



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY



MAJOR EVENTS COORDINATION UNIT



THE BUREAU OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY (DS) IS THE SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ARM OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DS is a world leader in the protection of people, property, and information, international investigations, threat analysis, cyber security, counterterrorism, and security technology. It is the only law enforcement agency with representation in nearly every country in the world.

The Bureau's personnel, who include special agents, engineers, security technical specialists, diplomatic couriers, civil service specialists, and contractors, work together as a team to ensure that the U.S. Department of State can carry out its foreign policy mission safely and securely.

Major Events Coordination Unit

Within DS' Office of Protection, the Major Events Coordination Unit (MECU) is responsible for long-range security planning for U.S. participation in international events and for domestic events with significant international participation. MECU

identifies, tracks, and manages U.S. government security operations for these events. The unit was created in 2004 to coordinate U.S. security support for U.S. athletes, spectators, event sponsors, and dignitaries for major sporting events around the world.



A Diplomatic Security special agent (right) consults with a detachment of São Paulo motorcycle police at the practice venue for the U.S. Soccer Team during the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

Major Events Coordination Unit's Authority

Diplomatic Security special agents travel the globe providing guidance, support, and leadership to protect U.S. interests at international events, adapting its footprint depending on the needs of each event. The Unit:

- ◆ Serves in a protective liaison and advisory capacity as the interagency security and law enforcement lead for major events abroad through leadership on the International Security Event Group under the authorities of National Security Presidential Directive 46.
- ◆ Oversees long-range coordination of major international events and provides Diplomatic Security special agents or designated security coordinators with guidance on event planning, and supervises those assigned to event competition and training venues.
- ◆ Coordinates with intelligence, law enforcement, security, diplomatic, crisis management, and host and organizing communities to ensure efficient, appropriate, and comprehensive U.S. government resources are prepared to address potential security issues at major events worldwide.
- ◆ Provides information and assists foreign host-country governments and appropriate entities in countering security threats, specifically those potentially impacting U.S. interests leading up to and during major international events.



Diplomatic Security special agents, along with representatives of several U.S. government agencies (not pictured), staffed the Joint Operations Center that operated 24/7 during the Sochi, Russia Olympics in 2014.

A Diplomatic Security special agent (right) talks with a counterpart from the London Metropolitan Police at the Aquatic Centers in London during the 2012 Paralympic Games.



Partners

The U.S. Department of State's **Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC)** promotes security information sharing between the U.S. private sector, event sponsors, host nation officials, and the U.S. government. Through daily unclassified reporting, risks assessments, and in-person

meetings, OSAC assists private sector security directors make informed decisions to better protect their programs, personnel, and operations. For more information, visit www.osac.gov.

Under the leadership of the Major Events Coordination Unit, the **International Security Events Group (ISEG)** coordinates interagency efforts to ensure safety at significant international events. ISEG serves as a single focal point and coordinating body for U.S. government support to international special security events. DS and the Major Events Coordination Unit chair the group, which includes more than 20 U.S. government security and law enforcement agencies and bureaus.

The **United States Olympic Committee**, responsible for supporting, entering, and overseeing U.S. teams for the Olympic and Paralympic games, has a formal memorandum of understanding with Diplomatic Security, outlining roles and responsibilities for each regarding major event security operations.

The **United States Soccer Federation** works closely with the Major Events Coordination Unit to coordinate security operations at major events, especially the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) World Cup tournament.

Prior Events Include:

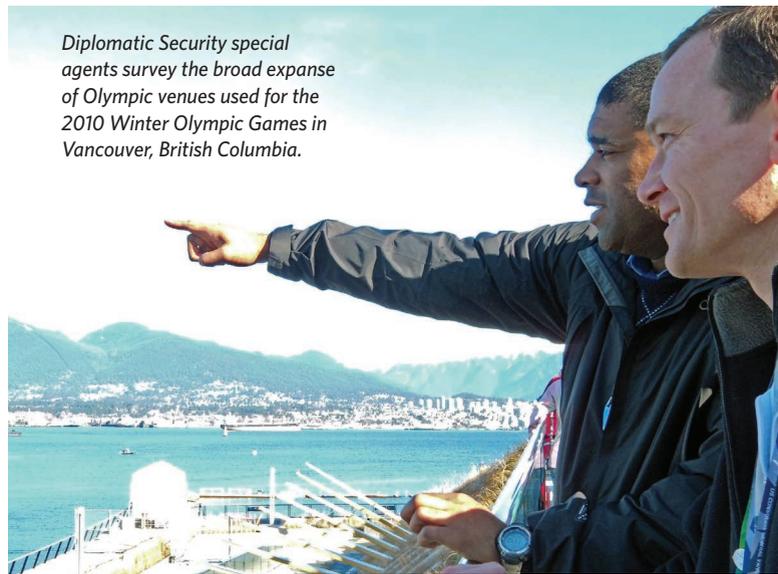
- ◆ 2014 Men's World Cup in Brazil
- ◆ 2014 Winter Olympics in Russia
- ◆ 2014 Basketball World Cup in Spain
- ◆ 2014 Summer Youth Olympics in China

Upcoming Events Include:

- ◆ 2015 Pan American Games in Canada
- ◆ 2015 Women's World Cup in Canada
- ◆ 2016 Summer Olympics in Brazil
- ◆ 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea
- ◆ 2018 World Cup in Russia
- ◆ 2020 Summer Olympics in Japan



Diplomatic Security special agents discuss security arrangements inside Thunderbird Arena in Vancouver, British Columbia, site of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.



Diplomatic Security special agents survey the broad expanse of Olympic venues used for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver, British Columbia.



Diplomatic Security special agents conduct an aerial survey of the 2014 World Cup venues with Brazilian police (not pictured) in São Paulo.



The Diplomatic Security field liaison office supervisor confers with a Diplomatic Security special agent at the Mountain Cluster during the Sochi Olympic Games.

WINTER OLYMPICS IN RUSSIA

Three years of planning came together for the Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia. Close to 3,000 athletes from 89 countries competed in 98 events in 15 winter sport disciplines. Tens of thousands of spectators came to the Olympic Park each day. The Major Events Coordination Unit's preliminary work prepared the security teams and agents to be ready for any eventuality. Their work involved collaboration and coordination with multiple groups, including the International Security Events Group and host country security services.



Scanning the vicinity, the Diplomatic Security special agent (right) provided protective services for U.S. athletes competing in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

MEN'S WORLD CUP IN BRAZIL

Thirty-two national teams played in 12 cities in Brazil, with 3.4 million visiting spectators. U.S. viewers tuned in to the World Cup in record-breaking, unprecedented numbers. Fifty-plus Diplomatic Security personnel provided protection for Team USA and oversaw U.S. government security at the quadrennial World Cup soccer competition. A Major Events Coordination Unit special agent organized and led the DS security team, managed the Joint Operations Center, and coordinated overall U.S. government event security.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the Major Events
Coordination Unit at 703-312-3645
or at DSMajorEvents@state.gov.



United States Department of State
Bureau of Diplomatic Security
Washington, DC 20522-2008
www.diplomaticsecurity.state.gov

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