Improving Security and Reducing Vulnerabilities in Transportation

Summit Breakout Panel 17

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March 18, 2009
Mineta Transportation Institute

History

- Created by Congress in 1991
- Named for our founder, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta (2001-2006)
- National Transportation Security Center and a Center of Excellence specializing in policy studies related to surface transportation
- www.transweb.sjsu.edu
Graduate Programs

Graduate education offered through relationship with College of Business, San Jose State University

- Master of Science in Transportation Management
- Certificate in Transportation Management
- Certificate in Transportation Security
Emergency Planning, Training & Exercises

- ICS/SEMS/NIMS training and plan analysis for transportation agencies
- Emergency plan writing for transportation agencies and universities
- COOP/COG development for transportation agencies
- Full-scale exercises
After tanker accident, Caltrans hired MTI to study dangerous goods transport over roadways

- Study possible terrorist weaponization of hazardous materials shipments

Assembled expert team of RAs with international, federal and state/local operational experience
Dangerous Goods Study (cont.)

- Surveyed best practices for motor carrier tracking, communications systems, federal programs in development, state/local interface
- Analyzed unique position of truck transport in interstate commerce
- Developed lessons learned and recommendations list
- Completed report, including recommendations that Caltrans is implementing
Terrorists & Transportation

Computer-compatible chronology of terrorist attacks created by Brian Michael Jenkins, Director, MTI NTSCOE

- Data point normalized, trend analysis capable litany of every reported transportation-related terrorist attack since 1920
- Currently available on request to MTI from credentialed researchers
Terrorists & Transportation

- 16 detailed case studies of every major transportation-related terrorist attack world-wide since 1990
- 14 more in process

Our approach:
- Review all available public documents on the event
- Where possible, visit the scene to evaluate the facts and circumstances
Terrorists & Transportation (cont.)

- Our approach (cont.)
  - Interview key first responders and government officials responsible for prevention, planning, response, and recovery
  - Examine policies and practices in place before the attack, the response to the event, and recovery efforts
  - Create it on a common format to allow easy comparison among case studies
Terrorists & Transportation (cont.)

- Disseminate case study results
  - Publish peer-reviewed case studies
  - Distribute free publications through transweb.sjsu.edu as PDFs or hard copy
  - Hold transportation security summits to highlight findings and best practices
    - Summaries and presentations available at www.transweb.sjsu.edu
  - Hold workshops and presentations for AASHTO, APTA, TRB, US DOT and others
Security Publications

- U.S. Surface Transportation Terrorism Timeline (1920 - Present)
- 9 Norman Y. Mineta National Security Summits co-sponsored by AASHTO, APTA, AAR, DHS, DOT, Amtrak and others
- www.transweb.sjsu.edu/MTIportal/research/publications.html
Security Publications (cont.)

- Security Research Reports
  - “Selective Screening of Rail Passengers” – 11/07
  - “Saving City Lifelines: Lessons Learned in the 9-11 Terrorist Attacks” – 09/03
  - “Protecting Public Surface Transportation Against Terrorism and Serious Crime: Continuing Research on Best Security Practices” – 10/01
  - “Terrorism Overview” – 10/01
  - “Protecting Surface Transportation Systems and Patrons from Terrorist Activities” – 12/97
MTI Research Areas

- Safety and security of transportation systems
- Financing public and private sector transportation improvements
- Transportation, land use, the environment, and the economy interrelationships
- Transportation planning and policy development
- Intermodal connectivity and integration
- Sustainability of transportation systems
- Labor and workforce issues
- Transportation decision-making and consensus building
Questions?
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