

## **12 FAH-7 H-550 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL (CB) COUNTERMEASURES TRAINING**

*(TL:LGP-01; 08-10-2001)*

### **12 FAH-7 H-551 INTRODUCTION**

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- a. This subchapter provides an overview of the chemical and biological terrorist threat and, drawing on the lessons learned from the chemical and biological incidents to date, suggests some basic means of detection, defense, and decontamination.
- b. Local guards can play an important role in preventing a chemical or biological attack. Therefore, RSOs should incorporate countermeasures into guard orders and training.
- c. The U.S. Government provides training and equipment appropriate to chemical and biological incidents.

### **12 FAH-7 H-552 BRIEFING LOCAL GUARD PERSONNEL**

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The following instructions should be incorporated in briefings to all local guards:

- (1) Be alert for unusual clothing or use of breathing protection by pedestrians or drivers in the neighborhood of mission facilities (e.g., wearing long sleeved shirts or gloves on a hot day, etc.);
- (2) Know which way and how strong the wind is blowing. A CB attack from outside the perimeter is most likely to come from upwind of the facility. (**NOTE:** Winds over 25 MPH (40 KPH) or under 5 MPH (8 KPH) are not ideal conditions for this type of attack.);
- (3) Guards should be especially alert at sundown, sunup and at night. These are normally times when temperature inversions, which

- create ideal conditions for an external plume attack, occur; and
- (4) Always suspect chemical agents with conventional explosions, especially when a device explodes with significantly less force than one would expect.

## **12 FAH-7 H-553 GENERAL AND/OR POST ORDERS**

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General and post orders should instruct all guards to stay alert for the following indicators of chemical or biological attack and report immediately to the appropriate supervisors, MSG, RSO, or PSO, if they are detected:

- (1) Unusual dead or dying animals in the area;
- (2) Unusual liquid sprays or vapor;
- (3) Droplets or oily film on surfaces;
- (4) Large numbers of strange or unseasonable insects or vermin not typical for the time of day or year. (Fleas, lice, mosquitoes and ticks have all been used to spread biological agents in tests);
- (5) Unexplained odors (smell of bitter almonds, peach kernels, newly mown hay, or green grass);
- (6) Low flying cloud formations unrelated to weather; clouds of dust; or suspended, possibly colored particles;
- (7) People dressed unusually (long-sleeved shirts or overcoats in the summertime) or wearing breathing protection, particularly in areas where large numbers of people tend to congregate, such as subways or stadiums.;
- (8) Suspicious devices, especially spray devices, used or found in the area;
- (9) Any type of unusual or unauthorized spraying upwind of mission buildings;
- (10) Sudden difficulty in seeing, especially dimness or vision while in broad daylight. (Nerve agents affect vision at lower doses than other chemical agents.);

- (11) Numerous individuals experiencing unexplained blisters or rashes;
- (12) Unexplained casualties, including multiple victims;
- (13) Victims displaying symptoms of nausea, difficulty breathing, convulsions, disorientation, or patterns of illness inconsistent with natural disease;
- (14) Security personnel should first screen letters from unknown sources. If opened, letters allegedly containing anthrax or another toxin should be handled carefully. **NOTE:** If there was a puff of dust or particles from the envelope when it was opened, be sure to report that when assistance arrives. Carefully place such a letter and its envelope in a sealed plastic pouch. Thoroughly wash hands first and then face with warm soapy water before calling for assistance;
- (15) When searching bags and packages, look for and carefully examine containers that could carry chemical or biological agents in powder, liquid, or aerosolized form, i.e., aerosol cans, perfume bottles, thermos jugs, glass and/or plastic bottles, baby bottles, etc. These items should not be allowed into the building unless the owner can demonstrate to designated supervisors (e.g., through drinking or spraying on skin) that the substance is safe;
- (16) The presence of breathing devices, air filters, nose clips, hospital masks, rubber gloves, etc., should be cause for immediate concern and require further investigation. Visitors should be questioned regarding their use of these items and the supervisor, or RSO and/or PSO should be notified before access is permitted;
- (17) Be alert to visitors displaying unusual nervousness or care when handling liquid containers in their possession or who ask questions about location, type or protective measures for air conditioning or heating systems;
- (18) Mail and package screeners should be alerted to possible introduction of chemicals or biologics through their areas. Most current mailroom screening procedures (letter bomb indicators, X-rays) will also help in detecting CB agents. Personnel should report any unusual odors from mail or packages and be alert for envelopes containing granular material. Anthrax hoax letters have come in such envelopes (**NOTE:** Suspect packages or envelopes should only be opened by security personnel wearing at a minimum a CB protective mask and butyl rubber gloves and at a location away from building ac vents.);

- (19) Be alert to the use of any device inside or outside the building perimeter that could be used to spray a toxic cloud toward the building. This could include commercial spraying equipment, paint, insecticide or garden sprayers, air pumps, or even a crop duster airplane. When possible, persons conducting such spraying should be challenged, and, in all cases, supervisors and the RSO and/or PSO should be immediately alerted;
- (20) When patrolling public areas, look for abandoned spray liquid containers. If found, immediately alert the supervisor and RSO and/or PSO. Particular attention should be paid to insure building air vents can not be approached by anyone using such devices;
- (21) Non-employees requiring access to or near building air intake vents or drinking water storage tanks should be escorted by LGF or employee personnel;
- (22) At posts with wells or accessible water storage tanks, LGF orders should include regular patrols of those areas; and
- (23) A chemical or biological attack or incident won't always be immediately apparent given the fact that many agents are odorless and colorless and some cause no immediately noticeable effects or symptoms. Nevertheless, be alert to the possible presence of an agent as indicated by the presence of symptoms.

## **12 FAH-7 H-554 LGF ACTIONS IN CASE OF ATTACK AND/OR DETECTION OF WARNING SIGNS**

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- a. LGF personnel noting suspicious activity and/or the above indicators should immediately report the incident to his and/or her supervisor and the RSO and/or PSO. If the attack is in progress, avoid contact with the agent being delivered and attempt to stop the attack if at all possible.
- b. Local guards should assist in evacuation, and, if necessary, direct police and/or HAZMAT response and if properly equipped with masks, gloves, and protective coveralls, assist in stopping the attack or helping in decontamination.
- c. If assisting in building evacuation, guards should be sure to direct evacuees upwind of the building to avoid further contamination and be

alert to the possibility of attack using conventional weapons on the gathered evacuees. **NOTE:** If the mission is in a high-rise building, it may be advisable to move to upper levels as many chemicals are heavier than air and will sink or stay close the ground.

- d. If exposed to CB agents, evacuate the area as soon as possible. Once out of range, take immediate steps to decontaminate using soap and/or diluted bleach solution and lots of water. Medical treatment should be sought as soon as possible after decontamination. **NOTE:** Clothes tend to retain toxins so they should not be put on again after decontamination.

## **12 FAH-7 H-555 THROUGH H-559 UNASSIGNED**