

*Using planes,
trains and buses,
counter-terrorist
programs prepare
law enforcement
for the biggest
'what if'*

By Sara Schreiber

Your role in terror preparedness

SAMPLE

Aboard a 30-year-old Boeing 727 aircraft, Hillsborough County Sheriff personnel are on the clock practicing how they would respond in the event of a hijacking or a similar air assault. Without engines, the plane sits on 40 acres of land atop concrete pillars. On the inside, the plane looks like any other passenger plane, complete with rows of seats to simulate real-life situations.

More law enforcement officials are enrolling in antiterrorism training programs.



GOLIGHT

Tactical - Infrared - Remote
Lighting Solutions

800-557-0098

www.golight.com



Wired or Wireless Remotes

Snap-On IR Filter

3 Year Warranty

3 Mounting Options

Visible with NightVision



Circle 122 on Reader Service Card



Above: In hostage/
passenger
scenarios, role
players are placed
into a hostage
holding area
until they can be
properly identified.
Right: Trainees
become familiar
with various points
of entry during
Tubular Assault
class.



SAMPLE

The motivation to take part varies from agency to agency, but one reason that seems to strike a chord with everybody is preparedness.

Those in the business of counter-terror training classes, and the officials who enroll (military and law enforcement alike), credit these programs with enhancing teamwork with other agencies and teaching tactical procedures that can be used on the job.

For Maj. Jim Previterra of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office in Tampa, Florida, it makes sense. Not only does the training keep his team sharp in tactics, but it also relates specifically to the area's tourism industry.

"It's difficult to incorporate [training] into a schedule, but at different stages we've recognized various security concerns, many of them relevant to our port in Tampa," says Previterra. "And so, as we've recognized those, we've tried to develop training to increase and build upon the skill set of our specialty teams, and our deputies that will respond to any kind of significant emergency or incident."

Hillsborough County allows use of the Boeing 727 aircraft to agencies all over the country. The Tampa office also has a large marine security unit, and has done several exercises with the U.S. Coast Guard, customs and border patrol and "other local agencies that would respond to any type of maritime accident," according to Previterra.

"I think [law enforcement personnel] realize that post 9/11, our duties have expanded, and no longer are we looking to federal agencies and the military as the

Handcuffed by so
called "tried and
true" ICS tools?



ImproveICS.com
has the key to un-
lock effective ICS
today!

Circle 121 on Reader Service Card

sole source of protection for our critical infrastructure," says Previterra.

Indeed, the police officer's job has grown in recent years. With past terrorist assaults and the threat of more to come, keeping the (bigger) bad guy at bay is no longer the sole-domain of the FBI.

The root of the problem

Counter-terror training often begins on the ground-level, with education. Organizations such as Security Solutions International (SSI), with headquarters in Miami, Florida, offer a variety of seminars and courses that deal specifically in homeland security. Its goal, according to the group's mission statement, is to foster "the highest degree of emergency preparedness for ground, air and sea."

SSI president Henry Morgenstern feels training truly starts before passengers even step foot on the plane.

"In the states, we're looking for the bomb and not the bomber," says Morgenstern. "And that really does make us careless, because what happens is, the way of doing things changes all the time; the terrorists change their modus operandi. The problem is that we don't."

Morgenstern notes that the United States has a distinct problem with airport security due to the sheer numbers involved in air travel.

"We have something like 12,000 international airports in the United States — an incredible number — and every day millions of passengers traveling back and forth," says Morgenstern. "Nobody wants to stop that. On the other hand, we have a system that has only one tier of security."

If U.S. airports were to model themselves more after Israeli security, asserts Morgenstern, they would be more effective at preventing air catastrophes. He states that Israel's system is successful in that it has different perimeters. "You're checked very lightly as you go ahead, then as you're getting close to the terminal and again as you're going into the terminal. But these are visual checks — you are not stopped everywhere," says Morgenstern. "And then, of course, you get the full nine yards of profiling, or a 'behavioral analysis check,' as you go through baggage; the way we do here with the TSA."

SSI places a great deal of emphasis on examining case studies in addition to practicing hands-on training. An example is its recent study of the 1986 Anne Marie Murphy case.



FACT:

Your personnel can't be everywhere all of the time.

REALITY:

You can still influence driver behavior without being directly on the scene.

All Traffic Solutions produces leading-edge products designed to enhance your enforcement efforts. Our tools are powerful and effective, and combine to create a truly comprehensive program.

- Radar speed displays
- Speed-dependent message boards
- Video imaging systems
- Web-based reporting and management




SAMPLE



YOUR
SPEED

20



not just any solution...

All Traffic Solutions

www.alltrafficsolutions.com
1.866.366.6602

COP TOOL

BE PREPARED. ALWAYS.



- Developed by police officer Roy Huntington
- Overall length: 6"
- Blade material: 440C stainless steel
- Textured G-10 handle
- Includes sheath and lanyard
- Deployment tool for the entire range of on duty tasks
- Item No. 02BO300

Collaboration of
Wilson Tactical and Boker



Boker USA, Inc., 1550 Balsam Street
Lakewood, CO 80214-5917
Phone: (800) 992-6537
Fax: (303) 462-0668
Email: sales@bokerusa.com
Website: www.bokerusa.com
Mo. - Fr. 8:00 am - 4:30 pm (MST)

Circle 124 on Reader Service Card



SAMPLE

Murphy was an Irish woman on her way to a London airport, for a London to Tel Aviv flight. She didn't know it at the time, but the then-pregnant Murphy was carrying a bomb that had been planted in her suitcase by her Arab fiancé. Through invasive questioning, Israeli profilers interviewing Murphy found out about her boyfriend, got suspicious and discovered the bomb before the jet took off.

If the case taught security officials anything, it was that terrorism is not black and white. Examining situations such as this helps trainees figure out what mistakes were made on the ground-level, and how they might be prevented in the future.

It is critical to include law enforcement personnel because they are often the first responders, if not already present, at such a time.

Top: Officers clear a passenger train car armed with handguns, M4 carbines and folding ballistic shields. Bottom Left: Final stages of live-fire training include moving along a simulated aisle-way. Bottom Right: Officers use halogen tools to practice a simulated break and rake on bus windows.

"Let's say law enforcement is first on the scene and the plane hasn't left," says Morgenstern. "At that point, people are going to have to get in there and do what they have to do. So you need active shooter training. We also have a number of aviation training sessions that we're providing to law enforcement."

SSI has provided training to more than 500 government agencies, as well as a number of airport authorities.

Making it happen

Initially after 9/11, a large portion of federal money was made available for counter-terrorist training

SAMPLE

programs across the country. But agencies report the funds are becoming harder to attain.

"It's still there, but it's much more difficult to secure," says Previtara, who adds his agency and sheriff in Hillsborough County have planned for continuous training, allowing them to be independent of outside funding sources.

"Sure, our budget doesn't allow us to do everything we would like to do," Previtara says, "but we think that, through the construction of a new training center, we've laid the foundation for our own course of programs to keep our people sharp."

The Tampa-based training facility will be used in addition to the site which houses the 727. The new center is meant to focus on technology and simulation training, and will "put people, especially managers, into a classroom setting to do tabletop exercises using technology.

"We're talking to our partners about funding and possible uses for such a simulation lab," says Previtara, "in terms of how it would aid with emergency response to disaster or terrorism."

Hillsborough County is also currently looking into building a tactical city near its current training site where they can simulate not just police emergencies, but also fire and disaster scenarios.

Inside training

The 727 — Counter Terror Training Unit (CTTU) at Columbus State Community College in Columbus, Ohio, also puts antiterrorism training into practice. CTTU trains law enforcement and military personnel in emergency aircraft, bus and train assault, bomb interdiction

and detection, drug interdiction and detection, and regional airport emergency interdiction training.

The Boeing 727 aircraft is maintained by Columbus State's Aviation Maintenance Facility. Aviation students keep the plane operating, blow after blow.

Students at CTTU practice assault tactics on a number of live platforms.

"The whole concept is based on tubular assault tactics that work on buses, trains and aircraft," explains Wagner. "We start out with students after an introductory class the first day, and then we get them out on a school [or public] bus, so they get both types of platforms to start with.

"It's a very long day, and then at about 2 p.m. we head down and start working a train assault using a donated train from the Hocking Valley Scenic Railway."

Training starts with the basics of aircraft assault on a 727. Students learn entry techniques, beginning with slow walkthroughs with their weapons safety corded "so they get a feel for basic patterns of movement and proper technique before advancing to full-speed simulation," says Wagner.

On Friday, the full-power simulation day, Wagner uses students from his Justice and Safety program to role-play as hostages and passengers.

"We equip everybody with air soft rifles and pistols, and then we turn on the auxiliary power unit, which not only supplies power to the plane, but also provides jet engine blast and noise," says Wagner. "So they learn to work around that, to deal with a high-stress environment."

Class sizes are limited to 30 people, and Wagner states that the program continues to attract more

MOBILE COMMAND CENTERS

STARTING AT \$98,994

Select from step or cutaway vans, coach bodies or rear engine Farber Coach.

- Available from 24' to 45' in length
- Trailer models available 20' to 53'
- Gasoline or diesel power
- Ford, GM or Freightliner Chassis
- Slide out rooms available



GSA 23 units on our
Schedule
Contract #GS-30F-0008N

FARBER
SPECIALTY VEHICLES

1-800-331-3188

solutions@farberspecialty.com
www.farberspecialty.com

students each time. Those who finish the class receive a course completion certificate from 727 as well as the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission for 40 hours of training. But the experience is not about a piece of paper. "What we're trying to do is build these skill areas that work on bus, train and aircraft; and put them all together to teach new things that could even work in hallways," says Wagner. "The reality is, after a week-long class we're not saying you're going to be able to go storm a 727 and be fully certified. We certify in tubular assault techniques; and it's up to them to get more training, and continue to hone and practice their skill."

It was after his return from a similar anti-terrorist training symposium in New York that Previtera realized there were other areas where his agency could improve.

"It's through participating in those types of forums, where you have law enforcement management from throughout the country discussing preparedness and intelligence, that a lot of new ideas come into play," he says.

For instance, the conference urged Previtera to look at his team's medical response capabilities. He states that "in a 9/11 type situation, fire and EMS services are going to be taxed to their limits; so if we can provide first aid and treatment for minor injuries to our personnel in the game, we're going to be better-off."

Like Hillsborough, many law enforcement agencies rely on the fire department and paramedics to provide emergency care. But what if the situation were more extreme? In this case, they have an opportunity to be better prepared for whatever happens next.

A team approach

Perhaps the most significant advantage of programs like SSI and CTTU are that they teach agencies to function as a team, even with groups they've just met, in high-stress situations.

Wagner prefaces the training by telling attendees "if you don't take anything else back to your agencies, take back the concept of working with other groups. You're going to see how many people you'll need to do something like this in the event it really happens; and if you don't already have good working relationships, start making them.

"By the end of the week," Wagner adds, "other than uniforms, you'd think you had a unified, solid team from the same place ... and that's the lesson that's driven home." ■

For more information on these companies, use the Reader Service Card and circle the corresponding number

COMPANY	READER SERVICE NO.
Security Solutions International	214
Counter Terror Training Unit	215

Enforcement Expo brings aircraft assault class to this year's show

The 727 Counter Terror Training Unit (CTTU) at Columbus State Community College in Columbus, Ohio will present a special session on its Aircraft Assault Overview class as part of the hands-on events at Enforcement Expo.

The class, designed for law enforcement tactical team operators and other interested sworn law enforcement officers, is presented in a 4-hour overview and draws from the five-day 727 CTTU Tubular Assault class. Participants will have the opportunity to experience assaulting a fully functioning and live commercial airliner.

Using the CTTU's Boeing 727, students will be given basic information on aircraft assault, and will then participate in team training and making basic entry into the craft. During final simulation runs, the aircraft will be under power to provide the realism of working around a live plane.

Each session is the same and holds approximately 30 people. Attendees will be offered four opportunities to take the course:

Tuesday, August 12
8 a.m. to noon or
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, August 13
8 a.m. to noon or
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The cost is \$40 and advanced registration is required. Register online at www.csc.edu/cttu. Go to the "Course Offering" link. Select the section, date and/or time of interest, listed as SAF 114: Enforcement Expo; Aircraft Assault Overview and fill out the online registration form. Training is located at the Bolton Field Aviation Maintenance Facility, 5355 Alkire Rd., Columbus, Ohio. A map is available on the Web page, under "Train With Us."

Students are requested to bring a duty pistol and belt or related tactical gear. No ammunition is needed; however, a tactical flashlight may be useful. Attendees should be sure to wear clothing they don't mind getting dirty.