

## Case Study-Exercise for National Security Affairs June 2012

### Part I

There has been intelligence gathered in the Middle East pointing to an imminent attack on the US from terrorist cells in the US and suspected terrorists traveling to the US. The information indicates bombs being placed and detonated in several locations across the US, specifically in malls. Four malls have been identified. One mall is Tyson's Corners in McLean, Virginia, located close to Washington, DC and Dulles International Airport. It is in an area frequented by military and civilian government employees and is the 11<sup>th</sup> largest mall in the US. A second mall is the Mall of the Americas located in Bloomington, Minnesota. For many years it was advertised as the largest mall in the US and often seen a symbol of American retail and commerce, it is now the second largest mall in the US. The third mall is the Galleria Mall in Houston, Texas. It is located in a state with border issues with Mexico; it is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest mall in the US and is known for its ice skating rink which is one of Houston's premier tourist and visitor destinations. The fourth mall is Sawgrass Mills in Sunrise, Florida. It is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest mall in the US and is located in a densely populated and highly multicultural county in south FL.

You are a part of an anti-terrorist taskforce. The information obtained appears to be credible. You are being asked to examine what response the task force should take. Specifically you are looking at prevention, intervention, mitigation, response and post-response.

You will be receiving additional information about the same case.. At this point, please discuss the following:

- A. Based on the above, what steps would you take regarding prevention and where?
- B. What agencies, departments and organizations should be contacted and why? What would their role be and what suggestions do you have for coordination?

### GRADING RUBRIC

You must:	% Of Total	In order to get full percentage:
A. Based on the above, what steps would you take regarding prevention and where?	10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Define and discuss prevention.</li><li>2. Define and discuss at least 3 specific steps relate it to this case</li></ol>
B.	20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Identify and discuss agencies, departments and</li></ol>

<p>What agencies, departments and organizations should be contacted and why? What would their role be and what suggestions do you have for coordination?</p>		<p>organizations should be contacted and why</p> <p>2. Define and discuss the role each agency would take and how you think they should be coordinated and why.</p>
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## Part II

Here is additional information about the same intelligence. Please answer this AFTER you have responded to Part I.

Assume you have now received information that five days ago four unidentified men crossed the border from Mexico in Texas in the company of a suspected Al Qaeda operative.

At the same time, two men suspected of having terrorist connections were detained at Reagan International Airport. However it was later determined that a third man, Mohammed Sati, who appeared to be traveling with them but not on the watch list, was able to successfully enter the US. He rented a car at the airport for three days and asked for a map of Fairfax County. He did not return the car at the end of three days. His rental car was just found abandoned on a side street in McLean by local police.

An interested citizen in Minneapolis called the FBI tip line last week to report what she considered unusual circumstances. A student in the class she teaches mentioned that his neighbors had family from Iran staying in their home for several weeks. They were doing a lot of electrical work in their detached garage and all of these visitors were men from their early twenties to their late thirties. The garage now has a lock and the black curtains have been placed in the garage windows. The student's older brother sometimes goes to the shooting range and mentioned to him that these men have recently been seen at the range. They have also started to get up very early, leave their house and return in the afternoon with shopping bags from stores at the Mall of the Americas. The student was used to spending time with the daughter of his neighbors, but he was told by her not to come around "right now." When he asked about it, he was told there were "family problems, but they should be gone in a month."

No additional information has been received regarding south FL, however the Air and Sea Show is scheduled to take place in 4 weeks and there will also be several large conventions taking place at the same time. This is expected to double the number of tourists and shoppers going to Sawgrass Mills.

Based on the above intelligence, please respond to the following:

- C. What specific steps would you take regarding each of these locations? How would your plans regarding prevention and mitigation change?
- D. Would you inform local agencies and officials and of so, how?

**GRADING RUBRIC**

You must:	% Of Total	In order to get full percentage:
C. What specific steps would you take regarding each of these locations? How would your plans regarding prevention and mitigation change?	15	1. Identify and discuss the specific steps you would take based on the information you have just received for each location  2. Describe how your plans changed in light of this new information.
D. Would you inform local agencies and officials and of so, how?	5	1. What would factor into your decision to inform local authorities and how would this occur?

**Part III**

**Please answer this ONLY AFTER you have completed Parts I and II.**

**New Flash-----**Incoming news is that a bomb has been detonated in the food court at the Tyson’s Corner Mall. There are eighty confirmed dead and over four hundred injured. It is estimated that at least three hundred people may be missing. Available local resources include 150 uniformed officers, another 100 people from federal agencies, and financial resources at present are \$800,000.

Based on this latest piece of news, please respond to the following:

E. Describe and discuss how you would go about setting up NIMS, ICS and an NRF framework.

F. What is your media management strategy? Please be specific.

**G. GRADING RUBRIC**

You must:	% Of Total	<b>In order to get full percentage:</b>
E. Describe and discuss how you would go about setting up NIMS, ICS and an NRF framework.	35	1. Fully describe and discuss the specific steps you would take to set up NIMS, ICS and NRF framework
F. What is your media management strategy? Please be specific.	15	1 Identify and discuss the issues related to the media and this event at Tyson’s Corner.  2. Specifically present a media management strategy and what steps need to be taken.