

## Explosives

### ENSURE RESPONDER SAFETY

#### 1 General Information

- ✓ Explosive devices may be designed to disseminate chemical, biological or radiological agents
- ✓ Explosives may produce secondary hazards such as unstable structures, damaged utilities, hanging debris, void spaces and other physical hazards
- ✓ Devices may contain anti-personnel features such as nails, shrapnel, fragmentation design or other material
- ✓ Outward warning signs:
  - Oral or written threats
  - Container / vehicle / people that appear out of place
  - Devices attached to compressed gas cylinders, flammable, liquid containers, bulk storage containers (dirty bomb)
  - Oversized packages with oily stains, chemical odors, excessive postage, protruding wires, excessive binding, no return address, etc.
- ✓ NAERGs #112 and 114 provide additional information

**WARNING:** Always be alert for multiple devices

#### 2 Response Recommendations:

- ✓ Command post should be located away from areas where improvised secondary devices may be placed, e.g., mailboxes, trash cans, etc.
- ✓ Stage incoming units:
  - Away from line of sight of target area.
  - Away from buildings with large amounts of glass.
  - In such a way as to utilize distant structural and / or natural barriers to assist with protection.

### 3 Unexploded Device / Pre-Blast Operations:

- ✓ Isolate / deny entry

### 4 Attempt to identify device characteristics:

- ✓ Type of threat
- ✓ Location / Time
- ✓ Package / Device
- ✓ Associated history

**WARNING:** Use extreme caution if caller indicates time for detonation. It is very possible that the device will activate prior to the announced time.

- ✓ Secure perimeter based on the size of device (see Stand-Off Chart on page 124)
- ✓ Discontinue use of all radios, Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) and cell phones in accordance with local protocol

### 5 Evaluate scene conditions:

- ✓ Potential number of affected people
- ✓ Exposure problems
- ✓ Potential hazards: utilities, structures, fires, chemicals, etc.
- ✓ Water supply
- ✓ Evaluate available resources (, HazMat, Technical Rescue, etc.)
- ✓ Review pre-plans for affected buildings

### 6 Exploded Device / Post-Blast Operation:

- ✓ Stage incoming units at a greater distance
  - Consider multiple staging sites
- ✓ Debris field may contain unexploded bomb material
- ✓ Discontinue use of all radios, MDTs and cell phones in accordance with local protocol
- ✓ Remove all citizens and ambulatory victims from affected area



- ✓ Determine on-scene conditions and resource requirements:
  - Explosion / Fire
  - Structural collapse / unstable buildings
  - Search / Rescue (non-ambulatory / trapped victims)
  - Exposures
  - Utilities
  - Make local, state and federal notifications
  - Complete Hazard and Risk Assessment