

FEAR and PANIC!!!

A "Dirty Bomb" is a

PURE TERROR

WEAPON!!



Other than the initial blast, which could cause some deaths, a dirty bomb would result in some injured and contaminated patients.

The biggest effects would be: environmental contamination, loss of jobs, loss in economic production, and—most of all—

PANIC!

"Anything that sets off a Geiger-counter would terrify a city!"

Self-Protective Measures to Minimize Exposure and Reduce Risks:

Time: React quickly!

Distance: Move as far away as possible from the explosion.

Shielding: Protect yourself by placing a barrier (ex. buildings, vehicles) between the explosion and yourself.

Listen to the radio or T.V. for Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages.

YORK COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

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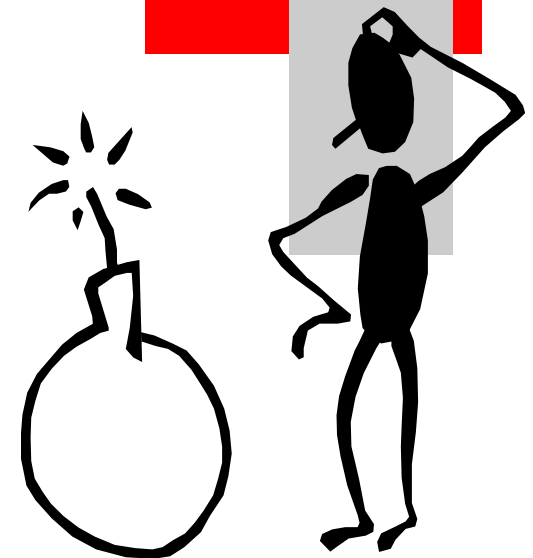
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YORK COUNTY OFFICE OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DIRTY BOMBS.....

Are You Prepared to Handle an Incident??



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What is a “Dirty Bomb”

A “Dirty Bomb” is a **conventional explosive** that has been ‘laced’ with a radioactive material. A dirty bomb is designed to spread the radioactive material when it explodes. The greatest damage occurs from the explosion— not the radioactive material.

Where the Radioactive Material Comes From for a Dirty Bomb:

- * Industry: x-ray of metals
- * Hospitals: research, treatment
- * Research: experimentation
- * Food sterilization
- * Lost, stolen, or missing sources
- * Discarded radiological waste

What Happens in the Explosion:

Radioactive material is dispersed in the dust of the explosion. It creates:

- * Death and injuries from the bomb blast
- * Contamination with injuries
- * Contamination without injuries

People who are NOT Injured or Contaminated, but believe they are, may experience **FEAR, PANIC and/or TERROR.**

Dirty Bombs are Not Nuclear Bombs!

Factors Affecting the Bomb Blast and the Spread of Radiation:

- *Weather
- * Wind Speed, Direction
- *Size of the Bomb Detonated
- * Radioactive Material used
- * Bomb Construction
- * Where it is Detonated

How Credible is the Threat?

It is well known that Al Qaeda/Bin Laden has wanted to join the nuclear community. The easiest way for them to join is with a dirty bomb! The reasons:

- * They are easy to build.
- *It is easy to obtain or steal material.
- * Any conventional weapon can be used to spread the radiation.
- * They do not pose as great a threat to the builder, as with nuclear materials.
- * Any type of radioactive material can be used.
- * The detonation of a dirty bomb would cause wide-spread fear and panic.