ANNEX 3-10 FORCE PROTECTION

THREAT OBJECTIVES

Last Updated: 2 January 2019

For Airmen to fully understand threats and hazards, it is important to discuss possible intended threat objectives.

Threat Objectives

Threat incidents over the years have been increasing in numbers and sophistication. Terrorism makes up the most prominent type of threat. Terrorism methods include threats, bombing, kidnapping, hostage taking, hijacking, assassination, sabotage, arson, armed raids or attacks, and other measures to disrupt daily activities. Such actions occur almost routinely in some parts of the world, and anyone can be a potential victim. In 2016, a small terrorist cell consisting of gunmen and suicide bombers attacked a concert hall, a major stadium, restaurants and bars almost simultaneously in Paris, France, leaving 130 people dead and several hundreds injured. In June 2016, suicide bombers killed over 40 and injured more than 200 people in an attack at an Istanbul airport. The 2016 Orlando nightclub shooting by a self-radicalized lone gunman who killed 49 people and left another 53 people injured shows that these attacks can occur within the US as well. DOD installations and personnel remain targets for terrorist organizations, as demonstrated by attacks against the Washington Navy Yard in 2013 and the Navy Reserve station and recruiting offices in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 2015.

The persistence of threats reflects the number and intensity of conflicts around the world and the inherent difficulties of facing, assessing, and overcoming the threat objectives. There are multiple methods of attack with threat objectives designed to cause one or more of the following harmful results:

✪ Injure or kill personnel to create a tactical, operational, or strategic event.

✪ Destroy warfighting or war-supporting capabilities.

✪ Deny use of warfighting or war-supporting capabilities through damage or contamination.

✪ Deny or disrupt military operations through the threat of attack.

✪　　Influence public opinion or governmental policies to comply with competing ideologies.

✪　　Force nations deployed on foreign soil to end operations and depart the deployed location.

✪　　Thrust a nation into civil unrest resulting in civil war.

✪　　Force a government agency or corporation to alter its policies.

✪　　Reduce military advantage through theft, destruction, or fraud involving military information or technology.

✪　　Increase criminal activity such as kidnapping, robbery, and extortion, likely to be used to finance enemy operations.

✪　　Isolate and exploit real or perceived weaknesses to demonstrate a group's capability and reduce US credibility.

✪　　Bring favorable attention to a terrorist organization and serve as a recruiting tool.

All Airmen involved in force protection (FP) benefit from a thorough understanding of these types of threat objectives. This understanding enhances planning to counter FP threats, thereby improving the FP status of organizations and personnel.