

UNIFORMED SERVICES GROUP

NOTICE
8.2.3

May 1, 2002

RECEIVED

TO: All Commanding Officers

MAY 09 2002

FROM: Commanding Officer, Uniformed Services Group

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIV **RECEIVED**

SUBJECT: ACTIVATION OF TERRORISM THREAT ALERT LEVEL SYSTEM

MAY 09 2002

MSD WEST

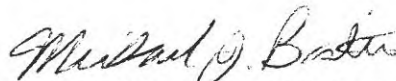
To balance the need for preparedness and response to terrorist events, the Department has developed and implemented a five-tier Terrorism Threat Alert System (attached). This system is designed to work in conjunction with the recently issued Federal Homeland Security Advisory System and provides warnings in the form of a set of graduated numerical "Threat Conditions" that increase as the risk of threat increases. At each "Threat Condition," a corresponding set of recommended response actions is listed, allowing the appropriate staff and command officers to make timely and accurate decisions based on the situation. The Commanding Officer, Uniformed Services Group, is responsible for identifying the Department's current threat alert level.

Commanding officers shall ensure Section 10 of their Area Standing Plans is updated to reflect the implementation of this system via the completion of a single purpose operational plan identifying Area responses to each level of the system. Additionally, commanding officers shall ensure Area personnel are familiar with the Terrorism Threat Alert System and the appropriate individual responsibilities at each level of the system.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact Captain C. G. Roper, Uniformed Support Division, at (213) 473-7799.

APPROVED:


MARK LEAP, Commander
Commanding Officer
Uniformed Services Group


MICHAEL J. BOSTIC, Deputy Chief
Commanding Officer
Human Resources Bureau

Attachment

Distribution "B"

ADT
 YES NO

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
TERRORISM THREAT ALERT LEVELS**

March 12, 2002

To balance the need for preparedness and response to terrorist events, the following terrorism threat alert conditions have been developed. These are meant to be a guide for City actions. The response actions are appropriate recommendations to the various threat levels and are not intended to be mandatory. Actual response decisions will be made by the appropriate Staff Officer (i.e., Chief of Police, Director of Emergency Operations, or Department Commander) based on an actual situation assessment provided at the time of occurrence.

Note: Detailed glossary of definitions of the threat conditions and response actions are provided below the chart.

Alert Level	Description of Threat	Recommended LAPD Response Actions (Optional actions are in <i>italics</i>)
Threat Alert 5 Federal Threat Condition – RED (Severe – severe risk of terrorist attack).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An actual terrorist event in the City of Los Angeles. • An actual terrorist event in the continental United States (CONUS). • An actual terrorist event involving any United States government interest (facility, personnel, or installation) anywhere in the world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). • Activate the Department Operations Center (DOC). • Initiate a Tactical Alert or Modified Tactical Alert. • Activate the Intelligence Control Center (ICC). • Direct Area commanding officers to immediately implement their Single Purpose Terrorism Response Plan. • Direct Areas to initiate their Station Defense Plans. • Direct all sworn personnel to wear a uniform until further notice. • Establish and deploy a Special Operations Group (SOG) to operate from a Tactical Operations Center (TOC). • Activate the Downtown External Security Plan security measures.

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Alert Level	Description of Threat	Recommended LAPD Response Actions (Optional actions are in <i>italics</i>)
<p>Threat Alert 4</p> <p>Federal Threat Condition – ORANGE (High – high risk of terrorist attack).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial United States military combat activity anywhere in the world. • A confirmed, credible terrorist threat to Los Angeles, Southern California, or anywhere in CONUS. (Must be confirmed by the FBI, LATFOT, or ICC) • A significant, politically destabilizing action pre-defined by the Department (e.g., capture or death of Osama bin Laden, death of Yasser Arafat). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate the Department Operations Center (DOC). • Activate the Intelligence Control Center (ICC). • Direct Area commanding officers to immediately implement their Single Purpose Terrorism Response Plan. • Direct Areas to initiate their Station Defense Plans. • <i>Activate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).</i> • <i>Initiate a Tactical Alert or Modified Tactical Alert.</i> • <i>Direct all sworn personnel wear a uniform until further notice.</i> • <i>Establish and deploy a Special Operations Group (SOG) to operate from a Tactical Operations Center (TOC).</i> • <i>Activate the Downtown External Security Plan security measures.</i>
<p>Threat Alert 3</p> <p>Federal Threat Condition – YELLOW (Elevated – significant risk of terrorist attack).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A threat alert advisory published by the FBI or the Office of Homeland Security. • A threat alert advisory published by the ICC, LATFOT, or TEW. • Uncorroborated threats identified by federal or local authorities (FBI, LATFOT, ICC, TEW). • Continuing United States military counter-terrorism activity. • Threat hoaxes occurring in the City of Los Angeles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate the Intelligence Control Center (ICC). • Publish Police Department Notices as needed. • <i>Activate the Department Operations Center (DOC).</i> • <i>Initiate a Tactical Alert or Modified Tactical Alert.</i> • <i>Direct Area commanding officers to immediately produce a Single Purpose Terrorism Response Plan.</i> • <i>Direct Areas to initiate their Station Defense Plans.</i> • <i>Activate Downtown External Security Plan security measures.</i>

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Alert Level	Description of Threat	Recommended LAPD Response Actions (Optional actions are in <i>italics</i>)
Threat Alert 2 Federal Threat Condition – BLUE (Guarded – general risk of terrorist attack).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heightened awareness advisory published by the FBI or Office of Homeland Security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain basic heightened awareness. • Publish Police Department Notices as needed. • <i>Activate the Intelligence Control Center (ICC).</i>
Threat Alert 1 Federal Threat Condition – GREEN (Low – low risk of terrorist attack).	Normal activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain basic heightened awareness. • Publish Police Department Notices as needed.

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GLOSSARY OF DEFINITIONS

Threat Level Definitions:

Terrorist Event: A human caused act that meets the definition of terrorism as defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI):

“Terrorism is the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.” -- FBI Definition

Random acts of violence, workplace violence, domestic violence, and acts intended to harm a specific person (e.g., homicide, ADW, other specific intent crimes against person) do not comply with the definition of terrorism.

Initial Military Combat Activity: This condition exists upon the initiation of any United States military combat action overseas (e.g., the initiation of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan on October 7, 2002). This condition will remain effective until such time as it is determined that the military activity has transitioned to “Continuing Military Counter-Terrorism Activity” status.

Confirmed, Credible, Terrorist Threat: A terrorist threat that has been analyzed by an appropriate entity (FBI, LATFOT, ICC) that has been determined to be accurate (Confirmed) and reliable (Credible) and to have a reasonable likelihood of occurrence.

A significant, politically destabilizing action pre-defined by the Department: As needed, the Department will identify specific worldwide events that would require an escalated preparedness response. Some examples include the capture or confirmed death of Osama bin Laden, the confirmed death of Yasser Arafat, or an act of war in a location that impacts the interests of the United States. These specific conditions will be published in an appropriate Department notice.

Threat Alert: A warning published by the Counterterrorism Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Los Angeles Task Force on Terrorism (LATFOT), the LAPD Intelligence Control Center (ICC), or the Los Angeles County Terrorism Early Warning Group (TEW).

Uncorroborated Threats: Threats identified by the FBI, LATFOT, ICC, or TEW that cannot be confirmed or corroborated but if true, would require an appropriate response by the law enforcement.

Continuing Military Counter-Terrorism Activity: Continuing or extended overseas United States military action whose mission is to defeat or capture known terrorist organizations and personnel (e.g., U. S. military action in Afghanistan after the Taliban surrendered).

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Threat Hoaxes: Field incidents involving false threats or false substances with the intent to convince the victim that a nuclear, biological, or chemical agent has been used (e.g., anthrax hoaxes).

Heightened Awareness Advisory. An advisory published by the FBI or Office of Homeland Security indicating heightened general risk of a terrorist attack.

ICC: The Los Angeles Police Department Intelligence Control Center managed by Anti-Terrorist Division.

LATFOT: The Los Angeles Task Force on Terrorism. This task force is jointly staffed by personnel from the FBI, LAPD Anti-Terrorist Division, and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

FBI: The Federal Bureau of Investigation, Counterterrorism Division.

TEW: The Los Angeles County Terrorism Early Warning Group managed by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Emergency Operations Bureau.

Response Action Definitions:

Activate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC): Initiate activation of the EOC at an appropriate level with a Police Department lead. Assign a deputy chief to be the EOC Director. EOC responders will be notified following established procedures by the City and individual departments.

Activate the Department Operations Center (DOC): Initiate activation of the DOC at an appropriate level. Assign a staff officer to be the Director of Emergency Operations (DEO). Notify Department DOC Cadre members to respond (DOC will notify during business hours; Department Command Post Unit, Communications Division will notify during off hours).

Initiate a Tactical Alert or Modified Tactical Alert: A Tactical Alert or Modified Tactical Alert will be declared per the procedures published in the Emergency Operations Guide, Volume 1, Section B/000.

Effects Of A Tactical Alert. When an Area or division is placed on a Tactical Alert, the following provisions shall take effect:

- All Area watch commanders and all traffic division watch commanders (regardless of whether their Area is on Tactical Alert) **SHALL** cause off-going watches (including detective and critical administrative support personnel) to be held over until authority to release watches has been received.

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- All field units in the alerted Areas shall continue patrolling their assigned districts unless reassigned by Communications Division.
- Unless otherwise directed, officers working in the Areas included in a Tactical Alert shall confine their activities to **police work of major importance**.
- Watch commanders and field supervisors shall ensure that all on-duty personnel are aware of the Tactical Alert.
- Officers in alerted Areas who are off the air handling calls or making reports shall, whenever possible, be required to resume field patrol and await further instructions by radio or other communication.
- Communications Division shall screen all incoming calls and, whenever possible, direct citizens to the concerned police station for making complaints or reports.
- Watch commanders shall assign personnel to monitor radio frequencies, NECS and ACC messages.
- Watch commanders shall maintain an accounting of on-duty personnel on the Unusual Occurrence Personnel Status Report, Form 14.03, in accordance with instructions contained on the form.
- Investigative personnel, assigned to Areas or divisions included in the Tactical Alert, shall continue to perform their regular duties; however, they shall contact their division of assignment at least once each hour.

Modified Tactical Alert. A Modified Tactical Alert provides the Director of Emergency Operations, Incident Commander or Communications Division watch commander with a method of holding over watches without the disruption of "routine" police duties. The following provisions apply during a Modified Tactical Alert:

- All Area watch commanders and all traffic division watch commanders (regardless of whether their Area is on Tactical Alert) **SHALL** cause off-going watches (including detective and critical administrative support personnel) to be held over until authority to release watches has been received.
- Achieves the same objectives as a Tactical Alert but **without** "police work of major importance" response restrictions.
- Alerts personnel of all or selected Areas to the possibility of personnel redistribution, and announces the existence of a potential major police incident.
- Provides an Available Reserve that can be used by concerned Area(s) to control an incident should it materialize.
- Controls the depletion of field forces and discourages uncontrolled voluntary response to the scene of a major police incident.
- Alerts bureau(s) and Area(s) that Mobile Field Forces may be deployed.

Activate the Intelligence Control Center (ICC): Request Anti-Terrorist Division to activate the Intelligence Control Center (DOC will notify during business hours; Department Command Post Unit, Communications Division will notify during off hours).

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