholarly inquiry, interdisciplinary collaboration, and applied research.



Coordinating & Integrative Center for Tourism Security (CICTS)

Goals & Objectives

- **Conduct & Communicate Research:** Support comprehensive research activities that improve public safety-private sector information sharing environment.
- **Define Operational Concepts:** Examine and document approaches to effective use of prevention and protection technology countermeasures, case studies and lessons learned.
- **Enhance Training, Education & Outreach:** Develop and deliver training and educational resources that enhance knowledge transfer among tourism security practitioners.

Why Las Vegas? Living Laboratory

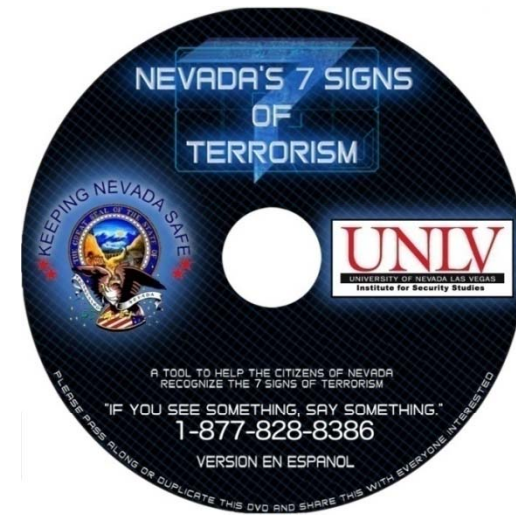
- Top international tourist destination including the largest commercial properties in the world built on the principle of **“open access 24/7.”**
- A “living laboratory” for the Commercial Facilities Sector (CFS) deploying advanced security solutions and best practices.
- A rapidly-emerging, high-density urban residential core woven into the resort corridor – a unique infrastructure cluster city (e.g., City Center).
- Advanced architectural design and construction projects blending Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) demonstrating best practices for inculcation of *“Preparedness by Design”*.
- Local public safety agencies with deep experience in special event management: NBA All-Star Game; annual Rodeo finals, **NASCAR** venue; **New Year’s Eve celebrations**.
- Local access to a unique national asset for technology test and evaluation, live agent and hazmat training, and responder awareness, operations & technician training: **Nevada Test Site**.
- World-class UNLV researchers in nuclear forensics, nuclear detection, and radiochemistry.
- UNLV College of Hotel Administration is a global leader in hospitality and tourism learning



Why ISS?

Terrorism DVD

- **Requested by:** Nevada Commission on Homeland Security, LVMPD, Southern Nevada Counter-Terrorism Center
- **Content: “Seven Signs of Terrorism”**
 - Surveillance
 - Information gathering
 - Testing security (or probing)
 - Planning (acquiring supplies and funding)
 - Suspicious behavior
 - Rehearsal
 - Getting into position
- **Language:** The DVD was produced in both English and Spanish
- **Number of DVDs:** 20,000 DVDs provided to all state, local & tribal law enforcement & county emergency planners. DVD has been sent to 7 countries and is featured on the DOJ & DHS websites.



Why ISS? (cont'd.)

Partnership Enhancement Research and Fusion (PERFusion)

- A **three-part** project to implement a training program to facilitate the exchange of information among the public safety community and their private sector security partners within Nevada.
- PERFusion will help fill a **state** and **local** priority requirement in information sharing; the program has increased importance in light of the attacks on “soft targets” (e.g. Mumbai, Islamabad).
- Intelligence-led policing and critical information sharing are crucial components in helping prevent such attacks from occurring in Nevada.



Why ISS? (cont'd.)

PERFusion Part 1 (June 2009 – March 2010)

Initial Web-based Services

- Capability to electronically collect Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs)
- Streaming video of “*Nevada’s 7 Signs of Terrorism*” DVD
- Password-protected secure back-end supporting Library and Bulletin Board services
- E-mail Broadcast capability supporting multiple mail groups

Note: Effective January 26, the “**Tier Zero**” public access pages of the STIX web-site are live.

Please go to www.snctc.org



Why ISS? PERFusion Part 2

(August 2009 – May 2010)

- **Implement state-wide web-based training:**
 - Develop & post 6-hour Terrorism Liaison Officer course
 - Develop & post 6-hour Fusion Liaison Officer course
- **Use ISS Grant funds to help produce 5 short DVDs, focused on Nevada's "frontline" populations:**
 - Guest Relation Attendant (housekeeping)
 - Valet Parking Attendant
 - Bellman
 - Transportation (rental car, taxi, limousine)
 - Facilities Engineer



Why ISS? PERFusion Part 3 (Unfunded)

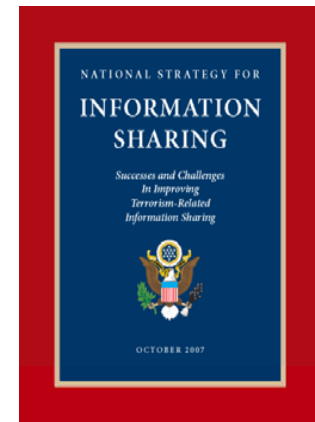
- Produce seven additional specialty awareness DVDs (front desk personnel, porter, food & beverage staff, retail employees, hardware store staff, water plant staff, energy plant staff).
- Develop advanced FLO training (e.g. understanding Islamic culture, terrorist organizations, and rural & tribal area considerations).
- Enhance and maintain a resource library that provides research, and operational and technical support to law enforcement analysts and private sector security professionals.
- Conduct original research on technology options, response capabilities, and best practices based upon case studies of terrorist events and counter-measures.



Tourism Security

Prospective Activities

- **Research:** Comprehensive research activities in furtherance of CFS prevention and protection technology countermeasures, case study lessons learned and operational concepts.
- **Outreach:** Production and dissemination of research for business recovery and resilience.
- **Training:** Development and delivery of training using rigorous tasks-conditions-standards (TCS) in conformance with DOJ Grants Program protocols:
 - Production of a series of “Specialty Awareness” DVDs
 - Advanced Information Sharing Environment Training
- **Operational Concepts:** Examination of approaches to improving public safety-private sector information sharing environment. Develop “the Library” of “lessons learned” relevant to the private sector.



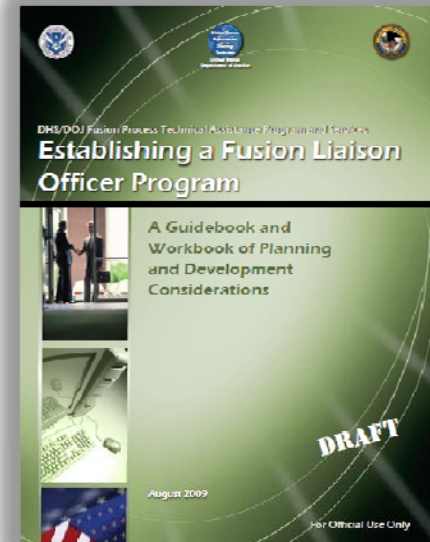
Prospective Activities (cont'd.)

Training & Technical Assistance

*Currently a few hundred are trained annually;
tens of thousands need to be trained.*

• Develop Web-based Training:

- Fusion Liaison Officer – Basic Course (National Scope).
- Fusion Liaison Officer – Advanced Courses.



Thank You





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