

Suicide Attacks against Public Transportation

The Israeli Case Study



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Terrorism Threats to Public Transportation in Israel





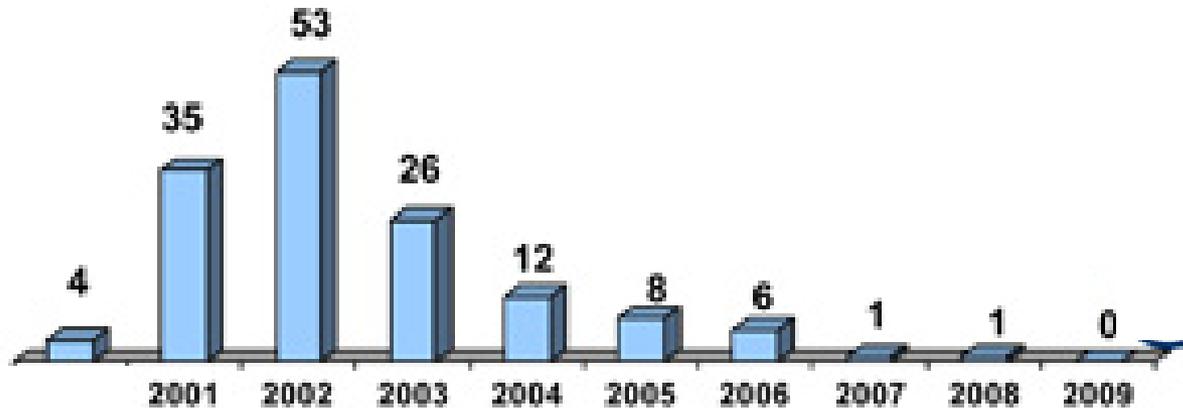
A Suicide Attack is:



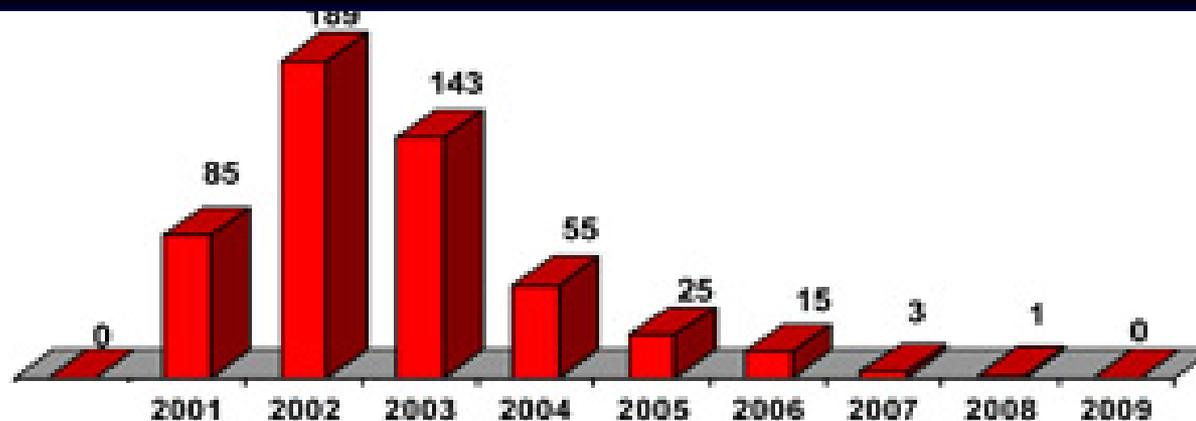
“An Operational Method in which
The Very act of the Attack is
Dependent Upon the Death of the
Perpetrator”



Number of suicide attacks in Israel – 2000-2010



Number of deaths in suicide attacks in Israel 2000-2010



(“**The Smart Bomb**”! - Between 2000-2005 Approx. **0.6%** of Terror attacks in Israel were suicide attacks. But they caused more than **50%** of the overall number of casualties !)

Benefits of Suicide Attack

From the terrorist organization's point of view:

- **Accuracy** in Time & Place
- Numerous **Casualties**
- Broad **Media** Coverage
- **Success** Guaranteed
- **Low Cost** Modus-Operendi
- No Need for **Escape** Route
- **Low Risk** to Other Terrorists

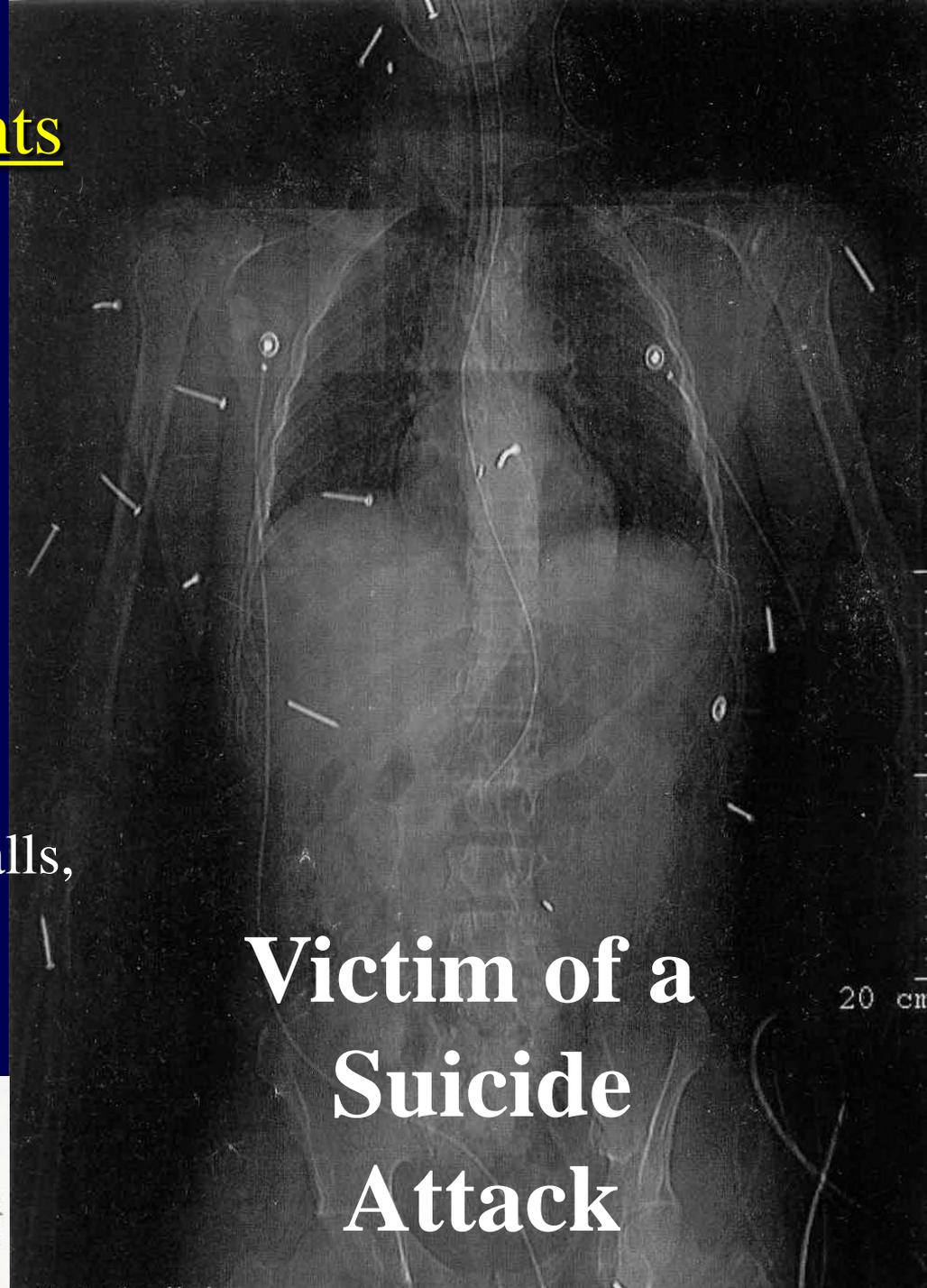
Suicide Attacks Ingredients

Types of devices:

- **Suicide belt**
- **Carryon** – Suitcase, Hand bag.
- **Vehicle** – Car, Motorcycle.

Content of devices:

- **Explosives** – Mainly IED,
- **Additives** – Gasoline, Iron Balls, Nuts, Nails,



**Victim of a
Suicide
Attack**

20 cm

Why buses?

The Attractivity of Public Transportation Terrorism

Vulnerability – Accessibility

Large number of entry points –

- Approx. 5500 Buses
- Approx. 50 Central Bus Stations
- Approx. 22,000 Bus Stops.

Ramifications

Inability to secure all potential targets



Crowded –
About 1.7 Million Passengers a day

Large number of casualties

Easy to Conceal Luggage

Imposing Fear & Anxiety

“Personalization”



Contending with Suicide Attacks

Prevention - A

- **Proactively** – Offensive and deterrent measures.
- **Intelligence Warnings** – Limited security resources.
- **Understanding the rational of the attacker** – Disrupting his “Tunnel Vision”



Contending with Suicide Attacks

Prevention - B

Security Concepts

- **Concealed & Overt security**- **Random passenger & baggage checks**
 - **Public transportation civilian security unit.**
 - **Police public transportation's special unit – “Horev”.**
- **Early suspects identification** - before climbing the bus.
- **Driver special training** - Identifying and neutralizing suspects.
- **Public engagement**- Awareness and volunteering.
- **Technology** – Entrance and **exit control**, **Non lethal weapon**
Identifying and **neutralizing explosives** from distance.



Contending with Suicide Attacks – Rescue and Recovery – (A – During the attack)

Goals:

• **Saving the lives of the victims:**

- Immediate **medical treatments** on the scene.
- Fast **evacuation** to hospitals – Securing emergency routes.
- **Fire fighting** – in case of need.
- **Screening** the casualties and sending them to different E.Rs.
- **Fatal Casualty treatment** – Efficiency and respect (ZAKA)



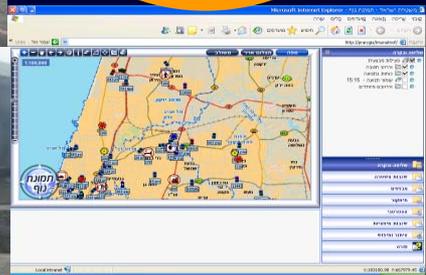
Rescue –
Evacuation
Treatment



Fire
Fighting



Securing
Emergency
Routes



Contending with Suicide Attacks – Rescue and Recovery - (B – During the attack)

• Prevention of secondary attack:

- **Isolating the scene** – Keeping bystanders and family members of the victims out of the scene.
- **Coordinating the forces** – Inner and outer circles.
- **Securing the scene** - Bomb search and disposal.



Isolating
the Scene



Securing
the Scene



Bomb
Searches &
Disposal

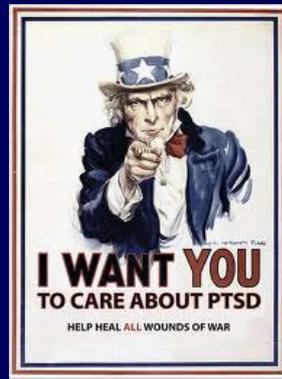
Contending with Suicide Attacks – Rescue and Recovery - (C – During the attack)

- **Intelligence collection** – Operational immediate need to identify and capture the dispatchers and collaborators:
 - **Forensic.**
 - **Road blocks and patrols.**



Contending with Suicide Attacks – Rescue and Recovery - (D – During the attack)

- **Panic prevention** – (Intervention educational programs)
 - Leadership – **Decision makers, Spokesperson.**
 - Professionalism and self confidence – **First responders.**
 - Responsibility - **Media** mitigation, official dissemination of information.
 - Compassion – Early and organized engagement with **family member** of the victims.
 - Order – Implementing detailed and practiced **regulations.**
 - **PTSD** treatment and **Public Resilience** (“Hosen”) program.



Contending with Suicide Attacks – Rescue and Recovery – (D1)

Public Cooperation

- Education and **awareness** from an early age.
- **Volunteers** as a force multiplier - Community Policing.
- Emergency **regulations**.
- Coordinating **private security** companies.



Contending with Suicide Attacks Command and Control

Police

ISA

Fire Dept.

Red shield of David

“ZAKA”

Simultaneous and sequential activity of first responder units & Security agencies under -

Police Command & Control



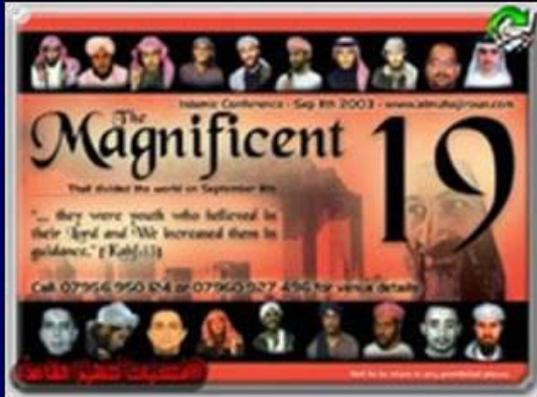
A Center of Excellence Points of Intervention – The ICT Example

- **Understanding the rational** of suicide attacks –
 - The “Shahid” motivations and cost–benefit considerations.
 - The **organization** goals and modus operandi calculations.
- Conducting **academic program and professional education** for:
 - Decision makers, Security agencies and First Responders.
 - Lay leaders scholarly community and the public at large.
- **Developing methodologies** for:
 - Risk and threat analysis.
 - War gaming and “Red-teaming”.
- Collecting and analyzing **OSINT**.
- **Advising decision-makers**.
- Conducting independent **Multi & Interdisciplinary policy research**.



Is there a threat to US public transportation?

Allah Akhbar,
America will be destroy



We oppose occupation
by the sword



Al-Qaida's ideologue - **Abu Musab Al-Suri** - selects in his book - "The Call for a Global Islamic Resistance" (Dec. 2004) a series of **key targets to attack in the United States among them - public transportation.**



Fell at the line of duty



American's coffin



The Story of
a Crusader's prisoner